



Beach Cleanup volunteers

21st Annual Denman Island Beach Cleanup

Our 21st Annual Beach Cleanup was held Oct 26th to Nov 2nd 2024 with 60-70 volunteers working on multiple teams doing beach and boat pickups, driving trucks and trailers, sorting and categorizing debris, and loading the container at the Old School field for transport to Ocean Legacy Foundation's marine debris collection hub in Cumberland. With the support of BC Shellfish Growers Association, Hornby Island Diving, CVRD, and Great Canadian Shoreline Cleanup, we collected 9 tons of marine debris this year! We noticed that some plastic oyster trays displayed ID numbers, a new requirement by DFO so that lost equipment can be traced back to the tenure owner. The new rules include better practices, more secure storage, and increased consequences; however, much more work is needed to obtain true industry accountability.

We decided to try something different with the Annual Beach Cleanup this year. We are going to move what had evolved into a Fall cleanup to the Spring instead. Please keep collecting marine debris, if you come across any on the beach, and move it to higher ground. Winter storms and king tides can wash it out to sea again, so this will help keep it out of the marine ecosystem until collection can take place by truck or boat in Spring 2026. Many thanks to the amazing residents who volunteer every year and a huge shout out to our partners who make this work possible!

Marine debris sorting at Old School field



Marine debris pickup by boat in remote areas



Predator Netting in Estuaries

Great news! The following are direct quotes from the new 2025 Conditions of Licence for shellfish growers: "By May 1, 2027, licence holders shall not have intertidal equipment located within 50 metres of the nearest edge of an intertidal stream channel, including braided and seasonally flowing stream channels, which flow from, or connect to, a salmonid bearing stream." Additionally, "the licence holder shall not install equipment or gear, nor conduct activities, within important and sensitive habitat." ADIMS has lobbied for removing nets for 20 years, and here we've had real success! We can look forward to at least half of all netting being removed from Baynes Sound, though enforcement of the new requirements will be critical.



Predator Netting & Sea Birds

ADIMS is planning research with the support of the K'ómoks Important Bird Area Manager, birdwatchers, and a local shellfish processor, to trial growing clams with little or no netting. Netting and oyster grow-out currently cover about 60% of the foraging area for sea ducks. Shellfish growers cover clam beds with netting to stop sea ducks from eating their clams; however, those clam beds have been there for thousands of years and, for an equally long period, sea ducks, like surf scoters and long-tailed ducks, have been overwintering in our area, and rely on those clams to build up energy reserves for their migration north and to raise their young.



Herring entangled on predator netting

Annual General Meeting Nov 25th, 2025 at 4pm

Location TBD, so keep an eye out! We will announce the location or Zoom link via our email list, website & Facebook.

Current ADIMS Board of Directors:
Dorrie Woodward, Liz Johnston,
Linda Sheehan, Melanie Hewson,
& Barb Mills

www.adims.ca

adimsinfo@gmail.com

[https://www.facebook.com/
AssociationforDenmanIsland
MarineStewards/](https://www.facebook.com/AssociationforDenmanIslandMarineStewards/)

Community Concerns & Complaints

We added a section to the ADIMS website that describes how to file complaints on various marine issues with the appropriate government agencies. We are hopeful that this will be helpful if you have a concern that requires attention. Overall, we have had fewer new complaints this year, but we are still working on several complex, long-standing complaints. The encroachment of aquaculture activity on sensitive marine areas is indeed quite complicated, so we will continue to work on this with the various government agencies involved. Thank you for your vigilance on behalf of the marine inhabitants. We're here to help!



Margaret looking for sea stars

Sea Star Wasting (SSW) Monitoring

This was our second year of SSW monitoring. Like last year, most of our observations were of healthy sea stars, but there is still evidence of SSW in an area on eastern Denman. Thanks to all who participated! We would love to increase our monitoring and include additional sites for spring/summer 2026, so please contact us if this interests you. The time requirement is not demanding and it's a great activity to do with kids! One interesting update on the science front is that researchers have finally pinpointed a strain of the bacterium *Vibrio pectenicida* as the cause of SSW, which has killed billions of sea stars between Alaska and Mexico since 2013. Researchers are now focusing on drivers of disease, and most notably, the link between ocean warming and SSW (*Vibrio* species thrive in warm water).

Predator Netting & Entanglements

ADIMS is planning a campaign against predator netting, and has been working with drone operators, divers, and videographers to produce media to inform the public and advocate for the removal of all netting. Thanks to DenmanWORKS! and the CVRD for their financial support. Though intended to protect clam beds from predators, many nets are loose and entangle fish, crabs, seals, birds, and even sea lions.

Ecosystem Forum

Directors met over the summer to do some long-term strategic planning. This November they will hold an Ecosystem Forum on the Beaufort Watershed and its connections to Baynes Sound. ADIMS has stepped down from the EcoForum's Board of Directors, but we will continue to attend gatherings and offer support.

