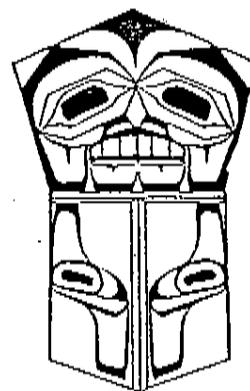


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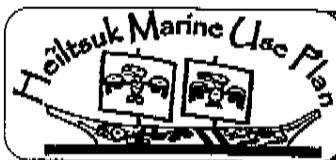
To: LISA FANG From: ROSS WILSON  
 Fax: 604 ~~337 1533~~ Pages: 4  
 Phone: 677 5410 Date: Oct 28/10  
 Re: \_\_\_\_\_ CC: \_\_\_\_\_

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*Ross*

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## HEILTSUK COMMUNITY NEEDS STUDY HEILTSUK MARINE USE PLANNING



Access to marine resources for our food, social and ceremonial purposes has been a challenge for many of us. Poor management, over exploitation, and increasing competition from commercial and recreational fishermen has left us last in line when it comes to accessing marine resources. The constitution states that after conservation our needs are to be met before any other uses of the resource. Through marine spatial planning and the establishment of food fishing areas, the Heiltsuk hope to address these food security issues and ensure we have priority access to marine resources.

To strengthen our argument for the establishment of food fishing areas we have conducted a significant amount of research. We have completed Traditional Use and Traditional Ecological Knowledge studies which tells us where the key food fishing areas are located. The Heiltsuk Community Needs study was developed to help us determine how large these areas should be to meet our needs for **Sustenance** and **Feasting**, now and into the future.<sup>1</sup>

### Sustenance Requirement

*Heads of the households were asked how often certain foods are currently served and how often they would like to serve certain food items assuming they had unlimited access to all marine resources.*

*By combining the proportion of times different foods would like to be served, with nutritional information, portion size, and average human metabolic rate we were able to determine the total biomass of food that will be required by the community for sustenance purposes.*

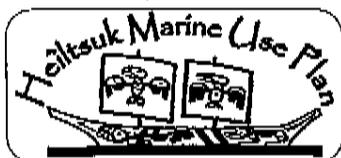
Through marine use planning we have strategies designed to rebuild resources and increase our access to resources. **Therefore when we conducted this study we asked people to assume that resources were healthy and abundant and readily accessible.**



### Feasting Requirement

*Cooks, who organize feasts, were invited to a workshop where we determined the average number and types of feasts that occur in a year and the average attendance and menu for the different feast types. Then we planned for a large feast in order to determine the per person requirement for the different marine resources. With this information we were able to calculate the average quantity of marine resources that were required per year for feasting.*

<sup>1</sup> This study was not intended to determine what is required to maintain local economies.



WHAT WERE THE RESULTS?

- ◆ 96% of the people interviewed had harvested seafoods in the last year.
- ◆ 68% of the people interviewed said they currently consume seafood 1-2 times a week with 24% reporting they consume traditional foods 4-5 times a week.
- ◆ During potlatches, community gatherings, luncheons we currently serve approximately 45,000 people per year.



Why are we not getting the marine resources we need?

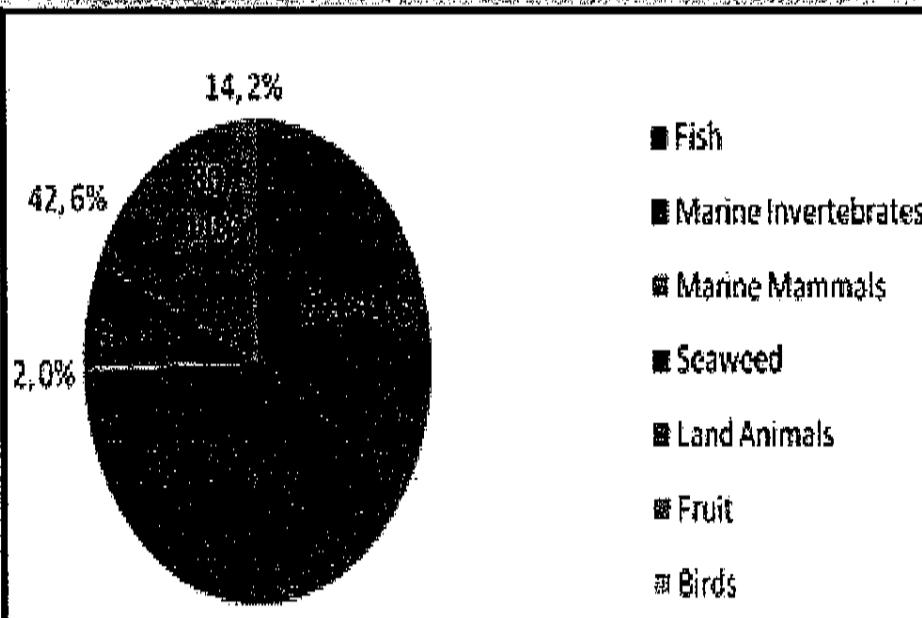
Everyone interviewed stated that they were dissatisfied with the amount of traditional foods consumed and they cited several major barriers to obtaining sufficient resources for food and feasting purposes:

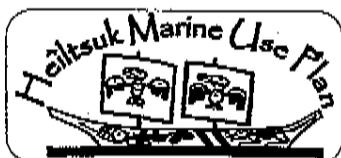
- Overfishing of resources
- Poor management of resources
- Too much competition with other users
- Lack of vessels to go out and fish
- High cost of fuel
- Habitat destruction reducing fish stocks



How much does each Heiltsuk person require for sustenance?

In order to meet basic sustenance requirements, each Heiltsuk person will require a total of 741 pounds of resources with the majority, 253 and 298 pounds, coming from fish and shellfish, respectively.





In order for us to meet our desired sustenance and feasting requirements we will need significantly more resources than we are currently harvesting. This demand will grow with our population. (Table 1). For example, study results indicate that we currently need 98,819 pounds of sockeye to meet our basic food and feasting requirements. This amount is expected to increase to 294,000 pounds annually in the next 50 years!

Table 1: Round weight biomass requirements (in pounds) for the major food items consumed by Heiltsuk

Food Items	Amount Required Now (pop. 2180)	Amount Required 2034 (pop. 3900)	Amount Required 2059 (pop 6560)
<b>Fish</b>			
Sockeye	98,819	175,063	294,056
Chinook	31,948	56,593	95,060
Chum	21,216	37,675	63,305
Pink	8,155	14,589	24,539
Coho	32,856	58,245	97,844
Black Cod	25,279	45,244	76,069
King Cod	26,764	47,360	79,539
Red Cod	29,867	53,324	89,695
Haiibut	103,738	181,118	303,590
herring Eggs	83,856	149,252	250,867
Eulachon	37,001	65,514	110,036
Eulachon Grease	64,412	115,188	193,646
<b>Shellfish</b>			
Clams	87,434	154,186	258,723
Cockles	68,569	124,654	204,387
Abalone	196,784	208,925	351,423
Dungeness Crab	170,607	302,542	508,258
Sea Cucumbers	13,010	23,275	39,151
Sea Urchins all Sp	8,978	16,063	12,959
Prawns	85,848	153,110	257,428
<b>Others</b>			
Sea Weed	125,222	222,813	374,553
Marine Mammals	4,929	8,817	14,831
Marine Birds	26,644	47,667	80,177
Land Animals (deer goat moose, etc.)	95,092	169,705	285,320
Berries	151,288	270,403	454,774