



FRASER RIVERKEEPER®

"Salmon Forever"

Turning of the Tide

Issue 6
March 2010

Join the Launch of our New Reading Series on World Water Day at H₂O Plus

The first of our Reading Series events will launch the evening of March 22, World Water Day, featuring author Jordan Scott. When and where: March 22, from 6:00 - 8:00 p.m., at H₂O Plus, 939 Robson in Vancouver.

FRK's new Reading Series will connect environmental authors with friends and organization members. The premier author will be Jordan Scott. In his book *Silt*, Jordan explores the poetics of water by submerging his language into the histories and geologies of the Fraser River. Once on the river, Jordan's language mimics each tributary, rapid, and undertow, as he attempts to re-write a family history drenched with migration and hardship. *Silt* imagines each movement of water as each movement of mouth, constantly working its way towards release. *Silt* was nominated for a 2006 BC Book Prize. Copies will be available for purchase, and Jordan is donating all proceeds of book sales to Fraser Riverkeeper.

The international observance of World Water Day is an initiative that grew out of the 1992 United Nations Conference on Environment and Development in Rio de Janeiro. The United Nations General Assembly designated March 22 of each year as the World Day for Water.

At this event, H₂O Plus will include an exclusive in-store shopping event. A percentage of profits from the events will support Fraser Riverkeeper's efforts to protect, conserve, and improve the water quality and fish habitat of the Fraser River and its watershed.

H₂O Plus donates 100 percent of the proceeds from their limited-edition Sea Pure t-shirts to Fraser Riverkeeper. The organic cotton t-shirts feature the Sea Pure natural product seal, which states that the formulas are 100 percent vegan and biodegradable, free of synthetic fragrances, parabens, petrochemicals, phthalates, and sulfates. H₂O product development is cruelty-free and against animal testing.

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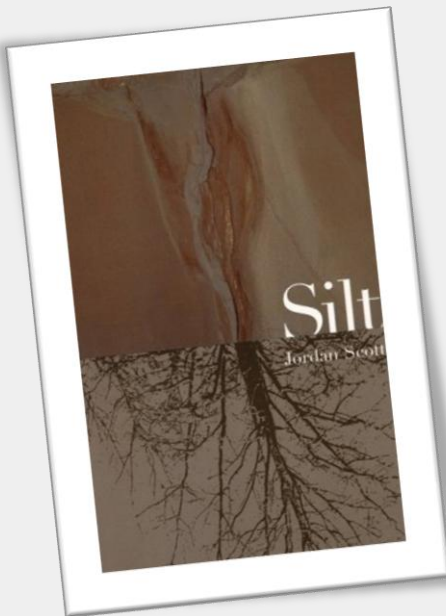
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Support Clean Water
15% of sales on March 22 will benefit Fraser Riverkeeper
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World Water Day
2010
Clean Water for a Healthy World

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Wild Salmon Circle Rally at Games

During the Olympic Games, on February 20 and 23, Wild Salmon Circle hosted two rallies for wild salmon, part of a series of rallies that began in 2009, in response to last summer's collapse of sockeye salmon on the Fraser River. The most recent initiatives sought to reach out to Norway during the Games, and let them know how dangerous and impractical open-net-cage fish farms are in salmon migration routes. Norwegian companies own more than 90% of BC's fish farms, and this ownership is represented by just a few corporations, not by the general public of Norway, who are just as compassionate about the natural environment as we are.



Otto Langer speaking at Salmon Rally on Feb. 20

Speakers at these rallies have included Alexandra Morton, renowned marine scientist; Otto Langer, former fisheries scientist and manager at the DFO; First Nations Chief Bob Chamberlain; Don Staniford from the Pure Salmon Campaign; Rick Glumac of the Wild Salmon Circle; and Shannon Ellis, a Grizzly Tour Operator. These rallies have been big successes and have encouraged crowds to care about wild salmon, with factual information about why

“We have a long tradition of salmon in our culture, and to be unable to pass this tradition to our children is unthinkable. - Chief Bob Chamberlain

salmon farming is devastating to wild stocks.

