



# Friends of Clayoquot Sound

www.focs.ca

PHONE: 250-725-4218

FAX: 250-725-2527

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## CLAYOQUOT SOUND is Interfor Free this Year!

Ancient forest of Bedwell Sound is safe from Interfor's logging for time being.

**Good news!** One of the two forestry companies that operate in Clayoquot Sound, International Forest Products (Interfor), is not logging here in 2005.

**T**his welcome reprieve for Clayoquot's ancient temperate rainforests is caused by a few factors. One factor is vigilance by Friends of Clayoquot Sound. In early February, because of public, media and market pressure generated by FOCS, Interfor stopped building a logging road into Hesquiat Lake Creek, an intact wilderness valley on the northern edge of Clayoquot

Sound. The road penetrated only 350 metres into this otherwise intact valley before Interfor pulled out indefinitely.

Interfor has also deferred activities in two other contentious and intact areas of the Sound. This year, Interfor was to have constructed 13 kilometres of road into Sulphur Pass, a wilderness area that was the site of a blockade in 1988. Most likely, the company was also intending to field survey the intact Satchie Valley this year, to lay out 22 kilometres of road and 6 cutblocks. It appears that Interfor is deferring activities in contentious areas of Clayoquot Sound because it wants a "period

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## Keep Oil Off BC Coast

**I**magine Tofino's idyllic Chesterman Beach slick with black oil. This nightmare became reality when, on December 23rd, 1988, an oil barge called Nestucca was rammed by its own towboat off the coast of Washington State in the U.S. The Nestucca spilled 875 tonnes of crude oil into the ocean, much of it reaching the west coast of Vancouver Island.

The environmental damage was severe. The Canadian government reported "coastal ecosystem destruction", damage to fish stocks, marine mammals, shellfish, native seafood, as well as bald eagles and other animals that fed on oiled carcasses. The government estimated that 56,000 seabirds were destroyed. Friends of Clayoquot Sound (FOCS) pressured the BC government to help

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*Clayoquot Sound is Interfor Free this Year! from cover.*

of quiet" during which to reassess all of its operations in BC.

Economics has saved a fourth intact area for the time being. This summer, Interfor engineers took a closer look at the steep east side of Bedwell Sound and decided not to proceed with large-scale logging that would have lasted for almost two years in an area visible from the town of Tofino. "Not economically viable," the engineers said. For once, we agree with them.

We know that Interfor's logging tenure in Clayoquot Sound will not remain idle for long. We know that the fight to keep logging out of Clayoquot's ecologically precious intact valleys is just beginning. But for now we rejoice that the old growth forests of Hesquiat Lake Creek, Sulphur Pass, Satchie Creek and Bedwell Sound are safe for another year or two. We rejoice that the web of life in these intact forests, evolving undisturbed for 10,000 years since the retreat of the glaciers, remains unbroken.

**Keeping  
Clayoquot wild,  
one step  
at a time....**

*Maryjka Mychajlowycz*

# Farmed Sablefish to Flood Clayoquot Sound?

**T**he government is secretly opening the floodgates to farmed sablefish ("black cod") in BC. Sablefish a North Pacific Ocean species, is set to be the new salmon. Salmon farming companies, losing millions due to infectious diseases, mass escapes and low market prices, are now preparing to switch from salmon to sablefish.

