Killer Whales

You and I witnessed a devastating tale of the beloved, endangered southern resident killer whales this summer. Tahlequah carried her stillborn calf for more than two weeks. Scarlet, a calf that gave us future hope for the pod also died. If this wasn’t heartbreaking enough, we’ve just learned their source of food — chinook salmon — had incredibly low returns.

Down to 74 whales, your support means we’re able to ramp up our work to prevent the extinction of this cherished species. The federal government recently announced some small steps for the killer whales like limiting chinook fisheries and funding to restore salmon habitat. The federal environment minister has acknowledged this imminent threat.

But, you and I both know words and cautious actions aren’t enough. **Your support has made our latest video possible, which points out the industrial threats to whale habitat and demands the government issue an emergency order under the Species at Risk Act.** We’re intervening in the Deltaport Terminal 2 Project federal environmental assessment that would further increase tanker traffic in their habitat. With your support, we will continue to fight on with Tahlequah and Scarlet in our hearts.

A Donor’s Wish...

– Alan Martin and Vivien Chenard,
Salt Spring Island

Thanks so much for the Walbran tour, we will treasure the memory for many years. There were so many amazing places: the striking transition from the 30-year-old cut block to the old growth, the number and beauty of the ancient trees, the Castle Giant, and the highlight for us, the swim in the Emerald Pool. I think you could both see how moved we were by the majesty of the place. We have made a contribution to the Wilderness Committee, that was really due to your initiative in inviting us.

So, thank you for the tireless, and sometimes thankless, work you do. **If more people could have that experience there would surely be enough pressure on the government to save forests like these.**

Much success to you.
Breaking Records to Save the Bees

This past May supporters like you wrote hundreds of letters calling for a neonic ban. Thank you!

Health Canada announced they would phase out “some uses” of two of the most toxic neonics — clothianidin and thiamethoxam — while still allowing most crops and seeds to be treated with neonics. During the public consultation, hundreds of you fired back demanding a full ban. This showed the government we care more about the health of our environment and pollinators than neonic producers’ bank accounts.

Months later on August 15 news broke that Health Canada is now proposing a full ban on neonics — what we’ve all been working towards. You stepped up to write in supporting the ban and after just one week nearly 800 letters were submitted. That’s a new record!

The deadline for this consultation is November 13. At this rate, Health Canada better be prepared for a swarm of mail heading into their mailboxes. Thanks for standing up for the bees — with numbers like this, they can’t ignore you!

Trans Mountain Court Victory

What a relief! The Federal Court of Appeal quashed the Trans Mountain pipeline and tanker project this August. This overwhelming victory is thanks to you. After eight years of working to protect coast and climate from this expansion of tar sands oil exports, it’s been a long haul!

Thanks for sticking with us since 2010, when we discovered American oil giant Kinder Morgan quietly converting a pipeline that served domestic refineries into a fossil fuel export megaproject. You have written letters, attended rallies and distributed lawn signs and reports — your support has brought us to this point and the finish line is in sight.

But this fight isn’t over. With the federal government’s purchase of this sinking ship, the new pipeline owners are now accountable to Canadians like you and I. Now’s the time to come together and set the country’s economy and climate goals on a course that will last. Thank you for all you’ve done to get us here.

Your commitment to protecting nature and ensuring a wild Canada drives each of our campaigns. Since the Wilderness Committee is funded almost entirely by individual donors like you, your gifts have a huge impact.

Thank you

Please consider honouring your passion for wilderness and wildlife by transferring a gift of securities or by including the Wilderness Committee in your will or estate plans. To learn more contact Michelle Johnson, donor relations manager at 778-708-9179 or michelle@wildernesscommittee.org

Wild Impact is a quarterly update about the Wilderness Committee and our work you make possible. For more information on any of our campaigns please visit WildernessCommittee.org