

Wild Impact

YOU MAKE THIS POSSIBLE

APRIL 2020



Catchacoma old-growth

Because of you, we've grown our work to protect an old-growth eastern hemlock forest from logging in Catchacoma forest — north of Peterborough, Ontario on the traditional territory of the Anishinaabe Mississauga.

Sixty people joined two winter hikes to learn about the natural value of the forest and see the logging first hand. Local ecologists helped us compile a list of documented and potential species at risk in the forest.

Together, we met with the logging company Bancroft Minden Forest Company and government representatives to express our concerns and present our demand for protection status and highlighted these messages in an op-ed for The Peterborough Examiner.

We continue to work with local citizens, municipalities, First Nations, cottagers associations and environmental groups to ensure extensive involvement in the upcoming public consultations around the company's 10-year forestry management plan. **Thanks to your support, we will continue to call for the immediate protection of Catchacoma old-growth.**



Caribou protection

In the 60s southern mountain caribou herds were so plentiful the ground would shake as they migrated through the Peace Valley, numbering in the hundreds of thousands.

Since then, ongoing habitat destruction has driven these herds towards extinction. **Looking to stop this extinction trend, West Moberly and Saluteau First Nations developed a plan to protect them.** Working with Chief Ken Cameron and Chief Roland Wilson to help make this plan a reality, we provided important research on habitat destruction and habitat requirements if caribou herds in B.C. are to survive.

After a year of government conversations, public outreach and writing reports, the plan to protect caribou in the Peace Valley region was signed in its entirety this February! This is the first plan of its kind to go the distance for caribou and includes a new protected area the size of the Greater Toronto Area. **Thanks to hundreds of you who wrote to support this plan — this is a win for all of us!**

Photo credit - John E. Marriott



Together we stopped the Teck Frontier Mine

Last month, we were all shocked and overjoyed when Teck Resources, the company behind Alberta's largest ever proposed tar sands mine, withdrew its application mere days before the federal government was due to make its decision on approving the mine.

Together we've highlighted how the mine would've created more carbon pollution than every vehicle in Toronto and threatened downstream Indigenous communities and Wood Buffalo National Park. In a letter announcing the cancellation, the company said the public debate around oil and gas development, climate change and Indigenous rights made it impossible to move forward.

We also know many Liberal members of parliament and cabinet ministers fought to reject the project. That couldn't have happened without your public pressure, including an action night with dozens of people in our office making calls, writing letters and tweeting.

It's been a long journey from when you first sent our climate campaigner to Fort McMurray to speak against the mine. **And we're so thrilled and relieved that with your help we've finally put a limit on tar sands expansion by stopping the Teck Frontier Mine. Thank you!**



DONOR PROFILE

Guardians of natural heritage

– R. Allan

As a child, I remember family trips to E.C. Manning Provincial Park in the Cascade mountains. **As an adult, I've learned how the Cascade parklands have been gradually protected by successive lobby efforts.**

It began with the 1931 establishment of the Three Brothers Preserve to save the alpine meadows from sheep overgrazing, becoming part of B.C.'s Manning Park in 1941. Thirty years later, the public lobbied to stop Seattle City Light from flooding the Skagit valley (west of Manning Park) and Skagit Valley Provincial Park was established. In the 1980s, the Wilderness Committee campaigned to protect a concentration of mid-1800's trails northwest of Manning Park from logging and the Cascade Recreation Area was designated.

However, lying in the centre of 111,635 hectares of parklands is a 5800-hectare 'hole' now threatened by mining activity from Imperial Metals (of Mt Polley disaster). Thankfully Joe Foy and the Wilderness Committee are leading a campaign to ensure this area is finally protected.

I am a contributor to the Wilderness Committee as they serve as guardians of our natural heritage.

Your commitment to protect nature and ensure 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