



Friends of Clayoquot Sound

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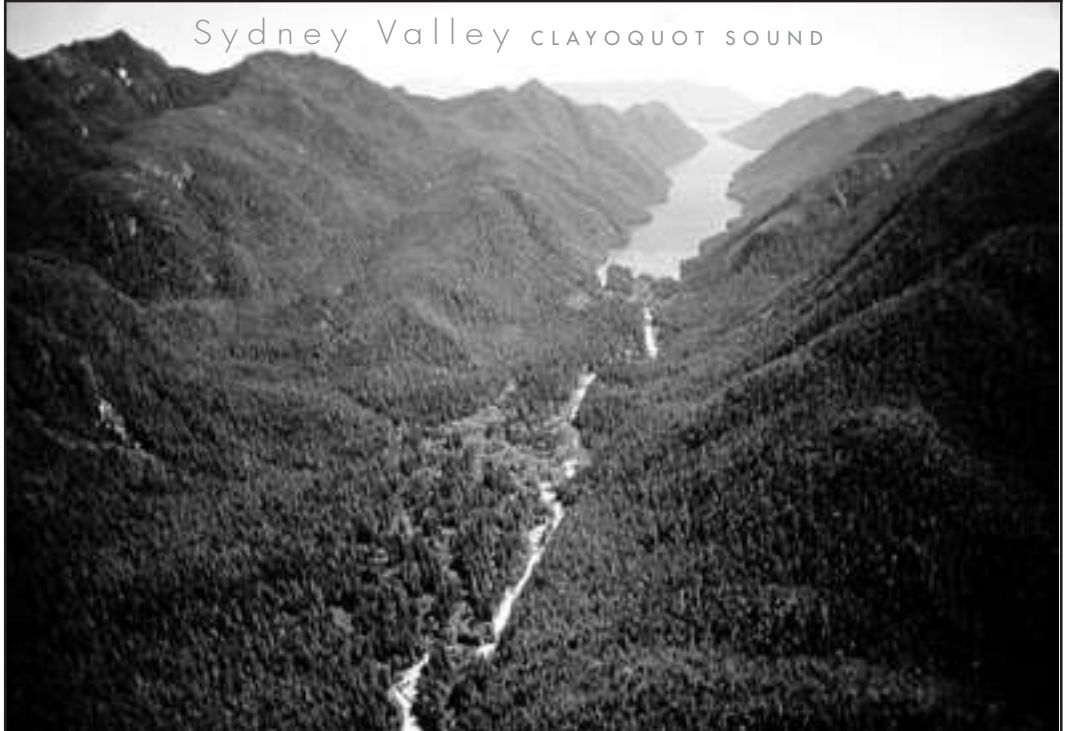
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PRISTINE WILDERNESS

Sydney Valley CLAYOQUOT SOUND



A ridgeline defines the boundary of northern Clayoquot Sound. Step over the ridge into Nootka Sound and you see Silverado Creek decimated with fresh clearcuts by Western Forest Products. Spin around, looking southward, and your eye is treated to a magnificent vista. The Sydney River, straight as an arrow, courses down to a fjord through 6,000 hectares of ancient temperate rainforest. To the east, Pretty Girl Cove, Talbot Creek, Megin River and Moyeha River form a landscape of silver and green - uninterrupted, rugged, lush and very mysterious, covering some 70,000 hectares.

Interfor recently informed the Central Region Board of its intention to begin plans for logging in the Sydney Valley and Pretty Girl Cove area. The planning process of the Scientific Panel has only temporarily held logging out of the large pristine areas.

In 1991, the Clayoquot Biosphere Project began research in the Sydney Valley. Tom Stere, as Field Operations Manager for the organization, was involved in the research from 1991-1998. Tom writes of his experiences in the area in the story below.

One of the first times I was at the Sydney River was to look at the potential of establishing a base site for research into the complexities of the temperate rainforest ecosystem. Sydney was a perfect choice as it is a large intact watershed adjacent to further intact areas (Pretty Girl and Megin). This is a rare situation on Vancouver Island. The significance of such a place is without equal on the west coast of the Island.

