



Friends of Clayoquot Sound

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Summer 2014



Shayne Morrow, courtesy of Ha-shilth-sa

Tribal Parks: *30 years and counting*



Nancy Powis

Top photo: Tla-o-qui-aht read new Tribal Parks Declaration, Easter 2014.
Bottom photo: Godfrey Stephens with his carving, Weeping Cedar Woman, Easter 2014.

1984 During the Meares Easter Festival in April 1984, with Meares Island slated for imminent logging, Tla-o-qui-aht Chief Councilor Moses Martin read out the band's Meares Island Tribal Park Declaration. Later that year Meares' defenders – Tla-o-qui-aht First Nations and Friends of Clayoquot Sound – used the declaration as a basis for their logging blockade (Canada's first), then as part of the successful court case that stopped MacMillan Bloedel's proposed clearcutting (and protects Meares to this day).

2014 Easter weekend 2014 marked the 30th anniversary of that first Tla-o-qui-aht Tribal Park declaration. The anniversary was celebrated on Easter Sunday (April 20th), followed next day by a trip to the site of the 1984-1985 blockades.

Over 200 people attended the celebration of Wah-Nah-Jus/Hilth-hoo-is (Meares Island) at the Tofino Community Hall. Guests were welcomed by a hearty feast provided by the Tla-o-qui-aht and Friends of Clayoquot Sound. The Tla-o-qui-aht then celebrated the Tribal Park with songs and dances and speeches by elders, including Moses Martin and Joe David.

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Adrian Dorst

Keep Clayoquot Wild!



Adrian Dorst

Clayoquot Sound is a global gem of rare temperate rainforest, a place of astounding biological richness where ancient forest meets ocean, and the largest enclave of wilderness left on Vancouver Island.

Will you join us in ensuring that Clayoquot Sound stays wild for future generations?

The challenges are daunting but winnable – keeping logging out of Clayoquot's remaining intact valleys (we've succeeded so far!), stopping two potential mines (Catface copper and Fandora gold), and getting salmon feedlots out of the ocean.

If you want the ancient trees to stand and wild salmon to thrive, if you want Clayoquot mine-free, please join our Wilderness Team of monthly donors. Every monthly donation, even \$15, makes a difference and provides regular income our campaigns depend on.

*Together, we will keep Clayoquot wild!
Thank you!*

Please fill out the donation form on the back of this newsletter or donate online at www.focs.ca/support

Continued from cover.

Most significant to the celebration was the reading of a new Tribal Parks Declaration by Tla-o-qui-aht beach keeper Barney Williams Jr. Although not legally binding, the declaration embodies the vision of Tla-o-qui-aht for their land, guided by the principle of "hishuk ish ts'awalk," everything is one.

The new Tribal Parks Declaration encompasses all of Tla-o-qui-aht territories – the southern third of Clayoquot Sound – and designates "qwa siin hap" areas meant to protect old growth rainforests from all industrial activities. The declaration also states that all Tla-o-qui-aht territories will be protected from mining. Some areas are designated for recovery from previous logging, while others are to be used for sustainable development projects as part of what Natural Resource Manager Saya Masso calls "jobs for 500 years, not just 10 years of jobs and 500 years of impact."

The celebration also recognized Tofino activists from 1984 and their efforts in the successful struggle to protect Meares Island. Alliance between native and non-native communities remains important. As Moses Martin said, "In those days we had already identified that we could work with the non-Native community. That's actually the most rewarding thing. We established that relationship and we've just built on it ever since."

Special guests at the festivities were the Weeping Cedar Woman statue and her creator, Godfrey Stephens. Friends of Clayoquot Sound, in partnership with others, had just brought the statue back to Tofino.

Carved in 1984 to embody the emotion of the Meares Island logging protests, she represents the protection of place against industrial destruction. Fundraising efforts continue for her purchase by the District of Tofino.