As Otto Langer pointed out, the data on sea lice and dangers of open-net-cage farming are documented in peer-reviewed journals. BC has known about these dangers for years, but Norwegian corporations are still allowed to operate fish farms here. He also noted that the farmed salmon is sold primarily to the upper-middle-class, and not even to Canadians, but mostly to those living on the West Coast in the United States. The high feed conversion of raising farmed salmon contradicts salmon farming's claims of these farms being needed for world food supplies.



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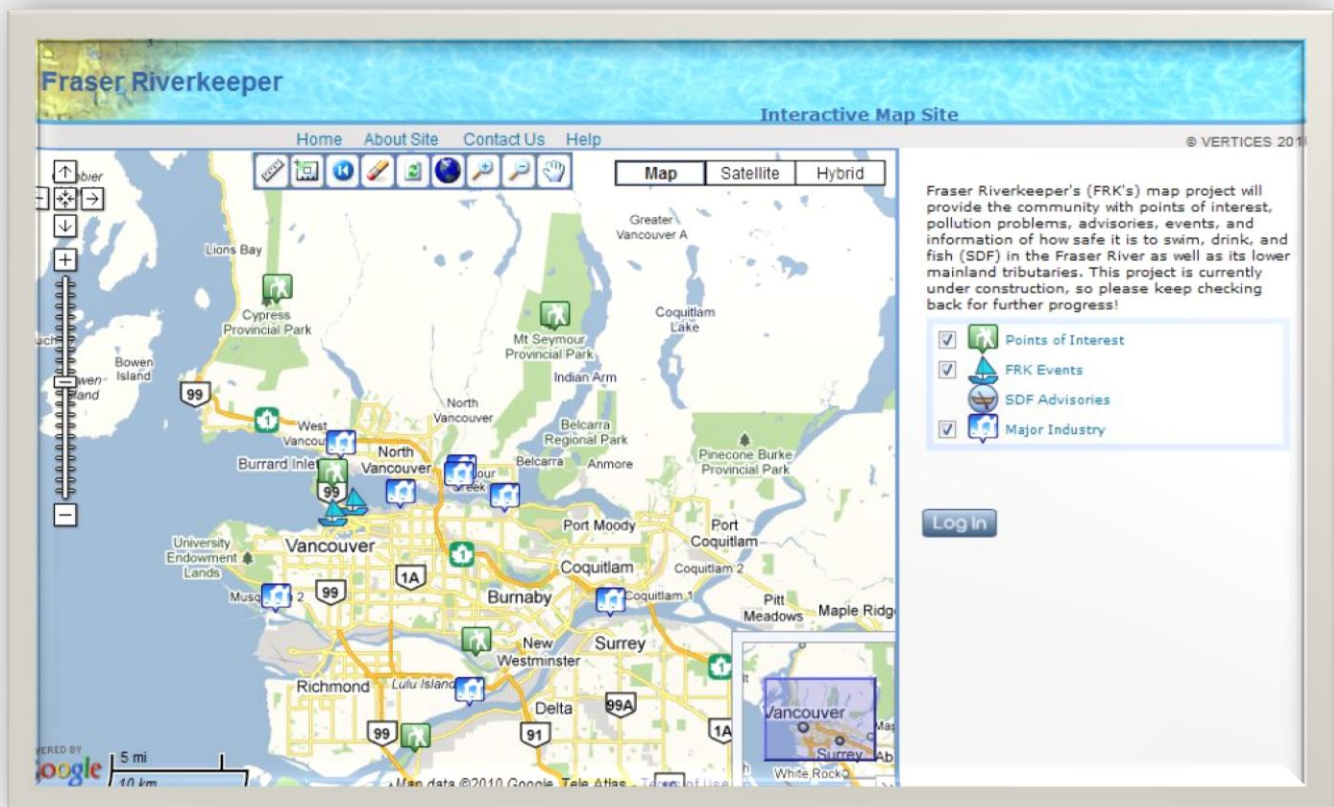
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Fraser Riverkeeper and the Cohen Commission Into Decline of Sockeye Salmon