Sydney River is all the more incredible due to its remoteness and deep fjord entry. The estuary is intensely alive: flocks of swans,

continued on next page

Maintaining Our Successes

Clayoquot has certainly had many environmental successes. In 1989 almost one million cubic metres were being logged per year. By 1994 the cut came down to 400,000 cubic metres; for the last seven years it has hovered between zero and 100,000 cubic metres. The 1995 Science Panel recommendations changed the style of logging. As well, negotiations between environmentalists and one logging company (Iisaak) resulted in several pristine valleys being set aside.

For all that, Clayoquot is very vulnerable to backsliding. It is no secret that Interfor and the BC Ministry of Forests have found the situation in Clayoquot overly constraining to their desire to increase logging. The current political atmosphere favours increased logging and we stand to lose a lot of ground. Write the premier, send us a donation, visit your MLA. **Keep Clayoquot Wild** by keeping it on the political map.

Valerie Langer

PRISTINE WILDERNESS Sydney Valley *continued from cover*

seals, bears and a myriad of species that make up the web of life. As you enter the valley the riffles, glides and pools of the river hold coho, chinook and chum salmon that use this system, as they have for millennia. Walking up the river you have a sense of an ancient tradition playing out.

Once, after swimming down the river doing fish counts, I came out into the estuary silently and unnoticed by the trumpeter swans feeding there. As I floated by, watching them through my mask, I had an incredible split image of orange webbed feet under water and white feathers contrasted against the dark spruce trees on shore. When you get to know a valley by swimming it, as I did, you have a sense of the

seamlessness between forest and ocean. The giant, vegetarian basking sharks that I saw near the Sydney estuary and the carnivores in the forest are all part of the same place.

The forests of the Sydney Valley have that archetypal grandeur that is so familiar in Clayoquot Sound: towering spruce, groves of primal cedar and pure stands of hemlock. Working up here over so many years has given me a strong connection to place. However, the true value of the Sydney Valley is its contiguity to a vast area of uninterrupted wilderness that is so critical to the preservation of the ecological integrity of the temperate rainforest.

Tom Stere

▼ INTERFOR LOGGING IN KENNEDY FLATS, CLAYOQUOT SOUND, 2002.



INTERFOR: How Enron-esque

Interfor recently closed its Fort Langley, BC cedar mill and is setting it up a few miles across the US border. The US Softwood Lumber Tariff on Canadian softwood exports (except raw logs) was cited as the cause. But a slightly longer memory than the front page of newspapers reveals a trend that well predates the tariff. In total, Interfor has permanently closed three mills and eliminated the jobs of over 700 workers since 1996. At the same time it had a net gain in its Allowable Annual Cut (AAC) of approximately 400,000 cubic metres. At least two Interfor mills are now milling BC wood in the US. The mill closures haven't slowed Interfor's logging of ancient forests. It is just sending the logs largely unprocessed or raw for cheaper labour to mill in the States. The excuse for the closures in the late 1990s was the bad economy in Asia. This year it was the US Softwood Lumber Tariffs.

The US imposed a 27% tariff on Canadian softwood citing the super-low stumpage

and closed market pricing system as giving Canadian companies unfair advantage when competing in US markets. Interfor was called onto the Ministry of Forests carpet in 2001 as the worst offender in grade setting, a practice of manipulating the wood grade figures submitted to government for calculating stumpage - the fee per cubic metre of wood logged from public lands. The upshot of grade setting is that the stumpage (already amongst the lowest in the world) is even lower than if the company were honest. That means less money into the public coffers. This Enron-esque system meant Interfor was paying only twenty-five cents per cubic metre in most of its coastal operations and the public lost millions of dollars, almost giving the wood away! What good businessmen they are at Interfor. And they are currently logging in Clayoquot Sound.

Valerie Langer

Good Between the Covers

Curl up with your favourite Canadian writer who is "Good Between the Covers".

Markets Initiative, a joint project of Friends of Clayoquot Sound, Greenpeace Canada and Sierra Club of BC, has been working with Canadian book publishers for the past 2 years to help the industry eliminate papers that originate from the world's ancient or endangered forests. Progress to date has been remarkable

- twenty-five of Canada's leading trade publishers have formalized commitments to safeguard the world's ancient forests and biodiversity by printing their books on Ancient Forest Friendly papers. To date, more than 1.5 million books have been printed on Ancient Forest Friendly paper.