On Easter Monday, Chief Moses Martin and Councilor Joe Martin took a party of guests to C'is-a-qis Bay at the southeast corner of Meares Island, where a cabin still stands, built in 1984 as a base camp for protesters. Here Moses had greeted MacMillan Bloedel loggers during the November 1984 standoff with the famous words, "You're welcome to visit our garden, but leave your chainsaws in the boat."

Thirty years later those words continue to inspire a paradigm shift. The tribal parks vision has grown to encompass all Tla-o-qui-aht territories. Young leaders including Saya Masso and Terry Dorward are building the vision into a concrete management plan. Others such as Eli Enns are sharing the tribal parks vision with other nations, building global networks for the conservation of place and culture.

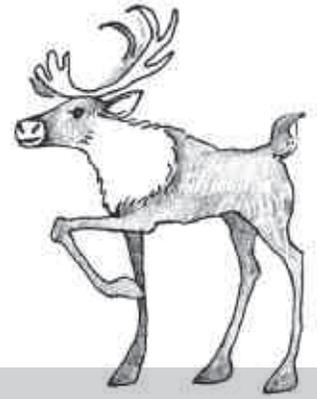
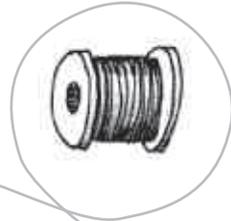
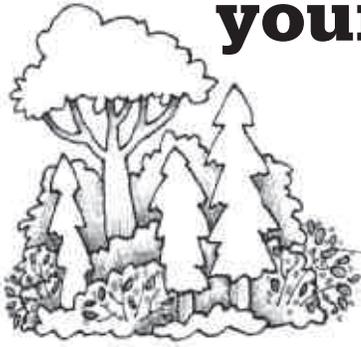
Emery Hartley

Special thanks to Michael Mullin, one of our founding directors, for his lead role in bringing Weeping Cedar Woman home; to Stephen Ashton for cooking up a delicious Easter feast; and to Tla-o-qui-aht Tribal Parks Project Manager Terry Dorward for his work coordinating the celebration.



Big Tree Trail in Meares Island Tribal Park

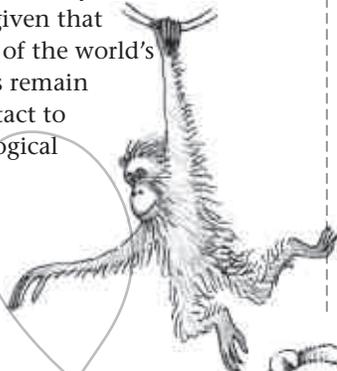
Are there forests in your fashion?



Did you know there could be ancient and endangered forests in your clothes? That's because fabrics like rayon, viscose, modal and lyocell are made from trees.

Last year, more than 70 million trees were turned into dissolving pulp for the manufacture of cellulosic fabric. Ancient and endangered forests around the world are routinely making their way into clothing – from the vanishing tropical rainforests of Indonesia, to the boreal forests of Canada and the coastal temperate rainforests of BC.

Logging for textiles threatens orangutans, tigers, woodland caribou, songbirds, grizzly bears and a myriad of other species that call these forests home. Converting trees into fashion is also wasteful and toxic – dissolving pulp wastes approximately 70% of the tree and is a chemically intensive manufacturing process. The dissolving pulp industry is projected to double by 2050 – an alarming scenario, given that only one-fifth of the world's ancient forests remain sufficiently intact to maintain biological diversity.



What to do? An environmental organization called Canopy is tackling the problem and finding solutions. Canopy has already shifted more than 700 large publishers, printers and global brands away from using paper made from ancient and endangered forests and is now building momentum for a similar shift in the clothing industry.

Canopy has “followed the thread” and sleuthed out the supply chain from North American and European retailers, to factories in Southeast Asia, to pulp mills in China and Canada, all the way back to the forests of origin. Based on its research, Canopy has launched a campaign to get fashion designers, apparel brands and retailers to eliminate endangered forests from their fabrics and to shift to alternatives like recovered fabrics, viscose made from straw, or where tree fibre is used, to eco-certified forests.

