

Shipbreaking in Baynes Sound

ADIMS opposes the Union Bay ship-breaking operation and strongly supports Concerned Citizens of Baynes Sound's fight against this industry which threatens to pollute our marine ecosystem. We did two presentations at their rallies on the key ecological role of Baynes Sound, where we shared information with Islanders, and joined demonstrations. We wrote both senior governments asking them to fix this situation, as it endangers migratory birds, spawning herring, local salmon streams, and human health. This foreign-owned ship-breaking operation is responsible for four environmental violations and two environmental spills. They have received two cease and desist orders. In 2022, the BC Minister of the Environment issued three warnings and one advisory for discharging hazardous waste into the marine environment. The CVRD applied for a permanent injunction to the BC Supreme Court to permanently stop ship-breaking on these lands.



Ship-breaking site in Union Bay

World Oceans Day

Over 40 Denman Islanders joined us at the ADIMS World Oceans Day event this year. Thank you! It was great to get together. We had speakers give presentations about the local sea duck populations that overwinter here and the shellfish industry's impact on the intertidal zone's ecology. In discussion groups, people shared their views about the most important threats to creatures living in our marine ecosystem, such as anti-predator netting, and possible next steps ADIMS could take to tackle these threats. We will revisit your insightful discussions and careful suggestions when making plans for the coming year.

ADIMS 2022/23 AGM Annual General Meeting Nov 28th 2023 at 4pm

Location TBD – so keep an eye out!

We will announce the location via email, the website, and facebook.

Current ADIMS Board of Directors:

Chair: Dorrie Woodward

Directors: Liz Johnston, Linda Sheehan, Theresa Clinton, Melanie Hewson and C Rea

www.adims.ca

adimsinfo@gmail.com

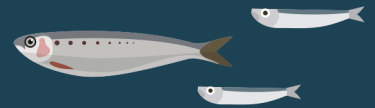
<https://www.facebook.com/AssociationforDenmanIslandMarineStewards/>

Community Complaints

ADIMS continues to support residents in the complex process of submitting and following up complaints to various government organizations when issues arise that impact the marine environment surrounding Denman. This year we forged relationships with DFO, Transport Canada, and the media to bring attention to and push for results on derelict vessel debris, killed seals, industry expansion, rebar-related injuries, and netting. Efforts are ongoing to protect our marine environment. Many thanks to the community who report and assist in this important area.



Ship-breaking demonstration



Baynes Sound / Lambert Channel Ecosystem Forum

ADIMS has played a key role in the Baynes Sound / Lambert Channel Ecosystem Forum since 2018 when we became a founding member. Since then, the biannual forum has gathered community members, industry, First Nations, academics, politicians and decision makers from all levels of government. The goal has been to find common ground in improving the well-being of the marine ecosystem. The forum's Steering Committee includes the BC Shellfish Growers Association, DFO, the K'ómoks and Qualicum First Nations, the Tla'amin Nation, Islands Trust, Vancouver Island University, ADIMS and Project Watershed. ADIMS Chair, Dorrie Woodward, opened the May 2023 event with a presentation that is a resource for those who want to understand the area. It can be found at:

<https://bayneslambertecoforum.ca/dorrie-woodward-a-guide-to-baynes-sound/>

Recent Forums have focused on the impact of human waste on the marine ecosystem. The importance of collecting and organizing data and knowledge will be the theme for our upcoming Forum in November 2023.



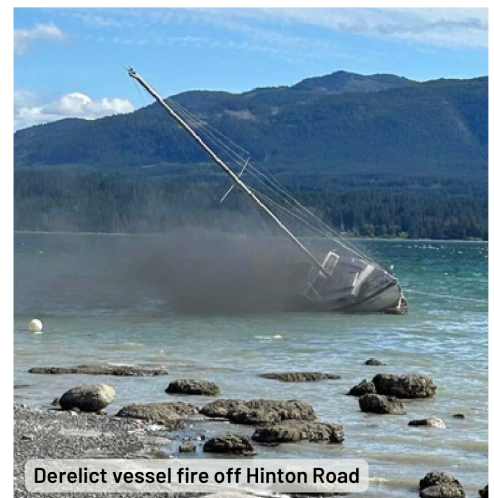
ADIMS meeting with DFO

Let the Herring Live

We changed our focus this year from working at the federal level to a more local, grassroots approach. Conservancy Hornby Island (CHI) has again been wonderful to partner with on our herring campaign. We worked closely with CHI's Interim Board Chair and new Executive Director this year. We attended CHI's Herring Fest in the Spring, where they presented a most informative lineup of guest speakers. We strengthened relationships with our First Nations neighbours, and had several productive meetings on how to collaborate on preserving our herring stocks. We also had great meetings with scientists from Oceana and David Suzuki Foundation, retired DFO herring experts, Dr. John Neilson and Dr. Doug Hay, and First Nations consultant Ron Frank, to share herring knowledge and strategize. Thank you! Unfortunately, this year's herring spawn was down again, so we must keep up our advocacy work. We are so grateful to have Denman Island's ongoing support for this crucial species.

Dungeness Crab Monitoring

This year, in association with Hakai Institute Biologist, Heather Earle, we took part in the Sentinels of Change: Dungeness Crab Monitoring Program. The Hakai Institute is using measurements of species abundance as a tool for assessing general marine health. This program was championed by local ADIMS volunteer, Olena Starchuk and her family. They set up and monitored light traps at the community dock several times each week, with help from additional volunteers. The collected data showed a healthy increase in magalopae (dungeness crab larvae). Great job, Olena! More volunteers will be needed for next year; contact us to learn more.



