

For immediate release:
May 3, 2018
Photos & Video available

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**Local Underwater Photographer and Filmmaker Raises Awareness
About Issues Facing Wild Salmon in Puget Sound.**

Frankenfish: A Farmed Atlantic Salmon Story documentary
Premieres at the Seattle International Film Festival
In the *Legends of the PNW* screening on May 28, 2018

Local award-winning underwater filmmaker, author, and environmental speaker Annie Crawley (aka Ocean Annie) has spent countless hours underwater and logged more than 5,000 dives all over the world. She's documented humpback mothers and babies; octopus hunting; and whale sharks as big as a school bus. She runs a scuba diving team for kids, teens and young adults in Edmonds, Washington and has her fingers on the pulse of stories threatening our local waters. *Frankenfish: A Farmed Atlantic Salmon Story* short documentary film by Annie Crawley makes it's world premiere at the 2018 Seattle International Film Festival on Monday, May 28. *Frankenfish* will join ten exceptional short films from across Washington State at 12:00 PM in the Legends of the PNW screening at the SIFF Uptown Theater, 511 Queen Avenue North, Seattle, WA 98109.

In August 2017, more than 260,000 farmed Atlantic salmon escaped into Puget Sound after the collapse of the Cypress Island Cooke Aquaculture net pen. At first, Cooke falsely reported that "king tides" due to the solar eclipse had caused the salmon escape. Later we found out that the escape occurred because of Cooke's negligence. As a journalist focusing on our ocean, Annie found herself heading up to Bellingham with cameras in hand, planning on capturing the story.

"I wasn't sure how I was going to get on a boat, but thanks to connections and reaching out to the folks at [Lummi Island Wild](#) and Dana Wilson of the [Lummi Nation](#) they allowed me to join their crews to document cleaning up the mess of farmed Atlantic salmon escape." Annie Crawley

Lummi Nation fishermen scrambled to contain a spill of farmed Atlantic salmon in north Puget Sound before they tarnished local waters, shedding light on a global struggle between farmed and wild fish. The film tells the story of the farmed Atlantic salmon net pen spill into the Salish Sea. The event sparked a movement of people to speak out against Atlantic salmon net pens in the Puget Sound.

Although the Atlantic salmon net pen escape was tragic, it united an entire community of people in the Pacific Northwest to speak out against Atlantic

farmed salmon and the net pens in the Salish Sea. The incident inspired many to take action to protect the ecology of the Puget Sound and our wild fish stocks.

Frankenfish A Farmed Atlantic Salmon Story was created in partnership with the [Communication Leadership](#) graduate program at The University of Washington, the [Nereus Program](#) and Ocean Link NW. Special thanks to Beau Garreau from Children of the Setting Sun Productions for his drone footage. Huge shout out to our sponsors [Light & Motion](#), [Underwater Sports](#), Backscatter Underwater Photo & Video.

More than 400 films from 90 countries will be screened in Seattle over 25 days with more than 145,000 attendees. SIFF is the largest and most highly attended film festival in the United States, now in its 44th year.

About Annie Crawley

Award winning producer, underwater photographer, author, and speaker, Annie Crawley gives the ocean a voice through her mission to reach audiences about our underwater world. Originally from Chicago, Annie's life changed when she took her first breath underwater as a scuba diver. As a PADI Scuba Instructor, artist, storyteller, and member of the Women Divers Hall of Fame, she travels the world with her underwater cameras in hand, focusing on documenting life below the surface.

To learn more about Annie please visit www.AnnieCrawley.com