Numerous brands are already showing leadership on this issue by working with Canopy to develop forest policies and engage their suppliers about eliminating endangered forests from their fabrics. Global retail giants H&M and Inditex/Zara recently launched their forest commitments, joining early champions EILEEN FISHER, Quiksilver, Patagonia, prAna, lululemon athletica and a dozen progressive designers.



You too can be part of the solution. Here are three quick things you can do:

- 1** Ask questions when you shop. Ask where fabrics come from and if they contain endangered forest fibre. The store clerk may not know, but the more we ask the more the word gets back to clothing companies that people are scrutinizing brands and wanting more socially and environmentally responsible practices.
- 2** Support the designers and brands who are already taking action. Encourage your favourite retailers, brands and designers to become part of the solution.
- 3** Spread the word with the Twitter hashtag #Follow the Thread and sign the CanopyStyle pledge at www.canopystyle.org.

Together, we can ensure that being stylish doesn't cost the earth.

Nicole Rycroft
Canopy's founder and
Executive Director

Lacklustre legacy of gold mining: *an ecological economics perspective*

Gold has been historically treasured as a metal of significant beauty, value and power. Universal fascination with gold has prompted constant extraction of this resource, an activity that creates socio-environmental disruption.

This trend is not recent; in the history of the Americas, several hot-spots for gold production existed. After the Spanish conquest, exploitation of gold and silver was one of the causes for devastation of indigenous civilizations in South America. Extraction was so substantial that a local tradition in Bolivia, for example, recounts that the amount of gold taken from the mine in Potosí was enough to build a straight-line bridge between Bolivia and Spain. The story might not be true, but what is clear, 500 years later, are the lasting consequences of the exploitation of a sacred mountain and a local population dispossessed of productive lands, thereby affecting their well-being. Today, gold extraction around the world continues to be a cause of socio-environmental conflict, and a source of environmental impacts with global consequences.

The impacts of gold mining used to be confined to local boundaries.



However, the current scale of extraction results in large damage at a global level. It has been argued that gold mining is the most contaminating industry per unit of gold extracted. This statement is plausible when we consider that in order to produce 1 tonne of gold, approximately 500,000 tonnes of tailings and at least 1,500,000 tonnes of waste rock will be generated. This represents a serious risk of environmental pollution caused by acid mine drainage. Furthermore, with increased gold mining operations, we can expect a long-term decline in ore grade and an increase in waste rock production.

Gold is the metal requiring the highest water use to extract, with an average of 691,000 litres per kilogram of gold compared to other hard metals that use on average between 5 to 100 litres per kilogram of metal. This poses a serious concern for water availability and use, especially in areas where water resources are scarce.

Energy used in gold mining is on average 143 billion joules per kilogram of gold, a total amount that is estimated to be between 4-7% of the energy used globally. Consequently, greenhouse gas emissions reach an average level of 11.5 tonnes of carbon dioxide per kilogram of gold.

The resource intensity of gold mining needs to be weighed against the metal's use. Gold used to serve as a monetary reference to back up economies. Today, most countries manage a fiat economy in which gold has been gradually demonetized and has no reference to the economy; gold coins serve now only as investments and collectors' items. Currently, gold production is destined mainly for jewelry – 85% of the gold produced goes to supply accessories that do not contribute to wellbeing. Only a small amount of gold is required to supply technological demand. Thus, it is argued that existing gold can be recycled for technological uses since the amounts required are minimal compared to those already stockpiled.

Increased gold extraction is a factor to reckon with given its large ecological footprint, combined with issues such as local social disruption, and land use or access conflicts. As several researchers argue, there is no net benefit from gold mining, but instead net detriment. The question that remains is whether we value gold more than climate, water, nature or the lives of people affected. Extraction and use of gold lead to important ethical considerations – social and environmental costs need to be accounted for before considering purely economic goals.

Citizens need to have a critical voice for preventing future damage in an industry notorious for its lacklustre legacy.

