



Friends of Clayoquot Sound

www.focs.ca

PHONE: 250-725-4218

FAX: 250-725-2527

SYDNEY VALLEY CLAYOQUOT SOUND

What's Up in this issue

**FOCS Wins 5-Year
Moratorium on Sydney
& Pretty Girl Valleys**

**INTERFOR at Edge of
Intact Satchie Valley**

**Sign-up to Receive
Newsletter Online**

NEW STAFF
Theresa Negreiff Bullock

**Clayoquot Sound
Needs You**

**TOKYO TIME: FOCS
Takes Cyber-Ed to Asia**

**The Story of the
Salmon Louse**

Slice® the Lice

**Fish Farm Market
Activists Hit the Road**

**A Ten Step Program
to Environmental
Degradation Part 2**

Membership Drive
Win a Vacation in Tofino!

EELGRASS
Nursery of Marine Life

New Merchandise!



Photo: Adrian Dorst

One of 2 new posters celebrating the intact but threatened Sydney Valley. See New Merchandise, page 7.

FOCS WINS 5-YEAR MORATORIUM ON LOGGING in Sydney & Pretty Girl Valleys

Interfor bowed to pressure in early July and publicly declared that the company will not be logging in the pristine Sydney and Pretty Girl Valleys for at least 5 years. These adjacent valleys are two of the most critical watersheds in Clayoquot Sound, forming a significant portion of the largest intact forest remaining on Vancouver Island.

FOCS are celebrating a small and temporary victory after years of hard work. We are grateful to the supportive citizens, Interfor customers, Tofino Chamber of Commerce, local tourism operators, and most recently, Tofino Town Council, all of whom expressed concerns about logging of these valleys.

Just days after Tofino Council called upon the province to protect all pristine areas in Clayoquot Sound, Interfor released a Declaration on the Pristine Valleys stating

that it will not be logging in the two watersheds from June 2004 to June 2009 "to allow time for the Provincial Government and First Nations to provide direction on the future use of these areas."

However, much work remains to be done if long-term protection for the Sydney and Pretty Girl and other critical areas is to be established. Two-thirds of Clayoquot Sound is still open to logging. Currently, Interfor's approved logging plan calls for cutting in several other pristine valleys, such as in Sulphur Pass and Satchie Creek (see article on page 2).

Your help is still needed! But let's do a little celebrating first. Here's to the next five years of keeping Sydney and Pretty Girl Valleys wild!

by Diego Garcia

INTERFOR AT EDGE OF INTACT SATCHIE VALLEY IN CLAYOQUOT SOUND

Satchie Creek flows into Hesquiat Lake in northern Clayoquot Sound. It is the last intact valley in the Hesquiat region and contains prime wildlife habitat, including for marbled murrelets, a threatened bird species. A newly completed cutblock and road now sit immediately adjacent to the Satchie Valley. Next year, Interfor plans to continue this road into the headwaters of Satchie Creek. The approved logging plan calls for building 22 kilometres of roads and logging 6 cutblocks along the length of the valley.



Klaskish Valley in 2000, after Interfor.

KLASKISH VALLEY AN EXAMPLE OF INTERFOR'S HANDIWORK

Out of 90 large primary valleys on Vancouver Island, only a handful remain intact or pristine, untouched by logging or other development. In 1998, the Klaskish River, about 120 km north of Clayoquot Sound and just north of the Brooks Peninsula, was one of these few intact valleys. In 1999, Interfor began roading and clearcutting the Klaskish - now dozens of kilometres of roads and numerous clearcuts scar its ancient temperate rainforest. This spring, Interfor proposed another aggressive logging plan for the Klaskish.

SAVE SATCHIE CREEK!

Don't let Interfor trash the Satchie (or continue to trash the Klaskish). We cannot let Interfor



Intact Klaskish Valley, northwest Vancouver Island, mid-1990s.

Photo: Garth Lenz

Photo: Adrian Dorst

enter Satchie Creek, one of Clayoquot's last intact valleys. Pressure Interfor by asking one of its Japanese customers, Itochu Corporation, to cancel its contract with Interfor.

