

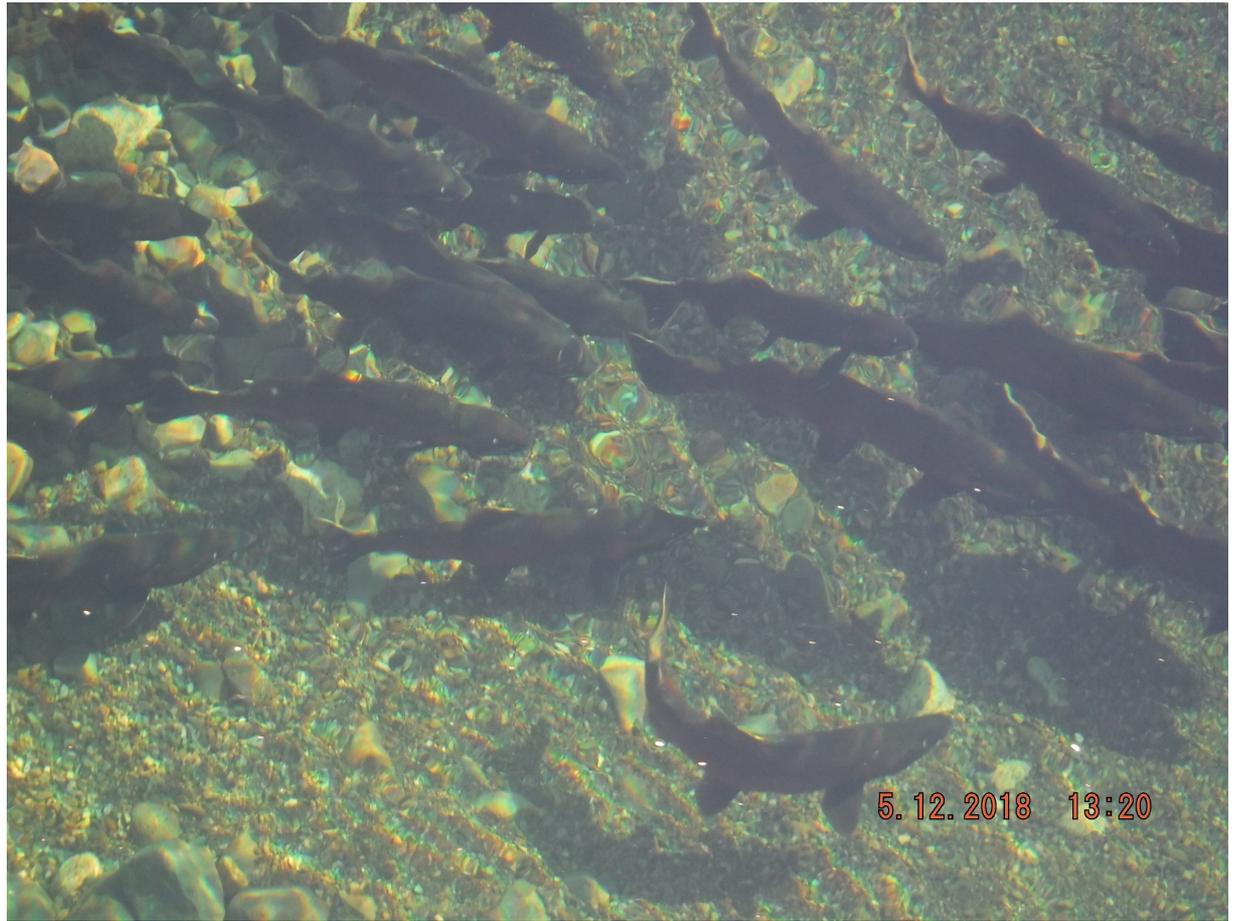
**Cowichan Lake & River
Stewardship Society**

Our Place

Cowichan Lake, situated mid-island 50 km east of the Wild Pacific shore, is the source of the world famous Cowichan River, a Canadian heritage river running 50 km down to its estuary in Cowichan Bay in the Salish Sea on southern Vancouver Island



The Cowichan is a key habitat for salmon species, including Chinook, Coho and Chum, as well as several trout species and is a major Canadian sport fishing destination



Cowichan Lake and the River are located in the core, unceded traditional territory of the Hul' qumi 'num people who are in the process of negotiating a modern treaty under the BC Treaty process



The screenshot shows the Cowichan Tribes website. At the top right, a banner reads "We are BC's Largest First Nations Community" with a photo of three people and a dog. Below this is a navigation bar with "Home", "About Cowichan Tribes", "Tribes Governance", and "Member Services". A left sidebar lists menu items: "ABOUT COWICHAN TRIBES", "History", "Demographics", "Land Base", "Reserves", "Traditional Territory", "Additions to Reserve", "Specific Claims", "Certificate of Possession", "Economy", "Facilities", and "Research Index". The main content area features the heading "Traditional Territory" followed by two paragraphs of text and a map of the Strait of Georgia and Vancouver Island. The map is outlined in purple and labeled "Core Traditional Territory".

