Make the most of your trip to B.C.

As a pleasurable and educational addition to the Summit’s events in Vancouver, the West Coast Vancouver Island Aquatic Management Board will host a community discussion forum aboard a passenger vessel travelling down beautiful Barkley Sound. When the vessel docks in Bamfield, the Board has arranged a number of field tours. These events will provide participants with the opportunity to observe first hand some of the issues raised in the dialogue sessions, and share ideas and approaches with community leaders and managers involved in salmon issues at the local level. That evening, participants are invited to a traditional First Nations feast, complete with dances and songs.

To give participants a chance to fully relax and unwind, recreational field trips will be available the following day, including whale watching, sea kayaking, salmon and fly-fishing, beach-combing, and hiking. Optional tours will also be available on the way back to Vancouver, or participants can stay and enjoy more of Canada’s spectacular Pacific Rim.

There will be an additional conference fee of approximately $130 to participate in the community discussion and field tours. Group rates will be available for recreational activities and accommodation, though payment will be the responsibility of each participant.

A Unique Host In A Unique Place

The West Coast Vancouver Island Aquatic Management Board is the first cooperative aquatic management board in Canada (www.westcoastaquatic.ca). It is a new national pilot in a participatory ecosystem-based approach to aquatic management. With Federal, Provincial, First Nations, and Local governments at the table, and 8 non-government Board members, it is designed to implement international principles in sustainable aquatic management.

Participants will be invited to attend a roundtable discussion on the principles and objectives of the WCVI Aquatic Management Board, including ecosystem management, habitat protection and respect for First Nation’s role in the salmon resource. Attending the discussion will be Board staff and available Board members. Facilitation will be provided. Discussion will be based on the issues and approaches that the Board is taking to implementing its objectives and principles.

The discussion will last approximately 3 hours of the 4-hour cruise. At various points through the course of the journey, there will be a commentary on the Alberni inlet and Barkley Sound, pointing out areas of interest and importance to local aquatic and other resources. These will be used as a touchstone for the discussion.
JUNE 13 - FRIDAY: TRAVEL TO PORT ALBERNI, VANCOUVER ISLAND

Conference participants can be picked up at 6:00 p.m. Friday evening from the Morris J. Wosk Center for Dialogue, or their hotel to catch the 7:00 p.m. Ferry to Nanaimo. On arrival at 8:35 in Nanaimo, transportation will be available to Port Alberni (approximate arrival: 9:45 pm) *Cost included in satellite conference fee.

Participants can also travel via seaplane from downtown Vancouver to Port Alberni instead of taking the ferry to Vancouver Island for a modest additional cost. Arrival in Port Alberni would be between 7:30-8:00 pm if flying.

Once in Port Alberni, conference participants will have been pre-booked into the accommodation of their choice.

JUNE 14 - SATURDAY: SATELLITE CONFERENCE EVENTS:

COMMUNITY DISCUSSION FORUM (8:00 – 12:00) aboard the M.V.Lady Rose*
Participants will be at the Lady Rose Marine dock in Port Alberni by 7:45 a.m., as the ship leaves at 8:00 a.m. Breakfast can be purchased aboard the Lady Rose. Transport to the Lady Rose dock will be provided. The scenic cruise up the 30 mile Alberni inlet takes 4 hours. The Community discussion forum will be held in the forward lounge, or if the weather is good, may be held on the upper sun deck.
*Alternative transportation to Bamfield can be arranged for Participants who do not wish to travel by boat.

LUNCH AND LEARNING EXCHANGE (12:15-2:15) Once we reach Bamfield, participants will disembark at the Bamfield Marine Station for lunch and the Discussion Forum will continue, with a focus on exchanging information and learning from renowned experts in the field of salmon conservation. Through this forum, West Coast communities will find innovative solutions and ways to apply the lessons learned to improve survival and rejuvenation for wild salmon stocks.

