

# Wild Impact

YOU MAKE THIS POSSIBLE

OCTOBER 2020



## You quashed it for the turtles

In Ontario, you've been fighting back against the Ford government's relentless attacks on environmental protections, which they've continued to push for under the guise of COVID-19 economic "recovery."

With your help, we were successful in forcing the government to revoke a proposal to remove restrictions for quarries and gravel pits in known endangered species habitat in the Growth Plan for the Greater Golden Horseshoe.

**Over one hundred of you used our action tool to write the environmental registry and voice your opposition to this attempt to curry favour with industry.** Thanks to that pressure, this scheme was dropped in August.

**As a result of your action, our most vulnerable species, such as Blanding's turtles, Jefferson salamander and butternut hickory are still protected from destructive aggregate extraction in Ontario's fastest growing region.** Together, we will continue to hold this government accountable to its environmental policies and ensure protections for wetlands, woodlands and wildlife are election issues in 2022.



## Happy 40th anniversary!

On August 7, 1980, a small group of wilderness advocates came together around a kitchen table to form the Wilderness Committee. **These volunteers knew that to realize their vision of thriving wilderness and wildlife they would need a community of support** — so they reached out to people like you who shared this passion.

Forty years later our success has only been possible because of you. **Fully 97 per cent of revenue comes from people who give what they can.** Some of you have been donating for almost the entirety of that 40 years! This unique funding model has made it possible for us to survive changing political landscapes, public opinion, recessions and now a global pandemic. **We mean it when we say we are people powered and are continually struck by your generosity.**

Thank you for backing us over the last 40 years. We are excited for the opportunity to continue this work with allies and Indigenous peoples across Canada to protect even more wilderness areas, defend species at risk and protected areas, and stand up for a healthy climate.



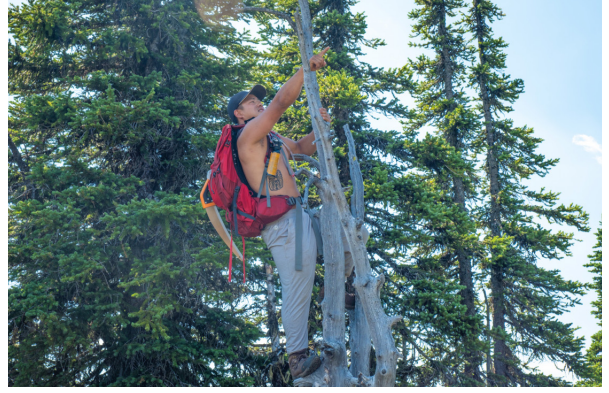
## A step forward for old-growth

In September, the B.C. government released its independent report on old-growth forests as well as some interim steps in response to it. **The report finally acknowledged what you and I have been saying for decades: old-growth logging is unsustainable and a paradigm shift is needed.**

This review itself was a result of years of activism that forced the provincial government to admit old-growth logging is a problem to be addressed.

The government's response to this report so far has been to declare logging deferrals in several key areas, including the Skagit Headwaters and the legendary Clayoquot Sound. **This is definitely encouraging and speaks to the power of the campaign for old-growth forests that supporters like you have been a part of since WC's formation!**

The interim measures don't go nearly far enough but they present an opportunity for us to turn the tide and protect critically important remaining old-growth forests forever. With your help, that's what we'll be working hard to do in the weeks and months ahead.



## VOLUNTEER PROFILE

### People powered trails

– Jack Tsui

Recently I accompanied the Wilderness Committee on a trail building trip to the Silverdaisy Mountain Trail in the "Donut Hole" next to Skagit and Manning provincial parks.

When we first arrived, following the trail was hard. We could barely make out the path and had branches constantly whipping us and getting caught on our packs. We were able to clear a lot of the overgrowth and treefall. **After we finished our work, the difference on the trail was night and day.** My friend hiked the same trail a few weeks later and informed me the trail was in great shape and easy to follow until the summit ridge. He was really appreciative of the effort we put into maintaining the trail.

If I have another opportunity to participate in trail building with the Wilderness Committee I would most definitely join. **The experience was everything I had hoped for and more.** It was also good to know our work did not go unnoticed. **A big thank you to the Wilderness Committee for this amazing opportunity.**

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](mailto: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](http://WildernessCommittee.org)