Herring Conservation & Restoration

ADIMS continues to advocate for a pause in the commercial herring fishery. We are trying to broaden our alliances with groups that share the same urgency about the dire state of local herring stocks. This year, we joined the Board of the Herring Conservation and Restoration Society (HCRS), which is working closely with W̱SÁNEĆ Hereditary Chiefs. HCRS and ADIMS are supporting the W̱SÁNEĆ legal challenge to DFO's management of the herring fishery, which breaches W̱SÁNEĆ Douglas Treaty rights. HCRS sent a letter to the Minister of Fisheries and Oceans that you can read on our website under news. We are also planning several events for the new year, in collaboration with Conservancy Hornby Island and HerringFest.



Association for Denman Island Marine Stewards

Fall 2025 Newsletter

Dorrie's Award

ADIMS Chair, Dorrie Woodward, was presented with the King Charles III Coronation Medal by MP Gord Johns at the BS/LC Ecosystem Forum last Fall. The medal, which is awarded to just 30,000 Canadians for service to community and country, was in recognition of Dorrie's tireless and impressive work in the area of marine protection. Dorrie thanked the ADIMS team, saying that their work and dedication were also recognized by the award. Congratulations Dorrie! Thank you for everything you do!



Gord Johns, Dorrie Woodward
& Josie Osborne

Movie Night Collaboration

ADIMS collaborated with Christopher Mainella and Maya Rytz on a movie night in March. The well-attended event included "The Silver Highway," a short and impressive documentary about herring that was produced on Hornby Island. Grant Scott, one of the documentary scriptwriters, also gave a brief talk. The feature film "Deep Rising" had stunning visuals and it raised important questions about the race to mine the deep seabed and the environmental consequences of disturbing this poorly understood ecosystem.



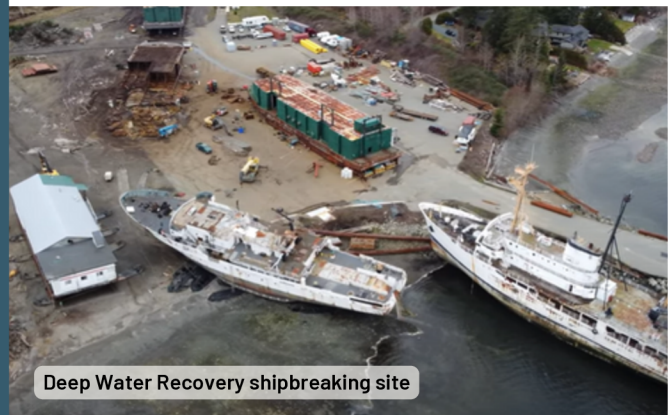
Movie night collaboration

Shipbreaking Event & Update

On July 5th we received the good news from Concerned Citizens of Baynes Sound (CCOBS) that the BC government canceled the foreshore lease for the Deep Water Recovery (DWR) company. This effectively ends DWR's ability to continue operations at their shipbreaking facility in Union Bay. See the CHEK News coverage on July 5th for more details. Over the last year, ADIMS has been supporting CCOBS' efforts to stop the pollution entering Baynes Sound from the DWR site. On Earth Day, we hosted a presentation by CCOBS for Denman residents. We also provided financial support for their legal fees, as well as moral support at rallies. CCOBS continues to advocate for safe and environmentally sustainable shipbreaking by seeking viable regulations for this industry. Hats off to CCOBS and the many Denman residents who have supported their work.

CCOBS is promoting a parliamentary petition that is open until Nov 17th. To sign their petition, please go to:

<https://ccobs.wordpress.com/2025/08/22/please-sign-this-e-petition/>



Deep Water Recovery shipbreaking site

Readers & Writers Festival presenting ADIMS with a fundraising cheque



Hakai Dungeness Crab Event

On Earth Day, ADIMS hosted the Hakai Institute who came to Denman to describe their dungeness crab monitoring program and to share research results. For the last few years, Hakai has provided a light trap that was hung from the community dock and checked a few times per week to see if any young dungeness crab could be identified. Hakai will need new crab monitoring volunteers in the Spring. Let us know if you're interested!

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 always 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! NOTE: we cannot accept e-transfers yet
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 for their support:



- 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 info, lend us time or 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
- Carlos Burgo, Ministry of Water, Land & Resource Stewardship
- DFO Shellfish Aquaculture Enforcement
- DFO Shellfish Aquaculture Management



We are very grateful to the organizations we collaborated with:

- K'ómoks First Nation
- Qualicum First Nation
- Tla'amin Nation
- BC Nature
- Hakai Institute
- Art Martell, K'ómoks IBA
- Ocean Legacy Foundation
- Conservancy Hornby Island
- Herring Conservation & Restoration Society
- BC Shellfish Growers Association
- Baynes Sound Oyster Co. Ltd.
- Concerned Citizens of Baynes Sound
- Baynes Sound / Lambert Channel Ecosystem Forum



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

- CVRD & Comox Strathcona Waste Management
- DI Readers & Writers Festival
- Denman WORKS!