Diana Vela

PhD student in Ecological Economics
at McGill University in Montreal



In August 2013, BC's Ministry of Energy and Mines issued an exploratory drilling permit to Imperial Metals for the Pandora gold property in Clayoquot Sound. The Vancouver-based mining firm had been trying to get the permit since 2011 in order to explore the feasibility of re-opening and expanding the old Pandora gold mine that closed in the 1960s.

The exploration permit was approved against the explicit wishes of the Tla-o-qui-aht First Nations on whose traditional territory the proposed exploration sites lie, and against the better judgment of local representative organizations. The potential mine site is located in Tranquil Valley, which the Tla-o-qui-aht designated as one of their Tribal Parks in 2011. Tribal Parks explicitly forbid inherently unsustainable activities such as mining and the Tla-o-qui-aht have requested a mining moratorium on their territories.

Considerable momentum has built up to stop any exploration or potential

Fandora gold drilling on hold?

mining at Pandora. The Tla-o-qui-aht's push to protect their territories from mining has garnered formal support from the Tofino-Long Beach Chamber of Commerce, District of Tofino, Alberni-Clayoquot Regional District, local provincial parliamentarian NDP MLA Scott Fraser, and most recently a strong declaration of support from the Victoria City Council. Over 3,000 individual signatures have also been collected supporting the Tla-o-qui-aht position.

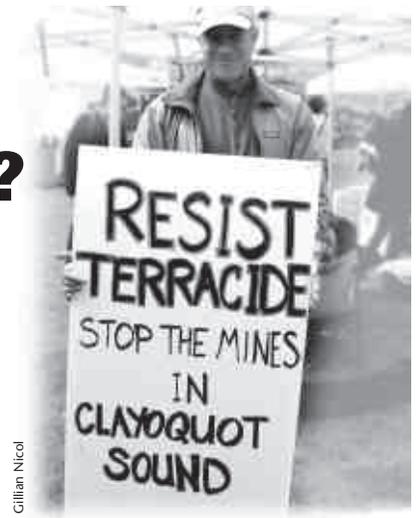
The Tla-o-qui-aht and environmental groups have made presentations raising awareness of the local struggle to protect Clayoquot Sound from unwanted mining. Friends of Clayoquot Sound have distributed publications outlining the environmental and social impacts of gold mining and are collecting names for a possible blockade,

should it come to that.

Due to mounting public pressure and clear support for the Tla-o-qui-aht's request, Imperial Metals has, as of this publication, given no indication it intends to attempt exploratory drilling on its tenure this year.

Emery Hartley

Gillian Nicol



Want to help?

Please visit

www.focs.ca/take-action

FOCS Healthy Wild Salmon campaign



Chinook salmon swims upstream to spawn.

Tofino Photography

Friends of Clayoquot Sound (FOCS) have a mandate to protect the ecological integrity of Clayoquot Sound. In that light we have taken up many campaigns, from old-growth logging, to mining and getting open net-cage salmon farms (feedlots) out of Clayoquot's ocean.

The intact rainforest valleys of Clayoquot Sound should have some of the healthiest salmon runs on Vancouver Island. Yet non-hatchery chinook salmon returns in nine major rivers last year totalled only about 600 fish.

The last ten years have seen an entrenchment of salmon feedlots in Clayoquot Sound. We now have 21 salmon feedlot sites, with most site tenures not up for renewal until 2026 to 2033. While our work to raise awareness about the harmful impacts of open net-cage salmon farms on wild salmon

is important, it's clear that merely advocating for aquaculture reform will not save our wild salmon.

Recognizing the need for more concrete action to protect wild salmon populations, FOCS has begun working on a new "Healthy Wild Salmon" campaign. Our goal in focusing on wild salmon health is to raise awareness about the many threats affecting wild salmon, and finding and promoting actions to protect our wild stocks. In late 2012, the Cohen Commission of Inquiry into the Decline of Fraser River Sockeye outlined 75 recommendations for salmon recovery – almost none implemented to date – rather than finding one 'smoking gun' or quick fix panacea. We need an approach to salmon health that both identifies and acts on the many different stressors on salmon populations.

