

Tracking
Raincoast
into 2014



RAINCOAST
CONSERVATION FOUNDATION



Raincoast is a team

of conservationists and scientists empowered by our research to protect the lands, waters, and wildlife of coastal British Columbia. We practice rigorous, peer-reviewed science, community engagement, and grassroots activism to further our conservation objectives. We call this approach *informed advocacy* and it is unique among conservation efforts.

Our vision

for coastal British Columbia is to protect the habitats and resources of umbrella and foundation species. We believe this approach will help ensure the survival of all species and ecological processes that exist at different scales.

Investigate. Inform. Inspire.

We investigate to understand coastal species and ecological processes. We inform by bringing science to decision makers and communities. We inspire action to protect wildlife and their wilderness habitats.



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COMPRISING SOME OF THE EARTH'S FEW REMAINING and most magnificent wild environments, the Pacific coast of British Columbia hosts incomparable land and seascapes. But trapped between the Alberta tar sands and the oil industry's global markets, the region is in imminent jeopardy. Two petroleum pipelines that would stream the world's dirtiest oil from northern Alberta to the BC coast have been proposed. Enbridge's Northern Gateway and Kinder Morgan's Trans Mountain pipelines would be the catalyst for unbridled exploitation and potentially calamitous disturbance of our land, air, freshwater, and oceans.

Industrial activities that accompany tar sands extraction and the transport of oil deprive wild animals of their life requisites. They do so by destroying or impoverishing their habitats, causing suffering through displacement, stress, starvation, and diminished security. In the most severe circumstances, lethal oil spills originating from broken pipelines and ruptured supertankers can forever transform the affected environment and the lives of its inhabitants.

Importantly, disturbances at both ends and along the paths of the Northern Gateway and Trans Mountain pipelines will have grave consequences for wildlife, as exemplified by the expected impacts to caribou, wolves, whales, and wild salmon.

In Alberta, woodland caribou face extinction because their habitat continues to be eroded and degraded, primarily by development of the tar sands. Yet, *Canis lupus* is being scapegoated for the caribou decline, and the response of government and industry is to kill thousands of wolves.

At the marine end, pipelines introduce the threat of oil spills in aquatic and ocean environments that host rare, endangered, vulnerable, and ecologically valuable species and ecosystems. The export of oil will result in increased tanker traffic and vessel noise through sensitive and productive waters, impoverishing critical habitat for numerous species of threatened and endangered whales.

The chronic oiling that accompanies tankers and terminals slowly degrades habitat and water quality to the point where near-shore environments are no longer productive or capable of supporting marine nurseries for wild salmon.

And globally, increased CO₂ emissions that accompany the extraction, shipping, and consumption of this oil will perpetuate climate change, further altering the indispensable habitats and natural processes that wildlife depend on for survival.

With your support, we will continue to illuminate the hidden costs of transporting tar sands oil as we work to protect our coast from the incremental degradation and eventual catastrophic spills that will accompany the Northern Gateway and Trans Mountain projects.

Chris Genovali

Executive Director, Raincoast Conservation Foundation



A decade of effort for an Oil Free Coast

2014 marks a decade since Raincoast began five years and 14,000 kilometers of grueling systematic ocean surveys to record the abundance and distribution of marine birds and mammals on BC's coast.



This effort was driven by the emerging threat from oil development and transport. It planted the seed for Raincoast's Oil-Free Coast initiative, which came to fruition with the launch of our *What's at Stake* report in 2010. Our Oil-Free Coast initiative now addresses the impacts and risks associated with pipelines and tankers to the coasts of BC, Alaska, and Washington State. In particular, our efforts are focused on two proposals – Enbridge's Northern Gateway project and Kinder Morgan's Trans Mountain expansion.

