

## DECLARATION CALLING FOR THE REMOVAL OF OPEN NET CAGE SALMON FARMS FROM THE WILD SALMON NARROWS

Salmon and all marine life are a vital resource to the economy and ecosystem of British Columbia, and any actions which threaten salmon or marine life threaten the well being and the livelihood of the people of British Columbia.

The overwhelming weight of scientific evidence indicates that commercial open net-cage salmon farms can have serious negative environmental impacts, particularly on wild salmon runs.

Recent evidence indicates that open net cage salmon farms in the northern Georgia Strait may be negatively impacting out-migrating juvenile Fraser River Salmon;

We, the members of the Lillooet Naturalist Society request that the Provincial and Federal Governments close the five active open net-cage salmon farms in Okisollo Channel and rescind these tenures, as well as the tenures of the four inactive farms in Hoskyn Channel, collectively known as the Wild Salmon Narrows.

We, the members of the Lillooet Naturalist Society request that the Provincial and Federal Governments deny all applications for new open net cage salmon farms and halt the expansion of the open net cage salmon farming industry.

We, the members of the Lillooet Naturalist Society request emergency action by the Provincial and Federal Governments to close these farms and implement a comprehensive strategy to move the salmon aquaculture industry fully out of the marine ecosystem into closed system technology.

We support this declaration to be forwarded to the provincial Minister of Agriculture and Lands, Minister of Environment, Federal Minister of Fisheries and Oceans and relevant MPs and MLAs.

*Received from LNS member Ruby Berry of the Georgia Strait Alliance for consideration at our AGM  
January 2010*