

# The Kingfisher

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*LTA The Land Trust Alliance of British Columbia*



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The Kingfisher – spreading the news about conserving B.C.'s natural and cultural diversity for all time

*Cover – Laughlin Lake, Galiano Island photo by Bruce Wittington*

## **From the Land Trust Alliance Council and Executive**

Since our last issue, many new and exciting areas have been protected by both our members and government. In addition to the flurry of protected areas that were announced prior to the B.C. election, as detailed in this issue, many land trusts and conservancies have also been busy ensuring that our natural and cultural heritage is available for future generations. This important and rewarding work requires intensive dedication as we keep ourselves informed about the new laws and regulations which we use to protect areas, in addition to the many tools and techniques which are part of our "tool kit." This constant training and diligence leads to hard-won celebration for protecting habitats, wildlife, ecosystems, and cultures which are both the legacy and reward of our work.

Thanks to our many members and Council, in the last six months, the LTA has been able to facilitate even more of this essential training and resources. Our Spring Seminar Series was a huge success, bringing in over 100 participants, including perspectives from several First Nations. Offering three simultaneous seminars throughout the day, plus our evening presentations and pre-session field trips, the information and inspiration was at times overwhelming. We even glimpsed a sample of the beautiful and culturally important Salish Sea Community Maps, soon to be put into an Atlas of the Islands in the Salish Sea. We also introduced the LTA's Standards and Practices document, which we ask that every land trust acquaint themselves with thoroughly and adopt over the next two years. In conjunction with the Real Estate Foundation of B.C., we have initiated a Land Trust Fund, which will offer land trusts and the LTA an investment fund at super rates, which will help maintain our work into the next few decades. And hot off the press, in cooperation with the B.C. Stewardship Centre, we have just published, *On the Ground, A Volunteer's Guide to Stewardship Agreements*. **We hope you find this practical manual with sample baselines and report forms very useful.**

In addition to our training and resources, another area the LTA focuses on is research. As you all know, we are close to publishing the *B.C. Lands in Trust Registry*. It has been a challenging task to design the registry, and especially for the larger groups, a demanding task to document the areas you are protecting. Not only will this registry help to track & display the areas and ecosystems we are protecting, but we have also designed it to help you keep a consistent record of the many documents, maps and reports which must be regularly maintained. The Revised edition of the Protected Lands CD will soon be in the mail. And the Land Trust Alliance Northwest has requested a copy in order to design their own version down south – yeah finally we are returning some of the excellent help and support they have given us.

The Council, some years ago, suggested that land trusts put a 3% Consulting and Professional support line item in project funding applications for the LTA. As you know, our membership fees have remained stable since 1997. However, our funds are very limited. This is a pain-free way to help us help you. **And when you need further input or info, take your questions to the Listserv – the [bclandtrust@onenw.org](mailto:bclandtrust@onenw.org).** This is the best way to get help on any questions or issues. The entire membership and beyond are there to offer their experience and support!

We hope you enjoy this edition of the Kingfisher!

Council: Bill Turner, John Scull, Ben van Drimmelen, Ron Pither, Marion H. Markus, Tyhson Banighen, Sue Austen, Ruth Boulton, Eric Clough, Eileen Palmer Staff: Sheila Harrington, Damien Barstead

# *PROTECTING NATURAL AND CULTURAL HERITAGE.*

*By Bill Turner*

Most British Columbia Land Trusts work to protect areas for their natural values. Cultural Heritage is seen by many as a totally different issue and by some as possibly less important. This is a shame because the two fields have more in common than they differ.

One of the world's oldest and most successful Land Trusts, The National Trust in Britain works to protect both. The National Trust has over 2.7 million members and protects nearly 600 miles of British coastline. It owns and protects thousands of acres of nature reserves as well as over 200 formal gardens and a number of historic buildings and country houses. The Ontario Heritage Foundation works in the same way protecting both natural and cultural areas. In BC The Land Conservancy follows the National Trust model and protects cultural heritage as well as vast natural areas.

There are three reasons why uniting the two areas of public interest work.

First the tools we use work equally well with only minor adjustment for both. A Conservation Covenant can be used to protect a historic building or a historic landscape as well as, or instead of, protecting a natural area. The acquisition process, community involvement and even most of the tax rules are the same. Obviously the EcoGift program does not apply to cultural heritage. The concepts of public trust and sustainable protection do apply equally. Life Estates, mortgages and options to purchase all can be used. Most heritage organizations have no idea how to apply these tools and can benefit from the knowledge of Land Trusts. The same planning concepts which should be used for protection of natural areas are used by heritage planners.

Second, there is usually a heritage component in all of the land we touch. The Garry Oak meadow is a culturally modified ecosystem. First Nations people regularly burned to maintain it. Much of the BC

interior Grasslands were also fire maintained. Many properties contain old buildings such as abandoned log cabins. Important trails and railways cross and re-cross the province. Even the boundaries of many pieces of land are the result of subdivision based on rail lines or old pack trails. Old surveys and land title information is a direct reflection of Cultural Heritage. In many parts of the province large ranches are made up of dozens of homestead properties each named after the original homesteaders. First Nations' sites are everywhere, must be respected and most are legally protected. To deny heritage is to ignore reality.

Third, both natural and cultural values have a direct connection with the quality of life in a region. The public, our members and our supporters benefit if natural areas are protected and they also benefit when heritage areas are protected. We find there are a

tremendous crossover of interests.

Many of the people who support the protection of a cultural heritage site are the same people who support the protection of natural areas and visa versa.

Biologists, guide-outfitters and hikers have all been charmed by, and donated to, the protection of the Abkhazi Garden in Victoria.

Only a very few have questioned

its value or the need for its protection. Avid gardeners drawn into The Land Conservancy because of the Abkhazi Garden have marvelled at the wildflowers on South Winchelsea Island, have been charmed by the Nanaimo River and have donated to the protection of the Sooke Hills and Wildwood. By widening the entrance to our tent we are finding that many more people are coming in and becoming involved in all forms of land protection.

Land Trusts can provide many services to their communities. Consider getting to know people in Cultural Heritage organizations in your area. You may be able to assist them. You certainly will find some common ground.

*(photo of Abkhazi Gardens in Snow – Eileen Palmer)*



## Member Projects & Profiles

### **Member Profile**      **Galiano Conservancy Association**      *by Ken Millard*

Formed in 1989, Galiano Conservancy was one of the first community-based land trusts in British Columbia. It maintains its status as a non-profit society in BC and as a registered charity. During the late 1980's and early 1990's, with forestry giant MacMillan Bloedel owning over half of the island, Galiano found itself in the midst of a major land-use controversy: large-scale development vs. protection of the forest land base. With these pressures coming, the Conservancy's founders set out to meet the goal of establishing a strong and lasting organization to promote local conservation. From its initiation, the Conservancy promoted:

1. protection and environmentally sound management of land,
2. education and public awareness, and
3. research and mapping focussed on the natural attributes of Galiano Island.

The Galiano Conservancy prides itself in being a democratic grassroots organization. The Board of Directors (currently 14 people) is elected from a membership of over 200. The monthly Board meetings are publicly advertised and open for current members to attend.

#### **Protection and management of land**

The landscape of Galiano Island varies from productive Douglas-fir forest on areas of northeast exposure, to wetland and bog areas in the island's valleys, to Garry Oak meadow lands on areas with dry southwest exposure. The Galiano Conservancy has played a role in protecting many natural areas through partnerships with national and regional conservation organizations, national, provincial and local governments, industry, landowners, foundations, and individual supporters. The Conservancy holds title to Douglas-fir forest within the Pebble Beach Reserve; the largest lake on the Island, Laughlin Lake; and Garry Oak meadowlands on Mt. Sutil and Retreat Island. Since its designation as Ecological Reserve #128 in 1990, the Galiano Conservancy has acted as the warden for Shaw's Bog, a rare and intact

sphagnum bog in the Coastal Douglas-fir biogeoclimatic zone. In addition, the Conservancy holds covenants on two parcels of land containing significant lake and wetland ecosystems.

The Galiano Conservancy has proposed to protect an important rockfish nursery in Trincomali Channel. The proposed Marine Protected Area extends from a section of the Galiano coastline north of Retreat Cove across the Channel to include Wallace Island Provincial Marine Park.