Let Itochu know that Interfor destroys intact wilderness valleys.

**Email Mr. S. Suzuki of Itochu's Global Environment Department at:
suzuki-sho@itochu.co.jp**

by Maryjka Mychajlowycz

**Sign up
to Receive
Newsletter
Online**

We're now offering the option of receiving our newsletter electronically.

To sign up, please email us at info@focs.ca, ask to receive the newsletter online, and give us your name, postal address, and email address.

Sign up and reduce paper use and printing/mailling costs!



Intact Satchie Valley, Clayoquot Sound.

Photo: Jacqueline Windh



A NEW FACE AT FOCS

This April we welcomed our newest staff member, Theresa Negreiff Bullock, as our Funding Coordinator. She has over eight years of experience with non-profit groups, including fundraising, and is working for us based out of Vancouver.

Theresa invites emails and phone calls from anyone interested in joining FOCS and helping to keep Clayoquot wild. You can reach her at Theresa@focs.ca or 604-732-0133.

Tree-Sit At Cathedral Grove Stops Parking Lot Construction

World-famous Cathedral Grove (MacMillan Provincial Park), situated on Central Vancouver Island east of Port Alberni, will lose more of its ancient trees if BC Liberals have their way. A tree-sit has been established by local activists to stop the construction of a third parking lot for the park. Support your local activists by visiting the tree-sit (immediately west of the park on Hwy 4) or by going to www.cathedralgrove.com

CLAYOQUOT SOUND NEEDS YOU: A CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS

Are you a nature lover? Want to be part of a great organization dedicated to conservation? Join the Friends of Clayoquot Sound as a volunteer!

We welcome volunteers of all ages and skills and from all geographic locations to assist FOCS in achieving our mandate. From distributing newsletters, to planning fundraising events to assisting with research, we have a multitude of tasks to suit every interest. If you have a few hours a month to give, wherever you live, please give us a call at 604-732-0133 or email Theresa@focs.ca

Special thanks to the generous volunteers who have been helping us this spring: Lindsay, Bob, Tom, Mike, Josh, Jason, Maureen, Chris, Katrina, Madison, Shane, our diligent newsletter folding crew, and our dedicated volunteer Board of Directors and Advisory Council.

Your work makes a difference!

FOCS Takes Cyber-Ed to Asia

The latest phase of the Friends of Clayoquot Sound (FOCS) Japan Campaign has begun with the launch of a Japanese language website.

Last fall, members of the Tla-o-qui-aht First Nations, Gisele and Joe Martin, traveled to Tokyo with FOCS to ask corporate customers of International Forest Products (Interfor) to cancel their contracts with the logging company. The request was based on Interfor's unethical treatment of the Tla-o-qui-aht and its intended logging of rare pristine valleys in Clayoquot Sound.

Tremendous interest in BC logging issues was generated in Tokyo due to the effectiveness of our team, culminating in the creation of a half-hour Japanese television program called "Spaceship Earth". The show, featuring the Martins in Clayoquot Sound, aired on June 7th, 2004 and was viewed by approximately 9 million people in Japan!

Simultaneously, FOCS launched a Japanese language website, linked to the website of the TV show. We received unprecedented interest from the Japanese audience, who share our concerns about threats to Clayoquot Sound and rainforests around the world. The international movement to protect ancient forests continues... Join us!

Email Itochu Corporation, an Interfor customer, and encourage them to stop purchasing products derived from ancient forests. Email Mr. S. Suzuki of Itochu's Global Environment Department at suzuki-sho@itochu.co.jp

by Diego Garcia

The Story of the Salmon Louse

The spring migration of juvenile salmon from their natal rivers into the near shore marine environment can only be described as magnificent. One can find them anywhere between April and early June in the sheltered bays and inlets that litter the BC coastline. During this migration there are many causes of mortality to juvenile salmon including parasites such as the salmon louse.