HUU-A-Y-AHT FIRST NATIONS FISHERIES PROGRAM (2:30-4:30pm)
Fisheries Manager from the Huu-ay-aht First Nation will take participants on a tour of completed Salmon habitat restoration projects in the area. Participants will board vans at the Bamfield Marine Station for transportation around the sites. Of particular interest will be projects on the Sarita River, which will be featured in a documentary film, later in the evening. (more detail in: Tour Information section, below)

HUU-A-Y-AHT FEAST AND DANCING – (5:30 – 8:30)
Dinner will include: Salmon, Crab, Prawns, and First Nation specialties such as Urchin. During dessert, a 58 minute documentary film entitled: Return of the River will be shown, which details the Huu-ay-aht efforts to restore healthy salmon runs to the Sarita River.

Following dinner, and movie, the Huu-ay-aht people will present a cultural program which will include traditional songs, dances and drumming. The dinner and events for Saturday evening will take place in the beautiful House of Huu-ay-aht, a new building honouring the traditional ‘gathering place’.

FREE TIME for the rest of the evening around Bamfield.

ACCOMODATION: Guests go to pre-arranged accommodation in Bamfield

JUNE 15 - SUNDAY: EVENTS

Sunday is a chance to experience the West Coast by engaging in a number of excursions, both recreational and educational. Conference related activities, such as the Commercial Salmon Trolling demonstration will take place on Sunday, as well as a guided tour of the Bamfield Marine Station. More detail on the activities listed here can be found in the Tour Information section, which follows.

-Commercial Salmon Trolling Demonstration (9am-11:30am)
-Guided Tour of Bamfield (1-2:00 pm)
-Whale Watching (Available in the morning (preferred) or afternoon)
- Broken Group Nature Tour (Morning departure)
- Kayaking  (Full or 1/2 days [morning or afternoon] available)
- Sport Fishing (Full or 1 day: early morning start!)  
- Beach Walks and Board Walks (Relaxing in Bamfield!)
- Transportation back to Port Alberni/ or Stay in Bamfield
- Accommodation at Local Lodges or B&B’s

Guests will be able to stay in Bamfield again on Sunday night, and a leisurely ride back to Port Alberni the following morning will be arranged. The drive back, over gravel roads is approximately one hour and forty five minutes. Once in Port Alberni, participants can continue on to catch either the BC Ferry or a flight to Vancouver. If guests wish to return to the Port Alberni area (and onward) on Sunday night, arrangements will be made for them to be able to do so. There is so much to do and see around Bamfield, however, that another nights stay is highly recommended!

**JUNE 16 - MONDAY**

**VISIT FUTURE SEA FARMS (AQUACULTURE) (NANAIMO) on the way back to Vancouver (Optional tour: 1:00 – 2:00pm).**

**OPTIONAL FISHING CHARTERS** and other activities are available on Monday, for those wishing to extend their stay.

**TRANSPORTATION BACK TO VANCOUVER** (BC Ferry) Meet at 9:00am for the ride leaving Bamfield. Participants can meet either the 12:30 pm or 3:30pm ferry, departing from Nanaimo. Later departures from Bamfield can be arranged.

(Flights are also available from Port Alberni to Vancouver International Airport, or by seaplane from Nanaimo to Vancouver, earlier or later in the day. There would be an additional cost to participants who wish to fly back).

**TOTAL COST PER PERSON**
for the Satellite Conference: $130.00 CDN.

**COSTS INCLUDE:**
1. Transportation from Vancouver to Bamfield, on the West Coast of Vancouver Island and back to Vancouver by Ferry.
2. All Saturday / Sunday Conference related events (Discussion Forum, Bamfield Marine Station Tour, Salmon Trolling, Restoration Projects Tour) and transportation to & from events.
3. Feast and Cultural Program (House of Huu-ay-aht) (Saturday Evening)

**OTHER NOTES REGARDING COSTS:**

Accommodation will be required for Friday, Saturday and Sunday evenings. Accommodation cost is not included in Conference cost and will range from $70-85.00 per person for either Hotel, Lodge, or Bed and Breakfast accommodation. We will provide a list of recommended accommodations and booking information. Sharing accommodation will reduce the cost per person.

Alternate accommodation: There is also the Pachena Bay Campground, owned and operated by the Huu-ay-aht First Nation, which is located at the center of one of the most spectacular settings in the world. Nestled amidst a virgin rainforest on Vancouver Island’s rugged and unspoiled West Coast, the Campground has been smartly upgraded to welcome campers and RVs with modern facilities and services to make your visit enjoyable and memorable.