In just one year, Canadian book publishers have contributed tremendous ecological savings:

- 12,100 trees
- Electricity to power the average Canadian home for 168 years
- 905,665 kilograms of greenhouse gases (equivalent of 2.5 million km traveled by car)
- 5,471,711 litres of water

FRIENDS OF CLAYOQUOT STAFF PROFILE

MELISSA NELSON



Melissa fire spinning

Photo: Ocean Inglin

Movement:

change position of; put or keep in motion (physical)

Movement:

be socially active in a specific group (metaphorical)

Concise Oxford Dictionary

Look for the Ancient Forest Friendly logo when purchasing your next book!

WATCH OUT FOR THE QUIET ONES!

The Canadian Security and Intelligence Service had nothing on her...until now! At first blush Melissa seems quiet and charming. Yes, she is charming, but the quiet is of a kind that is dangerously mistaken for obeisance. Melissa Nelson joined FOCS last year to spearhead our campaign to get farmed salmon out of the wild ocean. Because farmed salmon have been misrepresented by the aquaculture industry as an alternative to endangered wild salmon stocks, we felt her experience in communications would be an asset. After a stint with the provincial government doing communications for the Green Economy Secretariat (which has since been axed), Melissa wanted to experience environmental issues from "the other side". She brings a firm, gentle approach and more than a little spark to the environmental movement.

The fish farm markets campaign is based out of Vancouver (where we now have an office), but Melissa is a Vancouver Islander by birth and is a graduate of the University of Victoria (Women's Studies). She completed grade ten in Papua New Guinea and one year of language schooling in Thailand, post high school. Her experience has led her to participate in building healthy communities that embrace all citizens and the environment.

Did I mention fire? No, I think I said spark. Well, like the word "movement", Melissa seems to take things both literally and metaphorically. Spinning torches on the ends of chains turns up the heat one notch on the gymnastic pom pom dance! In 2001 the YM/WCA had a program for girls at risk called Youth on Fire. Melissa was one of the instructors. Fire spinning is spectacular and

much less dangerous than TV or drugs. Fire dancing was a natural spin off from her decade and a half of modern dance. She's also done Capoeira (an acrobatic Afro-Brazilian martial art/dance), has her Dive Master ticket, etc. No one has ever had to tell her to get off her butt. It's built in to keep active, keep it fun and be disciplined.

I wonder whether to take her seriously when she tells me she gets up each morning "just to see what happens". Her endeavours all seem to require commitment, discipline, endurance and grace under pressure. It is this disarming quality that keeps one guessing. Think of the image of a blond with dimples swinging a torch around. Now think of that as the metaphor for what we've unleashed on the fish farm industry. Melissa has locked horns with government policy and the aquaculture industry. She's hot, we're stoked, and the movement's on fire!

by Valerie Langer

Summer has come and gone, but logging continues unabated in Clayoquot Sound.

Interfor is still cutting and road building in the Hesquiaht region of northern Clayoquot and near Pacific Rim Park in the southern Sound, working its way through a stockpile of cutblocks approved last fall.

The company also submitted a new Forest Development Plan (FDP) for the period 2002 to 2012. This latest plan includes the undone blocks from last year's two approved FDP amendments, plus proposes additional blocks. Interfor's 'vision' for the next 10 years in Clayoquot Sound now stands at 60 cutblocks that cover a gross area of 2,100 hectares, extract 645,000 cubic metres of wood, and build 110 kilometers of logging roads. Quite the vision for a Biosphere Reserve.

Several proposed logging blocks are particularly contentious because they are located in small but pristine valleys. Satchie Creek is an intact stream that flows into the NE end of Hesquiaht Lake and is the only completely unlogged watershed left in Hesquiaht First Nation territory.

Interfor has proposed 6 cutblocks and 22 km of road in spectacular upper Satchie Creek. There are also 3 blocks slated for two adjacent pristine valleys in Sulphur Pass. Immediately south of the Sulphur Pass blocks is a proposed block in Shark Creek, a partially logged but still contentious valley. This string of 4 adjoining blocks is to be criss-crossed by 13 km of road.