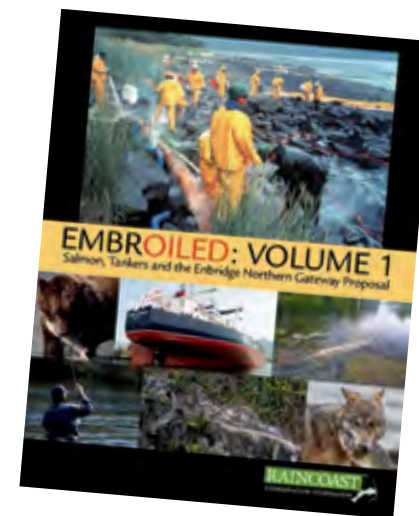
Confronting the Northern Gateway Pipeline proposal

Since 2010, our in-depth critique of Enbridge's environmental assessments (ESA) and the compilation of our own evidence have consumed much of our

attention, involving the entire Raincoast staff. All of Enbridge's reports and supporting technical documents were painstakingly examined, highlighting many shortcomings. Our evidence totaled some 300 pages and was summarized thusly in the preface, "Enbridge's ESA suffers from critical flaws that undermine its purpose and credibility as a basis for decision-making." Throughout 2012 and 2013, led by senior scientist Dr. Paul Paquet and with legal counsel provided by Ecojustice, Raincoast testified before the Joint Review Panel technical hearings as a formal intervener. Despite Enbridge's formidable resources, the Raincoast team successfully defended our evidence and demonstrated the numerous flaws in Enbridge's application.

Salmon and Oil

FOLLOWING THE *Exxon Valdez* oil spill, no one anticipated long-term impacts to fisheries. Yet, when herring and salmon declined, innovative science linked the probable cause back to the spill. Because salmon are the backbone of BC's coastal communities and ecosystems, Raincoast undertook an in-depth assessment of the potential threats to salmon as a consequence of oil tankers navigating the BC coast – something Enbridge failed to do. Much of the technical work was submitted in our evidence to the Joint Review Panel, but we popularized this work and published it in the fall of 2013. *Embroided: Salmon, Tankers and*



the Enbridge Northern Gateway Proposal examines the risks from oil tankers on just one group of organisms: salmon. We conclude, as do many British Columbians, there is far more to lose, than gain.

Marine Birds

WITH THE PROSPECT OF INCREASED oil supertanker traffic and associated spills, Raincoast has ramped up efforts to assess and report on the risks that projects such as Northern Gateway pose to marine and terrestrial ecosystems. Marine birds (seabirds, waterfowl, raptors, and shorebirds) are often the most abundant and conspicuous victims of oil spills, both large and small. With information gained from four years of marine bird transect

surveys in BC's coastal waters, Raincoast is estimating marine bird distributions and abundances and using predictive modeling to develop a risk assessment in the context of industrial activities, including oil spills.

Art for an Oil-Free Coast

EMERGING FROM ARTIST Mark Hobson's inspiration, and subsequent kitchen table conversation with Raincoast's Brian Falconer, a plan was born to bring artists together to focus attention on the threat to the BC coast from Northern Gateway: our Art for an Oil Free Coast initiative. Mere months later, in the summer of 2012, fifty of BC's most celebrated artists journeyed into the heart of the Great Bear Rainforest. Using paintbrushes and carving tools, they portrayed the people, flora, fauna, and dramatic views of Canada's fragile Raincoast. Inspired by their individual experiences, the artists shared personal expressions illustrating a coast at risk. The resulting works of art from such luminaries as Robert Bateman, Robert Davidson, Mae Moore, Carol Evans, Roy Henry Vickers, Craig Benson, Michael Svob, Alison Watt, Ben Davidson, Ian Reid, Mark Hobson and many more, were donated to



Raincoast and displayed to audiences at a travelling exhibition that engaged visitors throughout BC and Alberta.