Derelict vessel fire off Hinton Road



BS/LC Ecosystem Forum

Sewer Extension

A new sewer line is underway to handle waste water from Union Bay and Royston to the Cape Lazo sewage treatment plant. ADIMS is representing the environment on the CVRD Public Advisory Committee for this important infrastructure project that will keep sewage out of Baynes Sound. We attend regular meetings that define what the sewer line will look like, and our participation helps ensure that the marine environment will be protected as the project design and construction continue. The project includes proposed new bylaws on Area A septic systems. Information is available at:

<https://engagecomoxvalley.ca/sewerextension>



Association for Denman Island Marine Stewards

Fall 2023 Newsletter

Annual Beach Cleanup

Our 20th annual shoreline cleanup will be Oct 28th to Nov 4th this year. We are partnering again with the BC Shellfish Growers Association (BCSGA) and the Comox Valley Regional District (CVRD). A CVRD container will be at the Old School field for collected debris, which will go to the Pigeon Lake Landfill's 'Marine Debris Sorting Area.' ADIMS volunteers will focus on Denman shorelines, while BCSGA (assisted by BC Clean Coast Clean Waters funding) will contract vessels and teams for Baynes Sound. Last fall, ADIMS collected 5 tonnes of debris despite BCSGA's full shoreline summer cleanup. DFO's newly implemented 'Conditions of Licence' for growers provides stronger fines for non-compliance. We are pleased that industry is taking greater responsibility, but more is still needed. Call Beach Cleanup Coordinator Liz Johnston for more info.



Derelict Vessels Cleanup

We dealt with two derelict boats this year. The first washed ashore on East Denman in November, scattering debris all winter. Reports to the Coast Guard were futile. The second drifted aground in July, and burst into flames shortly thereafter. It created toxic smoke, a fire hazard, and it scattered debris along the shoreline. The Fire Dept and the Coast Guard attended. The government ignored ADIMS' official report. DI resident Gail Dugas' efforts resulted in a series of articles on derelict vessels in the Comox Valley Record. ADIMS continued to pester the government. In mid-August the Coast Guard contracted Coastal Restoration, a BC-based NGO, that cleaned up both vessels (except for some concrete on East Denman), and they also generously collected piles of industry debris. Huge kudos to everyone who helped!



Museum Exhibit

ADIMS created a display at the DI Museum this past summer, highlighting our role in marine protection over the past 25 years. Museum visitors were treated to some amazing creations by local artists, including Helen Mason's flapper dress made from washed-up cigarette lighters and Jean Coburn's 'beach themed quilted dress' created in honour of ADIMS founder Pat McLaughlin. Liz Johnston's 20 foot 'Marine Plastic Monster', comprised of marine debris to represent our shoreline cleanups, greeted visitors outside. The Museum Society held a lovely appreciation event for ADIMS and museum volunteers, which included Andrew Fyson's presentation of his book, "Beach Odyssey: A Circumnavigation of Denman's Foreshore."



Alone we can do so little. Together we can do so much. ~ Helen Keller

Association for Denman Island Marine Stewards

Annual Membership & Donation Drive

We are updating our email and volunteer lists, and your contact preferences, so please fill out the membership form below and send it in with your donation. Thank you so much for your continued support!



Since we are now a CRA registered charity, we no longer have a fixed membership fee. Instead, just send in a donation of any amount and we will add you to our member list and you will receive a tax-deductible receipt for the full amount of your donation.

Name(s) and Surname(s) for Membership List: _____

Name and Surname that should be on the tax-receipt: _____

Mailing address for tax-receipt: _____

City: _____ Province: _____ Postal Code: _____

Donation Amount: \$ _____ Payment type: _____ Payment date: _____

Would you like to be on our email list? YES ___ NO ___ Preferred email: _____

Would you like to be on our volunteer list? YES ___ NO ___ Preferred email and/or phone: _____



You can make your donation online through our website!

Just go to www.adims.ca/donate/ and click on the orange "Donate via Canada Helps" button

You can also fill out the membership form online at www.adims.ca/membership-form/



If you prefer to pay by cash or cheque, make the donation payable to: ADIMS

Membership forms and cheques can be sent to: PO Box 7, Denman Island, BC V0R 1T0 (or drop off at Abraxas)



For more info:

Web: www.adims.ca or email: adimsinfo@gmail.com

Facebook at: <https://www.facebook.com/AssociationforDenmanIslandMarineStewards/>

Our greatest appreciation goes to the Denman community who supports us:

- The hard-working beach cleanup crews
- The committed members of the Board of Directors
- The members and anonymous donors who contribute financially to our donation drive each year
- All the community members who support us, send us tips, lend us equipment, bake us cookies, sign our petitions, and write advocacy letters. We couldn't do it without you!



We want to recognize the officials who have heard our concerns:

- Sam Borthwick & David Graham, IT Trustees
- Daniel Arbour, Area A Director, CVRD
- Gord Johns, MP Courtenay-Alberni
- Josie Osborne, MLA Mid Island - Pacific Rim
- Nathan Cullen, BC Minister of Water, Land, and Resource Stewardship (Fisheries)
- Hon. Joyce Murray, Former Minister of Fisheries & Oceans



We are very grateful to the organizations we collaborated with:

- K'ómoks First Nation
- Qualicum First Nation
- Tla'amin Nation
- Conservancy Hornby Island
- Hakai Institute
- Oceana
- David Suzuki Foundation
- Concerned Citizens of Baynes Sound
- Ocean Legacy Foundation
- Coastal Restoration
- Denman Island Museum Society
- BC Shellfish Growers Association
- Baynes Sound / Lambert Channel Ecosystem Forum



A heartfelt thank you to the groups that supported our work financially:

- Comox Valley Regional District