The area of Sulphur Pass and Shark Creek has seen two protests already, in 1988 and 1995. Citizens of Clayoquot Sound and beyond will need to mobilize again to defend Clayoquot's wild places from being roaded and logged by Interfor. It's time to rekindle the rallying cry of the 1988 blockade, "NO PASARAN!" - they will not pass. In fact, it's high time to get Interfor out of Clayoquot Sound!

As for Iisaak Forest Resources (joint venture between First Nations and Weyerhaeuser), it is in its second year of logging. It has just finished helicopter logging a block on Millar Channel, and is continuing to work on 2 cutblocks in the mid-valley of Shark Creek. Tour operators



Photo: Bonny Glambeck

Giant Douglas-fir in Satchie Creek.

and community members voiced opposition to the Shark blocks, but were willing to give Iisaak some leeway because it is a relatively 'progressive' company. (For example, Iisaak is cutting only one third of its allowed volume and has committed to not log in large pristine valleys.) However, the goodwill will run out if Iisaak moves to cut a block adjacent to the scenic falls at the mouth of Shark Creek. This block has received final approval and is ready to go at any time.

Overall, looking on the bright side, it's good to keep in mind that logging in Clayoquot Sound is down by 90% from its heyday of almost one million cubic metres in 1989. The cut last year was 81,000 cubic metres and is expected to be about 100,000 per year for the near future. Still, logging of old growth continues to gnaw at the wilderness fabric of Clayoquot Sound, one of the most magnificent temperate rainforests in the world. Clayoquot deserves better.

Maryjka Mychajlowycz

Wait and See Fish Farm Protocol

On September 4th, the Ahousaht First Nation of Clayoquot Sound and Norwegian-based salmon farming multinational Pacific National Aquaculture (PNA) - which has approximately 16 active fish farms in Clayoquot Sound - signed a protocol agreement regarding the operation of the company in Ahousaht territory.

The publicly stated terms include:

- demonstrate a respect for and seek a balance among all living things
- meet or exceed existing environmental standards
- strive to be recognized globally as a progressive, innovative aboriginal/industry partnership that seeks mutual long-term social, economic, cultural and spiritual benefits
- consider the needs and interests of future generations.

Specifics of the agreement are not available for public perusal. The terms outlined above, although optimistic, are vague,

offering little indication of what this agreement will actually mean for the Ahousaht community, or for the waters of Clayoquot Sound.

The Friends of Clayoquot Sound sincerely hopes that this agreement is beneficial to the Ahousaht First Nation. But it's hard not to be skeptical given the recent history of the company in the Sound. As recently as January, Ahousaht declared war against fish farms after a mass escape of Atlantic salmon at a PNA farm. They demanded better management and mandatory closed containment systems. Whether such changes will come about remains to be seen.

Melissa Nelson



Moratorium on Salmon Farming Lifted

Who's Looking After the Wild Fish?

FRACAS at Fish Meeting

The BC Salmon Farmers Association held their Annual General Meeting (AGM) in Campbell River on September 12th. Friends of Clayoquot Sound and Forest Action Network arrived on the scene armed with placards, banners and lots of information to hand out. Our goal: to let the association know that people are very upset with the way salmon farming is being done and to create more awareness about the issue. Outside the meeting we were speaking with media, AGM attendees and passersby, when we were notified that the Minister of Fisheries, Jon VanDongen, was inside lifting the moratorium on salmon farming in BC. We dropped our signage and headed in. Two of us were forcibly removed from the meeting shouting "SHAME ON YOU" as the minister spoke. Two others managed to get in. Once inside, they marched directly to the front of the meeting and unraveled a banner that read "FARM OFF". We successfully enlivened the meeting and the minister definitely got the point.

VanDongen had waited to make the announcement about lifting of the moratorium until the Salmon Farmers AGM. Once again, government and large industry show how tight they truly are.

Shortly after the meeting, we requested time to speak with the minister, but received only blank stares in response. We left with a feeling of satisfaction, yet also frustrated with the priorities of the Liberal government, profit for large industry at any cost. Shame on you, VanDongen!