Canada's Raincoast At Risk

The art works are also featured in a beautiful 160-page coffee table book of coastal art produced by Raincoast. Now in its second printing, the book details the artists' original work produced for the project, and is interspersed with essays from esteemed Canadian scientists including Drs. David Suzuki, Wade Davis and Paul Paquet, as well as prose by award winning writers such as Dr. Briony Penn, Jessie Housty and Beth Carruthers. Each chapter includes work from BC poets using environmental themes in their verse. Designed by Frances Hunter and edited by Sherry Kirkvold, *Canada's Raincoast At Risk* was described in a *Vancouver Sun* book review as "a gorgeous work of art in and of itself with exquisite reproductions." The book is available for purchase through our website or in eBook format for free through iTunes.



REFLECTIONS

Art for an Oil-Free Coast

A short film by

RAINCOAST CONSERVATION FOUNDATION AND STRONGHEART PRODUCTIONS



Reflections

The artists' journey was captured as a documentary film: *Reflections – Art for an Oil-Free Coast*, produced by Raincoast and Strongheart Productions. The film shares the story of the expedition into this dramatic and remote landscape, weaving together the works of the artists and their emotional response to a region and a people at risk. We were thrilled to present *Reflections* at the Vancouver International Film Festival; it is a rare honour to debut a film like this at one of Canada's most prestigious festivals. Calling it "tranquil and stunning," a review from the Documentary Organization of British Columbia said *Reflections* "serves as a reminder of how we need to protect our coast." Since our world premiere, *Reflections* has gone on to commanding screenings in hundreds of communities across Canada and the U.S. in film festivals and town halls, school classrooms and universities, reaching thousands of North Americans. The film can be purchased in DVD format through our website or viewed for free on YouTube.

Surfing for an Oil-Free Coast

WHO BETTER TO SPEAK OUT against pipelines and tankers on behalf of marine life than surfers? So came the epiphany for Raincoast Science Director and long-time surfer, Chris Darimont, as he bobbed in the swell.

A year later, the vision became a reality and Captain Brian Falconer was sailing our research vessel, *Achiever*, toward what he had spent a life time avoiding – big surf on BC's central coast. Joining Brian and Chris were Patagonia® surf ambassadors Trevor Gordon, Dan and Chris Malloy, Canadian surf legend Pete Devries, and photographers Jeremy Koreski and Dean Azim.

Following a week of sharing remote waves with killer whales and desolate beaches with black bears, director Chris Malloy had captured a gorgeous and action-packed mini surf documentary.



In an effort to join the important voices of this place with the epic waves, Chris Darimont contacted friends and colleagues of Raincoast, Jessie and William Housty, a remarkable pair of leaders from the Heiltsuk First Nation. The result? *Groundswell* provides a portal into how indigenous people have always been, and always will be, on the coast. *Groundswell* chronicles an outstanding surfing adventure while providing a cerebral and compelling examination of many of today's environmental problems and issues: our energy future, geopolitics, indigenous leadership, land title, and more.

A Groundswell down the Pacific Coast

After community screenings in coastal villages, we hit the road to deliver the film and outreach campaign to people along the Pacific coast. *Groundswell* played at a packed Shelter restaurant in Tofino with the filmmakers and film's surfers in attendance. In Victoria, we showed three consecutive screenings in one evening, hosting more than 800 captivated guests. Our Canadian leg ended at Vancouver's Science World to another sold out crowd. Surfboards loaded, we then headed south to be hosted by Patagonia® stores in Seattle (Washington), Portland (Oregon), Mill Valley, Ventura, Santa Cruz and Cardiff (California), all joined by film and surf legend Chris Malloy.

All along the coast the message of the

film resounded loudly and clearly. The concept was to connect with new audiences via a shared concern for marine life and the ocean: not just surfers but all who care for the marine world. The initial premieres reached some 4,000 people. Subsequent screenings in Japan, Germany, and film festivals, and classroom showings across North America brought the film to tens of thousands more. *Groundswell* continues to be a sought-after resource for informing audiences and inspiring action in Pacific Coast communities and beyond. Want a *Groundswell* community screening? You provide the venue and we'll provide the film. And for die-hard surfing fans, it is available for sale in DVD format from www.raincoast.org and www.patagonia.com, or as a download at vimeo.com/ondemand/groundswell.



