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Community Food Co-op Places Moratorium on Selling Wild Pacific NW Chinook/King Salmon

First local grocery store to take strong measures to help save the Orcas

(Bellingham, WA - April 24, 2019) The Community Food Co-op (Co-op), a multiple location natural foods grocery store, bakery and cafe, is placing a moratorium on the sale of wild Pacific Northwest Chinook/King salmon starting in May 2019 to coincide with the start of the spring salmon season.

The Co-op made the decision to halt sales based on recommendations to help preserve the Pacific Northwest's critically endangered orcas' primary food source, Chinook/King salmon. The Co-op is hoping its stance will help consumers make informed buying decisions. The Co-op will focus sales on salmon caught in Alaska. It will not sell any wild salmon caught in waters south of Alaska, including Washington, Oregon, and British Columbia.

According to Adrienne Renz, general manager, "Stewardship and advocacy are part of our strategic initiatives. We strive to energize our member-owners to support positive change around core issues that affect our community's future. We consider saving the orcas as one of those core issues."

This moratorium is supported by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), the Center for Whale Research, The Center for Biological Diversity, and the Wild Fish Conservancy to name a few of the leading organizations.

The Community Food Co-op is a consumer-owned grocery serving Whatcom county with quality products and honest information.

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