Approaching salmon health from a holistic perspective is a big task. Fortunately we are not alone. FOCS has been invited to participate in the Clayoquot Salmon Roundtable that brings together diverse stakeholders with Department of Fisheries and Oceans scientists. The process will collate all the knowledge available about wild salmon in Clayoquot Sound. From there action items will be apparent and areas requiring further research will be clear.

The Clayoquot Salmon Roundtable represents an opportunity to initiate coordinated local action to protect wild salmon stocks. FOCS looks forwards to participating in this process and providing good results for wild salmon.

Emery Hartley

Gentle giants: *endangered basking sharks*

During one day last August, marine mammal biologist Wendy Szaniszlo saw several sharks off the west coast of Vancouver Island. One in particular, observed 19 miles off Brooks Peninsula, she was uncertain about identifying.

The shark had been lazing just below the surface – basking – and she realized, “A basking shark!” Further investigation confirmed that she had, indeed, been lucky enough to see and photograph a rare basking shark (*Cetorhinus maximus*), the world’s second largest fish after the whale shark.

A basking shark can be an impressive sight – up to 12 metres long and swimming with huge jaws wide open. But its teeth are tiny and it’s filtering plankton through gill rakers that almost encircle its head.

Historically, these gentle giants were abundant off the coast of BC, particularly in Clayoquot and Barkley Sounds and Rivers Inlet. But in the 1940s and 50s when commercial salmon fishing expanded, basking sharks became “destructive pests” because they entangled in fishing gear. From 1940 to 1970, Canada’s Department of Fisheries and Oceans (DFO) conducted a successful eradication program that included mounting blades on boats to slice the sharks in half. The program

operated in Barkley Sound from 1955 to 1969.

Basking sharks were also fished for their massive livers and for sport. By the 1970s to early 1990s, they were seen frequently only in Clayoquot Sound. Since 1996, sightings in all BC waters have dwindled to a trickle – about 15, half of them confirmed.

The Pacific population of basking sharks was designated in 2010 as endangered under Canada’s Species at Risk Act and is protected in Canadian waters.

DFO now collects information on sightings of all shark species, except dogfish. In the case of basking sharks, it’s to help assess how many are left and how to aid their recovery.

DFO shark sighting line

1-877-507-4275

Email:

baskingshark@dfo-mpo.gc.ca

Maryjka Mychajlowycz



Wendy Szaniszlo

A rare basking shark spotted in 2013 off the west coast of Vancouver Island.



John White

Bullfrogs are very large and robust, green or brown in colour, with golden eyes.

On the lookout for bullfrogs

“Jug-o-rum,
jug-o-rum,
jug-o-rum...”

What is that – the song of a drunken sailor? No, it’s the sound made by a male bullfrog trying to attract a mate. Over the past five years, local volunteers have listened and watched for bullfrogs at ponds on the west coast throughout the summer months. Our goal is to detect this unwanted species early, before it can become established in Clayoquot and Barkley Sounds.

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Bullfrogs are known as an “invasive species” in BC. They occur naturally east of the Rockies. Because of their large size and tasty legs, people tried raising bullfrogs on farms during the mid-1900s. When the farms went bust, large numbers of bullfrogs were released into the wild where they have caused problems. Bullfrogs can be 20 cm long and weigh 0.75 kg, which is much bigger than any of our native species of frogs. Their large size comes with a big appetite. They feed voraciously on native species of frogs, snakes, birds and rodents. Bullfrogs are also resistant to some types of disease that they can carry and transmit to native species of amphibians.

On Vancouver Island, bullfrogs have spread from Victoria to Campbell River and as far west as Port Alberni. Children are often responsible for catching them to keep as pets, and then releasing them in new locations. Recently, conservation biologists have been encouraging families and teachers to observe frogs in the wild, rather than bringing them into captivity. It's especially important not to move tadpoles or frogs from one pond to another. To date, there have been no confirmed sightings of bullfrogs west of Sproat Lake.