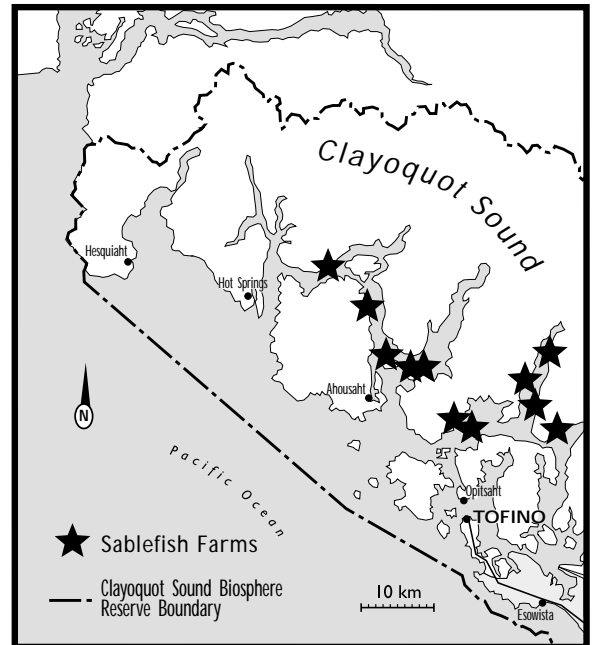
Clayoquot Sound has already seen a secret "trial" of farmed sablefish in 2001 and is under real threat from the expansion of factory sablefish farming in ocean net cages. Almost a third (some 27,500 tonnes) of BC's planned sablefish farming production could be in the Clayoquot Sound UNESCO Biosphere Reserve.

If BC salmon farmers were to switch to sablefish tomorrow, they could produce an estimated 78,000 tonnes of farmed sablefish – 16 times more than the wild catch of sablefish (4,500 tonnes) and even more than current BC farmed salmon production.

Figures compiled by the Canadian Sablefish Association and Friends of Clayoquot Sound reveal that since 2002, an estimated 26 sablefish farm licences have been issued in BC to companies already farming Atlantic and Pacific salmon. Since the first sablefish farm licence was issued in 1995, the B.C. Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food has issued at least 49 licences with an average farm size of 1,600 tonnes.

Just three Norwegian companies – Pan Fish (17), Cermaq (11) and Stolt (9) – already have 37 out of 49 licences to farm sablefish in the pristine ocean waters of BC. Of the 11 sablefish farms slated for Clayoquot Sound – all owned by Norwegian multinational Cermaq (Mainstream) – 10 are huge factory farms with the capacity of producing 2,600 metric tonnes each.

Cermaq started farming sablefish in 2001 with a commercial trial at its farm off Saranac Island in Clayoquot Sound. According to Cermaq,



although the company successfully grew a "limited" number of farmed sablefish to market in 2001, it does not expect to farm sablefish "in the near future". Whether Cermaq plans on farming sablefish tomorrow or in 2006, 2007 or 2008, we will be keeping a watchful eye.

Sadly, switching from salmon to sablefish is like jumping from the Exxon Valdez onto the Titanic. A report published by the University of British Columbia in April 2005 provided an "Ecological and Economic Impact Assessment of Sablefish Aquaculture in BC". The authors concluded that "sablefish aquaculture development in BC is destined to proceed on a trial and error basis with coastal communities and BC's marine environment exposed to undeterminable risk". The Clayoquot Sound Biosphere Reserve and local communities that depend upon it simply cannot take those risks.

**Friends of Clayoquot Sound support a sustainable aquaculture industry that benefits the health of communities and the ocean ecosystem. However, sablefish farms exhibit the same fundamental flaws inherent in sea cage salmon farming –**

# Interfor's Expansion into USA Protested

**BC logging company International Forest Products, or Interfor, has recently expanded its operations into the United States – a move that has sparked anti-logging protests there. With a long history of social and environmental offences, Interfor is being met with resistance from a protest movement that has only just begun to gain momentum in the US.**

**O**n May 31st, a group of locals in Washington State organized a protest in front of Interfor's new offices in Bellingham. Another protest was organized on July 5th at Interfor's newly acquired Port Angeles mill in Washington. David Lebowitz, a Bellingham resident, said: "Interfor has a long record of environmental and social infractions in Canada, and the fact that it is expanding into the US is frightening." In the past two years, Interfor has purchased four mills in Oregon and Washington while shutting down two mills in BC and laying off workers.

