



Uu-a-thluk

Taking Care Of

Volume 2 Issue 2
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KYUQUOT REDISCOVERY CAMP – NURTURING FUTURE LEADERS

Kyuquot

Nootka

Clayoquot

Barclay

Ditidaht

Pacheedaht

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Far away from the comforts of home and the noise of everyday, at the Kyuquot Rediscovery Camp youth learn the value of team-work and their connection to the natural world amongst the beauty of the Kyuquot Sound.



The camp program encourages team building and leadership through facilitated games and activities, in addition to traditional teachings. Each camp ends with a Ceremony Night that parents of each camper are invited to participate in. This event honors the progress of individuals during their time

in the Rediscovery program and celebrates their collective experiences.

After completing its seventh season, the Kyuquot Rediscovery Camp program is a real success in its ability to give participants pride in who they are and where they come from. The Rediscovery Camp program brings youth out into Kyuquot traditional territory to help them to get in touch with their culture while also assisting them in building increased self esteem, team building and leadership skills to better cope with the increasing societal pressures facing them.

“[The rediscovery camp program] keeps youth connected with themselves and each other. To our ocean and our land,” states Jules, “We want them to feel comfortable out where our ancestors used to live. We want them to experience it early so that they can manage the land better when some day they are the leadership in power.”

The campers leave from Fair Harbour by boat, bringing them to a beautiful location within Kyuquot traditional territory. “There are a few kids who come every year. I see them growing up and change in them year after year” said Coordinator and Facilitator Alex Jules, “it is gratifying because our program has helped them along the way.”

Alex is passionate about the work that he does and hopes to continue to work with youth through the rediscovery camps. “Kids are our future managers of the resources and economy,” states Jules, “They grow up fast out there working together and helping each other out. That is really important and why the community needs the program. Why any community needs this type of program.”

The camps began with Bruce Carlos and Alex Jules, with the assistance of Layla Charleson. The first year they ran three camps with 15 kids per camp. The rediscovery camp program in Kyuquot territory really began to bloom from there. These camps are open to anyone who is interested, both non-native and First Nations from any tribal affiliation.



Youth enjoying the outdoors.

NUU-CHAH-NULTH INITIATIVES

A FEW ITEMS THE FIRST NATIONS AND UU-A-THLUK STAFF ARE WORKING ON

WEST COAST VANCOUVER ISLAND (WCVI)

GROUND FISH INTEGRATION JUDICIAL REVIEW

Nuu-chah-nulth litigation against DFO for not properly consulting about ground fish integration (GFI) is before the Federal Court. Nuu-chah-nulth and Canada have submitted their written arguments. Oral arguments will be heard once a trial date is set. A deci-

sion is expected by next spring or summer. In the meantime, Nuu-chah-nulth commercial groundfish fishermen have been meeting to discuss the impacts of GFI on their fishing operations this past season.

FOOD AND CEREMONIAL FOOD FISHING

DFO has outlined a number of draft principles to help guide their staff in addressing issues related to food and ceremonial needs. Nuu-chah-nulth discussed some of their concerns about the draft principles in Port Alberni on November 9th at the First Nations Information Exchange. Uu-a-thluk staff will be pursuing more formal discussions with DFO over the next few months. If you have any questions or concerns please contact any Uu-a-thluk staff.



Tseshah food fishery at Paper Mill Dam.

CLAM LICENSE TRANSFERABILITY

DFO has approached the Uu-a-thluk Council of Ha'wiih about whether or not regular z-2 commercial clam licences should be transferable. The WCVI Clam Management Board and the Council of Ha'wiih are also looking for feedback on a proposal to limit licences to one area (Barkley, Clayoquot, Nootka, Kyuquot or Quatsino). While transferability would not affect aboriginal communal licenses (ACLs) issued to each Nation, the proposal to limit dig-

gers to one area could apply to an ACL. There are approximately 25 Nuu-chah-nulth people with commercial z-2 clam licenses. Uu-a-thluk staff will be discussing these issues with DFO over the winter. Uu-a-thluk staff would like hear from anyone with questions or views about these clam proposals.

WILD SALMON POLICY

DFO has proposed draft Conservation Units for wild salmon in Nuu-chah-nulth Ha-ha-houlthee. They have also presented new approaches for habitat and ecosystem monitoring, and habitat protection. Nuu-chah-nulth had a chance to hear about these initiatives at the November 9/10 information sessions with DFO. Nuu-chah-nulth were also

well represented at the Aquatic Management Boards November 22/23 Wild Salmon Summit in Port Alberni. Nuu-chah-nulth are active in many aspects of wild salmon protection and stewardship. If you want to learn more or become active in Wild Salmon protection or restoration, contact any Uu-a-thluk staff.

For more information on any of these projects contact info@uuathluk.ca or Don Hall @ 724-5757

NUU-CHAH-NULTH INITIATIVES

A FEW ITEMS THE FIRST NATIONS AND UU-A-THLUK STAFF ARE WORKING ON

BIG EDDY SYMPOSIUM MADE A SPLASH AT TIN WIS!

The successful Big Eddy Ecosystem Symposium took place October 11th-13th at the Tin-Wis Resort in Tofino. Over 100 people gathered to share their knowledge about the “Big Eddy” ecosystem. The symposium was presented with the cooperation of the Nuu-chah-nulth Tribal Council, the WCVI Aquatic Management Board, the Makah Nation and Makah Fisheries Management Program, Environment Canada, Canadian Parks and Wilderness Society (CPAWS), Parks Canada, Olympic Coast National Marine Sanctuary and many others. “A lot of energy and sharing of information and knowledge took place,” said Sabine Jessen, conservation coordinator for CPAWS and a key organizer in the event. “We were really pleased to see people engaged in the ways that we organized to gather and share information.”

