Take it from here...

Just Ask: "Is it WILD?"

Know what you are eating. When ordering salmon, ask if it's wild. And remember: if it's Atlantic, odds are it's farmed. The following restaurants and markets feature wild salmon. Support their efforts to bring you the best.



Bread & Ink Café · Café Azul · Clarke's · Compass World Bistro · Daily Café · Genoa · Gino's Restaurant & Bar · Higgins · In Good Taste · Lucere · Oritalia · Paley's Place · Papa Haydn · Serratto · South Park · Wildwood · William's on 12th



- Food Front Nature's
- New Seasons Market
- Whole Foods Zupan's

You can be sure that it's wild when you buy direct from West Coast fishermen. Visit www.SalmonNation.com for a selection of online ordering picks that come to you fresh off the boat.

Where's Your Wild Salmon Come From?

Average yearly harvests of chinook, coho, and sockeye: 1995-2001

Perhaps you've heard about the difficulties that salmon face in places along the West Coast. What you may not know is that

many rivers teem with salmon, filling spawning beds and fish-

ing nets alike. The salmon fisheries in Alaska, for example, haul in more than 700 million pounds a year and have been certified as well-managed and sustainable by the Marine Stewardship Council, an independent international

Seven-year average harvests of chinook, coho, and sockeye, the three species most often found at markets and restaurants, are shown here. Two other species — pink and chum — are more often used for canning or smoking. When included, their harvests double the total catch.

One further note: Some wild-caught salmon are actually spawned in hatcheries and then released to roam the oceans — a practice that, for genetic and other reasons, worries some fishery biologists but can help to bolster a run while restoration work continues.

Future salmon abundance depends on preserving healthy runs and restoring endangered ones. The key lies in strengthening our ties to this land and

cherishing its millennia-old relationship between people and salmon. And that deliciously — includes eating them

> Learn more online at www.SalmonNation.com

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration requires that farmed salmon containing dye be labeled in the retail case and on packages with the words "artificially colored" or "color added." Through recent consumer pressure, several large supermarket WILD! chains have pledged to label their farmed salmon. If your local store is selling farmed salmon without a label, tell them that they are legally required

→ Learn more from the Institute for Agriculture and Trade Policy at www.iatp.org/fish.

Get Salmon Farming Out of the Oceans

to label it as containing colorants.

The health of our oceans and wild fish is being sacrificed to subsidize salmon farming. Moving the farms to enclosed ponds would force the industry to pay more of the true costs of farming, leveling the economic playing field for coastal fishing communities.

➡ Visit the Coastal Alliance for Aquaculture Reform online at www.FarmedAndDangerous.org to send a message to key industry representatives.

Don't Let the FDA Allow Genetically Engineered Salmon

While not on anyone's dinner table just yet, GE salmon is just a pen stroke away. Aqua Bounty Farms has applied to the Food and Drug Administration for permission to market genetically engineered salmon, which would be the first GE livestock on the market. Research points to the "considerable risks" that GE fish pose to native fish. We should not be part of this experiment.

Learn more and send your feedback to the FDA online at www.SalmonNation.com/gefish.html.

What's the Big Idea?

Experts are rethinking our relationship to the natural world:

> We assumed we could control the biological productivity of salmon and nprove' upon natural processes We assumed we could have salmon without rivers." —Jim Lichatowich

> > "Our inability to

centrally plan economies

should inspire more humility

among the blanetary managers

who would centrally plan

-Herman Daly

the ecosystem.



1% - California:

4.810.000 lbs

28,238,000 lbs.

Real salmon jump waterfalls"

Learn more online at

www.SectionZ.info

'isheries program at www.ecotrust.org/fisheries

Making

our economy

safe for people

and nature

The blessings of the free market

have won endless praise. But

wait a second. If Adam Smith's

invisible hand" is so deft, why

are problems like climate disrup-

tions and ever-widening wealth

We can change all that by

rethinking some of our basic

assumptions. Let's start by rec-

ognizing that the "economy" is

but a part of the larger "ecology."

The result will be more prosper-

The science is there, the eco-

nomics is there, and we need

Learn more

www.SectionZ.info

Order copies of SectionZ at

www.SectionZ.info/orders.

