

BOARDWALK NEWS

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Telegraph Cove's Annual Salmon Enhancement Weekend

Derby Winners:

Ron Fickers - 50 lb Spring
Dave Malloy - 26 lb Halibut
Chad Quinet - 24 lb Spring

The weekend Boardwalk Craft Fair and Salmon Derby was a huge success again this year, breaking three very important records. We had more entries in the derby than any other year and registered 202 participants. We saw the largest spring salmon yet to be recorded at our derby that weighed in at 50 pounds. Finally, we raised the largest amount of money yet for Salmon Enhancement, presenting a cheque for \$7637.56 to Ray Bentley. Ray represents the Kokish River Project, a hard working team of volunteers that devote their time and energy toward improving habitat for our wild salmon stocks on the North Island.

The day was picture perfect and everyone had fun. Following the excellent day of fishing a huge potluck supper and salmon barbecue was enjoyed in the evening at our campground where the derby prizes were awarded. Adele Balmy, from California, did a fantastic job of getting donations from local businesses for the derby.

Why Do Whales Like to Vacation in North Island Waters?

During the summer months, it is not unusual that you will spot large pods of killer whales and the accompanying groups of dolphin and porpoises on the waterways of the North Island. This year has been a very special one for whale watching enthusiasts; very uncommon species of whale are visiting our waters. The body of a small, beached whale was found on Hanson Island in early August, just one month after a fin whale - the second largest mammal on Earth - was spotted in Port McNeill's harbour.

This small animal looked very much like a pygmy sperm whale from its general appearance and its size. Jeremy Webb found the animal carcass in a small bay on Hanson Island. Webb contacted Jim Borrowman at Stubbs Island Charters in nearby Telegraph Cove. Borrowman thought at first that it might be a fetus or a stillborn of a sperm whale, but after further study, they narrowed it down to the pygmy or dwarf sperm whale.

Why did this pygmy whale come here? "Offshore water temperatures are very high this summer, drawing warmer water species like the tropical sunfish and the blue shark (to this area)," explains John Ford, whale scientist at the Pacific Biological Station in Nanaimo. "That could be what brought the animal to our waters."

Borrowman put together a recovery team headed by Straitwatch worker Nic Dedeluk to pull the carcass off the beach and tow it about two kilometres to the Whale Interpretive Centre in Telegraph Cove. At the Centre, more volunteers and whale centre staff worked to perform a



necropsy on the whale. After the study was completed, the skeleton was submersed in the ocean to allow microorganisms to clean the bones. Eventually the whale will be displayed at the whale centre.



Test Yourself

How is Your Knowledge of the North Island?

1. Why was there a boardwalk built at Telegraph Cove instead of a road?
2. Telegraph Cove holds the record for the largest sports caught Chinook salmon ever recorded on Vancouver Island. How much did it weigh?
3. Gikumi and Lukwa are the names of the whale watching boats. These are Kwakwakawakw names. What do they mean?
4. What is unique about the logging railroad you cross on the way to Telegraph Cove?
5. Are the brown eagles we see flying around Telegraph Cove Golden eagles?
6. How long is Vancouver Island?
7. Are there grizzly bears on Vancouver Island?

Another Fish Story...

One day while driving home from his fishing trip in the pouring rain, a man got a flat tire outside a monastery

A monk came out and invited him inside to have dinner and spend the night. The motorist accepted. That night he had a wonderful dinner of fish and chips.

He decided to compliment the chef. Entering the kitchen, he asked the cook, "Are you the fish friar?"

"No," the man replied, "I'm the chip monk."

To see whales LIVE online go to:
www.orca-live.net

Have You Enjoyed Your Visit with Us?

Send us your remarks
(250) 928-3131

Box 1, Telegraph Cove, BC V0N 3J0

Take a moment to drop by our Resort office, at the beginning of the Boardwalk, to comment on your visit to Telegraph Cove. Our friendly staff would be happy to answer any more questions you may have about our area.

If you would like to extend your visit, you should ask about renting one of our guest cabins on the Boardwalk. There is a variety to choose from, suiting the needs of large and small groups. The wooded campgrounds are also very amicable and affordable. Now is a good time to plan for next year's vacation. Call the office for more details on how to book your stay.



Everyone Enjoyed the Craft Fair & Derby at the Cove!

Two guys are talking about fishing. One says to the other, "I am NEVER going to take my wife fishing with me, ever again!"

"That bad, huh"

"She did everything wrong! She did everything wrong! She talked too much, made the boat rock constantly, tried to stand up in the boat, baited the hook wrong, used the wrong lures and WORST of all she caught more fish than me!"



Salmon Weekend Potluck and Boardwalk Happenings

Here are the answers to all those hard questions:

1. The rough terrain and the lack of equipment made it easier to put in pilings and build the roadway on top with timber.
2. 75 pounds!
3. Gikumi – means chief. Lukwa – means running water or place in the forest
4. It is the last one operating in North America.
5. No, they are immature bald eagles.
6. 285 miles or 475 kilometres.
7. No, the grizzly bear is not a resident of Vancouver Island, although just this summer one was sighted and killed in the community of Port Hardy. That sighting was very rare.



A Real Delight for Shoppers on the Boardwalk