

# Sam O'Donnell

Fish farms are incredibly harmful to the surrounding area's local aquaculture systems, as well as the native populations who rely on fishing as a main source of food to survive.

Crowded fish nets means substantial risks for disease and sicknesses to spread into the waters that are already struggling to support many endangered and critically endangered animals, such as the Southern Resident Orca pod (which, at the time of this writing (7/30/21), have lost a member, J21).

I urge the farms to reconsider converting their operations to hatcheries for local fish species that are being overfished well beyond what can possibly be deemed sustainable.

The incentive should be the survival of all life on this planet. We are on the brink of seeing within our lifetimes, a mass extinction event that can be prevented unless we all take action right now.

Thank you for your time.