EDITOR: Howard Silverman

WRITERS: Seth Zuckerman.

loward Silverman, Eileen Brady,

ILLUSTRATOR: Shannon Wheeler

an Francisco Chronicle: 50.000

F Bay Guardian: 100,000

REPRINTED 8/13/03: **50,000**

ectionZ is made possible

of the Columbia Foundation

Please write eileen@ecotrust.org

made with 50%

st-consumer waste.

Printed on 55# Rebrite,

ecotrust

he Oregonian: **100,000**

Villamette Week: 87.500

DESIGNER: Melissa Tatge

DISTRIBUTION

gaps so clearly visible?

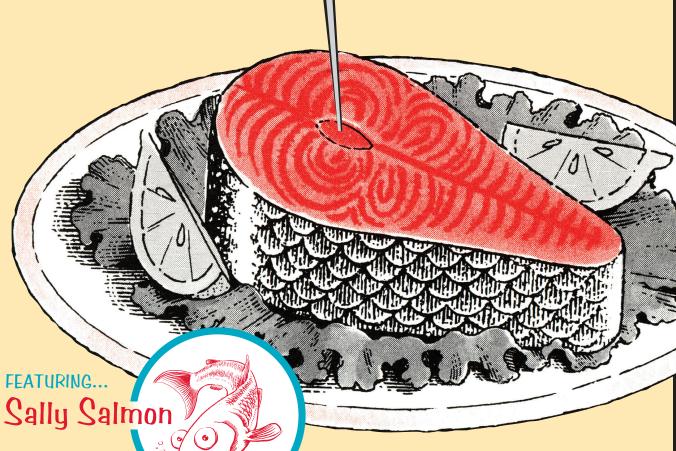
ous lives for all of us.

vou there, too.

A PUBLICATION OF ECOTRUST SECTION

What lurks behind that farmed salmon steak?

\$3.99/pound Toxins & Dye: No Extra Charge



ture. If we keep planet, profit and the public good all in mind, there's no reason that one has to run roughshod over the others. Over the course of six issues throughout 2003, SectionZ will present a slew of ideas that have the power to change everything. Learn more online at www.SectionZ.inf

Feedlot salmon vs. wild salmon

MAKING OUR ECONOMY SAFE

FOR PEOPLE AND NATURE

Do you eat salmon? Lots of doctors are recommending it. But there's more to salmon than meets the eve. If you haven't seen the word "wild" at the market or on the menu, the salmon you're eating is probably farmed. Farmed salmon are raised in floating feedlots in Chile, Canada, Europe, and the United States. And that spells trouble. For you, for wild salmon, and for the oceans.

How can a food be so inexpensive in the supermarket but so costly both to our well-being and to the environment? It's because the economic groundrules hide the real costs.

In the case of farmed salmon, those rules allow raw sewage to pour into

coastal waters, and fatal epidemics to spread from farmed to wild fish. Meanwhile, the industry dodges the bill, leaving you, me, and our children to pick up the tab.

In this issue of SectionZ:

The Hidden Costs of Farmed Salmon



Many people think that buying farmed salmon saves wild fish. Think again.

Salmon farms don't protect wild salmon. Instead, they infect wild fish with parasites and diseases, and compete for precious habitat when farmed fish escape their pens.



Salmon farm, British Columbia

These problems can spell disaster for wild fish. In British Columbia, at least three rivers have now been populated by escaped Atlantic salmon, an invader to our Pacific waters that competes with native fish. In Norway, the government has resorted to the deliberate poisoning of whole rivers to wipe out the spread of a parasite from a farming hatchery.

Now that we recognize these problems, it's time to demand that salmon farmers clean up their act. The farms can improve by raising the fish on land, in ponds whose waste is treated before it is released into the sea. That would at least isolate them from the wild fish they are harming.

Salmon farming expanded from just 10% of global salmon production in 1986 to 58% in 2001 — much faster than our understanding of its impacts. As a result, salmon farmers have been getting a free ride. It's time for them to start covering the true costs.

The Hidden Costs of Farmed Salmon

Farmed salmon are raised

a small house. Usually, a dozen or so of these

pens are tethered together. The fish pass their

feces right into the waters around them, con-

taminating

the water

with as much

raw sewage

as a town of

65,000.

Selling authenticity short

Eating wild salmon connects us to natural cycles that are older and vaster than we are. Wild salmon is a natural food, not a manufactured one. By contrast, a farmed salmon is about as natural as a hormone-laden feedlot steer.