The salmon louse is a common parasite of salmon and it is not unusual to catch any species of adult salmon and find lice numbers ranging from zero to well over 100 per fish. Like any parasite, sea lice have co-evolved a balance with Pacific salmon over many thousands of years. Given that the effects of sea lice can be lethal, this balance results in the parasite being able to sustain itself without driving the salmon populations to extinction. Outbreaks of parasites are considered rare and it is generally believed that outbreaks stem from a disruption in the host/parasite balance (for example:

poor nutrition of hosts, host stress, or an increase in parasite number).

Recent outbreaks of the salmon louse have been recorded in the Broughton Archipelago (off NE Vancouver Island) on juvenile pink and chum salmon. This area is home to the largest concentration of salmon farms on the BC coast and many are pointing the finger at salmon farms as the cause of these outbreaks. Lice levels above 10 lice on fish smaller than 5 cm have been recorded here.

Salmon farms are the perfect habitat for sea lice given their large numbers of stationary hosts. Thus, the potential for salmon farms to amplify the densities of salmon lice in the near shore marine environment - thereby disrupting the host/parasite balance between the salmon louse and juvenile salmon - is very real. The consequences of this to the health and survival of juvenile salmon are unknown.

My research seeks to provide answers for such questions by testing how likely different species of juvenile salmon are to be infected by salmon lice, what are the



Photo: Alexandra Morlon

Juvenile salmon infested with lice.

health implications of a salmon lice infection, and how many lice does it take to kill a juvenile salmon. I am also conducting field collections of juvenile salmon in various areas of the BC coast (including Clayoquot Sound) to make some basic estimates of salmon lice interactions with juvenile salmon. The ultimate goal of the research is to estimate the risk posed by salmon farms to the health and survival of future salmon generations.

For more information
crpeet@uvic.ca

Corey Peet is a Masters of Science student in the Biology Department at University of Victoria.

RESTRICTED USE PESTICIDE

TOXIC TO FISH, MAMMALS, AND AQUATIC ORGANISMS

FOR RETAIL SALE AND USE ONLY BY CERTIFIED APPLICATORS OR PERSONS UNDER THEIR DIRECT SUPERVISION, AND ONLY FOR THOSE USES COVERED BY THE CERTIFIED APPLICATOR'S CERTIFICATION

SLICE® the Lice

Sea lice outbreaks are costly to salmon farmers as the lice eat away at the mucous, blood and skin of the penned fish. This causes injury, mortality, and a reduction in growth rates. Like other industrial agricultural operations, the farmers eradicate the 'menace' to their crops with a host of chemicals.

Currently, the most popular chemical used to combat sea lice on salmon farms in BC is a product called SLICE®. It is administered on the farms by lacing food pellets ingested by the fish. The active ingredient in SLICE is emamectin benzoate, a chemical in agricultural pesticides used to kill insect larvae. SLICE is not yet

registered or licensed for use in Canada by any agency, including the Food Inspection Agency, Health Canada, or through the Pesticide Control Act. These regulations are circumvented by industry through the Emergency Drug Release Program, following approval by a veterinarian. This process is made possible by the fact that SLICE is classified as a drug, since it is ingested, rather than applied externally. Whether it is called a drug or pesticide, the purpose is the same: SLICE kills marine crustaceans.

Mainstream Canada, operating in Clayoquot Sound, has one of the highest rates of sea lice outbreaks reported on BC salmon farms - and is known to use SLICE

in Clayoquot waters. The widespread application of this toxin directly into the ocean is a major ecological concern. Sea lice are not the only marine crustaceans in the Pacific Ocean, and no studies show it is safe for crabs, prawns, shrimp (or other marine crustaceans), marine mammals, or human health. Research that has been conducted shows that female lobsters exposed to SLICE lose their eggs prematurely, and that mysid shrimp in Scotland are very sensitive and easily poisoned by even a very low level of chemical exposure. In addition, the bioaccumulation of this toxin is likely, since it can last up to six months in the marine environment. Industry does not