Fraser Riverkeeper has sought to formally participate in the judicial inquiry into the decline of sockeye salmon in the Fraser River. We have joined a coalition of groups focused entirely on the conservation of wild salmon and, with the help of lawyers from Ecojustice, have applied for standing at the Commission. Please check our website and future newsletters regarding updated news about the judicial inquiry.

New SWIM DRINK FISH Interactive Map

We want to thank [IM Rivers](#) for their generous donation of a one-year license to Fraser Riverkeeper in 2010. IM Rivers provides an interactive mapping interface for river network organizations wishing to provide their communities with updated information on the state of their waters.



Though our SWIM DRINK FISH Map project is new and will be a work in progress, we would like to inform the Fraser River community of our implementation of the map project, which will pinpoint major areas of static nature and points of interest. Such points of interest include, for example, exact location of sewage treatment plants, major industrial discharge points (oil refineries, chemical industries, waste departments), combined sewer outfalls, location of quarries, hydrocarbon pollution, and other large scale agricultural sites. Users will



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also be able to access locations of popular fishing areas, recreational areas along the Fraser and its watershed, and historical data and trends of pollution. The map points will include historical sites, provincial parks, boating/rafting places, known swimming sites, and so on.

This map is now online and will continue to grow, so please [visit us](#) often! You can use the map tools to zoom in and out and enable or disable filters (such as viewing only industry or only points of interest).

New SWIM DRINK FISH Guide

Adjacent to and incorporated with our IM Rivers Map project is a new Swim Drink Fish Guide, which will provide the Fraser River community with a portal for retrieving information on the water quality of the Fraser and how safe it is to swim, drink, and fish along the river and its tributaries. The most frequent questions from visitors at our community events are:

- Where's a good place to fish along the Fraser River?
- Where is it safe to swim?
- How safe is the drinking water?

The World Economic Forum has described water quality as "the gossamer that links together the web of food, energy, climate, economic growth, and human security changes that the world economy faces over the next two decades."

Our guide will not only answer these questions but provide a gateway to the universally vast resources online about the swimmability, drinkability, and fishability of our waters, with added information about beach closures, heavy rainfall runoff and combined sewage overflow data, public reports on the state of our water quality, unsafe chemicals used in water treatment plants, government policies and acts, environmental organizations dealing with the Fraser River watershed, sustainable fishing guides, lists of salmon farms, governmental agencies in charge of healthy water systems, climate change effects, and much more. This doorway to information is important in helping Fraser River friends and lovers stay up-to-date on water quality and water security issues.

According to the November 2009 report "Canadian Approaches to Assessing Water Security: An Inventory of Indicators" UBC Policy Report, currently there is not a central location or repository for water indicators and data. Fraser Riverkeeper would like to help promote the security of Canadian water quality by providing a go-to source for the Fraser River community when trying to understand how safe it is to interact with the "Mighty" Fraser River.



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New Pollution Hotline and Poster


We are expanding our Pollution Hotline program.

Our new toll-free number is **1-888-5-KEEPER (553-3737)**.

If you would like to help us expand our hotline outreach, you may download a distributable pollution poster from our website at <http://www.fraserriverkeeper.ca/pollution-hotline/>.


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POLLUTION WATCH
HAVE YOU SEEN THIS?



