



Photo: Ian McAllister

SPRING 2013



A black bear feasts on herring roe on kelp.

Photo: Ian McAllister

“When the moon tips over” marks when herring season in the Great Bear Rainforest is underway. This is what the Heiltsuk people remind us as boats are being readied for an ancient harvest during one of the most biologically profound events to occur in the North Pacific.

For us at Pacific Wild, we also look forward to the return of this foundation species to better test our remote underwater monitoring systems on the rarely observed spawning events and the return of large carnivores – like bears and wolves - who migrate to the spawning grounds to feast on fresh herring eggs.

Our hydrophones have been busy lately with Pacific white-sided dolphins and killer whales! The herring are beginning to draw a vast array of wildlife into these coastal waters. Tune in live to our [hydrophone audio feeds](#) and email whales@pacificwild.org if you hear anything interesting.

[Here's a recent clip](#) of transient killer whales near the Dearth Island hydrophone.

[Stay tuned](#) as our staff and volunteers bring you dispatches from above and below the water as we showcase this remarkable -and threatened - natural history event.

In this edition:

Connect with us!

1. [B.C.'s War on Wolves](#)
2. [LNG: The Latest Threat to the Great Bear](#)
3. [Enbridge Update](#)
4. [Gearing up for Field Season](#)
5. [Schedule of Events](#)
6. [Support Pacific Wild](#)



British Columbia's War on Wolves

The B.C. government is sanctioning the poisoning, trapping, hunting and indiscriminate killing of wolves in record numbers. In the few parts of the province where wolves are making a return to their former range, they are being systematically targeted by government-sponsored wolf-kill efforts. Wolves are being poisoned in their natal dens, as well as baited and killed with neck snares by government employees. The B.C. government also continues to sanction a wolf-kill contest with prize money being awarded for killing the largest - and smallest - of these intelligent animals.



Pacific Wild continues to be at the forefront of wolf conservation in B.C.. With support from West Coast Environmental Law, we continue our [legal battle](#) to end the unethical and shameful wolf kill contest as well as advocating for carnivore conservation areas where wolves can live without human persecution.



Fighting on behalf of wolves is a costly endeavour and [we need your support](#). Please consider making a donation today and/or [writing to advocate](#) for the protection of our wild wolves.

Wolf Management Plan

Thank you to the more than 2,000 people that responded to the recently released Draft Management Plan for wolves. While this unprecedented response on behalf of wolf conservation has sent a clear message to the B.C. government, we continue to urge the Province to seek [input from the conservation community](#) and to have the plan scientifically peer-reviewed.



Photos: Ian McAllister

LNG: The Latest Threat to the Great Bear

It seems that every week a new Liquid Natural Gas (LNG) project is proposed for the Great Bear Rainforest, and our government can't issue permits and approvals fast enough.

The B.C. and federal governments are in the process of approving three LNG liquefaction plants in the Great Bear—with six more on horizon—and the associated pipelines that would stretch across the province.



Photo: Max Bakken

If this massive infrastructure is built in Kitimat and Prince Rupert, the B.C. north coast could be subjected to thousands of new tanker trips a year – some estimates put a tanker travelling through the Great Bear every three hours. This amount of shipping traffic would dwarf the current Enbridge proposal when it comes to acoustic disturbance to whales, ship strikes and a host of other environmental impacts. Touted as a safer fuel to transport than oil in the event of a spill, there are still unacceptable risks.

[Learn more about LNG](#) and voice your concerns.

Enbridge Update



Pacific Wild is getting intimate with the underwater world, capturing beautiful footage of sea lions dancing and playing along the proposed tanker route.

Photo: Ian McAllister

ALL OPPOSED? 1,159

ALL IN FAVOUR? 2

The [community hearings](#) have come to a close with a formidable wall of opposition speaking for the protection of fresh water, wild ecosystems and livelihoods of northern B.C. But the process is not over. The [Joint Review Panel](#) (JRP) continues to hear [technical cross-examinations](#) through May, followed by final arguments in June. A recommendation is expected by the [end of this year](#).

On May 14th, British Columbians will vote in the next political leaders of our province. When evaluating your [local candidates](#), consider where they stand on the Enbridge issue. It's up to us to hold our leaders accountable and ensure they help protect our clean water, our pristine ecosystems and our livelihoods. [Consider meeting with your top candidates](#) to talk to them about why a tanker-free B.C. is so important for a sustainable and prosperous future.

Gearing up for Field Season

This past winter proved a great success in testing our [hydrophone stations](#) and transmission abilities. From the wild windy west coast to the cold inside waters, these devices silently recorded the underwater world in all conditions. Now that spring is sprung it is time to continue expanding the network of listening devices to cover even more of the surrounding waters. As part of our [SEAS project](#), local youth and interns will be part of the entire process from choosing locations for the four new hydrophone stations to the set up, maintenance and monitoring of the sounds of the Great Bear Sea, from ship traffic to whale song.



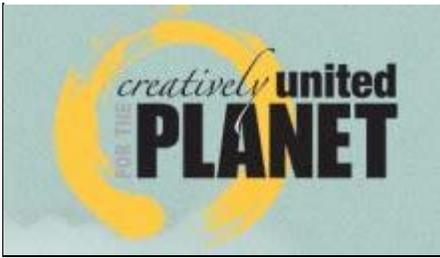
Photo: SEAS 2012 Intern

We are excited to welcome back our field crew, and if you are a full-time student interested in a summer internship, we will be posting these positions soon.

Schedule of Events

If you will be anywhere near Victoria on April 20th and 21st, come visit us at the [Creatively United for the Planet](#) Festival!

Bear legend Charlie Russell is a keynote speaker here and at



other B.C. venues next month.

Join biologist Alexandra Morton and filmmaker Twyla Roscovich hit the road to bring "Salmon Confidential" to communities around British Columbia. [Look for a screening in your community here.](#)

Stay informed about events happening in your area with our [schedule of events.](#)

Support Pacific Wild

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