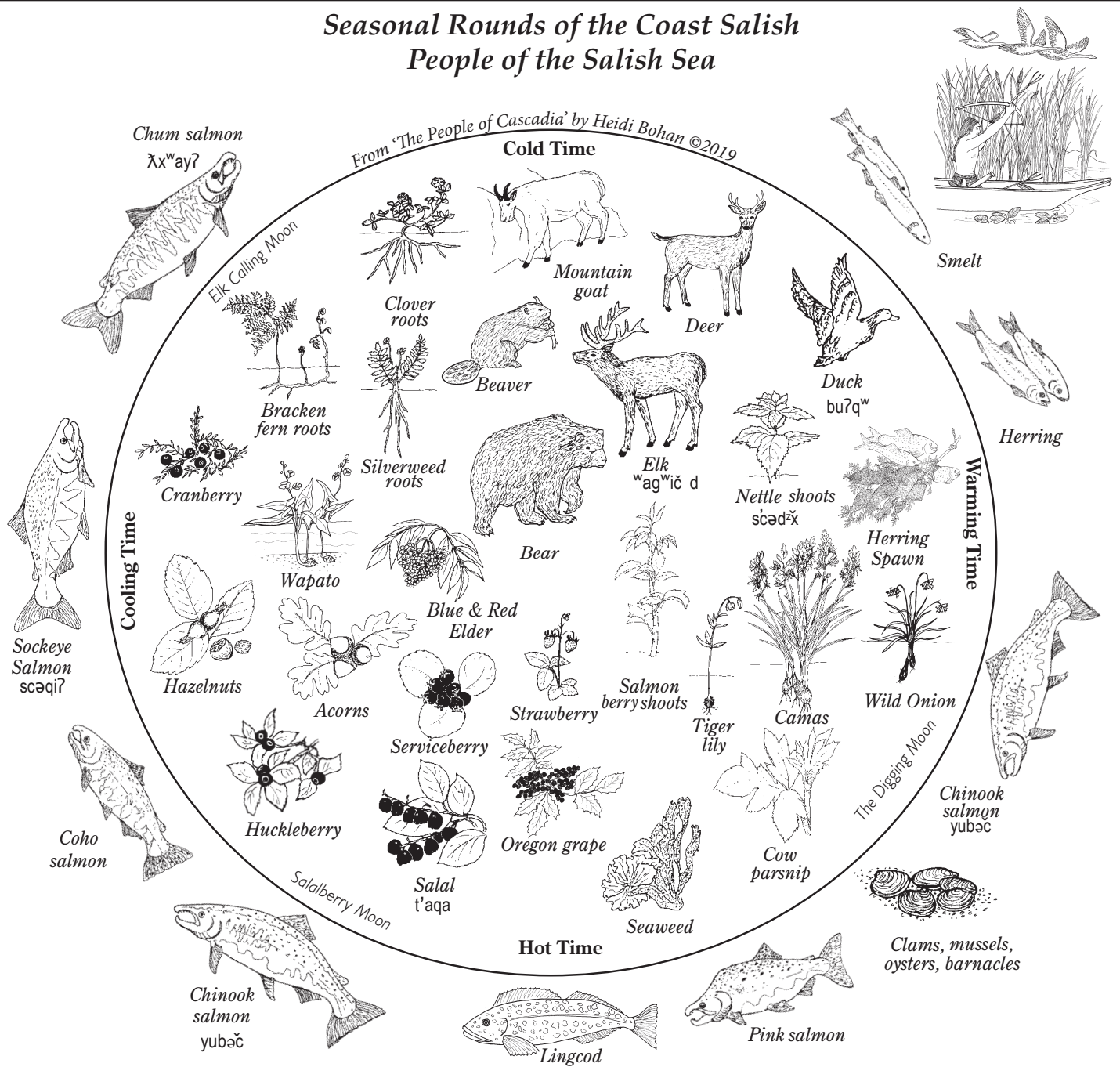


Seasonal Rounds of the Coast Salish People of the Salish Sea

From 'The People of Cascadia' by Heidi Bohan ©2019



The Seasonal Rounds of the Coast Salish people begins when the Pacific Chorus frog sings its song, and the Indian plum sends out the first flowers of the new year. The smelt and herring arrive to feed the people.

The Warming Time reminds people the Digging Moon is soon to come and the cattail mats, gathering baskets and digging sticks are readied for the seasonal rounds of gathering. Family groups travel to family gathering grounds used and cared for generation after generation.

The Salalberry Moon finds people at the peak of the berry harvests, gathering and drying huge quantities of berries to last through the winter. Periodic fires are carefully set to help keep the forests and meadows open, and to promote fresh new growth.

As the Cooling Time arrives it is time to head back to the village, put up the plankhouse walls, line them with cattail mats, and continue with the final fall gathering of foods.

The Elk Calling Moon triggers that it is time to put away the canoe paddles and settle in to the Cold Time of storytelling and winter ceremony.