Fish Farm Market Activists Hit the Road

Markets Team Embarks on Safeway Tour and Chef Event May 7-23, 2004

Representatives of the Friends of Clayoquot Sound (FOCS) and the Living Oceans Society embarked upon a "talking tour", visiting Safeway grocery stores along the U.S. west coast. Representing the Markets Team of the Coastal Alliance for Aquaculture Reform (CAAR), the activists met with 15 Safeway seafood managers from Everett, Washington to San Francisco, California. The goal was to supply these managers with information about the farmed salmon products they carry, and gauge their level of knowledge regarding the issues. The feedback from the managers was extremely informative and the team was told on several occasions that Safeway stores have been trying to get farmed salmon off their shelves for over a year, mainly due to the high concentrations of PCBs found in the fish and other health and environmental concerns. The CAAR activists have gathered a few courageous managers to continue working with them towards making positive changes.

Safeway Shareholder Meeting and Action May 20, 2004

With proxies in hand, CAAR activists attended the Safeway shareholder meeting at the company's headquarters in Pleasanton, California, aiming to talk to CEO Steven Burd. After many previous efforts to do so, the CAAR team successfully managed to meet and discuss the issues with the CEO.

The Markets Team staged an event outside the shareholder meeting with the message: it's time for Safeway to address the environmental impacts, food safety and community disruption issues that salmon farming causes. The United Food

and Commercial Workers Union joined CAAR supporters, giving the event a dynamic energy. The number of people outside the shareholder meeting was in the hundreds. CAAR representative, Sophika Kostyniuk, reported that the event was extremely successful and new alliances were made with the Union regarding food safety.

Cooking for Solutions - Monterey Bay Aquarium May 21, 2004

The Seafood Choice Alliance hosted an event celebrating sustainable seafood called "Cooking for Solutions". The Markets Team recognized that establishing personal contact with over 40 chefs was a perfect networking opportunity. The result: a commitment to work with CAAR on this issue from several high profile chefs and to continue to educate the public on the dangers associated with farmed salmon. FOCS is currently working on several projects resulting from this event and will have much more to report in the next newsletter... Stay tuned!

by Dom Repta

Best quote of the trip from a Safeway employee regarding farmed salmon:

**"Don't cheat yourself
with farmed, treat
yourself with wild!"**

release to the public when, where, or how much SLICE is used.

Much of the information for this article was gathered from the recent 25-page report by Watershed Watch Salmon Society, *Sea Lice and Salmon: Elevating the dialogue on the farmed-wild salmon story*.

by Leah Walberg

**Please visit:
www.watershed-watch.org for an
electronic version of the report.**

**SEA LICE RESEARCH IN CLAYOQUOT SOUND:
Leah and Lisa netting juvenile salmon.**



A Ten Step Program to Environmental Degradation

PART 2

FISH AND FISH FARMING

Since assuming power in May 2001, the BC Liberal government has made drastic reductions in environmental legislation. In the last issue of our newsletter (spring 2004) we listed five of the "highlights" of the Liberals' dismal record on forestry. Now, in part 2, we describe five "highlights" of the Liberals' dismal performance with regards to regulating fish farming and protecting wild fish habitat. For a complete expose on the BC Liberals' environmental record, visit www.bcfacts.org

1 Salmon Farm Expansion

The BC Liberals' agenda for salmon farming began to unfold in September 2002 with the lifting of the provincial moratorium on new salmon farms, in place since the mid-1990s. Coinciding with the moratorium lift, weak new regulations were passed that do little to prevent ocean pollution and do nothing to protect wild stocks from disease or parasite transfer - key reasons why the moratorium was implemented. A recent report by the Georgia Strait Alliance demonstrates point by point how the BC Liberal government has failed to follow recommendations that were supposed to be in place before the moratorium was lifted.