#### **Education and public awareness**



(Photo Laughlin Lake – Bruce Wittington) Since its inception, the Galiano Conservancy has provided programs and a facility for education and public awareness. The Conservancy's office houses an excellent library and resource centre, which is open to the public. This centre's collection includes books, periodicals, audio and video tapes, and maps. It specializes in community based resource and land-use planning, and environmental topics. The Conservancy has sponsored workshops and conferences on such topics as *How Well is Your Well?*, *Small Scale and Community Forestry*, *Managing Forests for a Healthy Community*, and *Broom Removal and Reintroduction of Native Plants*.

Over the last year, in cooperation with SeaChange Marine Conservation Society and the Galiano Community School, we have initiated the "From the Forest to the Sea Watershed Program." The program provides hands-on outdoor experience for Galiano's youth in learning about forest, lake, and marine ecosystems within the Greig Creek watershed. Emphasis is placed on the interdependence between

all organisms in the watershed and seeing humans as a part of nature.

### **Research on and mapping of the natural attributes of Galiano Island**

The Galiano Conservancy has several trained people who are designated to establish Forest Biodiversity Monitoring Plots under a United Nations protocol. One such plot has been designated and another is in progress on the Pebble Beach Reserve. These plots are designed to monitor and compare long-term biodiversity in two areas: an older-growth forest and a young forest plantation.

In 1996 the Conservancy established a community based computer mapping program using a Geographic Information System (GIS). It was initiated with some caution due to the long-term commitment that is required in order to have an effective mapping program. The benefits of this effort are now apparent. In the last five years we have mapped and conducted habitat assessments on most of

Galiano's streams and wetlands. In cooperation with EcoTrust Canada we have created a corrected aerial photo mosaic of the Island. This provides an effective base for analysis and for presentation of our mapping projects. Our present mapping initiative will provide a comprehensive analysis of the necessity, suitability, and local support for conservation of the Island's various habitat types.

Mapping and assessment has played a key role in identifying opportunities for restoration projects.



Restoration work has been initiated on Greig and Murcheson Creeks, and many of the protected areas on Galiano. We are presently starting a new project to restore old-growth forest characteristics on land where clear-cut logging has occurred.

### **The Long-term**

Galiano has survived turbulent times, including the shift in ownership of over half the Island's land base from a single corporate owner to a variety of owners. The community has weathered this change and is steadfast in seeking control of its own future. In the early 1990's the Galiano Conservancy and the Galiano Island Local Trust Committee (the local government responsible for land use) were the target of one of Canada's first major SLAPP's (Strategic Law Suits Against Public Participation). The Conservancy was defended by Sierra Legal Defence Fund. Charges of conspiracy were eventually dropped and the Conservancy received from MacMillan Bloedel an out of court settlement for damages.

**Presently, we are fundraising with our partners Habitat Acquisition Trust and the Island's Trust Fund Board to complete the purchase of Laughlin Lake. This is not only the largest natural lake on the island, but a critical link in establishing a protected corridor that extends across**

**Galiano Island from the Strait of Georgia to Trincomali Channel.**

(Red-tailed Frog – photo kathy Dunster)

## **Nanaimo and Area Land Trust**

### **Celebrates Its First Property Donation**

The Nanaimo Area Land Trust and friends celebrated the gift of a 40-acre woodland property in Cassidy. The owners of this land have decided to gift their property through a life estate, and at the same time to legally preserve it with a conservation covenant. The property is a beautiful and tranquil place – one that reflects years of care and stewardship. The first feature as you enter the driveway is a 10-acre field now being transformed into two projects - at one end,

the realization of a long-time dream to create an arboretum of North American trees; at the other, a plant nursery of native shrubs and trees for NALT's stewardship activities. In the middle of the property, the owners designed and built a unique and cozy home, and through the years they have developed about an acre around the house and barn into a spectacular flower and shrub garden, plus a large fenced vegetable garden. Beyond the house and



gardens, trails meander through a mature 30-acre woodland and past a year-round stream and large wetland. In addition to trees, shrubs and many species

of native plants, the property provides habitat for a variety of wildlife, including bear, elk, deer, cougar, otters, beavers, bats, red-legged frogs, and many birds.

## Campaign to Purchase Linley Valley Property



Great news for Nanaimo area residents! The Linley Valley is a step closer to becoming a major natural park in the heart of the city. The Nanaimo Area Land Trust Society (NALT) reached an agreement with Alpine Village Developments Ltd. for the purchase of the 143-acre property known as Section #13 in the Linley Valley.

The Linley Valley is the last large area of undeveloped land within the boundaries of the City of Nanaimo. The total area is approximately 1100 acres. Section 13 is the largest privately owned property in Linley Valley, and is perhaps the most

strategic. Located in the middle of the valley, it contains a mix of mature Douglas fir forest with many old growth trees, open meadows and woodland, sun-drenched bluffs, and hidden wetlands. At the centre of the property lies tranquil Cottle Lake - home to cutthroat trout and migratory waterfowl.

The valley supports an abundance of wildlife, including deer, beavers, frogs and other amphibians, bald eagles, hawks, and some of the rarest songbirds in the Nanaimo area. "The Linley Valley is one of the most intact and productive habitats left in the Nanaimo lowlands", states Guy Monty of the Nanaimo Field Naturalists. "The diversity and number of migratory songbirds nesting in this area is truly staggering. There is no doubt that this area contains habitat values truly deserving of conservation." Several kilometers of informal walking trails allow residents to observe and enjoy this beautiful area.

## Savary Island Land Trust Gets Donation of Special Waterfront Area

In June this year, a generous and anonymous donor gave the Savary Island Land Trust a beautiful ten-acre piece of forested land on the west side of the Island. This, the largest donation to SILT to date is a milestone for the organization. The waterfront parcel looks west towards Hernando and Mitlenatch Islands. A cedar, alder and maple forest with sword fern cover the land. The piece is part of a strata subdivision, thus SILT holds a 5 -acre waterfront piece and a share in the 35-acre common land adjacent parcel.

The Savary Island Land Trust was established to preserve and protect natural areas and biological diversity on Savary Island for present and future generations. SILT was incorporated as a society in October 1997 and received registered charity status in June 1998. Since the first acquisition in 1999, the Trust has received and preserved seven donations of land on Savary. These gifts bring the society's holdings to more than \$500,000.

Apart from these lands held by SILT, Savary has no protected land! Savary Island was subdivided in 1910 into over 1700 parcels. The Island is a total of 1,111 acres. Savary has the highest density of any Island in the Strait of Georgia. This spring SILT launched a fundraising campaign to acquire the last un-subdivided piece of land on Savary Island for an ecological reserve. This parcel, 329 acres makes up nearly one-third of the Island, half of it is covered by the best example of a coastal dune ecosystem in Canada. Islanders are encouraged by the interest of the Nature Trust and the Federal and Provincial governments in the acquisition of this site for preservation.





## Working to protect the Codd Island Wetlands, Pitt Meadows,

The Land Conservancy of BC (TLC) is working in conjunction with the District of Pitt Meadows, the Pitt Polder Preservation Society, the Alouette Field Naturalists, and the Alouette River Management Society to protect the Codd Island Wetlands in Pitt Meadows, BC. This area is in need of protection as it is one of the last remaining un-dyked floodplain wetlands within the whole Alouette River watershed. This multi-million dollar acquisition project would protect 250 acres of rare wetland habitat within the Lower Mainland. The wetlands support hundreds of species including both red and blue listed endemics. Red-listed species include Keen's long-eared myotis, Snowshoe hare, Southern red backed vole, Long-tailed weasel, and the Pacific water shrew. The area is also a key part of the Pacific Flyway for birds and provides the only nesting site for the ten Greater Sandhill Cranes remaining in the Pitt Polder. The area is home to a significant population of fish, including wild coho, chum, steelhead and cutthroat. Presently the District of Pitt Meadows is pursuing the acquisition through negotiations with Aquilini Investment Group (AIG) who would otherwise sell the property or convert the wetlands into a dyked commercial cranberry operation. For more information on this project please and how you can help conserve this area call TLC at (604) 460-9996, or check out our website for the full Codd Island Wetland project prospectus under Lower Mainland projects at [www.conservancy.bc.ca](http://www.conservancy.bc.ca) The Land Conservancy of BC, Pitt Meadows, BC Tel: (604) 460-9996 Fax: (604) 465-1106



### An Update on Saltspring Lands

**Acquisition of 250 hectares on the north shore of Burgoyne Bay protects the largest intact Garry oak woodland meadow in the world.**

These woodlands are the most threatened of all B.C. coastal ecosystems, facing constant erosion by urban expansion. More than 1,000 species of plants and animals are associated with Garry oak woodlands, home to more than one-fifth of the province's rarest plants.