Bellingham locals protested Interfor's logging of Clayoquot Sound and worried about what Interfor's expansion into their community

might bring. The protesters identified several key issues as evidence of Interfor's disregard of environmental and community well-being, such as:

- Interfor's construction of a road into the pristine wilderness of Hesquiat Lake Creek, Clayoquot Sound, in February 2005;
- Interfor's confrontation with the Tsawataineuk First Nation in central British Columbia in March 2005. First Nations blockaded Interfor in an effort to stop it from logging a sacred valley;
- Tla-o-qui-aht First Nation's eviction notice to Interfor in 2003, on the grounds of disrespecting Aboriginal rights and proposing unsustainable logging in Clayoquot Sound;
- Interfor's refusal to change logging practices which threaten the Great Bear Rainforest on the central and north coast of BC, despite historic agreements between labour, community, First Nations, and industry groups.

"We are protesting the opening of this office in our home town because we don't want this company in our forests, we don't want Interfor products on American shelves, and we are opposed to what this company is doing to Canadian forests like Clayoquot Sound," said Lebowitz.

*Diego Garcia*

**fish escapes, use of chemicals and antibiotics, dumping of untreated wastes into the ocean, disease and parasite transfer to wild fish, and net loss of marine protein caused by farming a carnivorous species.**

**Sablefish farming is at best a leap in the dark and at worst a catastrophe for wild sablefish and the BC marine environment.**

*Don Staniford*



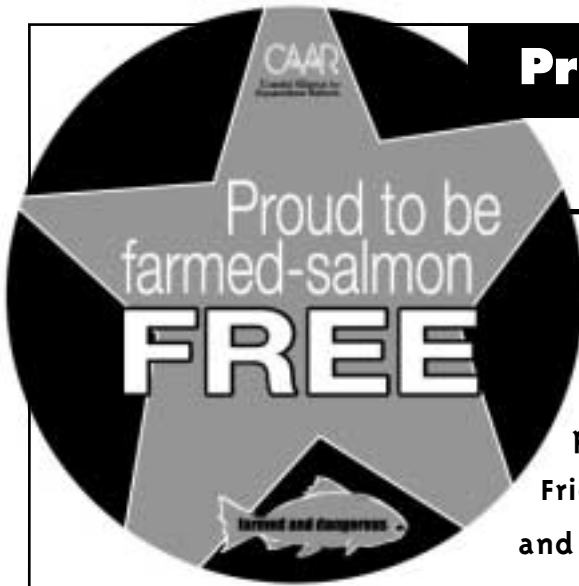
Cleaning up Nestucca oil spill on Chesterman Beach in 1988.

*Keep Oil off Coast from cover.*

our communities clean up the horrendous mess.

In BC the occurrence of oil spills of this scale is rare because for the past thirty years, a federal ban has existed on oil and gas development on the wild west coast. The provincial Liberal government has been pushing for lifting of this ban, arguing that oil and gas drilling off the coast will be good for BC's economy. The Liberals remained quiet on this issue in the lead-up to the May 2005 provincial election, when they were voted back into power by a narrow margin. With another four years ahead of them, look for the Liberals to renew their push for oil and gas "exploration", which involves off-shore drilling, and seismic testing, which can damage marine animals such as whales. FOCS will remain vigilant and will lobby to keep our beaches and our coast oil-free.

*Diego Garcia*



# Proud to Be Farmed Salmon Free

## INITIATIVE

Menus offering sustainably produced food are becoming popular at restaurants.

Friends of Clayoquot Sound and the Coastal Alliance for Aquaculture Reform have an easy way for you to identify which restaurants are farmed salmon free. Chefs and restaurants can display a new window decal that states "Proudly Farmed Salmon Free". The decal is a symbol that the restaurant is making a commitment to sustainability.