2 Salmon Farm Violations Forgiven

Documents uncovered in February 2004 from Land and Water BC revealed that fines, totaling hundreds of thousands of dollars, were levied against 54 salmon farms for operating outside of their tenure areas. However, most of the fines were never collected, and some that were collected were given back. The total amount of forgiven fines is estimated at \$2.3 million - a hefty price for taxpayers to pay when fish farm operators knowingly break the law. As Bud Graham, Assistant Deputy Minister of Agriculture, Food and Fisheries put it, expansion of fish farms is a "key ministerial priority" and laying charges would send "conflicting messages" to the industry.

3 Reduced Protection for Salmon

Economics took precedence over environment once again in January 2004 when the BC Liberals moved to reduce the urban Streamside Protection Legislation that was introduced in 2001 under the Fish Protection Act. The legislation was developed because of declines in fish populations and continuous loss of habitat due to development. Government plans to reduce the size of buffer zones adjacent to salmon spawning streams, and is also looking to provide an alternative to the mandatory buffers.

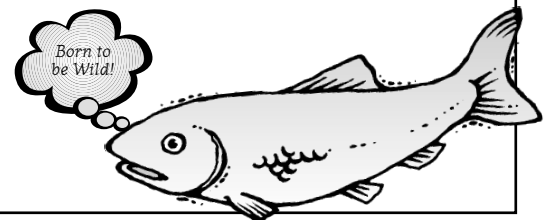
4 Right to Farm Legislation

More and more community decision-making power is being overridden for the sake of corporate interest. In October 2003, Bill 48 - an amendment to include salmon farming in the "Right to Farm" legislation - was passed. This change allows the province to overrule local government bylaws related to salmon farms. Government passed the bill despite unanimous opposition by the Union of BC Municipalities.

5 Secret Approval of Farming New Fish Species

In September 2003 the provincial and federal fisheries ministries approved 47 licenses to existing fish farms that will allow them to farm halibut and sablefish - species that have never been farmed in BC waters. The licenses were approved without any public consultation or notification to coastal communities. Many of the farms that plan to stock sablefish are located near inlets where wild juvenile sablefish spend their first three years before going out to sea, and no studies have been conducted to assess the possible effects of large numbers of farmed sablefish sharing waters with wild populations. Further, as salmon, halibut and sablefish never school together in the wild, farming these fish together creates the potential for disease and parasite transfer between species.

by Brenda Harriman



WIN A VACATION IN TOFINO!

25th ANNIVERSARY

Membership Drive

2004 marks the 25th anniversary of the founding of the Friends of Clayoquot Sound. What better way to celebrate than to invite more people to join our cause?

If you are a current member, or would like to be, also get a friend (or relative) to become a member with their donation. You and your friend will automatically be entered in our membership drive

draw. We have great prizes including a grand prize holiday package in Tofino, BC, which includes accommodation for two for two nights, a guided kayak trip around Clayoquot Sound and dinner out at one of our fabulous local restaurants. (Transportation to Tofino not included.)

Only one entry per individual. Membership is assigned with an annual donation. Please send, email or fax both memberships together or clearly indicate name and address of your friend signing up if entered separately. Draw to take place December 15, 2004.

Visit www.focs.ca for more details or call us at 604-732-0133.

EELGRASS NURSERY OF MARINE LIFE

Throughout Clayoquot waters surrounding Tofino are expanses of shallow, intertidal mudflats. Take a walk along the shore or paddle through these areas, and you are bound to discover the subtle magnificence of eelgrass beds. Those swaths of green ribbons swaying gently in the water are literally nursery beds for many species - and they are teeming with life!

Eelgrasses (also known as seagrasses) are distributed throughout the world and are among the most productive ecosystems in the world. *Zostera marina*, the most common species of eelgrass, is found throughout temperate regions, including Clayoquot Sound. Growing in sandy and muddy shallows, eelgrass beds absorb wave action causing currents to deposit particles and sediments. Thus, eelgrasses prevent soil erosion and create more available substrate for plant growth.

