

Late Resolution

To: BC NATURE (Federation of BC Naturalists) AGM May 2, 2009

From: Lillooet Naturalist Society

WHEREAS the province of British Columbia receives economic benefits from both wild and farmed salmon and depends on the future security, viability, and stability of both sectors;

AND WHEREAS 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;

AND WHEREAS emerging closed containment aquaculture technologies offer the ability to separate commercially farmed fish from the natural environment, limiting negative environmental impacts - especially the transmission of diseases and parasites between farmed and wild salmon:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the board of directors of BC Nature request that the provincial government not allow any further expansion of open net-cage salmon farming in BC waters;

AND FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED THAT BC Nature urge both the provincial and federal governments to allocate funds towards the establishment of a closed system aquaculture innovation and development fund, sufficient to support more than one commercial scale project, *and* that they initiate work on a comprehensive strategy for a full scale transition of the industry to closed system aquaculture;

AND FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED THAT this resolution be forwarded to the BC Minister of Agriculture and Lands; BC Minister of Environment; BC Minister of Technology, Trade and Economic Development; the Premier of BC; the Minister of Fisheries and Oceans Canada, and the Prime Minister of Canada with copies to the FN Leadership Council, the Assembly of First Nations, and the Union of BC Indian Chiefs.