

Weather Centre





6°C

Overcast

[Vancouver](#)

- [Detailed Forecast](#)

- Part of the  [canada.com Network](#)
-
-
- [canada.com home](#)
- [Log in](#)
- [Webmail](#) 

The Vancouver Sun

[Division of Canwest Publishing Inc.](#)

Weather Centre



6°C

Overcast

[Vancouver](#)

- [Detailed Forecast](#)

-

- [Search](#)

- Quick links:

- [ShopLocal](#),
- [Obituaries](#),
- [Horoscope](#),
- [Lotteries](#)

- [Home](#)

- Don't miss:

- [AuctionMart](#)
- [Olympic offer](#)
- [Paralympics](#)
- [Olympic Photos](#)
- [Teens Against Gangs contest](#)
- [Videos](#)
- [Quiz](#)
- [Alerts](#)
- [Community of Interest](#)

» [RSS](#)

- [News](#)

- [Regional](#)
- [The West](#)
- [U-Report](#)
- [National](#)
- [World](#)
- [Weather](#)
- [Traffic Cams](#)
- [Today's Paper](#)
- [Podcasts](#)

- [Opinion](#)

- [Blogs](#)
- [Letters](#)
- [Columnists](#)
- [Editorials](#)
- [Op-Ed](#)
- [Editorial Cartoon](#)
- [Community of Interest](#)

- [Business](#)

- [Money](#)
- [Asia Pacific](#)
- [Technology](#)
- [Real Estate](#)
- [Keeping Track](#)
- [Markets on FP](#)

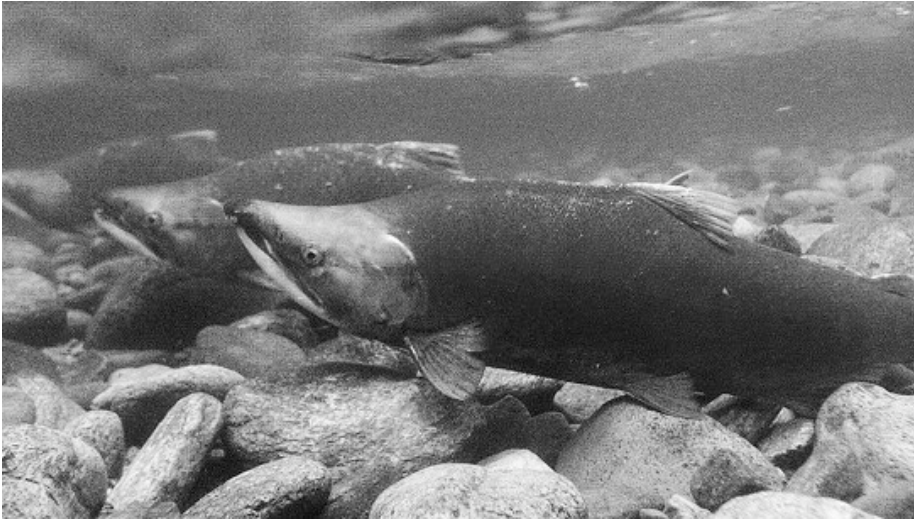
- [Sports](#)
 - [Canucks-Hockey](#)
 - [Lions-Football](#)
 - [2010 Paralympics](#)
 - [Whitecaps-Soccer](#)
 - [Baseball](#)
 - [Basketball](#)
 - [Golf](#)
 - [MMA/Boxing](#)
 - [Tennis](#)
 - [Racing](#)
 - [Sun Run](#)
- [Entertainment](#)
 - [Movies](#)
 - [WestCoast Life](#)
 - [Television](#)
 - [TV Listings](#)
 - [Music](#)
 - [Books](#)
 - [Celebrity](#)
 - [Theatre](#)
 - [What's On](#)
- [Life](#)
 - [Fashion & Beauty](#)
 - [Food](#)
 - [WestCoast Life](#)
 - [Parenting](#)
 - [Relationships](#)
 - [Comics & Games](#)
 - [In the Garden](#)
 - [Eat/Drink](#)
 - [Green Living](#)
 - [Spring Fashion](#)
- [Health](#)
 - [Women](#)
 - [Men](#)
 - [Family & Child](#)
 - [Seniors](#)
 - [Sexual Health](#)
 - [Diet & Fitness](#)
 - [H1N1](#)
- [Technology](#)
 - [Digital Life](#)
 - [Gaming](#)
 - [Tech – Biz](#)
 - [Internet](#)
 - [Environment](#)
 - [Space](#)
 - [Science](#)
 - [Best of YouTube](#)
- [Travel](#)
 - [Trip Ideas](#)
 - [Tools & Tips](#)
 - [Community](#)
 - [Destination Guides](#)