The \$3.5-million deal purchase expands the Mount Maxwell ecological reserve and extends the provincial park lands. It builds on the 32 hectares acquired from Texada Land Corp. by Forest Renewal BC's delivery agent, The Nature Trust of B.C., in January. The land will be held in trust by The Nature Trust and managed by the parks branch of the Ministry of Water, Land and Air Protection.

(Photo- Eileen Palmer)



**\*Biodiversity:**

"The diversity of plants, animals and other living organisms in all their forms and levels of organization, and includes the diversity of genes, species and ecosystems, as well as the evolutionary and functional processes that link them." Province of B.C. Practices Guide Book, Victoria 1995

## Resources

### *Report on Past Conferences and Workshops*

#### ***Ecogift Seminar***

***Sponsored by Environment Canada & The Appraisal Institute of Canada***

Appraisers from across B.C. and some conservation staff attended a two-day workshop held in Vancouver in June hosted by the Appraisal Institute of Canada and Environment Canada. This was an introductory yet thorough explanation of both the Ecological Gifts program and Conservation Covenants. Presenters included Bill Turner, Carolyn Stewart, Ann Hillyer, and David Hughes (Appraisal Review & Redetermination Chair). The second day, discussions of appraisal methodologies, including the often confusing Timber valuation methods, presented by

Doug Ruffle, RPF, were very informative. The LTA is delighted that the Appraisal Institute has taken on the role of training Appraisers for their significant role in appraising both lands for outright purchase, Conservation Covenants and the Ecological Gifts Program. We hope that the LTA will draw in Appraisers who have both gone through this training and had some experience with conservation lands in order to refer more experienced professionals in this field who can work with us.

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#### ***Simon Fraser University Centre for Coastal Studies & Discovery Coast Greenways Land Trust – Linking Science and Local Knowledge***

The Salish Sea Mapping project and a brief description of our BC Lands in Trust Registry Project were presented at this interesting four day "Building Capacity for Decision making; Community Natural Resources Cataloguing Workshops" held in mid August. The second part of the Workshops, **Linking Science and Local Knowledge** was co-sponsored by Simon Fraser and Discovery Coast Greenways Land Trust.

First Nations Mapping of traditional territories was a highlight of the program, with speakers from the Hamatia Treaty Society, and in the Barkley Sound watershed, the Carnation Creek/Cha Chah tsi as community History project. Doug Aberley discussed his work with several First Nations including the Tseil-wauthth, Sliammon and Gitxan-Wet'suwet'en. Two speakers from the Mohawk area described a project "Returning Names to their Rightful Places," and Ken Paul of New Brunswick discussed the mapping work he is doing on Place Names and Resource use areas in New Brunswick First Nations' traditional areas.

**As mapping becomes more and more of an important tool for both building Community Inventory and Local Sustainability, it is also a tool for Stewardship, Conservation and Restoration**

The afternoon and following day focused on technical discussion and workshops about the Sensitive Habitat Inventory Mapping project, spawned by DFO – for mapping the streams in the Vancouver Island area, the Comox-Strathcona Sensitive Habitat Atlas and the Discovery Coast Stewardship Atlas. There are many issues which are brought to awareness through the process of mapping, such as 1) what and where are traditional areas located, 2) what has changed, resources and their "ownership," 3) place names and their "ownership," 4) how is the mapping being done and most importantly 5) what are these maps used for. Both Bioregional Mapping and more Technical GPS and GIS mapping have their place. And the inspiration and motivation of Community Mapping often leads to protection of the area. This significant point was not lost to all attendees, while the blend of local knowledge and science remains key to the sustainability of communities and our human impacts on the earth and its wildlife and ecosystems.



## E-Team Training June 2001

Over forty youths between the ages of 16 and 24 met at Beaver Point Hall on Salt Spring the first week of June to learn ways to promote habitat conservation and environmental stewardship on private lands. From various land trusts throughout the province, participants spent a week learning about agriculture, landowner contact, stewardship agreements, baseline inventories, mapping, media promotion, and environmental education.

*“There are many benefits to conserving and protecting features of private land that have ecological value,” says Tyler Rudolph, an E-team participant currently employed by the Land Conservancy of BC. “These may include financial incentives to the landowner, as well as long term benefits to the environment - There is an increasing public demand for conservation covenants and other kinds of stewardship agreements.”*

Funding for the Salt Spring Island *Environment Youth Training* week was made possible through BC’s Environmental Youth Team program, part of the Youth Options BC program of the Ministry of Environment, Lands & Parks. The *Environmental Youth Training* week has grown over the past three years from three participating organizations with twelve students to eleven participating organizations and a class size restriction of forty with over fifteen on the waiting list. The E-team program is geared towards giving young adults practical training and hands on experience working on environmental, conservation and outdoor recreation projects.



## 12th Annual Indigenous Environmental Conference – by Dianna Lindlay

"Re-claiming our Responsibilities" and "Finding Practical Solutions" were central themes at the 12th Annual Indigenous Environmental Network's Protecting Mother Earth conference held August 3,4,5&6 2001 in Penticton B.C. Hosted by the Penticton Indian Band, the Okanogan Nation and the En'owkin Centre, this extremely well organized, well-attended conference attracted over 1000, mostly First Nation activists, non-governmental, Community and Spiritual leaders from throughout North, South and Central America.

First ever held in Canada, this trans-continental conference covered topics including: Climate Change, guarding endangered species, preserving forest health, ensuring water quality, restoring and respecting Natural Systems, Sacred Sites, Medicines and Traditional Foods. Although the agenda was action-packed from sun-rise 'til after dark, the large crowd and broad focus was made intimate by being a camp-out.

LTABC was represented 2 of the 4 days of this important event. Concerns were shared, materials exchanged and networks established. Many folks stopped by our display and several thanked us for our presence! It was, I felt, an honour to be there.

*"Traditional aboriginal governance is founded in Spiritual beliefs and practice. In the view of First Nations globally, stewardship responsibilities are not granted through legislation, but rather, bestowed by the Creator....given such, indigenous communities have an inherent right and obligation with regard to stewardship issues..."(F.Underwood/ Tsawout First Nation)*

It would be the suggestion of this author that land trusts respectfully, recognizing local protocol, approach indigenous communities to develop frameworks of understanding regarding the application of covenants within traditional or shared territories. With the hope of amending present environmental law and practices to better incorporate values expressed by indigenous communities, respectful conduct of land trusts and the LTABC can create a bridge by recognizing and affirming the right and title of aboriginal communities within their traditional territories.

***Private Rights and Public Wrongs – The Case for Broader Regulation of BC’s Private Forest Lands – Sierra Club of BC, April 2001***

Some 95% of BC is public land. That is where government places its efforts to manage wildlife, water, fish, timber, recreation and biological diversity. Only a fifth of the 5% that is private land is forestland. So, why be concerned about regulation of forest practices on just 1% of BC?

As the Sierra Club points out in this report, the math is misleading. Fully three quarters of that 1% is concentrated in the 800,000 hectares of land given to the E&N Railway in 1886. (Most of the rest is in the southern interior’s East and West Kootenays.) It is a small area provincially, but about 20% of all of the forested land on Vancouver Island is privately owned. And that 20% is very concentrated on the east coast and the Gulf Islands. It includes very scarce remnant ecosystems such as maritime old-growth coastal Douglas fir forests and Garry oak meadows.

Not only is the area, and its location, a concern. If one assumes that local residents are more concerned about the local public than are international corporations, there is also a potential problem with the landlords. The owners are mainly companies, not families or individuals. But the bigger concern is ten companies own 91% of the private forest lands. Corporations are responsible to their shareholders, not local residents who are most directly affected by what happens on the land. Just two corporations, TimberWest and Weyerhaeuser, own 63% of the private forest lands. Shareholders in such huge corporations will not have any idea what the company is doing to publicly-owned resources on private forest land.