Home About Cowichan Tribes Tribes Governance Member Services

ABOUT COWICHAN TRIBES

- History
- Demographics
- Land Base
- Reserves
- Traditional Territory
- Additions to Reserve
- Specific Claims
- Certificate of Possession
- Economy
- Facilities
- Research Index

Traditional Territory

Our traditional territory is the geographic area occupied by our ancestors for community, social, economic, and spiritual purposes. We have never given up title on this land, nor have we ever been compensated for it.

Our ancestors traveled widely throughout the Coast Salish area for fishing, hunting, visiting family, etc. Cowichan's annually fished the Fraser River, as far away as Yale, and in fact, Lulu Island – now the site of Vancouver International Airport – was our traditional summer base camp. We traveled all over the



Core Traditional Territory

376,308 hectares (929,844 acres)

The ecology of the watershed has been shaped by over a century of logging and mill activity. While all three mills are gone from the Lake, more than 200 truck-loads of logs a week pass through the Town of Lake Cowichan

The image shows a YouTube video player interface. At the top left is the 'BC' logo. The video title is 'Logging Vancouver Island: as the cut surges ahead, jobs decline'. To the right of the title are icons for 'Watch later' and 'Share'. The main content area features a map of Vancouver Island with a green overlay representing forest. The text 'LOGGING VANCOUVER ISLAND' is displayed in large white letters, with '1800' in yellow below it. A list of forest types is shown: 'Rock and Ice', 'Bog and Scrub', 'Marginal Forest', and 'Ancient Forest', with 'Ancient Forest' in a darker green. Below this is the text 'We thought the forests would last forever ...' in yellow. At the bottom left, there is a 'MORE VIDEOS' link. The video progress bar shows '0:04 / 0:54'. At the bottom right are the YouTube logo and a full-screen icon.

BC

Logging Vancouver Island: as the cut surges ahead, jobs decline

Watch later Share

LOGGING VANCOUVER ISLAND

1800

Rock and Ice
Bog and Scrub
Marginal Forest
Ancient Forest

We thought the forests would last forever ...

MORE VIDEOS

0:04 / 0:54

YouTube



Logging Vancouver Island: as the cut surges ahead, jobs decline



Watch later



Share

LOGGING VANCOUVER ISLAND

before 1900

Rock and Ice
Bog and Scrub
Marginal Forest
Ancient Forest
Old Growth Logging



MORE VIDEOS

Play (k)



YouTube





Logging Vancouver Island: as the cut surges ahead, jobs decline



Watch later



Share

LOGGING VANCOUVER ISLAND

1950

Rock and Ice
Bog and Scrub
Marginal Forest
Ancient Forest
Old Growth Logging

MORE VIDEOS

Play (k)



0:18 / 0:54



YouTube





Logging Vancouver Island: as the cut surges ahead, jobs decline



Watch later Share

LOGGING VANCOUVER ISLAND 2016

- Rock and Ice
- Bog and Scrub
- Marginal Forest
- Ancient Forest
- Old Growth Logging
- Second Growth Logging