- [Jobs](#)
 - [Search Jobs](#)
 - [Resources](#)
 - [Post Jobs](#)
 - [Education](#)
 - [My Profile](#)
- [Cars](#)
 - [New](#)
 - [Used](#)
 - [Weekly Specials](#)
 - [Sell](#)
 - [Research & Compare](#)
 - [News & Events](#)
 - [Videos](#)
 - [Features](#)
- [Homes](#)
 - [For Sale/Rent](#)
 - [Tips for Buyers & Sellers](#)
 - [Renovating](#)
 - [Decorating](#)
 - [Gardening](#)
 - [Condo Living](#)
 - [Vacation Homes](#)
 - [Green Homes](#)
 - [Mike Holmes](#)
- [Classifieds](#)
 - [Announcements](#)
 - [Dating](#)
 - [Obituaries](#)
 - [Job Listings](#)
 - [Car Listings](#)
 - [Real Estate For Sale/Rent](#)
 - [ShopLocal](#)
 - [Place an Ad](#)

The Taku is an opportunity to conserve wild salmon

By Mark Angelo and Guido Rahr, Special to the SunMarch 31, 2010

- [Story](#)
- [Photos \(1 \)](#)



Spawning sockeye: Their needs are integral to the Taku's economic, ecological and cultural health.

Photograph by: Ian Smith, Vancouver Sun, Special to the Sun

Wild salmon need wild rivers to thrive. That's a simple idea, but it has become a lot more complicated in modern times because so much salmon habitat in so many Pacific coast watersheds has been forsaken for industrial development, hydro power, mining, logging, agriculture, and other activities. From California's Sacramento River north to the Klamath, from the Columbia and Snake River system to British Columbia's mighty Fraser, wild salmon -- once in storied numbers -- are in decline because the watersheds that give them life are less wild.

Less wild usually means less cold, clear flowing water and fewer of the meandering channels and floodplain wetlands essential for fish spawning and rearing. It means more disturbances including dams, pollution and silt; quite the opposite of what salmon need.

Salmon can be impacted in other ways as well; through commercial harvest pressures and conflicts with fish farming. But if critical freshwater habitat is lost, other management issues become irrelevant.

Canadians and Americans love wild salmon. They are an iconic resource virtually defining our shared Pacific domains and heritage, and our governments have invested heavily to prevent salmon runs from disappearing.

Consequently, salmon conservation strategies in both the U.S. and Canada often focus on long-term efforts, at public expense, aimed at rehabilitating streams, removing some of our older dams (or at least helping fish get around them) and reducing pollution and siltation.

However, with financial resources for such undertakings already strained in today's economy, combined with a sober recognition that even the most successful restoration outcomes may return only a small part of the salmon bounty we squandered, saving the best of what's left is also imperative.

For northwest British Columbia and southeast Alaska, the Taku is the best international watershed left for salmon, hosting robust populations of the five Pacific salmon species. A multimillion-dollar commercial and sport fishing industry depends on the Taku, as does a less quantifiable but equally significant First Nations and native American cultural connection of countless generations.

And just as salmon are dependent on the Taku's life-giving waters, so too is the watershed's extraordinary biodiversity -- grizzly bears, bald eagles, sea lions and forest primeval-- dependent on salmon as a food and nutrient source. Research has

demonstrated that the marine-derived nutrients salmon deliver far into the Interior via natal watersheds benefit nearly 200 plant and animal species, ranging from the smallest of invertebrates to the largest old-growth trees.

Encompassing almost 19,000 square kilometres, the Taku watershed remains wild; fully intact, without roads and other development.

It is, in short, a quintessential wild salmon stronghold with an ecological value matched only by its spectacular grandeur. The question, now, is will it stay that way?

As international attention drifts from the Winter Olympics in southern British Columbia, it is focusing farther north in the province. The majority of the Taku watershed lies within B.C., and the provincial government is engaged with the Taku River Tlingit First Nation in developing a land-use plan that will dictate the future of the watershed. The process seeks a tenuous balance between those seeking protection of the Taku's life-giving waterways and pressures to open the region to roads, mining and other development.

Wild salmon advocates from both sides of the border are urging government planners to be visionary and adopt a precautionary approach to Taku land use.

The needs of wild salmon, so integral to the region's ecological, economic and cultural health, must be considered foremost, and safeguarded.

The alternative would be to, once again, witness habitat loss coupled with a declining fishery and the expenditure of millions of dollars toward elusive solutions to bring back a vestige of what we gave away.

With the Taku, we still have a chance to get it right. No expenditures are needed and no work is required to capitalize on one of North America's best salmon conservation opportunities.

All that is needed is the foresight and wisdom to recognize that in keeping the Taku healthy and wild, we are saving wild salmon.