Not surprisingly, that difference means a lot in the taste. Chefs around the country rate wild salmon far superior to farmed. "To be perfectly honest, it [farmed salmon] is crap," says Executive Chef Daniel Long of Bon Appetit Management Company. In fact, a Wall Street Journal taste test scored farmed salmon at 4.83 out of 10. while wild salmon rated 9.7.

Wild salmon get their beautiful hue from the prey they eat. But their farmed cousins rely on a dye to

color their flesh pink. Without that added pigment, their meat would be a pale gray.

Farmed salmon color selection far

in open cages, thousands of Treating the ocean like a cesspool them in a net-pen the size of

The waters where salmon are raised are remote and pristine — the fiords of Norway and the crystal inlets of British Columbia. These regions boast vast forests and dramatic waterfalls and serve as

a reminder of just how awesome nature can be. But salmon waste overloads these waters with nutrients. The result is a no-oxygen "dead zone" that can extend up to 500 feet. If we wouldn't put a hog farm in Yosemite, why would we put a salmon farm on British Columbia's spectacular coast?

A wild world in peril

Nature needs all of its parts to stay in balance. The pesticides used to control sea lice also poison creatures that turn the sea bottom and promote decomposition, just like earthworms do on land. The antibiotics that fish farmers rely on to keep their livestock healthy kill not only germs that cause disease but also beneficial bacteria on the sea floor. These antibiotics can also breed resistant strains of micro-organisms, reducing the effectiveness of medicines that

are needed to save human lives.

Ebidemics and infesta-

spread rapidly in crowded pens where salmon are raised. Fish farmers dose their fish to combat these outbreaks, using seven tons of antibiotics in British Columbia in 1998 alone

Still, epidemics can infect and decimate wild stocks. The 2002 collapse of the pink salmon run on the central B.C. coast is blamed on par-

asites known as sea lice, contracted from the area's numerous salmon farms.

OXINS oil fed to farmed

The fishmeal and fish

taminated with dioxins than any other livestock feeds, according to a study by the European Union. As a result, an analysis of British Columbian salmon found that farmed salmon was nearly ten times higher in PCBs than the wild variety.

AVERAGE PCB LEVELS **FOUND IN SALMON** 51,216 pg/g

A pure food no more

We live in a time of nutritional uncertain-

ty, when it seems that every week scientists announce that a food we thought was good for us is actually a threat to our health. Salmon had been spared that treatment, until they started to be raised in pens. Wild salmon range the open sea and eat low enough on the food chain that they are a good source of lean protein. But by raising caged salmon on fish meal, industrialists have tampered with our diet once again, tainting a tasty food we thought we could count on.



in the pricetag, you'll see the real value of a wild fish like me!

Oligopoly?

The salmon farming industry is controlled by a short list of alobal corporations — just four companies produce more than half of the farmed salmon sold in North America. By flooding the market with their product, they've put harvesters of wild fish — and the communities that depend on them — in an economic squeeze.



Curtains for local fishing communities

In coastal towns from California to Alaska, salmon fishing has offered a way for hardy, self-reliant souls to go into business for themselves and become financially independent. Kids have grown up fishing on their parents' boats, and in time become skippers themselves. The fishing economy has supported entire communities, from shipyards to canneries and net shops. When the runs were good, towns boomed, and when the runs were thin, the

price went up, which helped make up the difference. But with farmed salmon now flooding the market, prices don't cushion a bad year, and the towns are on the skids.



...to produce 871,200 tons 2.126.000 tons of fish

Less –000 everyday livestock

Their feed is made from mackerel, sardines, and other smaller fish, but something is lost in the translation. It takes nearly two and a half pounds of smaller fish to raise one pound of farmed salmon — reducing the amount of seafood by 59 percent.

Emptying the oceans

It used to be that the oceans seemed like a limitless frontier. How could something so vast be depleted? But with today's increasingly sophisticated fishing fleets, that's exactly what's happening. Annual catch in the world's oceans is reaching the maximum that can be sustained; a quarter of the world's fisheries are already depleted or in the process of being overfished.

The bounty of the ocean, from salmon to tuna and lobster, is the result of the abundance of creatures like the sardine, lower on the food chain. Plundering the ocean of its smaller fish to feed livestock salmon is like sawing one leg off a stool. It's asking for trouble.

Hard to believe? Check out the Facts & Footnotes on www.SectionZ.info