Raincoasters heading out to catch a wave in California on the *Groundswell* tour.

Kinder Morgan

Putting the Salish Sea at risk

WITH PUBLIC ATTENTION FOCUSED ON Enbridge, Kinder Morgan has incrementally increased the flow of tar sands oil through their existing pipeline with no public discussion. The latest plan to “twin” the Trans Mountain pipeline would effectively triple output from current levels to 890,000 barrels per day. The consequent increase in oil tanker traffic would result in more than 400 tankers departing Port Vancouver every year – a 500% increase from 2010.



Headwaters to deep waters of the Salish Sea and the tanker route (red).

Applying our mandate

As with Enbridge, our strategy with Kinder Morgan is to apply our mandate – investigate, inform, and inspire. This means making a difference within, and beyond, the project’s federal review process. We are preparing to act as formal interveners and will present focused evidence concerning the risk and impacts of oil tankers on salmon, herring, killer whales, and coastal habitats along the tanker route – especially the Gulf Islands, home of several National Park Reserves.

What’s at stake in the Salish Sea?

The Kinder Morgan proposal presents threats similar to the Northern Gateway Project. To understand the risk and impacts in the Salish Sea, we need to describe and tell the world what exactly is at stake. As such, Raincoast is producing a report documenting the importance of conserving the Salish Sea ecosystem unimpaired, both for the wildlife inhabiting it and the people living nearby.



Understanding ocean currents

In an effort to predict the behaviour of oil from a spill in the Salish Sea, and to alert coastal residents on that very real possibility, Raincoast has launched a study to map the potential spread of an oil spill along the Kinder Morgan tanker route. Together with the Georgia Strait Alliance, the Tsleil-Waututh First Nation, and Gulf Islands Secondary students, more than 1,500 drift cards (small squares of plywood) have been dropped from *Achiever* at locations along the tanker



route. Public participation in reporting these cards at www.salishseaspillmap.org helps us produce maps of potential oil spill trajectories.



Species at particular risk

The southern resident killer whales, whose critical habitat lies within the Salish Sea, are highly vulnerable to extinction. Numbering only 81 individuals and listed as endangered under Canada’s Federal Species at Risk Act, this population faces many threats. Food shortages, disease, chronic and acute oil spills, or habitat degradation can have dire consequences. For this population to survive it is imperative that we reduce – *not increase* – the risks from shipping and oil spills in the Salish Sea.

Salmon for Wildlife

Managing salmon as if wildlife matters



Salmon Carnivore Project

BEARS NEED SALMON, but how much? Raincoast scientists, students and coastal communities have teamed up to understand the relationship between bear health and salmon abundance. From humble beginnings in 2009, the project is now part of a larger Central Coast Bear Working Group, a coalition initiated and led by the Heiltsuk, Kitasoo/Xai'xais, Nuxalk, and Wuikinuxv First Nations, and partnered with Raincoast's Applied Conservation Science Lab at the University of Victoria (UVic). Collectively, the coalition studies bears that are detected at our hundreds of non-invasive hair snagging stations over an area of more than 20,000 square kilometers. Guided by the interests and conservation objectives of our First Nations partners, the project produces new information that contributes to knowledge and on-the-ground protection of bears.

Within the Great Bear Rainforest (green) lies over 20,000 km² (blue) where bears are monitored through our Salmon Carnivore project.

Bears on the move: Extending the range of BC's coastal grizzlies

Over the last two years, Raincoast has collaborated with the Kitasoo/Xai'xais First Nations' Spirit Bear Research Foundation to reveal novel observations of grizzly bears on coastal islands. Combining Traditional and Local Ecological Knowledge with genetics, remote cameras, and mortality records, our coupled research team has



now documented a rapid westward expansion of grizzly bears onto previously unoccupied island habitat. Why is this important? Because ecosystem-based management requires that all high-quality grizzly bear habitat be protected from logging.

