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10 » 2008

Wealth of wild salmon needs to be reconsidered

The Daily News

Wednesday, December 10, 2008

During financial instability who is going to feed you? A corporation or a 10,000-year-old system that delivers to your door?

Norwegian corporate fish farmers in B.C. are riding out the global financial storm. They require enormous expenditure to feed their B.C. farms on fish from the South Pacific and they are suffering huge losses to disease in Chile.

They are a luxury item in a world tightening its belt. Salmon farms kill wild salmon through lethal disease amplification.

Wild salmon, however, are an independent wealth. They fertilize the forests we need to pull carbon out of the atmosphere. They transport the vast energy of sunlight hitting open ocean waters to our door on a schedule. They are clean food manufactured without greenhouse gases. They fuel a \$1.6-billion tourism industry in B.C. and swim right into Vancouver by the millions, perhaps the greenest badge of honour possible. And they belong to you.

You might think yourself so civilized that wild salmon are not important to you, but your forefathers would disagree.

When times get tough, we all turn to the supply lines right outside the door.

Wild salmon have survived our rapacious greed, but they are not surviving violation of their foundation natural laws.

Atlantic and Pacific salmon cannot meet, nomadic fish cannot be held stationary in pens, disease runs rampant without predators and young salmon are not surviving swarms of farm lice. Ocean productivity is running high on this coast and wild salmon would thrive if given the chance.

However, with unfathomable lack of vision Gordon Campbell just allowed Norwegian fish farms to expand on one of earths' most valuable wild salmon runs, (Fraser River) and so our salmon will continue feeding farm lice, not us.

Now is not the time to gamble. This not a test. Keep B.C. independently wealthy remove salmon farms from wild salmon migration routes.

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