

## Walt Dickhoff

All right, thank you. I'm Walt Dickhoff, retired professor of fisheries, University of Washington, retired senior scientist with NOAA Fisheries. I've been-- I worked with salmon net-pens for 40 years in Puget Sound, and have quite a big experience.

I'd like just to comment that we've looked at impacts of salmon net-pen rearing in Puget Sound on endangered species, including Pacific salmon in southern resident killer whales and we never considered them a major threat to those groups. There are persistent organic pollutants that are a major threat to those southern resident killer whales, but these are mostly of terrestrial origin and not really a threat from net-pen culture. So, I like to commend the Department of Ecology for developing these guidelines and working with Cooke and urge their approval of the permit. So, thank you for this opportunity.