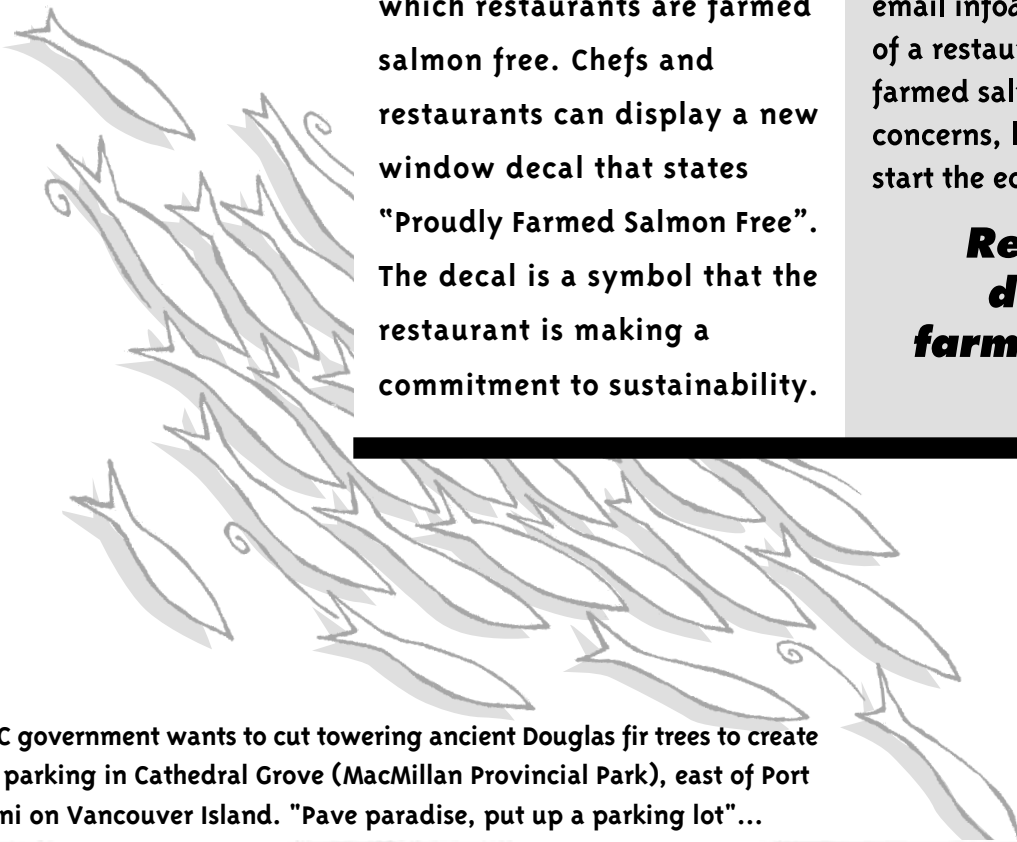
### **What can you do?**

When you visit a restaurant or retailer, ask if the salmon served is farmed or wild. If it's farmed don't buy it. If it's labeled "organic" salmon, don't buy it, as it's still farmed.

If you know of a restaurant that is farmed salmon free, please email [info@focs.ca](mailto:info@focs.ca). If you know of a restaurant that still sells farmed salmon, tell them your concerns, let us know and we'll start the education process.

**Remember,  
don't eat  
farmed salmon!**

*Dom Repta*



The BC government wants to cut towering ancient Douglas fir trees to create more parking in Cathedral Grove (MacMillan Provincial Park), east of Port Alberni on Vancouver Island. "Pave paradise, put up a parking lot"...



Printed with artist's permission.

# First Nations Become Full Owners of Iisaak Logging Company

The First Nations of Clayoquot Sound have increased their ownership of Iisaak Forest Resources from 51% to 100%.

Iisaak is a logging company that operates only in Clayoquot Sound. It was formed in 1998 as a joint venture between logging corporation MacMillan Bloedel (49% owner) and local Nuu-chah-nulth First Nations (51% owners). Subsequently, Weyerhaeuser purchased MacBlo, thereby becoming half owner of Iisaak.

In May, Weyerhaeuser sold its coastal BC logging operations to Brascan Corporation. Simultaneously, Weyerhaeuser sold its share in Iisaak to Clayoquot Sound First Nations.

The shift to full First Nations ownership is not expected to alter Iisaak's current direction. Iisaak describes itself as a "conservation based" forestry company – in 1999 it made a commitment not to log in the intact (pristine) valleys in its tenure in Clayoquot Sound and to transition out of old growth logging into second growth. Despite this, a couple of years ago Iisaak decided to triple its volume of cutting, to 110,000 cubic metres of wood annually (3,300 logging truck loads). This year, for

the first time, Iisaak is on track to reach its target. According to Iisaak, the decision to increase logging was taken to make the company "economically viable", allay pressure from the provincial government to log its full quota, and achieve its goal of bringing benefits to First Nations communities.