Participants represented government agencies from B.C. and Washington State, in addition to First Nations, scientists and environmental groups interested in understanding the current uses and management of the Big Eddy. “This is the first time that we have been able to have events in one of the adjacent communities [to the Big Eddy,]” stated Jessen. “They have so much attachment to this ecosystem.”

At the symposium, participants shared information about projects and initiatives within the nutrient rich coastal upwelling and current ecosystem that extends along the west coast of Vancouver Island and the northwest coast of the Olympic Peninsula. This ecosystem is called the “Big Eddy” because of the huge ocean gyre, or whirlpool like circulation, that results from the topography, tides, and confluence of ocean currents off of the Strait of Juan de Fuca.

Keynote speaker Dr. Simon Lucas of the Hesquiaht First Nation shared his Nuu-chah-nulth perspective on the first day. A highlight for many participants were the songs and dances performed by Tla-o-qui-aht First Nations and the dinner presented cooperatively by the Makah and Nuu-chah-nulth Tribal Councils on the second night of the event. “The Big Eddy is about the



Tla-o-qui-aht singers.

experience of Nuu-chah-nulth culture and governance,” stated Jessen. “It is one thing to write and talk about the Big Eddy, but people left very moved by the evening to see that connection demonstrated.”

Following the Big Eddy Ecosystem Symposium, people can look forward to more opportunities to get involved in the discussions about the trans-boundary management of this important ecosystem. “If we can gather together to talk and share what we know... we can achieve anything,” said Cliff Atleo, a member of the Big Eddy Steering Committee.

Building on this successful symposium designed to share information and bridge the gaps between nations, science and management for the Big Eddy Ecosystem, the Big Eddy Steering Committee (which includes Nuu-chah-nulth Nation and Makah representatives) looks forward to coordinating one more symposium within the next two years.

More information will be provided in the coming months about the Big Eddy Initiative and the results of the symposium, which will include:

- priorities and timelines for the Big Eddy initiative
- guidelines for how people will benefit from working in a trans-boundary way
- protection of Big Eddy values and ensuring fairness among users
- improved management effectiveness
- recommendations for more efficient communication between the various governments and agencies involved in the region



Dr. Simon Lucas keynote speaker.

With a few days of putting their heads together at the ‘Big Eddy’ Symposium it is clear that scientists, managers and the First Nations involved look forward to working together to see what kinds of change can be made in the management of the ‘Big Eddy’. It is truly exciting to see the kinds of results that can occur in a matter of days, when people set aside boundaries, geography, and jurisdictional difference in an effort to work towards a common goal.

For more information see:
http://www.cpawsbc.org/marine/sites/big_eddy.php



Uu-a-thluk is:

Council of Ha'wiih:

The Ha'wiih or their representatives of: Ka:'yu:'k't'h'/Che:k'tles7et'h', Nuchatlaht, Ehattesaht, Mowachaht/Muchatlaht, Hesquiaht, Ahousaht, Tla-o-qui-aht, Ucluelet, Toquaht, Uchucklesaht, Tseshaht, Hupacasath, Huu-ay-aht, Ditidaht and Pacheedaht.

Joint Technical Working Group:

First Nations, Uu-a-thluk, and Department of Fisheries and Oceans staff working together to solve problems and take advantage of opportunities.

Secretariat:

Biologists, Managers, Outreach, Capacity Development, Fundraising and Economic Development. Conducting the day to day work under the direction of the Council of Ha'wiih.

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Next Uu-a-thluk Council of Ha'wiih meeting is scheduled for January 25th - 26th, 2007.

Check out Uu-a-thluk's Website
www.westcoastaquatic.ca/uu-a-thluk.htm

PROJECTS AND RESEARCH DIRECTORY, WCVI INFORMATION SYSTEM

Did you know that over 150 species of invertebrates can be found living amongst gooseneck barnacles?

Biological assessments for the WCVI gooseneck barnacle experimental fishery has been ongoing since 2004. The project involves First Nations, DFO, the Province and other parties working together to design a more sustainable approach to harvesting. Part of this project involves scientific assessments of gooseneck barnacles to provide information to support a sustainable harvest level for an experimental fishery.

Have you ever wondered if someone else is working on the same issue or collecting similar information? Have you ever thought that it would be really helpful to know if this type of work is happening elsewhere along the west coast, or just curious to know what is going on?

The Projects and Research Directory was created for this reason. "It was developed with the aim to support learning about and networking the wealth of projects and research activities that are happening along the west coast of Vancouver Island / Nuu-chah-nulth Territory" says Caron Olive of Uu-a-thluk Information Management. "There is so much going on and it would be very beneficial to capture it in one place." The Projects and Research

Directory is part of the WCVI Information System, a web based tool for accessing information about the communities, ecosystems and their uses along the west coast of Vancouver Island.

Help us grow the Projects and Research Directory. If you have a project or research that you are involved in within the west coast of Vancouver Island, why not enter it? It is easy, fun and you can do it yourself. Just log on and fill out a form that asks for information such as project title, description, location, subject, if there is an existing web site, and the main contact for information. You can also attach a photograph. If you have any questions or need some assistance, email us at:

infosys@westcoastaquatic.ca.



Harvesting gooseneck barnacles.

The Projects and Research Directory can be found at:

www.westcoastaquatic.ca/RIS.htm

FROM THE SEA

kakawin • killer whale



ye'isi • butter clam