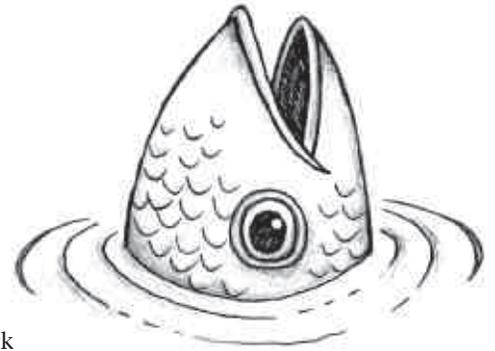
Barb Beasley

Association of Wetland Stewards for
Clayoquot and Barkley Sounds

If you are interested in learning how to identify bullfrogs by sight and sound, please check out the University of Victoria's website <http://web.uvic.ca/bullfrogs>. If you'd like to volunteer to do surveillance in our region, or if you find a bullfrog this summer, please contact wetlandstewards@gmail.com. We'd appreciate a photo and information about the exact location, date, and time of day for any frogs that you come across and suspect might be bullfrogs.

Thanks for your help!

The Golden Fish



In a village by the sea lived a poor man and woman, who fished for a living. One day they were fishing by their favourite rocks in their small, old boat, and they caught a large golden fish. The man and woman had never seen such a fish. Imagine their surprise when the fish opened its mouth and spoke!

“Let me go,” said the Golden Fish, “and I will grant you three wishes.” Well, the man and woman laughed and said, “Really?” “Yes,” said the Fish, “Really!” So the couple whispered together, and said, “We’d like a brand new fishing boat with everything.”

“Done,” said the Golden Fish. The air shimmered and the man and woman and the Fish were sitting in a beautiful

new fishing boat. The man and woman set the Fish free. It said, “You have two more wishes – come back here tomorrow.” And, with a flick of its tail, it was gone.

When the man and woman got home, they talked about how poor almost everyone in the village was. The next day, the man and woman went out on the sea, and called,

“Golden Fish, Golden Fish,
Please hear our plea,
We have our second wish,
Come visit us from the sea.”

The Golden Fish appeared almost immediately. It was bigger than they remembered. “What is your wish?” asked the Fish. “We wish for everyone in our village to be rich!” said the man and woman. “It will be done by the end of the week,” said the Fish. And, with a splash, it was gone.

Over the week lots happened in the village. Strangers in suits and hard hats arrived, there were secret meetings and rumours flew thick and fast. Finally a big public meeting was called in the village hall, and everyone came.

The stranger at the head table announced, “You will all be rich!” Everyone cheered. Then the stranger said, “To get rich, everyone will have to move out of the village. You are sitting on top of a gold

mine, and we are going to dig a big hole here to get the gold.”

People started to shout and cry; it was pandemonium. The man and woman looked at each other in shock; they ran down to their boat and out to the rocks. They called,

“Golden Fish, Golden Fish,
Please hear our plea,
We have our third wish,
Come visit us from the sea.”

The Fish arrived immediately, and it was much bigger than before, the size of a whale. The man and woman were frightened, but they said, “Our second wish was a mistake!” “But you wanted everyone to be rich,” said the Fish.

“But not like this!” they cried.

“Being rich is no good
without our village.
Please help us – YOU make
the third wish for us!”



Illustrations: Marion Syme

Support the Wild!

Friends of Clayoquot Sound is a grassroots organization advocating protection for the ancient temperate rainforests of Clayoquot Sound. We are part of an international movement calling for a shift of consciousness in the way humans relate to the Earth. We need your support to continue to educate and inspire people. Please send in your donation today to help protect one of the most spectacular places on Earth.

Visit our website to find more ways to help. www.focs.ca

Send your donation to:

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“Thank you!” cried the Fish. “With that power I am released. I have been trapped in this golden form for many years. You will be rich, in fish!” And the Golden Fish jumped high out of the water, and splashed down as thousands of smaller fish, which all swam away.

When the man and woman went home the strangers were gone and no one remembered the meeting. From that day on the whole village always had enough fishes for their wishes.

Eileen Floody