On public lands, the Forest Practices Code applies to ensure planning and some level of conservation of forest resources and values. But the Code’s protections do not apply to private forest land. Initially, it was supposed to. However, the government was influenced by the lobbying of private landowners and changed its mind. Instead, a much less stringent Private Forest Practices Regulation was passed. The regulation that does apply is poorly enforced, because enforcement is done by the small

Land Reserve Commission (only 3 staff on Vancouver Island) rather than the Ministry of Forests.

The Sierra Club report presents detailed case studies of problems that have emerged on Vancouver Island from improperly regulated private forestry activities. The report goes on to compare BC’s private forest regulations with those in Washington and Oregon. Those states have private land streamside protection laws that considerably exceed those in BC.

The Private Forest Practices Regulation came into effect on April Fools’ Day in 2000. At that time, the BC government promised to meet with concerned Vancouver Island citizens to review it after one year to assess its strengths and weaknesses. The Sierra Club believes that now is the time, and that the government should strengthen the regulation so that it meets or exceeds private land regulations in the northwestern US.

The Sierra Club can be reached at 250-386-5255. Or, their report can be downloaded from <http://bc.sierraclub.ca/private%20land%20report%20for%20web.PDF>.

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## More Resources

**The Tides Canada Foundation** recently unveiled their web-site. One of the most useful and noteworthy sections is a listing of contacts and resources for conducting fundraising research. It’s all there for you in one place. A great reference tool. Check it out at:

<http://www.tidescanada.org/resources/forgrantseekers.html>

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For those interested in **Landscape Unit planning**, there is a draft report out. You can find it at the following link.

[http://www.for.gov.bc.ca/hfp/Planning/LUP/lup\\_Index.htm](http://www.for.gov.bc.ca/hfp/Planning/LUP/lup_Index.htm) Lloyd Manchester Parks & Wilderness Caucus

**Grist Magazine**, <<http://www.gristmagazine.com>>, is an online environmental rag with an attitude -- gloom and doom with a sense of humour. It has a large, active readership in the U.S., and its editors are trying to grow its readership in Canada. Check it out and consider signing up to get its irreverent (not to mention useful) news summaries via email available in daily and weekly doses at <<http://www.gristmagazine.com/grist/signup/subgrist.asp>>

**Two bits of internet etiquette around Viruses:**

1. don't cc. your entire mailing list (for some scammer to pick up all their addresses), try Bcc and
2. ALWAYS confirm a virus is not a hoax by going to sites such as:

<http://www.symantec.com/avcenter/venc/data/sulfnbk.exe.warning.html> or  
<http://www.datafellows.com/hoaxes/sulfnbk.shtml>  
[http://nucleus.immunol.washington.edu/macro\\_virus.html](http://nucleus.immunol.washington.edu/macro_virus.html)

Ex: See

<http://www.datafellows.com/hoaxes/sulfnbk.shtml>  
 This virus warning appears to be a hoax, like most of them. It is worth checking with the above site BEFORE "warning" all. Tips...Regards, Marion

**And NEW from the ground and offices of B.C.'s land trusts and the BC Stewardship Centre**



**In Conjunction with The BC Stewardship Centre, The Land Trust Alliance of BC is pleased to announce the release of this new publication in the Stewardship Series.** Developed by leaders in the conservation and land trust field, *On the Ground* is a thorough guide to the elements of Stewardship Agreements with private landowners. This step-by-step manual leads both volunteers and staff through the stages of developing Stewardship Agreements, outlining the various kinds of legal agreements including the increasingly important Conservation Covenant.

It offers important information on ecologically sensitive areas, conservation objectives, site specific requirements, monitoring provisions and enforcement provisions. It also includes monitoring methods, procedures, monitor report forms, sample baseline inventories, and important references every group or individual working with private land conservation should know.

In order to protect our Commitments to Conservation, we must develop thorough Monitoring procedures which this book makes it clear and easy to do.

**Cost: \$20.00 (\$16.00 LTABC members) plus \$5 postage. Appendices may be downloaded from [www.landtrustalliance.bc.ca](http://www.landtrustalliance.bc.ca). Order through [info@landtrustalliance.bc.ca](mailto:info@landtrustalliance.bc.ca)**

The following have made this project possible: **Wildlife Habitat Canada, Ministry of Environment, Lands and Parks, Habitat Conservation Trust Fund, Environment Canada, Nature Conservancy of Canada, Turtle Island Earth Stewards, The Land Conservancy of British Columbia, The Real Estate Foundation of British Columbia, Ministry of Community Development, Cooperatives & Volunteers**

Greenpeace has been working with Ian & Karen McAllister and a local company to produce a virtual tour of the Great Bear Rainforest. Check it out at: <http://www.greenpeace.org/greatbear>

It has 360 degree photos of forest to explore, as well as excellent video and photos of grizzlies and wolves. You will need a quicktime plug-in to navigate it, which you can download from the site. Enjoy. Thanks,- Gavin { [HYPERLINK](http://www.greenpeace.org/greatbear) }

**Global Living Handbook** – supported by the Global Living Project to support sustainability research and practice. Global Living Project, GR. 4, C.17, RR#1, Winlaw, BC V0G 2J0 jmerkel@netidea.com

Libraries Build Sustainable Communities  
<http://www.ala.org/sustainablecommunities>

If you haven't already visited Jay Hanson's very stimulating sustainability library BRAIN FOOD: <http://www.dieoff.org/page1.htm> you're missing a wealth of state of the art thinking on sustainability. Mr. Hanson is from Vancouver.

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An interesting website on soil and health which contains a library of soil and ecological health info [www.soilandhealth.org](http://www.soilandhealth.org)  
[http://www.soilandhealth.org/01aglibrary/010119lowd\\_ermilk.usda/cls.html](http://www.soilandhealth.org/01aglibrary/010119lowd_ermilk.usda/cls.html)

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## ***Stormy Weather: 101 Solutions to Global Climate Change***

by Guy Dauncey with Patrick Mazza, New Society Publishers <http://www.newsociety.com>  
Price US\$19.95 CAN \$27.95

Our goal as authors has been to describe the basics of climate change, showcase the best solutions from around the world, and offer guidance for every sector of society.

The 288-page book has been designed as a series of self-contained 2-page units, each of which describes the issue, offers solutions based on the best practices, and includes a listing of web-based resources, an illustration, and other material. (1,300 web resources).

Based on the urgent need to prevent climate change from entering the runaway phase, when the melting ice, drying rainforests and warming oceans join the thawing permafrost in contributing to the process, with almost unthinkable results, the authors have worked with a goal of an 80% reduction in emissions by 2025.

For the fossil-fuel corporations, this might seem ridiculous. Not so for those who are involved in creating the solutions, however, involving solar, wind and other renewable energies, energy efficiency, hydrogen, cycling strategies, smart growth, hybrid

electric vehicles, ethanol, car-free communities, organic farming, ecoforestry, eco-industrial ecology, methane capture, and so on, the challenge shines with excitement.

Early-bird price:  
CAN \$22.36 + \$4.50 postage

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## **British Columbia Environmental Issues Survey, Spring 2001: Mobilizing for the Future**

The survey was commissioned by IMPACS – Institute for Media, Policy and Civil Society and was conducted by McAllister Opinion Research. IMPACS is Canada's first non-profit communications training and services organization, dedicated to serving other non-profits.

Here are a few key findings:

In the minds of British Columbians, the environment has powerful, spontaneous links to quality of life, the future economy and our life support system.

Asked what they are actually emotionally worried about, British Columbians focus in on habitat, species protection and American control of our natural resources – not “water” and “air” as we hear when asking about “concern”.

“New Economy” industries like high-tech, film and telecommunications are viewed as having by far the greatest economic potential for the future economy compared to older, large-scale resource extraction industries.

Two thirds of British Columbians are very concerned about the environment; but only one third are doing something about it.

Salmon, followed closely by Orcas and bears, are the most resonant wildlife icons for British Columbians.

To help make all this information even more actionable and user-friendly, IMPACS will soon be releasing a follow-up “BC Guide to Talking About the Environment.”