All meals are paid for by participants, except for the Saturday evening feast

Costs for Recreational events vary depending on type and length of trip, number of people, etc.
TOUR INFORMATION

About the M.V. Lady Rose. A Heritage Vessel
You are about to spend a day much as you might have done over 60 years ago, when the principal means of transportation along the B.C. coast was by ships and crew similar to today’s Lady Rose and Frances Barkley. These ships emulate the slower pace of life of yesteryear and you’ll have plenty of time to look for wildlife and enjoy the scenery.

So bring your binoculars, and camera and film, a warm jacket and casual clothes (these are working packet freighters) and thoroughly enjoy your day!

About Bamfield
Nestled quietly in a protected inlet on the south shore of Barkley Sound, the community of Bamfield invites you to share in the spectacular beauty of Vancouver Island’s virgin coast. Originally settled by the Huu-ay-aht First Nation, Bamfield has managed to accept many modern conveniences without compromising the pioneer spirit of this remote community. It’s a quiet, unassuming village where the love of the land and sea prevails. It is well worth spending some time here— to experience life in the “Heart of the Pacific Rim.”

BAMFIELD MARINE STATION:
Conference guests will be given a guided tour of the facilities at the Marine Sciences Center, still well known as the Bamfield Marine Station, including the labs, aquaria and hatchery facilities. A highlight of the tour will be the new Abalone hatchery and grow-out facility, which is a joint project between the Bamfield Community School, Huu ay aht First Nation and Bamfield Marine Sciences Center.

Other activities: (these can be arranged on request):
Hike along West Coast Trails and beaches
Tour of Coast Guard facility
Open ocean bird watching
Visit to sea lion haul outs

BAMFIELD – HUU AY AHT FISHERIES TOUR
Stefan Ochman, Huu-ay-aht Fisheries Manager, will guide a tour showing various watershed restoration projects, such as Large Woody Debris†structures, side channels and fish ladders, completed over the last 5 years in the Sarita watershed.
Visitors will have the opportunity to attend a First Nations feast and cultural program at the House of Huu ay aht, a beautiful new facility, built along traditional lines. Guests will have the opportunity to view the award winning documentary “Return of the River” about restoration efforts on the Sarita River. Guests will then stay in Bamfield over night at their choice of a variety of Bed and Breakfasts, Inns and Lodges, or campground.

COMMERCIAL SALMON TROLLING
Find out what it is like to be a commercial salmon fishermen on a B.C. troller (hook and line). Learn about the changes in fisheries regimes and new selective fishing techniques that incorporate local and traditional knowledge with high-tech communication while onboard a fishing vessel. This sustainable fishery for Chinook and or sockeye salmon, will demonstrate revival box, selective fishing gear and technology, discussion on sustainability of artisinal fisheries, chance to observe fishing methods.

Itinerary: Meet vessel at Bamfield harbour (main dock), Sunday at 9:00am. Fishing will take place approx. 2-8 miles offshore or in the inlet depending on weather and target species, safety equipment provided.

SALMON AQUACULTURE
The SEA System was developed by Future SEA Technologies Inc. to create a controlled rearing environment for finfish aquaculture. The flexible, round, watertight enclosure is supplied with pumped water that can be drawn from optimum locations to regulate temperature, oxygen levels and overall water quality. The SEA System provides improved production, while focusing on cost effective, sustainable aquaculture. Recent innovations include the development of advanced waste capture and removal technologies. This facility is located in Nanaimo, and an optional tour is available prior to catching the ferry or float plane back to Vancouver.

RECREATIONAL EVENTS

WHALE WATCHING AND NATURE TOURS
For many years, thousands of avid whale watching, bird watching and wildlife fans have cruised Barkley Sound out of Bamfield in search of the majestic gray whale as well as other creatures of nature. In June there are resident whales in the area, and sightings are frequent. There are also sea lions, eagles, bears and other wildlife to be seen. Whale watch tours will be offered from Bamfield on state of the art zodiac style vessels for those who crave adventure, or the west coast’s larger whale watch vessels.