Lee-Ann Unger

When the provincial government lifted the moratorium on salmon farming in September, the Minister of Fisheries, John van Dongen, claimed that, "B.C. now has the most comprehensive regulatory framework in the world, including science-based standards to protect the environment."

In fact, the new regulations are weakening the environmental management of this industry, leaving wild salmon and the ocean vulnerable to disease, foreign species, and pollution. Below is a brief critique of some of the key (and limited) regulations:

Waste Regulation

(PASSED IN SEPTEMBER 2002)

- Sulphide levels on the seabed resulting from a buildup of fish farm waste are now the only indicator of environmental impact. The level of sulphides permissible is far in excess of levels that indicate ecosystem impacts. This approach also fails to consider the impacts from other chemicals such as pesticide and antibiotic residues and heavy metals (copper and zinc).
- Under the regulation, a 50% loss of biodiversity in the fish farm tenure area will be considered acceptable.
- The current regulation only focuses on impact to the seabed, while failing to consider any impact to the water column. This ignores the potential link between fish farm waste and increased algal blooms.

Escape Prevention Regulation

(ENACTED IN OCTOBER 2000, AMENDED IN SPRING 2002)

- The 2000 Escape Prevention Regulation brought in minimal standards for net strength and fish handling procedures. Recent amendments to the net strength

standard further lowered the standard and now allow severely stressed nets to be kept in use much longer before replacement is required.

- The same amendments have changed the requirement for monthly inspections of net systems to a bi-monthly requirement. This will increase the problem of slow leakage of farmed salmon into the wild and will make it possible for major holes in the net system to remain undetected for up to eight weeks. Net damage is a significant cause of fish farm escapes.

Siting Regulations

- In 1997, the province's Environmental Assessment office conducted the Salmon Aquaculture Review (SAR) in order to develop recommendations, including siting criteria, for making salmon farming in BC sustainable. These siting recommendations are being ignored. Salmon farms will effectively be permitted in sensitive fish habitat and on wild salmon migratory routes, important fishing grounds, areas of rare and endangered species, and areas used for recreation and tourism. This not only puts ocean health at risk, but also interferes with important commercial fishing and tourism industries, which constitute a significant portion of the coastal economy.

Still Unregulated

- There are no new regulations to stop disease and parasite transfer to wild fish stocks.
- There are no new regulations to stop the killing of seals, sea lions and other predators.
- There are no new regulations to ban night lighting or acoustic deterrent devices.

Dear Dan and Bonny,
 I am Momoko Shinkai.
 Thank you for your slide show at our class on 8th of February. It was very shocking for me. I know that there are many old growth forests in Canada. Because I have been to Canada once. I saw beautiful nature. The nature moved my mind at that time. But I don't know about clear-cut at all. I don't know that Japan is the best an importing country too. However some Japanese major enterprise changed to use old growth free. I'm very glad to hear that.

And I took an interest in speech about the link between the big trees, the salmon, and the bears. It was very interesting. The connection between trees and salmon was very unexpected.

I think this is chance for us. I would like to contribute your activity. I never buy except old growth free. I'm going to tell many people as possible as I can. For example, my family my friends, etc... And I will try to send mail to the company like you said.

I'm very thankful to you.
 We look forward to seeing you soon again.

Yours,
 Momoko Shinkai

Biodiversity

What's It's Use?

For some time now scientists have told us that human activities are causing the earth to lose species at a rate far above what is to be expected from natural evolution. Current rates of extinction are estimated to range from 100 to 1,000 times greater than pre-human rates. Despite these warnings, we have done little to reduce this loss of biological diversity. In fact, the rate of species loss continues to increase.

Efforts to galvanize public interest towards the protection of biological diversity have often focused on moral or ethical arguments, with posters of charismatic animals used for visuals. These can be powerful arguments, but they assume that the intended audience has a worldview that puts a high value on the inherent existence of a species. To a large extent, this is preaching to the converted. It also gives people a false impression that the main consequence of losing species is that we would be very saddened by their loss. And if we can't save them, we would still continue on as before, albeit with a guilty conscience.