In 2000, Iisaak started small by cutting 10,000 cubic metres of ancient forest. Now Iisaak's annual volume is 110,000 cubic metres, with ninety percent coming from old growth and ten percent from second growth.

Iisaak's dramatic increase in cutting exposes the urgency to bring resolution to the issue of ancient forest logging in Clayoquot Sound. The BC government needs to become engaged to help protect intact valleys and support conservation-based forestry, thereby reducing the pressure for Iisaak to log high volumes. Ultimately, a strategy needs to be developed to help communities pursue a diversified economy that includes producing value-added wood products instead of logs. Friends of Clayoquot Sound are committed to working to reduce Iisaak's rate of logging and to helping nurture an economy that does not depend on the cutting of ancient forest.

*Maryjka Mychajlowycz*

## THANK YOU Volunteers!



Helen in our front office



Shaylah at our info booth in Tofino Botanical Gardens



Photo: Mark Hobson

When you volunteer for or donate to Friends of Clayoquot Sound, you are helping to protect the ancient temperate rainforest and pristine ocean of Clayoquot Sound.



Photo: Adrian Dorst

A grateful thank you to all the volunteers who've helped us this year. Every volunteer makes a big difference in our small organization. If you'd like to help out, please give us a call at **725-4218** or email **info@focs.ca** or drop by our office.

# NEW

## Merchandise



**Hemp/cotton T-shirt**  
natural colour or dark blue  
stream or eagle design  
women's and men's S-XL  
**\$29**



**Stainless steel travel mug**  
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Phone us at (250) 725-4218  
to order, or stop by our  
office to get your FOCS  
merchandise and help keep  
Clayoquot wild!

## Endangered Species Profile: The Elusive Vancouver Island Wolverine

**T**o many, the wolverine is a symbol of wildness and ferocity. This largest member of the weasel family is mostly carnivorous, and earns its nasty reputation in part by its ability to take down ungulates like deer and elk when necessary. However, wolverines most often scavenge their food. They are usually not aggressive towards humans, preferring to avoid our company altogether. But it hasn't been easy for wolverines to steer clear of us, as industrial activity continues to fragment the large tracts of wilderness necessary to support them.

With the exception of southern British Columbia, wolverines exist in most of the province, though in low numbers. Estimates put their population between 2,000 and 3,500. Since the mid-1960s, BC has consistently been the top producer of wolverine pelts in Canada, harvesting about 150 animals each year. It is unknown if wolverines still exist on Vancouver Island – the last reported sighting was in 1995 and they are red-listed (classed as extirpated, endangered or threatened) on the island. Wolverine have been found in Clayoquot Sound, with known sightings on Flores Island and up Herbert Inlet in the 1970s and 1980s. One thing we can say for certain is that if wolverines do exist on Vancouver Island, it is areas like Clayoquot Sound – large tracts of intact wilderness – that are needed to support them.

### Quick Facts

**Classification:** *Gulo gulo gulo* (European) *Gulo gulo luscus* (North American). There is debate whether subspecies designation is warranted for the Vancouver Island wolverine (*Gulo gulo vancouverensis*).

**Size:** body 65-105 cm (25-41 inches); bushy tail 17-26 cm long. Females 6-12 kg (13-26 lb); males 11-18 kg (24-40 lb)

**Markings:** Thick, glossy dark brown coat, silvery facial mask, pale stripe running laterally from the shoulders along the side and crossing the rump, sometimes white hair on the neck and chest, feet and forelegs.



**Preferred habitat:** Coniferous and boreal forest, arctic tundra. Affinity for high elevations and latitudes. Well adapted physically and behaviourally to snow. Habitat selection seems to be determined more by the distribution and availability of food resources than forest type.