MORE VIDEOS



0:33 / 0:54



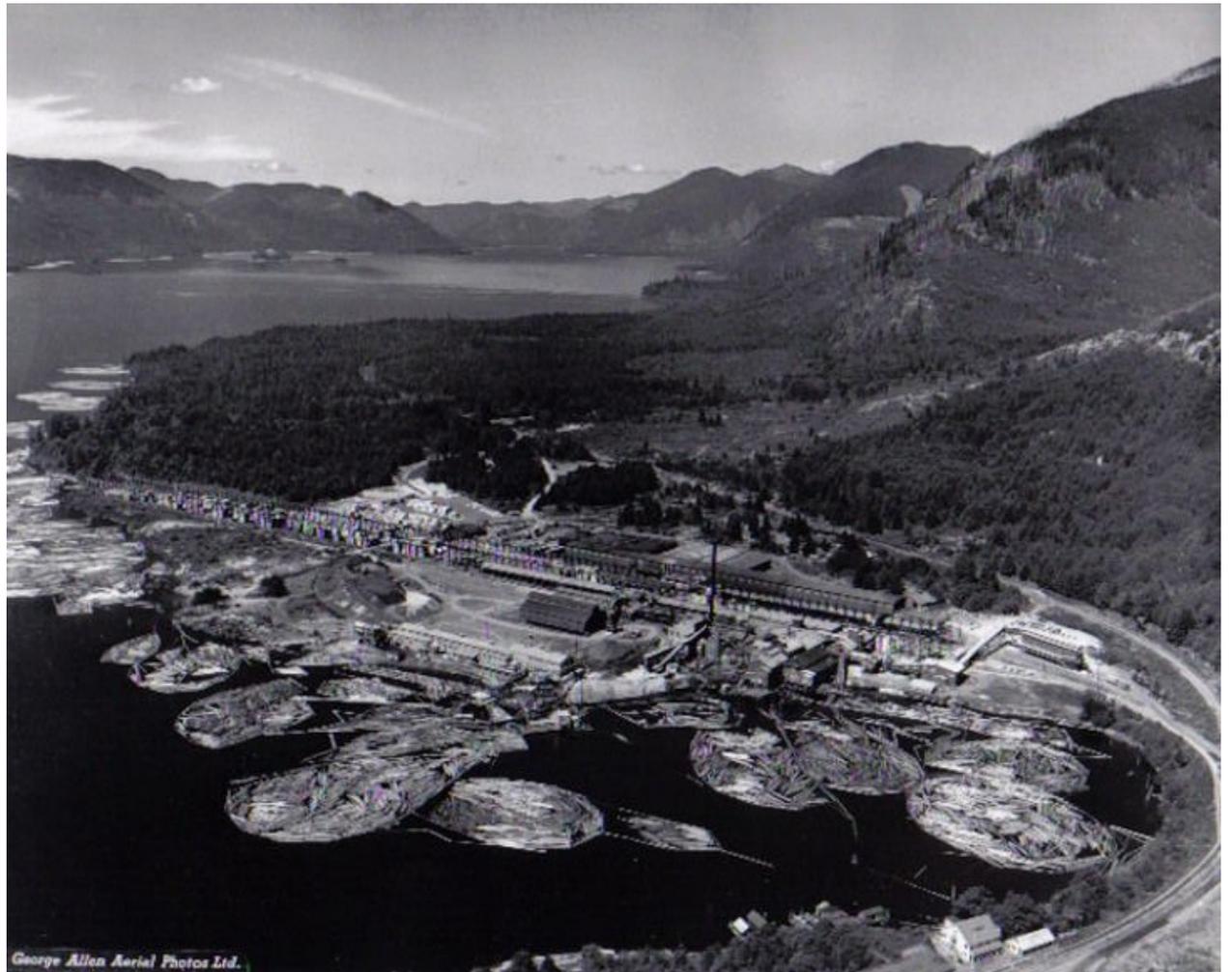
YouTube



The Lake region's population of 5,000 are clustered in three communities around the Lake all transitioning from a forestry based economy to tourism with increasing numbers of retirees and a not insignificant commuter population travelling to work all over the south island



Youbou (pop'n:1,086) an unincorporated community on the North Shore, a long time mill site dating from 1913, which grew, after the CPR was built through to the end of the Lake in 1925, into the largest freshwater lumber mill in BC but following the mill closure in 2001, 38% of Households are now seasonal.





Honeymoon
Bay/Mesachie Lake
(pop'n: 561) now home
to retirees and summer
residents and Gordon
Bay Provincial Park, the
once thriving area
boasted two mills from
the late 1940s through to
1981



Town of Lake Cowichan (pop'n: 3226), celebrating its 75th Anniversary this year, has sat, since the late 1880s, at the east end of the lake where the Cowichan River exits. Once rooted in the forestry economy now its population swells in the hot, dry summers for Laketown ranch concerts, boating, fishing and tubing followed by winters of rain, high water and retirees.





Our Society

Cowichan Lake & River Stewards have contributed thousands of volunteer hours every year for the last 8 years protecting and preserving the Cowichan watershed.

We have evolved from a citizens' committee formed as the result of two, well-attended, public meetings held in Lake Cowichan in the summer of 2009 to a fully registered formal society with programming focused on:

- shoreline riparian area restoration and landowner education;
- rescuing stranded salmon fry;
- cleaning up the upper Cowichan river;
- monitoring water quality;
- working with students and providing public education;
- erecting signs on fish bearing streams;
- work in the technical advisory committees of the Cowichan Watershed Board;
- participation in the 2018 year long Cowichan Water Use Plan process

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hF2zdacLu_w&feature=youtu.be

We look forward to hearing your advice and ideas over the week ahead.