

Wild Impact

YOU MAKE THIS POSSIBLE

APRIL 2024



Win in the fight to ban glyphosate in B.C.



You stopped the spraying of glyphosate across the forests in B.C. More than 95 per cent of forests on northeast Vancouver Island, the adjacent islands and the coastline were saved from this planned toxic chemical spray.

In 2023, your support made it possible for us to diligently track down glyphosate spray plans. **Working with elders and leaders of the Ma'amtagila and other Kwakwaka'wakw Nations, we raised the alarm about the spraying — planned by the provincial government without proper consultation.** We launched an expedition by boat into some areas targeted for spraying, and documented the forests and wildlife at stake. We shared this information with community members and supported Indigenous leaders in pressuring the provincial government to stop the spraying.

For decades, forests in B.C. have been sprayed with chemicals to suppress deciduous plants industry believes compete with their conifer cash crops. Banning this spray is a simple and long overdue step that can improve the health of these forest ecosystems. **Thanks to hard-working community members and Indigenous leaderships, and your support, we'll get this banned.** We'll continue to work with the Ma'amtagila and other Nations to raise the alarm and stop the spray of glyphosate across the province once and for all.

MB Silica sand mine stopped

It's a rare feat to have the government deny a business proposal, but you made it happen! **A bad plan to mess with drinking water in southeast Manitoba near Vivian was cut short in January when the government said no to mining silica sand out of the aquifer.**

After years of objections from folks like you and organizations like us, Sio Sand's license application was denied. This risky and experimental plan to vacuum sand out of an aquifer was so poor that even under weekend environmental protections your voice — and those of the many people who attended public hearings in opposition — wouldn't let it pass.

Our partner organizations *Line in the Sand* and *Manitoba Eco-Network* worked to maintain pressure to stop this hazardous endeavour. **Your letters to decision makers over the years made sure the government understood we don't want profiteers experimenting with our water.** With a new government in place we will continue our push for an improved Environment Act so citizens and organizations can more effectively help preserve our wild spaces and wild species.





Big win for small but mighty seabird

Back in 2021, concerned community members shared sightings of marbled murrelets flying overhead in the old-growth forests of Ada'itsx (Fairy Creek) on Vancouver Island. We sprung into action, leading to a big win for this threatened seabird.

Your donations were leveraged to hire wildlife expert Bernard Schroeder to investigate potential nesting sites — he found over 300 detections atop the old-growth forest. We sent this evidence to the federal and B.C. governments, demanding they back the call for an immediate pause on logging until a more fulsome nest survey was conducted. When they ignored our pleas and the logging company moved in to log the habitat, people like you took action, demanding a halt to the logging.

The feds released a statement claiming they were only responsible for protecting the nests of at-risk migratory birds under the law. We knew that was wrong. **Represented by our lawyers at Ecojustice and joined by friends at Sierra Club BC, we challenged this statement in court.** And the court agreed.

The judge ruled the federal environment minister failed to ensure the protection of critical habitat of at-risk migratory birds and is required by law to ensure wider habitat protection these birds need to survive and recover. **Now, thanks to your support, the government must redetermine how to ensure the protection of broader at-risk migratory bird habitat beyond their nests.** And we'll monitor them until they do!

Whatever's Wild videocast launch

As engaged donors and activists, you make us a steadfast and scrappy voice for the environment by staying informed, taking action and giving what you can.

Early this year, our Campaign Assistant Cedar George-Parker took this a step further and launched the *Whatever's Wild* video series. Cedar shares stories told by the very people working on the ground to protect critical ecosystems side by side with our allies in communities big and small. His behind the scenes look at our work breaks it down so others understand why the things we work on are so important.

Each episode brings you the latest breaking news and updates in our ongoing work to protect nature, defend wildlife and fight climate change. It features updates, solutions and ways to support and stay involved on the issues that matter most to you. I hope you'll find Cedar's interviews with members of our team across the country useful, fun and easy to understand!

If you haven't caught an episode yet, check it out on our **YouTube channel**. Sit back and hear these compelling and powerful stories about what's going on with forests, wetlands, coastlines, lakes and river valleys.



QUESTIONS?

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.

Contact Dena Ellery Annual Giving Manager:
by ✉ Dena@wildernesscommittee.org

Legal Name: Western Canada Wilderness Committee
Charitable Registration# 11929-3009-RR0001

Thank you

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