Monitoring bears in Wuikinuxv Territory

This past year marked a new collaboration between the Wuikinuxv Nation and Raincoast's lab at UVic to monitor grizzlies in their territory. Part of the project, in collaboration with the Nature Conservancy of Canada, includes connecting local bears with local people; remote camera footage, recording the daily activities of bears living near the Wuikinuxv village, captured the attention of youth at the tiny community school. Weekly, the students would assist the research crew in monitoring, downloading, and analyzing the footage.

Salmon declines make for stressed bears

One of the questions driving our research is: How do on-going and



Remote cameras capture unique behaviours typically unseen by classic observation.

dramatic salmon declines affect black and grizzly bears? To help answer this question, we measured the tiny quantities of stress and reproductive hormones found in bear hair. The results – hot off the scientific presses – showed that shortages of salmon lead to nutritional-induced stress, particularly in grizzlies. This novel research reveals the mechanisms through which wildlife are negatively affected by food shortages, and illustrates the importance of maintaining an adequate food supply.

Wild Salmon



SALMON, THE BACKBONE OF CANADA'S west coast, are at a crossroads. Despite knowledge of the actions needed to increase the number of salmon returning to BC's rivers and streams, inertia lingers at provincial and federal levels. Worse, many industrial and extractive projects that further undermine the survival of these remarkable fish are being proposed by these governments.

The status of BC salmon populations

In 2013, Raincoast undertook a novel analysis concerning the status of salmon. Using Canadian (COSEWIC) and global (IUCN) criteria for assessing threatened and endangered species, we evaluated the status of BC's 450 plus unique salmon populations. Our results show that about one-third of these fish meet criteria for listing as threatened or endangered, one-third lack enough information to be assessed, and one-third are not at risk. Importantly, owing to a lack of data, we could not assess the years before 1950; a period we believe that experienced substantial declines in salmon abundance.

Improving fisheries through certification

One of the tools Raincoast uses in our efforts to implement sustainable fisheries is certification. Since 2010, we have been participants in the Marine Stewardship Council's certification processes for BC chum, pink and sockeye salmon, as well as Alaskan salmon. Using conservation-based conditions as a way to drive fisheries change, we have conditionally supported MSC certification for some BC sockeye and pink fisheries when our analysis warrants, while formally objecting to others.

Most recently, this objection included certification for Alaskan Chinook. Despite being labeled as "sustainable wild Alaskan Chinook", most of these salmon are either Canadian or other southern-bound depressed populations or hatchery-origin salmon that serve as the critical food supply for BC's endangered killer whales. Not Alaskan, not sustainable, and likely not wild. Although we are vocal participants in these lengthy processes, the jury is still out on whether certification is an agent for change. Stay tuned.

sustainable tourism
at Canada's Premier Grizzly Bear viewing destination



TRAVELERS'
CHOICE
2013

Photo: Shea Wyatt

Knight Inlet Lodge believes in environmentally responsible, sustainable tourism and is proud to support Raincoast in their efforts to bring an end to the trophy hunting of bears in British Columbia. It is through the efforts of dedicated organizations such as Raincoast that we will one day celebrate an end to this barbaric activity.

As the original grizzly bear viewing lodge in British Columbia, 2014 will mark our 18th season, Knight Inlet Lodge has been in the forefront of this growing tourism sector. It is our belief that Raincoast's ongoing purchases of hunting territories is a key part in the movement to "stop the hunt".