Costs for copies of the poll, including a report highlighting key findings and analysis, are: First copy for each NGO: Free Additional copies for the same NGO (honour system): \$10.00 per copy. Others not NGO staff (e.g. Consultants): \$25.00 per copy. Government Agencies: \$50 per copy. contact Marion Nader, Communications Assistant, IMPACS - Institute for Media, Policy and Civil Society, 910-207



West Hastings St., Vancouver, BC, V6B 1H7 Canada,  
Tel: (604) 682-1953, Fax: (604) 682-4353, Email:  
[marionn@impacs.org](mailto:marionn@impacs.org), Website: [www.impacs.org](http://www.impacs.org)

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Carmanah Forestry Society along with Davenport Maps have produced and finally printed the Recreation Map for South-Central Vancouver Island. It contains most of the hiking trails including those in threatened old growth areas, mountain bike parks and kayak launch sites all worked into an index with a map grid to facilitate quick easy locating of specific areas. With side one being an access side, showing the layout and back-road routes, the other side has insets of Carmanah Walbran, The Juan de Fuca Marine Trail and San Juan Ridge as well as the details of how to reach Nahmint and the various historic trails in the Alberni Valley.

The map also contains useful web site addresses, a myriad of safety tips and advice regarding hiking, mountain biking and kayaking. The map should encourage a major increase in the usage of these areas thereby creating the "usage pressure" which has usually been the first step in protecting an area. call 250 381-1141 If you would like a copy mailed out. With shipping handling and taxes, cost \$10.

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**And From the Sonoran Institute  
*Landscapes, Wildlife, and People: A  
Community Workbook for Habitat  
Conservation***

– by Carole Stark and Barb Cestero

The authors have kindly given credit to *Giving the Land a Voice*, as the inspiration for this new Community Mapping Book: "We greatly appreciate the example they've set with their groundbreaking work on community mapping." If you need a workbook to do community mapping, this definitely is a good tool. Email: [sonoran@sonoran.org](mailto:sonoran@sonoran.org)

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***Northern Wild: Best Contemporary  
Canadian Nature Writing,***

Edited by David R. Boyd and co-published by the David Suzuki Foundation & Douglas & MacIntyre

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## Workshops & Upcoming Events

**Building an Effective Board of Directors**  
with Florence Green

September 20, 2001 Vancouver, BC one day session, Fee \$125 or \$100 if a registration received by August 31<sup>st</sup> – contact TREC events@trecnw.org or call 206-463-7800

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**Building Staff Performance and Morale**  
With Cliff Jones

Wednesday October 17, Vancouver, BC  
Co-sponsored by BCEN & TREC  
Simon Fraser University Fee \$125  
Contact us at TREC ([trec@trecnw.org](mailto:trec@trecnw.org) or 206-463-7800) if you have any questions.

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**In October, IMPACS trainers** will be taking another workshop on the road to five communities in BC: Kamloops, Kelowna, Prince George, Vancouver and Victoria. Called "**Plan the Work: Work the Plan,**" our latest two-day workshop will provide participants with an introduction to overall communication planning for not-for-profit organizations, then put some strategies and tactics to use in exploring a specific communication case-study. . Just send a message to [mailto:kevinr@impacs.org](mailto:mailto:kevinr@impacs.org) with "mail workshop brochure" typed in the subject line. Or, the workshop brochure, can be found by visiting the News section of our website: <http://www.impacs.org/news/index.htm>.

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**Islands in the Salish Sea Exhibitions**

Saturna Island, Saturday the 25th of August 10 am-2 pm, and Sunday the 26th from 1 to 4 pm, at the Community Hall -- 200 yards from the ferry dock so you can walk on and off of the ferry for a day trip from Victoria.

Denman Island, Friday August 31st through Tuesday September 4th, 10-4 daily, at the Seniors Hall -- it's walking distance from the ferry, right in the village.

Hornby Island, Thursday September 6th through Saturday September 8th, 10-4 daily, at the Community Hall.

There are four NEW maps in the show -- from Salt Spring, Savary and Thetis, as well as the first of the planned regional maps, this one portraying past and present economic/sustainability themes. Please drop by yourselves if you can, and advertise these dates as widely as possible.

**\*\*And we are delighted to announce that The Real Estate Foundation of B.C. is sponsoring an exhibition in Vancouver October 19<sup>th</sup> is the opening of the current show at U.B.C.'s new Robson Square Campus.**

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## David Loewen Cycles for Salmon

On July 5<sup>th</sup>, David set out on a 10,000 km. Bicycle expedition beginning in Inuvik, NWT and finishing in Los Angeles, CA (representing the range of Pacific salmon in North America.) He is raising awareness of healthy, threatened, and extinct wild salmon populations by:

- Meeting and promoting grassroots community groups dedicated to wild salmon conservation and stewardship
- Supporting and promoting formation of new community groups and individual efforts for the conservation of wild salmon; and
- Speaking at public forums, municipal halls, etc.

Why not give David a call and have him talk to your community or land trust members?

### Wild Salmon Conservancy

#1 1258 Balmoral Road  
Victoria, BC Canada  
V8T 1B3  
Email: dloewen@island.net

## Ethics Corner

### **People, Not Technology, Are the Key to Ending Hunger** - By Frances Moore Lappe

Biotechnology companies and even some scientists argue that we need genetically modified seeds to feed the world and to protect the Earth from chemicals. Their arguments feel eerily familiar.

Thirty years ago, I wrote "Diet for a Small Planet" for one reason. As a researcher buried in the UC Berkeley agricultural library, I was stunned to learn that the experts -- equivalent to the biotech proponents of today -- were wrong. They were telling us we'd reached the Earth's limits to feed ourselves, but in fact there was more than enough food for us all. Hunger, I learned, is the result of economic "givens" we ourselves have created, assumptions and structures that actively generate scarcity from plenty.

Today this is more, not less, true. Throughout history, ruminants had served humans by turning grasses and other "inedibles" into high-grade protein. They were our four-legged protein factories. But once we began feeding livestock from crop land that could grow edible food, we began to convert ruminants into our protein disposals.

Only a small fraction of the nutrients fed to animals return to us in meat; the rest animals use largely for energy or they excrete. Thirty years ago, one-third of the world's grain was going to livestock; today it is closer to one-half. And now we're mastering the same disappearing trick with the world's fish supply. By feeding fish to fish, again, we're reducing the potential supply. We're shrinking the world's food supply for one reason: The hundreds of millions of people who go hungry cannot create a sufficient "market demand" for the fruits of the Earth. So more and more of it flows into the mouths of livestock, which convert it into what the better-off can afford. Corn becomes filet mignon. Sardines become salmon.

Enter biotechnology. While its supporters claim that seed biotechnology methods are "safe" and "precise," other scientists strongly refute that, as they do claims that biotech crops have actually reduced pesticide use. But this very debate is in some ways part of the problem. It is a tragic distraction our planet cannot afford.

We're still asking the wrong question. Not only is there already enough food in the world, but as long as we are only talking about food -- how best to produce it -- we'll never end hunger or create the communities and food safety we want. We must ask instead: How do we build communities in tune with nature's wisdom in which no one, anywhere, has to worry about putting food -- safe, healthy food -- on the table? Asking this question takes us far beyond food. It takes us to the heart of democracy itself, to whose voices are heard in matters of land, seeds, credit, employment, trade and food safety. The problem is, this question cannot be addressed by scientists or by any private entity, including even the most high-minded corporation. Only citizens can answer it, through public debate and the resulting accountable institutions that come from our engagement. Where are the channels for public discussion and where are the accountable politics?

Increasingly, public discussion about food and hunger is framed by advertising by multinational corporations that control not only food processing and distribution but farm inputs and seed patents. Two years ago, the seven leading biotech companies, including Monsanto, teamed up under the neutral-sounding Council for Biotechnology Information and are spending millions to, for example, blanket us with full-page newspaper ads about biotech's virtues. Government institutions are becoming ever more beholden to these corporations than to their citizens. Nowhere is this more obvious than in decisions regarding biotechnology -- whether it's the approval or patenting of biotech seeds and foods without public input or the rejection of mandatory labelling of biotech foods despite broad public demand for it. The absence of genuine democratic dialogue and accountable government is a prime reason most people remain blind to the many breakthroughs in the last 30 years that demonstrate we can grow abundant, healthy food and also protect the Earth.

**Hunger is not caused by a scarcity of food but by a scarcity of democracy.**

Thus it can never be solved by new technologies, even if they were to be proved "safe." It can only be solved as citizens build democracies in which government is accountable to them, not private corporate entities.