Mark Angelo is chairman of the Pacific Fisheries Resource Conservation Council in Vancouver and of the Rivers Institute at the B.C. Institute of Technology. Guido Rahr is executive director of the Wild Salmon Center in Portland, Ore.

© Copyright (c) The Vancouver Sun

- [E-mail this Article](#)
- [Print this Article](#)
- [Share this Article](#)

Story Tools

- [E-mail this Article](#)
- [Print this Article](#)
- [Share this Article](#)

Font:

- *
- *
- *
- *

Image:

- *
- *
- *
- *

Related Stories from Around the Web

- [Travel Postcard: 48 hours in post-Olympics Vancouver](#)

baseballstatsandnews.com

Wednesday, March 31, 2010

- [Vail hosting homecoming party for Lindsey Vonn](#)

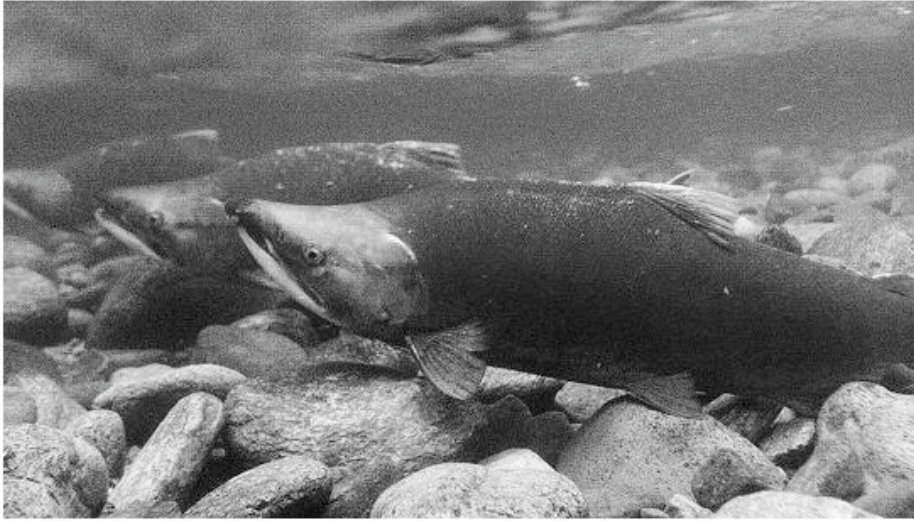
NBC 9 Dallas (KUSA)

Wednesday, March 31, 2010

- [Kitchen, Kitchener, and WOTS all this?](#)

Globe and Mail, Canada

Wednesday, March 31, 2010



Spawning sockeye: Their needs are integral to the Taku's economic, ecological and cultural health.

Photograph by: Ian Smith, Vancouver Sun, Special to the Sun

- [E-mail this Gallery](#)
- [Print this Gallery](#)
- [Share this Gallery](#)

[Photo Galleries »](#)

More Photo Galleries



[Photos: Lindsay Lohan and other...](#)

Mindy McCready, Tom Sizemore and Amy Winehouse have...

- [more »](#)



[Photos: Top photos from around...](#)

View the best photographs from hot spots around the...

- [more »](#)



[Photos: Amazing butterflies from...](#)

A visit with the Natural History Museum in London

- [more »](#)

[More Photo Galleries »](#)

Related Topics

- [British Columbia](#)
- [Vancouver](#)
- [Columbia](#)

Most Popular News

- [Most Read](#)
- [E-mailed](#)
- [Commented](#)

- [Sandra Bullock to Jesse James: Keep the kids](#)
- [Canucks' Shane O'Brien to be kept away from team until Sunday](#)
- [Dancing With The Stars: Kate Gosselin drives yet another man to madness as dance partner quits](#)
- [Sandra Bullock's tattooed interloper Michelle McGee juices up her website](#)
- [Murdered B.C. teen linked to goth subculture](#)
- [New Westminster man arrested for Lighthouse Park homicide: police](#)

[more »](#) [RSS](#)

- [Dancing With The Stars: Kate Gosselin drives yet another man to madness as dance partner quits](#)
- [Mortgage rate parade: Bank of Montreal joins other banks in boosting rates](#)
- [Popular UBC pub loses licence after serving underage patrons](#)
- [Measles outbreak in Metro Vancouver tied to global travel](#)
- [Last ditch effort: UFC gives City of Vancouver a 24-hour deadline for June 12 event](#)
- [World's first laser turns 50 in Vancouver](#)

[more »](#) [RSS](#)

- [Charges laid in Surrey homicide](#)
- [Harper firm on Afghan withdrawal despite U.S. appeal](#)
- [B.C. takes next major step toward HST bill](#)
- [Last ditch effort: UFC gives City of Vancouver a 24-hour deadline for June 12 event](#)
- [Tofino to fast-food chains: Keep out](#)
- [Kate Gosselin dances her way out of our hearts](#)

Sponsored By

Breaking News Alerts

Sign up to receive e-mail alerts on breaking news from The Vancouver Sun.