1-250-337-1953 info@grizzlytours.com

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Raincoast's Applied Conservation Science Lab at UVic

A history of applied academic success

Raincoast has a distinguished record of rigorous and applied conservation science. We do much more than publish papers in peer-reviewed journals. We commit to providing information to decision makers in “top down” efforts to influence policy (for example, as formal interveners in the Enbridge Hearings). We also pioneered what we call informed advocacy to create change from the “bottom up”, inspiring the public to demand more from policy makers. Central to our successes are relationships with universities, which provide intellectual, financial, and infrastructure resources. The exceptional graduate students we attract, for example, focus tenaciously on their work and become agents of change.

A unique collaboration

Owing to this legacy, Raincoast has entered into a unique collaboration with the Tula Foundation and the University of Victoria. We made a five-year financial commitment that is matched (and then some) by Tula to cooperatively sustain a new

professorship and lab. Our Applied Conservation Science Lab is in year two and thriving. Significantly, UVic has recognized the value of the position, promising funding in year six and beyond.

Leadership with deep Raincoast roots

Our very own Dr. Chris Darimont, appointed as the Hakai-Raincoast Conservation Scholar and Assistant Professor, leads the team. Chris began his dedication to Raincoast as an undergraduate volunteer. Now an internationally prominent conservation scientist, Chris remains steadfastly committed to working with (and for) the ecosystems and indigenous people of the Great Bear Rainforest. Chris’ mentor, inspiration, and Raincoast Senior Scientist, Dr. Paul Paquet, is an integral part of the new Raincoast lab.

Working with local First Nations partners and our team of students and post docs, we engage the very brightest and passionate minds towards real conservation gains. This is the first-ever university lab dedicated to the work of an environmental NGO in Canada. Your support helps us make history.



ACS Lab’s inaugural scientific paper: an audit of the grizzly trophy hunt

This past year the Central Coast First Nations have re-asserted their tribal law, banning trophy hunting of grizzly bears. Within this context, our paper assessing the “sustainability” of the grizzly hunt across BC was recently released in the scientific journal PLOS ONE.

In short, we audited the claim by the Provincial government that the hunt is managed sustainably. We assessed whether the government was able to maintain kills below limits its

own biologists deemed sustainable. In the decade between 2001-2011, we revealed that kills exceeded these limits at least once in half of all hunted populations. These overkills were particularly common for females, a worrisome result given that this sex is the reproductive powerhouse of populations. This paper generated extensive press coverage across Canada and elicited otherwise rare responses from several levels of government.

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Large Carnivore Conservation



Guide Outfitter Update

HAVING ACQUIRED TWO commercial hunting territories thus far in the Great Bear Rainforest that comprise some 28,000 square kilometers, Raincoast continues to actively investigate opportunities to purchase additional tenures to stop the killing. There is no

ecological, economic, or ethical justification for trophy hunting of coastal grizzly bears and other large carnivores; as such, we will persist in seeking ways to continually reduce and ultimately abolish the recreational killing of these beautiful, sentient animals.

Understanding predator loss: lessons from BC's Gulf Islands

The loss of wolves, cougars, and bears can have far-reaching effects on an ecosystem. Biologist and UVic PhD student Justin Suraci is working with Raincoast to better understand a phenomenon known as "mesopredator release" – when the removal of top predators allows smaller, more invasive middle predators to flourish. In the case of BC's Gulf Islands that mesopredator is the raccoon. By studying islands with and without raccoons, their effects on the ecosystem, including reduced songbird abundance and changes in intertidal communities, can be measured. Justin's work highlights the importance of retaining large carnivores and is identifying opportunities to mitigate the ecological costs of their absence.



Remote camera catches a masked bandit stealing song sparrow eggs.

Wolves, Ethics and Ecology

A message from Raincoast senior scientist Dr. Paul Paquet

Contemporary wildlife conservation aims to ensure that populations and species survive, and that ecological and evolutionary processes continue. However, the management philosophy and policies of most provincial wildlife agencies are narrowly directed towards treating wolves as either a "resource" for killing, or a problem in need of management. Ignoring both evolutionary biology and the intrinsic value of the individual, wildlife agencies have resolutely judged wolves as pests rather than as respected members of the biological community. Management is perversely skewed towards preserving opportunities for recreational and institutional killing, rather than conservation or preservation of ecological integrity.

