

The Fall season of trophy hunting of grizzlies is soon upon us. Last year the BC govt sold 1800 trophy hunting licenses to mostly Americans. Our province has about 1/4 of the remaining grizzlies. Most people don't support trophy hunting & many have gone online to support a petition to BC govt to end the hunt and many have also written letters asking the govt to stop it. While our premiere does listen to the people on some things but please about the hunt go unheeded. It probably has something to do with contribution from the Guide Outfitters Assoc. of BC & its pro trophy hunting lobby - plus it is a money maker. When you go out and observe them grazing in the alvarado grasses or digging for clams on the beach and take pictures you have this visual memory which doesn't compare with a scene of a boat of tourists loading guns - they are deathly ducks going about their daily survival of foraging for food while the hunter ends its life & butchers him for the trophy. This has to stop before its too late.

2. The new Parks Amendment Act, BC's provincial parks are under threat of industrial development according to critics. Kindee Morgan has a permit to go and conduct research at Bridle Veil Falls, 1 of 5 protected areas that are threatened by the Co's proposed tar sands pipe line but MLA Laurie Shroess says no one is more committed to BC Parks than the govt. He says 84 new parks have been added along with 156 new conservancies, ecological reserves, & 11 new protected areas & says sometimes it makes sense to make a small change to boundaries to facilitate industrial activity, if there is a strong economic rationale & the environmental impact can be minimized. There has been a petition asking the provincial govt to repeal the legislation. The act was passed through without giving the public any opportunity to have their say knowing that they have no market to undermine our parks when they brought in the Parks Amendment Act. They knew the public would be against it. They have paved the way for land to be taken from parks for pipeline, roads, mines and other industrial uses. Our parks are large -

economies generates that benefit small communities:

People from all over the world come to experience what BC has to offer, spending their money in small towns, on gas food etc. Communities, First Nations & individual citizens have worked hard to bring protection to these very special places. Our M.P. should be bringing these concerns ^{to} Premier Clark because ultimately she's the one ~~whose~~ responsible for this legislation & she's the one to rescind it.

3. Cohen Report - The Federal Cohen report into the Fraser River Sockeye fishery cost at least \$37.3 M. It took over 4 years, included testimony from environmental groups, industry, government and First Nations. 179 people gave testimony & more than 500,000 documents were tabled. Cohen made 75 policy recommendations & since then the Federal gov't & environmental groups have argued over whether Ottawa took the judge's advice seriously. Watershed Watch & SOS Marine Conservation Society have sent in a list of questions. The Fishery Minister Shea simply told them, implementing the wild Salmon policy remains a priority. While a departmental official said that Cohen provided them with valuable information for their day to day work of protecting salmon. The disclosure document didn't address the question of their role of conserving wild species while promoting fish farms which he said posed some risk to the Fraser River Sockeye, but ^{my son} conservation is the department's first priority. However the answers were vague. Dave Brown who also submitted a list of questions on behalf of the Sea to Sky Fisheries Roundtable said the gov't's lack of specific answers reveals a desire of the Conservatives to first bury the whole findings of the Commission.

4. Bill 24 amends the Land Commission Act that was passed in May. The ^{by} invitation only meetings with no media allowed and the submissions via website are not public. The Ag Minister Norm Letnick is not saying much either except that a summary of the findings should be made public in Sept. The aim of this exercise is to consider relaxing rules around secondary farmland uses in the Interior, Kootenay &

North regions as well as food processing & retail sales of food & beverages on farmland; also thinking of allowing breweries & distilleries, as wine & cider production are now allowed & relaxing rules to permit more off-farm products to be sold from farms. He says they are trying to come up with the best balance of recommendations to govt that can hold their ^{own} ~~base~~ ^{ground} on the idea and the potential positive & negative consequences. NDP Ag critic Hara Popham says the govt is proposing to bypass the Agricultural Land Commission for several kinds of decisions, including subdivision for family use, or into properties of 160A or more. Farmers also aren't sold on easing the rules for secondary businesses. Non-farm activities have a way of growing until they become a main business. Our food insecurity will increase and farmland will become more polluted. Industrial agriculture also causes a lot of greenhouse gas emissions. Oil development, fracking and anaerobic digesters will further pollute farmland. Stay Tuned