[Submit](#)

- [Our Privacy Statement](#)

[Latest Updates »](#)

Latest updates



[Deadly new suicide blasts rock Russia](#)

Suicide bombers killed 12 people Wednesday in double strikes targeting police in Russia's turbulent North Caucasus, shaking the country just two days after attacks in Moscow left 39 dead.

- [more »](#)

1 hour ago

[Comments \(0\)](#)

- [Putin says Moscow, Dagestan attacks may be linked](#)
- [Moscow mourns, Russian bombing toll rises to 39](#)
- [Putin orders Russia to hunt down militants](#)
- [Canada, G8 condemn Moscow subway attacks](#)
- [Moscow vows to 'wipe out' masterminds of bombings](#)



[Canada's economy expands 0.6% in January](#)

Canada's economic recovery accelerated at the fastest pace in three years in January, led by the manufacturing, construction and wholesale sectors, Statistics Canada reported Wednesday.

- [more »](#)

17 minutes ago

[Comments \(0\)](#)

- [Liberals vow to freeze corporate taxes, cut deficit to \\$17B in 2 years](#)
- [Dollar falls most in month on European debt fears](#)
- [Economic Action Plan had little impact on economy: Fraser Institute](#)
- [Strong March data may force BoC to break rates pledge](#)
- [Inflation provides 'nasty' surprise for Bank of Canada](#)
- [Quebec unveils austere budget](#)

Local updates

[Accused Lighthouse Park killer in psychiatric hospital months before murder](#)

[Vancouver International Auto Show: Trucks take a back seat as Ford bets on Fiesta](#)

15 minutes ago

[Photos: Top photos from around the globe](#)

58 minutes ago

[Ads by Google](#)

[Salmon Halibut Steelhead](#)

Fresh & Saltwater Fishing Charters

Nootka Island Tahsis Esperanza

www.fishingvancouverisland.ca

[1 Tip for a Flat Belly :](#)

Cut down 3 lbs Belly Fat every week

just by using this 1 Weird Old Tip.

www.TheDietSolutionProgram.com

[Ucluelet Beach Resort](#)

Pacific Beachfront cottages

Kitchenettes, BBQ, hot tubs, internet

www.terracebeachresort.ca

Inside The Vancouver Sun



[Photos:](#)
[Lindsay](#)
[Lohan and](#)



[Photos:](#)
[Top photos](#)
[from](#)



[Photos:](#)
[Amazing](#)
[butterflies](#)



[Sandra](#)
[Bullock's](#)
[husband](#)



[Cat catches](#)
[fire during](#)
[Earth](#)



- [Home](#)
- [News](#)
- [Opinion](#)

- [Business](#)
- [Sports](#)
- [Entertainment](#)
- [Life](#)
- [Health](#)
- [Technology](#)
- [Travel](#)
- [Jobs](#)
- [Cars](#)
- [Homes](#)
- [Classifieds](#)

• **Don't Miss**

- [AuctionMart](#)
- [Olympic offer](#)
- [Paralympics](#)
- [Olympic Photos](#)
- [Teens Against Gangs contest](#)
- [Videos](#)
- [Quiz](#)
- [Alerts](#)
- [Community of Interest](#)

» [RSS](#)

• **Most Popular**

- [Sandra Bullock to Jesse James: Keep the kids](#)
- [Canucks' Shane O'Brien to be kept away from team until Sunday](#)
- [Dancing With The Stars: Kate Gosselin drives yet another man to madness as dance partner quits](#)

» [RSS](#)

• **Formats**

- [Sitemap / RSS](#)
- [Contests](#)
- [Blogs](#)
- [Columnists](#)
- [Photo Galleries](#)
- [Videos](#)
- [Mobile](#)

• **Vancouver Sun**

- [About Us](#)
- [Contact Us](#)
- [Work for Us](#)
- [Advertise with Us](#)
- [Subscribe to the Print Edition](#)
- [Rate Our Delivery Service and WIN](#)

- [Newspaper in Education](#)

- **Tools**

-

[Search](#)

- [Search for a Job](#)
- [Buy/Sell a Car](#)
- [Real Estate Listings](#)
- [Place a Classified Ad](#)
- [E-mail Alerts](#)

- [canada.com Logo](#)
- [About canada.com](#)
- [Privacy Statement](#)
- [Terms](#)
- [Copyright & Permissions](#)
- [© 2008 - 2010 Canwest Publishing Inc.](#) All rights reserved.

Unauthorized distribution, transmission or republication strictly prohibited.