**Average home range:** Males 500 km<sup>2</sup>, females 300 km<sup>2</sup>, females with kits 100 km<sup>2</sup>

**Population density:** approximately 1 wolverine per 65-177 km<sup>2</sup>

**Food:** Scavenges large ungulates and beached marine mammals, spawned-out salmon in coastal areas, small mammals and rodents, mountain goats, birds and eggs, various berries. Caching food by burying it in the snow or soil is common.

**Dens:** In soft snow near trees or rocks; entrance tunnels extend 2 metres beneath the snow into systems of snow caves and tunnels 30-50 metres in length.

**Breeding season:** May to August

**Gestation:** approximately 9 months

**Birth:** February and March

**Average litter:** 2 to 3 kits

**Average birth size:** 84 grams (3 ounces), 121 mm (4.75 inches)

**Age at sexual maturity:** females 15 months (but only 7% of 2-year-old females produced litters in a Yukon Territory study); males 2 years

**Maximum lifespan:** 13 years

**Predators:** Wolves and mountain lions may kill wolverines in areas where they coexist and compete.

Brenda Harriman

# DEEP ECOLOGY

Many environmentally-minded people are challenging deep-seated assumptions about the way we live. We can move from seeing ourselves as mere 'individuals' toward recognizing ourselves as part of the Earth, and we can find in that identity a concrete basis for taking action in Earth's defense. This article is the first in a series intended to introduce readers to the principles of 'deep ecology'.

## PART I: ORIGINS

Every culture has its creation myth. By one account, God created the Earth and heavens in six days; another says that Raven pulled it all out of a clamshell. Yet another describes the birth of our universe from a massive explosion of Everything into what before was Nothing. This last one is currently held by modern western scientific culture, and it seems as plausible as any of them. Let's take a quick tour through this myth.

At some point in the vast cosmological past, the story goes, this explosion let loose the fundamental ingredients of the universal soup: mostly hydrogen. The swirls and eddies of this gaseous broth, spilling out into space, began to merge together into various other elements and compounds; those compounds, still reeling from the force of that first explosion, spun themselves into galaxies, stars and planets. At this point, we start telling the story of one planet in particular.

This planet was not yet the watery, blue-green one you are familiar with. It was rocky, gassy and hot. For billions of years it spun on its axis, and revolved around a huge distant star. Denser materials, like molten iron, tended to sink toward the rotating centre of the planet. Minerals cooled into a crust over the core, while the liquids and gases floated up and away to form a filmy skin covering the rocky surface.

It spun around like this for a long time—just a lot of volcanoes, earthquakes and really stormy weather. Deep under seas of

ammonia and methane, vents on the ocean floor spewed hot gases straight from the centre of the planet. In the presence of all that energy, molecules combined and recombined into more complex organic compounds like amino acids. Amino acids begat proteins, proteins begat enzymes, and enzymes begat cells. Cells took energy from their environment, grew, and divided into more cells. Pretty soon, those cells spread from the oceans across the rock and turned it green wherever they could. Thus, says our creation myth, began life on Earth.

Some organisms have only one cell. Some, like birds, fish and mammals, are complex communities consisting of billions of cells that have different functions in various parts of the body. But every cell in every being that ever lived descended in an unbroken line from those first cells. You and I can trace our common heritage with chimpanzees, salamanders, steelhead trout and blue-green algae back to that ancient soup.

Now here's the really astounding thing: as far as we know, of all the species that have ever lived on Earth, ours has been the first to pause, look back and consider its own evolutionary history, to write its own creation myth, tracing it right back to the dawn of time. Ours has been the first to grasp the fact that the iron in our red mammalian blood is the same element that flows in the molten core of the planet we roam. Over the past quarter million years or so, successful human cultures have almost invariably come to the same conclusion: that all life forms have a common origin, are related, depend on each other, and therefore deserve equal measures of respect.

Cultures that have sustained long-term viability—from the K'san of southern Africa to the Hopi of the American desert, societies that have thrived in the same place since the last Ice Age—have developed a worldview around the unity of life, and they live by it. The challenge posed today by deep ecology is that we find the strength, courage, compassion and creativity to live by it as well.