Photo Eileen Palmer

### ***Learning from the "Old Country"?*** **Column - Ray Grigg**

People who come from Europe often refer to it as the old country. But the term, usually intended as an expression of respect and affection, is also true by another measure.

Compared to remnant portions of the "new world," Europe is environmentally old. It has been tamed, controlled, ordered, manipulated and used. In some crucial respects, it is exhausted.

This does not mean that the soils no longer produce crops. Many fields, even after centuries of careful use, are still rich and productive. But the land is old in the sense that it no longer contains the primeval wilds that were its origin.

Almost all that original ecology has been civilized to oblivion. Fields of grain, grapes, fruit trees, vegetables, market flowers and cultivated forests occupy almost every usable corner of the landscape. Places not occupied by cities, villages or roads have been subdued and cultivated into some human use.

The birds and animals that remain make do with what is left. Some songbirds are adaptable enough to live in cities, scavenging the streets and urban parks for the little they need to survive.

Storks nest incongruously on abandoned chimneys or church steeples in towns while eking out a living on nearby farmland and in the remaining marshlands. But the ecology has been so changed that many species have simply disappeared.

Larger predators such as wolves and bears have been demonized by mythology and displaced by the relentless civilizing process.

Consequently, Europe is full of quaint fields, old stone walls, ruins, churches, castles, fortifications, charming cities, ancient villages and people, people,

people. The sights and attractions are what people have made, not what nature has bestowed.

Yes, Europe has formidable mountains. The rivers are still unmanageable forces, although they are mostly directed and guided by walls of stone and cement. But the parks are mostly patches of trees and flowers in cities, not the preserves of wilderness that is nature in its grand and primeval state.

And the forests of the countryside that still exist are cultivated and deliberate plantations of trees shaped and used by human need.

Most of the forests, however, are gone period. One hundred years ago, a squirrel could apparently travel from the North Sea to the Mediterranean without having to touch the ground. Not any more.

The World Wildlife Fund reports that barely two percent of Europe's original old-growth forests survive.

About 85 percent of the Mediterranean's forests are gone and the remainder is disappearing at one percent per year. One-fifth of the trees in European forests, reports the UN and European Commission, are severely damaged and three-quarters are either damaged or threatened. Plantation forests have become sterile because they are too often composed of exotic species and lack biodiversity.

The problem is not new. The original forests of Sweden have been gone so long that Swedish foresters concede they do not know what to re-establish.

The Greeks, 2,500 years ago, had so de-forested their land and altered the climate that the only trees that would grow on the parched hills were olives. To the east, all that remains of the great cedars of Lebanon – the trees that built the temple of Solomon and the ships of the Phoenicians - is a handful of survivors now protected in a single valley high in the mountains.

A little further east, the treed grasslands that once sustained such mighty cities as Palmyra and the empire of Persia, are now deserts. A lifeless wreckage of sand and dry stones is now silent testimony to the consequences of ill use.

The "old world" has its lessons to teach. Unfortunately, we have learned them badly. And we have brought most of the insensitive habits and exploitive attitudes to the "new world."

Almost all the original hardwood forests of North America have been cut. Only five percent of the vast prairie grassland remains in its original form.

About ten percent of sequoias are left. Fifty-three percent of BC's temperate rainforests have been logged and 70 percent of Vancouver Islands old-growth forests are gone. Whatever we manage to preserve will be crucially important.

Parochial perspectives can be blindly narrow and dangerously foolish. In the pursuit of local self-interest, we fail to see our activities in a larger and more meaningful perspective.

Simply put, the forests and wilds that still survive in BC are among the last of those still remaining on the planet. Asia has done to its ecology what Europe did to its.

Except for a few patches of unassailable jungle or mountaintops, and wholly inhospitable climatic regimes at the poles, most of the planet has been brought into the service of human need - made "old" by our diligent efforts.

We British Columbians still possess some of the last refuges of primeval nature that remain on the planet. This is a privilege that imbues us with a global responsibility that we must not shirk. So we need to save a little of "new world" before we age it into something "old."

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### **An interesting 11<sup>th</sup> Commandment from W.C. Lowerdermilk, a Soil Ecologist in the U.S.**

*"Thou shalt inherit the Holy Earth as a faithful steward, conserving its resources and productivity from generation to generation. Thou shalt safeguard thy fields from soil erosion, thy living waters from drying up, thy forests from desolation, and protect thy hills from overgrazing by thy herds, that thy descendants may have abundance forever. If any shall fail in this stewardship of the land thy fruitful fields shall become sterile stony ground and wasting gullies, and thy descendants shall decrease and live in poverty or perish from off the face of the earth" -*

**quoted from Chris Maser's *The Redesigned Forest***



## Legislation/Government Updates:

**Gifts of publicly-traded securities, such as shares, bonds and mutual funds, will be given preferential tax treatment until the end of the year. Gifts of these securities to a charity will result in 50% reduction in capital gains – to 37.5% from 75%. Consult your tax advisor and let your donors know!**

### BC Government Changes in Structure

#### WATER, LAND AND AIR PROTECTION

##### General Responsibilities

##### Green Economy Initiative

Air, land and water pollution control  
Fish and wildlife habitat and species protection  
Recreational fish and wildlife management  
Environmental emergencies  
Parks, recreation and protected areas  
Wildlife branch  
Flood plain management  
Major Boards and Commissions  
Environmental Appeal Board  
Creston Valley Authority  
Habitat Conservation Trust

##### News Release Co-ordinator Communications

E-Mail: [Heidi.Zilkie@gems9.gov.bc.ca](mailto:Heidi.Zilkie@gems9.gov.bc.ca)  
Phone: (250) 953-3904 Fax: (250) 387-1513

**Both Fisheries Renewal B.C. & the Environmental Youth Team Programs have been frozen as part of a new Review Process by the New B.C. Government**

#### The priorities of the Ministry of Water, Land and Air Protection include:

With Sustainable Resource Management Ministry adopt a scientifically based, balanced and principled approach to environmental management that ensures sustainability, accountability and responsibility

Protect and preserve Burns Bog

Vigorously defend the Crown's ownership of provincial land and resources

Pass a comprehensive Living Rivers Act

With Health Planning, pass real comprehensive ground water legislation to improve the quality of British Columbians drinking water

Replace the moratorium on grizzly bear hunting with proper peer review by scientists and biologists and local moratoriums where grizzly populations are endangered

With Deputy Minister to Premier and Cabinet Secretary, ensure Cabinet decisions on any new parks are made in public

Ensure mining or logging is not permitted in parks

#### THE NEW MINISTRY OF SUSTAINABLE RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

Mandate: MSRM is to provide corporate leadership to the development of sustainable policies, plans and supporting information systems for land use planning and policy.

##### Objectives:

- (1) Corporate leadership to land and water and, policy and planning
- (2) Consolidate land, water and resource information on tenures, rights and values
- (3) Through BC Assets and Land Corporation, which reports to the new ministry, lead development of timely and sustainable decisions for land and water allocation and management
- (4) Gain public trust in land use resource planning and decision making.

***The Minister responsible for Sustainable Resource Management will provide leadership for developing sustainable resource management policies and principles by assuming the Chair of the Environment and Land Use Committee of Cabinet. The Committee will be responsible for approving strategic land and water use plans.***

### ***Policy and Planning***

The ministry will lead the development of strategic (regional and subregional) plans for lands, watersheds and marine environments by bringing planning expertise from resource agencies in both Victoria and Regional Offices to create integrated government planning units. It will also be responsible for the development of land & resource policies for negotiating both Interim Measures Agreements and Treaties with First Nations.

### ***Data and Information***

The provincial government will bring together, under one Ministry roof, several land-related data and information functions that are currently scattered throughout government, and often incompatible. These include:

- land title operations and registries: (Land Title, tenure registries, archaeological sites and contaminated sites,)
- resource inventories: (terrain, vegetation including forests, wildlife, minerals, water and fisheries)
- mapping: including TRIM land mapping
- data services (including GIS) to other government agencies, resource companies and the public.

### ***Resource Allocation***

Statutory responsibilities for resource allocation (e.g. timber, minerals) remain with the line ministries. MSRM will have statutory decision making for Crown land tenures (BCAL) and water allocation.

The Ministry will undertake business transformation processes to speed up decisions on both land and water allocation. Once allocated, security of tenure will be guaranteed.