To begin unraveling the secrets as to how and why these ecosystems are so productive, it is helpful to understand some eelgrass botanical basics. First of all, eelgrasses are not your typical seaweed, but instead are angiosperms (flowering plants). These plants have specific adaptations setting them apart from terrestrial plants, making them suited for life in the sea. Some of these differences include: the ability to pollinate underwater - enabling use of ocean currents for pollination and seed dispersal; special air spaces in the leaves - for extra flotation; and chloroplasts in the outer layer of the leaves - an adaptation to deal with diluted light strength through the water column.

Eelgrass beds are critical marine habitat for a range of species, both directly and indirectly, and at different stages of their lifecycles. The complexity of eelgrass food webs begins simply with the growth and death of the plants. Surprisingly, very little of the eelgrass plants are ingested directly by animals (though some waterfowl, urchins, and snails are exceptions). Rather, it is the growth of epiphytic algae coating each living strand, and the fungus and bacteria forming on dead plants that are consumed.

The emerald beds bustle with activity, as food is plentiful - inviting in a diversity of species for feasting. Indeed, upon a single

leaf of eelgrass is enough marine life to be considered a microcosmic ecosystem unto itself! Eelgrass is often thick with schools of little fish (like juvenile salmon), evading predators through the blades as they gorge on abundant amphipods - tiny marine crustaceans that feed upon the layers of algae growing on the plants. Colourful critters, such as sea cucumbers and sea stars, feed on detritus and bacteria. In early spring, the beds act as nurseries to clumps of tiny herring eggs clinging to each strand, instigating a chain reaction feeding frenzy. Many valuable commercial fisheries, such as Dungeness crab and clams, are dependent on eelgrass. Marine mammals such as killer whales and sea lions are also linked, as much of their prey is likely tied to eelgrass habitat somewhere down the food chain.

These ecosystems are not only one of the most productive in the world, they are also one of the most threatened by human activities. Impacts are frequent and ongoing, as human activity is often in close proximity to eelgrass. Dredging for various developments clearly threatens the beds by eliminating them. However, other activities have less visible impacts, although they are equally damaging. Sewage outfall, for example, provokes an imbalance of nutrients in the water, leading to over-production of epiphytic algae on the leaves, resulting in reduced photosynthesis and, therefore, a decline in growth and reproduction. Locally, Strawberry Island Research Institute has



Top: Eelgrass bed off Meares Island.

Bottom: Even the wild cows of Opištaht Reserve feed on eelgrass!

taken on the challenge of mapping Clayoquot's eelgrass beds to establish a baseline of knowledge for monitoring their health in the future. This is a critical task for the benefit of marine critters, from microscopic shrimp, migrating birds, to whales and our human-selves.

article & photos by Leah Walberg

New Merchandise Available!



FOCS now has PristineValley posters featuring a beautiful forest interior and a wilderness shot (featured on the cover) of Clayoquot Sound's intact but threatened Sydney Valley.

Please call us at 250-725-4218, or visit our website at www.focs.ca to buy your Friends of Clayoquot Sound merchandise and help keep Clayoquot Wild!

FOCS also has t-shirts, travel mugs, books, cards and postcards!



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



**Birthday Party
for Friends of
Clayoquot Sound!**

Please
join us from
**1-4pm on
Saturday, August 7th**
to celebrate our
25th birthday.

We'll have cake, guest speakers,
kids tables and much more at
our office in downtown Tofino.
Hope to see you here!

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!

Visa or Mastercard

NUMBER _____ / _____ EXPIRY

SIGNATURE _____ 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_____.

SIGNATURE OF ACCOUNT HOLDER _____ DATE _____

SIGNATURE OF ACCOUNT HOLDER _____ DATE _____

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

Chasing Clayoquot: a wilderness almanac

David Pitt-Brooke,
Raincoast Books, 2004

This beautifully written, thoughtful book, authored by a Tofino resident, describes 12 journeys into the wilds of Clayoquot Sound, one in each month of the year. It's printed on 100% post-consumer recycled paper, thanks to the work of Markets Initiative, in which FOCS is a partner. Look for this great read in your bookstore or library.