Cost: 3-4 hour tours approximately $50 - $65.00 / person
SEA KAYAKING
Local Kayak companies in Bamfield offer rentals, with all necessary equipment, and instruction (if needed). Explore Bamfield and Grappler Inlets, the Broken Island Group, Barkley Sound, and nearby areas. Paddle your way through pristine islands with isolated beaches and areas teeming with wildlife – from sea lions to sea-birds. Paddle over the forests of giant kelp, and marvel at the richness of the marine life below.

Beachcombing is great, with beautiful shells and driftwood bits in unusual shapes. Watching the myriad forms of life in the tide-pools is also a unique delight, as the marine life in the intertidal zone in these waters is diverse and abundant.

**Cost:** Full day rentals – Single $40/day, Double kayak: $60/day
Half Day rental: Single $30, Double: $45
Costs are approximate, Group rates are available

SPORT FISHING
The ocean outside Bamfield has proven to be the best place to fish in May and June, when fish are migrating. Salmon and Halibut have one thing in common, they feed a lot during this time, and the banks outside Barkley Sound are home to abundant stocks of Herring, Needlefish and Sardines. There are opportunities to fish offshore, from seven to twenty-five miles off the coast, where the Salmon and Halibut have been coming to the same places to feed year after year.

Other opportunities include fishing just outside Bamfield in the more protected waters of Barkley Sound, where Chinook can be found. As well, Barkley Sound Sockeye will be running in the Alberni Inlet in June.

**Cost:** Depending on size of group, full or half day, and where you will be fishing: Can range from: $85.00 - $200.00 per person for fishing trip and all equipment.

Other fishing adventures are available upon your return to Port Alberni, where local rivers are home to returning Sockeye and Steelhead smolts in mid-June. Try your hand at catch and release fly-fishing outside of Port Alberni. The Stamp, Somass, and Sproat River systems are just over 20 Kilometers long and are influenced by Roberston Creek Hatchery. Robertson Creek produces on average 8 million Chinook, 3.5 million Coho, 40,000 summer Steelhead and 50,000 winter Steelhead eggs each year. Every year, Salmon and Steelhead of wild and hatchery origin return back to the Stamp system. Sockeye runs grow to 750,000 and summer Steelhead reach about 2,500 fish. In addition, local lakes and rivers offer good cutthroat trout fishing, and trips can be tailored to meet your preferences.

BEACH WALKS AND BOARDWALKS
Sunday is the perfect day to relax around Bamfield, and stroll around the quaint seaside village, along the boardwalk that serves as a vital connection from one end of the community to the other. A short walk on the West side of Bamfield brings you to beautiful beaches, wooded trails and an opportunity to hike, beach comb, explore tide-pools along the rocky shoreline or just relax and soak up the sun. Local shops and galleries provide an opportunity to bring home a piece of local art or other memorabilia from the West Coast of Vancouver Island.
OTHER OPTIONS WHILE ON THE WEST COAST

WEST COAST TRAIL
The West Coast Trail (WCT) is an internationally renowned 75KM (47 mile) historic route along sandstone cliffs, waterfalls, caves, sea arches, sea stacks and beaches that compose the stunning coastline of western Vancouver Island.

The trail’s origins date back to the late1800’s and the days of tall sailing ships and steamers. Pacific storms threw so many vessels onto the rocks and shoals of this rugged coast that it came to be known as “the Graveyard of the Pacific”. In 1906, the wreck of the steamer “Valencia” with the loss of 133 lives finally prompted the construction of the Pachena Lighthouse and the “Dominion Life Saving Trail”. The trail, boasting a telegraph line and patrol cabins, allowed shipwreck victims and rescuers to travel through the almost impenetrable forests.

Over the years, as navigation technology improved, the Life Saving Trail was abandoned and fell into disrepair. In 1973, the trail was included in Pacific Rim National Park Reserve of Canada beginning a new chapter in its history. Today, hikers come from all over the world to experience the beauty, history and First Nations culture of the West Coast Trail. **However, this rugged hike is not for everyone. You and your party's fitness, knowledge and skills must meet the challenges of the area.**

A day hike can be done, starting at the trailhead, near Bamfield. There is no cost for this and no need to make reservations. For more information, visit the Parks Canada website at:


*There are many more things to do on the West Coast of Vancouver Island- feel free to stay awhile!*