### ***Staff and Organization of MSRM***

Deputy Minister - Jon O'Riordan  
Chief Executive Officer of BCAL and Associate  
Deputy Minister - Bill Valentine  
The new ministry will have five Divisions:

### ***Policy and Planning Division***

The Division will prepare strategic land use plans (LRMPs); objectives for Resource Management Zones and landscape units under the Forest Practices Code; and resource tenure plans for special management areas (e.g. Muskwa-Kechika). It will provide leadership in watershed planning under the Fish Protection Act and water use plans with BC Hydro.

The division will also be responsible for developing integrated land, water and resource policies relating to aboriginal rights and treaty negotiations.

### ***Titles and Registries Division***

This division will bring together all legal titles of both public and private lands; legal ownership and rights to land, water and resources including tenure registries (Crown land, forests, mineral, water, private lands title, legal boundaries and encumbrances).

Staff will be transferred from Environment, Lands and Parks, Forests, Energy and Mines, Land Titles Branch and the Archaeology Branch.

### ***Resource Information and Mapping***

This division will be responsible for integrating information in three areas:

- Terrestrial Systems which includes forests, wildlife, vegetation and terrestrial ecosystem mapping, minerals, oil and gas.
- Aquatic Systems that include water inventory, fish and related information, coastal resources.
- Map information for the province, including roads

Staff performing these functions both in Victoria and in regional offices in the current ministries of Environment, Lands and Parks, Fisheries, Forests, Energy and Mines; and Transportation and Highways will be transferred to the new ministry.

### ***Business and Information Services***

This division will lead the ministry in ensuring that the information systems serve the business needs of the provincial government and also will negotiate partnership agreements for sharing information with other levels of government (local and federal) and the private sector. The division will also provide specialised GIS information technology services to government agencies.

This division will be staffed from the former Ministries of Environment, Lands and Parks, Forests, Aboriginal Affairs and Transportation and Highways.

## News of Importance:

*"Short of a miraculous transformation in the attitude of people and governments, the Earth's remaining closed-canopy forests and their associated biodiversity are destined to disappear in the coming decades."* - Klaus Toepfer, Executive Director, United Nations Environment Program.

The press release and full report (downloadable) is a useful acknowledgement from the United Nations Environment Program that the world's forests are in crisis and that Canada should become one of the focuses of conservation efforts. Federal Environment Minister David Anderson is now the president of UNEP.

### **International Effort To Save Forests Should Target 15 Countries**

New Report, An Assessment of the Status of the World's Remaining Closed Forests, Pin Points Forest Areas Vital for Water, Wildlife and Climate  
London/Nairobi, 20 August 2001

Efforts to save the world's last, critically important forests, should initially focus on just a handful of countries, a new report has found.

A unique satellite-based survey of the planet's remaining closed forests, which include virgin, old growth and naturally-regenerated woodlands, has found that over 80 per cent are located in just 15 countries.

The United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), one of the key organizations behind the report, believes that targeting scarce conservation funds on these 15 key countries may pay dividends in terms of environmental results.

Klaus Toepfer, Executive Director of UNEP, says: "The importance of healthy forests cannot be underestimated. Forests are vital for the well being of the planet. They provide a variety of socio-economic and ecological goods and services. These include

watershed management, with forests regulating the quantity and quality of rainwater discharging into rivers. They also help counter soil erosion and the spread of deserts.

"They play a vital role in reducing the impacts of climate change by soaking up carbon from the air. Forests also harbour some of the world's most precious and endangered wildlife, provide food and medicines for many local communities and indigenous peoples across the globe and support eco-tourism, which can be economically important, especially in developing countries," he adds.

But despite their important role and numerous international conferences, conventions and agreements including the Forestry Principles, drawn up during the Earth Summit in 1992, and the Convention on Biological Diversity, forests around the globe remain under increasing threat.

"Knowing it is unlikely that all forests can be protected, it would be better to focus conservation priorities on those target areas that have the best prospects for continued existence. I believe this new study provides this new focus. I urge governments, communities and international organizations to act on our findings and recommendations," Klaus says. Importantly, the survey also reveals that the pressure from people and population growth on most of these remaining closed forests, such as those in Bolivia and Peru, is low.

Others, such as the remaining closed forests in India and China, are under more pressure from human activity and may require a bigger effort to conserve and protect, the report concludes.

But overall an estimated 88 per cent of these vital forests are sparsely populated, which give well-focused and well-funded conservation efforts a real chance of success.

The findings have come from scientists with UNEP working with other researchers including ones from the United States Geological Survey and NASA, the United States space agency.

The full report, An Assessment of the Status of the World's Remaining Closed Forests, can be downloaded from <ftp://www.na.unep.net/pub/closedforest/>

*And some good news for a change~*

## **Logging Co. Returns Rainforest Land**

By Judie Glave  
Associated Press Writer

NEW YORK — A pristine Central African rainforest dense with gorillas, chimpanzees and forest elephants will be left wild after a logging company said Friday it would return the land to the Republic of Congo.

The 100-square-mile Goualogo Triangle contains mahogany and other valuable hardwoods that, if harvested, could bring \$1.5 million a year to the country's fragile economy.

Congolaise Industrielle des Bois, a private timber company, announced the deal Friday with Republic of Congo leaders and representatives of the New York-based Wildlife Conservation Society.

Timber company President Hinrich Stoll said the sacrifice was economically difficult, but protecting the forest was the right decision. The logging company received nothing for the land.

"We're giving up one of the richest places on earth," he said. "We all realize that this is worth the sacrifice."

Logging is the Republic of Congo's largest industry. Minister of Forestry Economy Henri Djombo said although his country is still putting itself together after a civil war and could use the money, it is committed to conserving valuable forest land.

"The Republic of Congo depends on forest resources for use for economic development but it is also deeply committed to biodiversity, conservation, forest management," Djombo said.

John Robinson, senior vice president of the Wildlife Conservation Society, said the company's willingness to give back forest that it has a legal right to cut was unprecedented and proves that government, industry and conservationists can work together.

The Goualogo Triangle is on the southern end of Nouabale-Ndoki National Park, which was created in 1993. It was left out of the park then, but conservation leaders pushed to protect it because of its environmental riches.

The Republic of Congo, which designates 11 percent of its land as protected, will fold the tract of rainforest into the park boundaries.

The Goualogo Triangle is largely untouched because it lies between the Ndoki and Goualogo rivers in forest swampland. National Geographic magazine

called it "The Last Place on Earth" and Time referred to it as the "Last Eden."

Conservationist Paul Elkan, who spent four months in the rainforest, on Friday described magnificent boulevards of century-old elephant trails and chimps and gorillas that are so unaccustomed to humans that they approach without fear.

"When you go there, you feel like you're violating the place," Elkan said. "You feel like you don't belong."

The announcement was made at the Bronx Zoo's gorilla exhibit. All profits from the exhibition are sent to conservation efforts in Africa. About \$2.5 million has been raised since the exhibit opened in 1999.

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## **NEW REPORT ON CANADIAN WHALING**

The Canadian Marine Environment Protection Society has (CMWEPS) has published a 24-page report prepared by Kim Goldberg, titled "CANADA'S WAR ON WHALES: Will the Bowhead Survive? A report on mismanagement of whales, suppression of science, and hunting quotas on a highly endangered species."

CMEPS Executive Director Annelise Sorg distributed the report at the International Whaling Commission (IWC) meetings held in London, England on July 23-27, 2001. CMEPS is the only accredited Canadian non-government anti-whaling organization participating at the annual general meetings of the IWC.

Fifty-five years ago Canada was a founding member of the International Whaling Commission. Today the IWC is still the recognized world authority on whale management. Canada, meanwhile, has quit the organization it helped create and is now the only developed nation on earth killing great whales without belonging to the IWC. Canada's Eastern Arctic bowheads are classified as "highly endangered" by the IWC Scientific Committee. And in the opinion of the world's foremost bowhead scientist, Kerry Finley of Victoria B.C., Canada's quota on Eastern Arctic bowheads is "scientifically indefensible."