What much of the public doesn't realize is the extent to which our own future is inextricably linked to nature's diversity. A relatively new and growing body of scientific evidence is showing that changes in biodiversity could present us with major challenges as we try to adapt to a very different world.

In any ecosystem, each species is adapted to its particular niche, making its own unique contribution to the cycling of nutrients that keep the system going. Some plants have shallow roots, others use deep roots to bring otherwise unavailable nutrients into the mix. Still other plants have the ability to convert atmospheric nitrogen to forms that all species can then use. Everything makes a contribution to the productivity of the whole.



The last passenger pigeon died in 1914. Who could have predicted this extinction would contribute to the rise of Lyme disease in humans?

Several recent experiments have measured reductions in ecosystem productivity as the diversity of species decreases. This directly reduces available resources in a world already pushing the limits of resource use. For example, scientists have measured reduced forest productivity as the number of mycorrhizal fungi species goes down. These fungi live in association with tree roots, helping the tree gather moisture and nutrients. The conversion of ancient forests to second-growth plantations is one way in which humans are reducing mycorrhizal diversity.

There are also consequences for human health. Huge flocks of the now extinct passenger pigeon were very efficient at competing with Lyme tick-bearing mice for food. Without this pigeon the mice have proliferated, contributing to the rise of Lyme disease in humans in the 20th century.

Many examples can be given and more are being discovered in this new field of study. We are in the middle of performing an enormous experiment with the earth. Biological diversity provides us with what we need to survive. No one knows how low biological diversity can go before an ecosystem begins to unravel. The consequences for us will be much greater than a guilty conscience.

Sergio Paone

Green Gifts

For this fast approaching holiday season, check out our environmentally friendly merchandise. Our t-shirts are made of hemp and cotton and all the books we carry are printed on 100% post-consumer waste paper.

MERCHANDISE



Friends of Clayoquot Sound
Available in unisex or women's T's
Colours: navy blue & olive green
Sizes: S - XL
\$29 + \$5 shipping



Save Clayoquot Sound
Available in unisex or women's T's
Colours: navy blue & olive green
Sizes: S - XL
\$29 + \$5 shipping



Global Uprising: Confronting the Tyrannies of the 21st Century
Stories from a New Generation of Activists
\$29.90 + \$5 shipping
Through striking photographs and compelling first person stories from both young and more seasoned players, you'll learn what is at stake, and why. Visually and emotionally powerful, **Global Uprising** captures the spirit and passion of youth activism.



Clayoquot: The Sound of My Heart
\$19.00 + \$5 shipping
A riveting and humorous account of one woman's reflective journey as she moves from the segregated American south in the 1940s to the Clayoquot Sound blockades in the 1990s.



Stormy Weather: 101 Solutions to Global Climate Change
\$29.90 + \$5 shipping
In a clear and lively style, **Stormy Weather** explains how the planet got so over-heated, and then provides 101 solutions to help cool things down.

Books



Holiday Memberships

Another great gift idea is an annual Friends of Clayoquot Sound membership. We will send the recipient a scenic winter Clayoquot card with information on our campaigns. Recipients will also receive the FOCS newsletter quarterly.

For more information or to order merchandise and memberships please either email, mail or phone Lee-Ann.

E-MAIL: focs@island.net
PHONE: 250-725-4218
BOX 489, Tofino, BC V0R 2Z0

Support the Wild!



Please contribute generously to: Friends of Clayoquot Sound
Box 489, Tofino, BC
Canada V0R 2Z0

Check out our website

www.ancientrainforest.org

Name: _____

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Memberships: \$25 Individual \$40 Family \$200 Sustaining

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

Visa or **Mastercard**

To contact us

PHONE: 250-725-4218

FAX: 250-725-2527

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NUMBER / EXPIRY

SIGNATURE DATE

Please charge my donation to my credit card noted above

Monthly Sustaining Donation

Pre-authorized debit allows you to donate the same amount of money every month from your bank account.

To make monthly donations please fill in this section

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 _____.

SIGNATURE OF ACCOUNT HOLDER DATE SIGNATURE OF ACCOUNT HOLDER DATE

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