TO REPORT POLLUTION CONCERNS, CALL:
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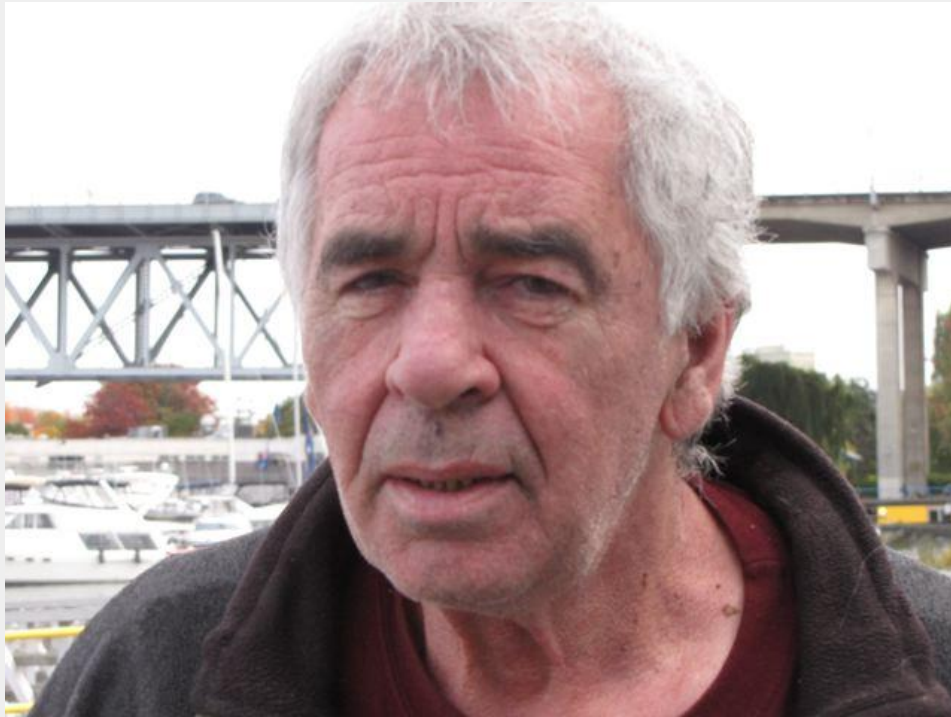
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In Loving Memory of Jimmy Christoff, by Michael Chapman



Jimmy was there when I was born and has been a true friend, mentor, uncle, and revolutionary thinker for the 46 years I have had the pleasure of knowing him. Wet willies aside! His ground-breaking work, *Remembering the Future*, opened my eyes to the state of the environment many years ago, before it was commonplace.

Jim exposed toxic foods, industrial pollution, war, the police state, and many other hot button topics, in his book, some 30 years ago!

We may have lost a front line advocate, but fortunately, he has helped to nurture a deep care and concern for the environment, in many of us. We shall continue his fight with the same grace and compassion he has carried for so many years.

Jimmy loved to go water sampling with my dad Doug Chapman, and they sampled at least 6 sites together. They were life-long friends. In honor of this very special man, Fraser Riverkeeper will create a lasting legacy, so others who were not so fortunate to meet him can still benefit from his teachings.

Jimmy, I miss you and take strength knowing your legacy is carried by many of us.



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Citizen-based Fraser Riverkeeper is a registered non-profit Canadian charitable organization (BN 862234374 RR0001) dedicated to the protection, conservation and improvement of the water quality and fish habitat of the “Mighty” Fraser River and its tributaries. Full-time Riverkeeper, Doug Chapman, patrols our waters by boat, responding to community pollution concerns and defending local waterways.

Fraser Riverkeeper Contact

#303-207 West Hastings
Vancouver, BC V6B 1H7
Phone: 778-737-4422
E-mail: <mailto:info@fraserriverkeeper.ca>
Website: <http://www.fraserriverkeeper.ca>

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Fraser Riverkeeper is a member of Waterkeeper Alliance, an international grassroots advocacy organization founded by Robert F. Kennedy Jr. Fraser Riverkeeper, the first Waterkeeper program to be established in British Columbia, is one of nine Waterkeeper programs located across Canada, and one of almost 190 worldwide.