The idea that wolves can affect the mortality rates and densities of their prey has provided much of the basis for killing wolves – theoretically to increase the populations of species with more perceived "value" to humans. Government agencies cull wolves to reduce real and perceived conflicts between wolves and livestock. Recreational "sport" hunters frivolously kill wolves, motivated primarily by their own pleasure. Commercial trapping is done for profit but the method of capture and killing wolves causes intense suffering.

On moral grounds, killing for pleasure and the willing infliction of pain is highly questionable behavior, considered aberrant and deviant by most people. From an ethical perspective that considers the intrinsic value and welfare of individual animals and populations, the indiscriminate killing of wolves is morally indefensible and should be stopped.



Pacific Herring feed bears and forests

FOR THE PAST FEW YEARS Raincoast scientist Dr. Caroline Fox has been studying how marine fish play essential roles in terrestrial ecosystems. Her research, now being published in scientific journals, shows how herring provide a similar service as salmon, by bringing marine nutrients and food up into nearshore environments. This is the first documentation of the subsidy that Pacific herring provide to terrestrial ecosystems and wildlife, particularly black bears.



Black bears feeding on beaches captured by remote camera.

Marine Operations



Achiever captain Brian Falconer

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RAINCOAST'S TRUSTY RESEARCH VESSEL, *Achiever*, experienced incredibly busy successive seasons in 2012 and 2013, facilitating an extensive and wide-ranging amount of work throughout coastal BC. One of the highlights was *Achiever*'s role in the *Art for an Oil-Free Coast* artists' expedition into the Great Bear Rainforest. *Achiever* also served as the platform for the launch of our Salish Sea oil spill/drift card study.

Other research work that took place on *Achiever* included studies on fin whales by the marine mammal unit of DFO's Pacific Biological Station, and on sea lions by UBC's marine mammal lab. *Achiever* also brought film crews from National Geographic, Global TV, and MTV into the Great Bear Rainforest, and even hosted the renowned professional dance group Coleman Lemieux & Compagnie.

Tracking Raincoast 2014 photographers

Cael Cook: cover (wolverine and salmon), inside front cover (humpback), p.13 (grizzly swimming)
Ross Dixon: p.9. (staff surfers)
Camilla Fox: p.3 (Chris Genovali)
Caroline Fox: p.5 (coastal bird)
Ian Hinkle: p.11 (students and drift cards)

Ron Jenson: p.22 (Andy Wright)
Sherry Kirkvold: p.6 (artist painting), p.7 (painting on *Achiever*)
Jeremy Koreski: p.21 (Brian and *Achiever*)
Klaus Pommerenke: p.19 (wolf pack)
Andy Wright: p.4 (coastline), p.10 (killer whales), p.12 (grizzly and salmon), p.14 (salmon), p.16 (Chris Darimont), p.17 (grizzly cubs), p.18 (grizzly sleeping), p.20 (trees), p.22 (sea lions)



Friends of Raincoast

ANDY WRIGHT

Dr. Andy Wright brings a warm sense of humour, a tireless passion, and unbridled excitement to all his work with Raincoast. As a catalyst at the intersection of BC's environmental and business worlds, he shares our science broadly with governments, NGO's,

and the business community. He puts us to shame in the field with his boundless energy, helping with all drudgeries of field work, from being battered about in our rustic speedboats, to crashing through thick brush trails, to cooking and cleaning, all while getting soaked for days on end. Perhaps the most obvious manifestation of his creativity and vision is his stunning photography, which he generously provides for use in all aspects of our work, including the majority of images in this document. For all he does as a mentor, friend, and valued colleague, we thank Andy dearly.

Profiles of individuals who deserve special recognition for their dedication and generosity in helping protect the lands, waters, and wildlife of coastal British Columbia.



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