Author of the report:

Kim Goldberg <[goldberg@freenet.carleton.ca](mailto:goldberg@freenet.carleton.ca)>

Telephone: (250) 741-8577 in Nanaimo, BC



CANADIAN MARINE ENVIRONMENT  
PROTECTION SOCIETY  
Box 461 - 1755 Robson Street, Vancouver, BC  
Canada V6G 3B7  
E-mail: [cmeps@whaleprotection.org](mailto:cmeps@whaleprotection.org) Web:  
[www.whaleprotection.org](http://www.whaleprotection.org)  
Tel: (604) 736-9514 Fax: (604) 736-9514

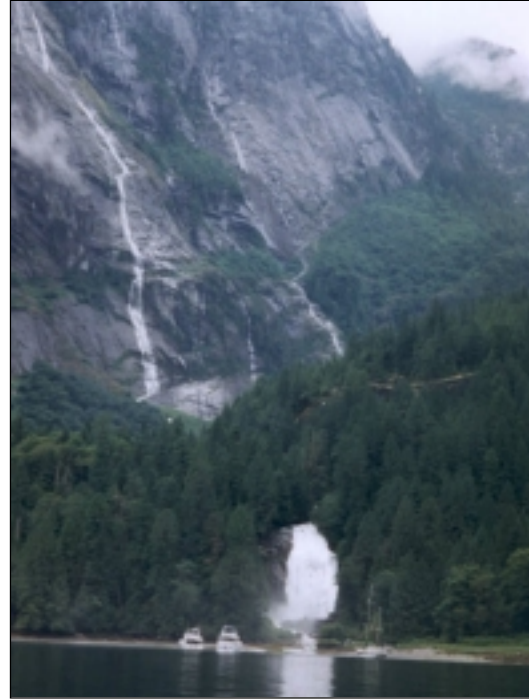
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## Chatterbox Falls - Princess Louisa Inlet

This photograph is of the magnificent Chatterbox Falls, one of 60 waterfalls in the Princess Louisa Inlet. The area at the base of the falls was originally acquired by James F. Macdonald, in 1927, years after discovering its charm and spectacular beauty. His vision was to save as much of this area as possible, and the non-profit Princess Louisa International Society was formed to maintain the perpetual trust and to ensure the preservation of this enchanting place for all future generations. "I am turning it over in perpetuity as an international project so that you, your children, and your children's children, ad infinitum, all may enjoy its peace and beauty as God created it, unspoiled by the hand of man." With Mr. Macdonald's blessing, the Society passed administration of the property to the province of B.C., maintaining stipulations, such as his wish that no moorage be charged to anyone.

"I wish to turn this property over to the yachtsmen of the Northwest. In giving this property to the boating public, I feel as if I am completing a trust. It is one of the most spectacular spots in the world. To me it is Yosemite Valley, the fjords of Norway and bits of many other places all wrought into the background of our Pacific Northwest conifer forest!"

The Princess Louisa International Society actively supports the Park with capital investments to provide additional enhanced facilities, and is currently seeking funding to acquire areas currently owned by Weyerhaeuser and potentially up for logging. The entire Inlet, with magnificent granite-walled gorge carved by glaciers, rises sharply to some 2,100 metres (7000 ft) is 5 miles long and ½ mile at its widest.  
**Princess Louisa International Society PO Box 3918  
Stn. D, Vancouver, BC V6J 4L7 to  
[wbotham@telus.net](mailto:wbotham@telus.net) 604-737-8343.**



**Coming Soon!**  
**The BC Lands in Trust Registry**

*And some food for future thought –*

*The Land Trust Alliance of BC is working with  
a Committee to plan*

*The Next National Stewardship & Land  
Trust Conference here in B.C.*

*Dates being discussed are May 2003*

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*Do you have some projects you want us to  
help you promote? Lands you want to  
fundraise to protect? Let us put your info  
on our website, promote you at our next  
public display, and in our next  
Kingfisher! Let us help you protect the  
natural and cultural diversity of B.C.*

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*This edition of the Kingfisher edited by Sheila  
Harrington, Assisted by Eileen Palmer*

# Resources for Conservation & Stewardship

**ON THE GROUND,**

*A Volunteer's Guide To Monitoring Stewardship Agreements*  
 Thorough manual with checklists & sample forms for Monitoring Covenants & other Stewardship Agreements - \$20 - \$16 members

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# *Land Trust & Stewardship Seminar Series 2002*

## **Now Seeking Seminar & Workshop Presentation Proposals & Requests**

*Date – likely to be March 28, 29<sup>th</sup> 30, 2002*

*Place – t.b.a. (interior or Surrounding Vancouver)*

*Please send your requests or proposals to Sheila Harrington [Sheila@landtrustalliance.bc.ca](mailto:Sheila@landtrustalliance.bc.ca)*

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### *If The Earth's Population were 100 People*

*If we could shrink the earth's population to a village of precisely 100 people, with all the existing human ratios remaining the same, it would look something like this:*

*57 Asians  
21 Europeans  
14 from the Western Hemisphere  
8 Africans*

*52 would be female  
48 would be male*

*70 would be non-white  
30 would be white*

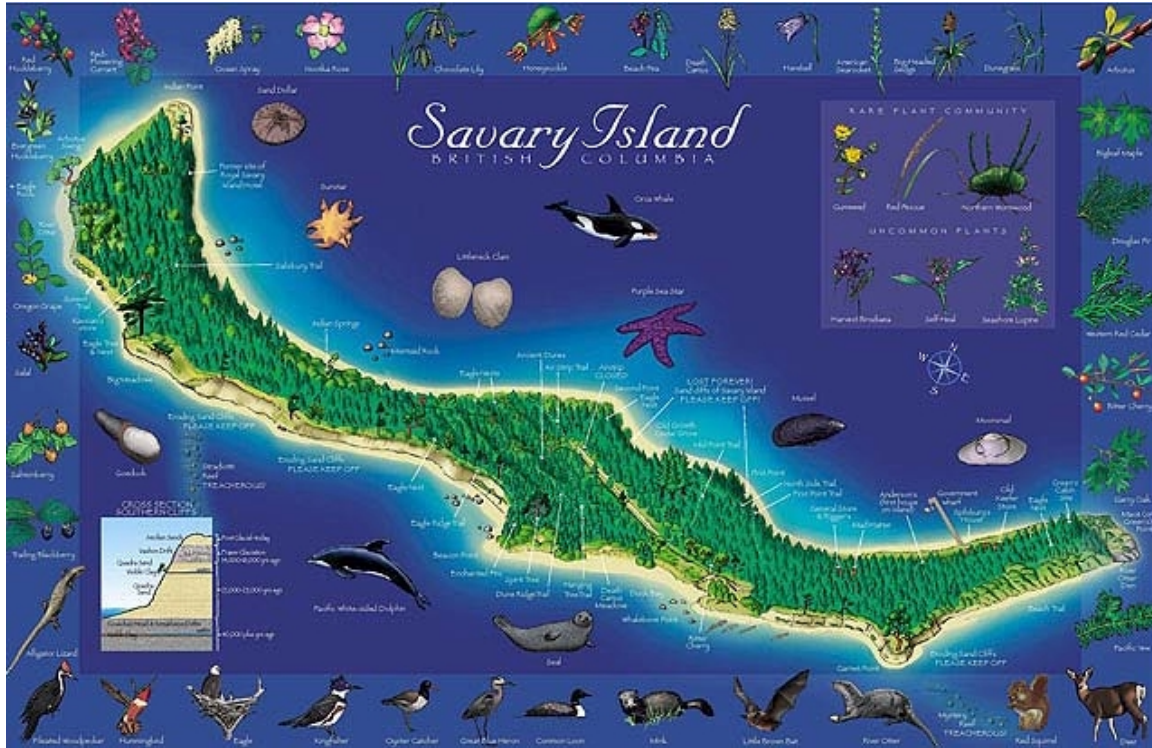
*70 would be non-Christian  
30 would be Christian*

*89 would be heterosexual  
11 would be homosexual*

*6 would possess 59% of the entire world's  
wealth and all 6 would be from the United States*

*80 would live in substandard housing  
70 would be unable to read  
50 would suffer from malnutrition  
1 would be near death 1 would be near birth  
1 (yes, only 1) would have a college education  
1 would own a computer*

*When one considers our world from such a compressed perspective, the need for acceptance, understanding and education becomes glaringly apparent.  
(LTABC has not verified these statements – for your info only)*



**Savary Island Salish Sea Map**

**Coordinator: Liz Webster, Savary Land Trust artists: Kathy Kebarle, Tony Wypkema**

**See inside for details**

**Island Exhibitions August-September,  
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