Tom Fortington



## Friends of Clayoquot Sound Launch New Website

Friends of Clayoquot Sound are pleased to announce our new website. It offers a wealth of up to date information and online donation capability. The new [www.focs.ca](http://www.focs.ca) site gives detailed information on our logging and fish farming campaigns.

We'll be adding new information, interactive maps, news and events on a continuing basis. Please tell your friends and set [www.focs.ca](http://www.focs.ca) as one of your favourites.



KEEP IT WILD!



# Support the Wild!

Friends of Clayoquot Sound is a grassroots organization advocating protection for the ancient temperate rainforests and marine ecosystems 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 to inspire people to action. 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.

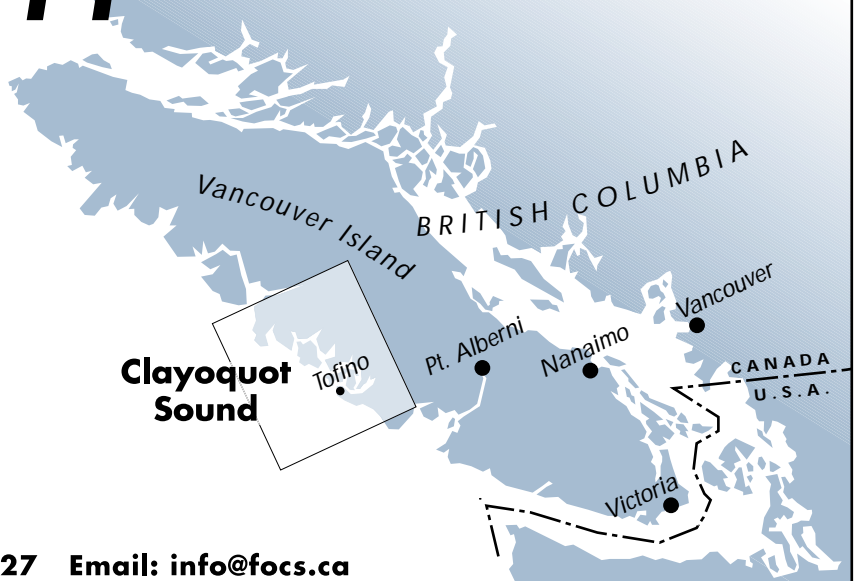
**Send your donation to:**

**Friends of Clayoquot Sound**

**Box 489, Tofino, B.C., Canada V0R 2Z0**

**Ph: 250-725-4218 Fax: 250-725-2527 Email: info@focs.ca**

**Office: 331 Neill St., Tofino Check out our website: www.focs.ca**



## SPECIES AT RISK

**Did you know that 45 endangered, threatened and vulnerable animal species live in Clayoquot Sound's old growth temperate rainforest? One of these is the wolverine (see article on page 6).**

To learn more about endangered species check out the following websites:

**BC Conservation Data Centre (CDC)**  
<http://srmwww.gov.bc.ca/cdc>

**Committee on the Status of Endangered Wildlife in Canada (COSEWIC)**  
[www.cosewic.gc.ca](http://www.cosewic.gc.ca)



Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Total Donation: \$25  \$40  \$100  Other  \_\_\_\_\_

Become a member of our Protector's Circle with your gift of \$500 or more.

*All members receive the informative Friends of Clayoquot newsletter hot off the press!*

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DATE

Please charge my donation to my credit card noted above.

## Join our Wilderness Team!

*Your monthly donation will allow us to plan ahead more effectively and reduce administration costs.*

**To make monthly donations please fill in this section.**

I hereby authorize Friends of Clayoquot Sound to draw on my credit card as noted above, the amount of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ every month beginning \_\_\_\_\_.

I (we) hereby authorize Friends of Clayoquot Sound to draw on my (our) chequing account a debit in electronic form in the amount of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ every month beginning \_\_\_\_\_.

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DATE

Please include a sample cheque marked VOID for banking information purposes.