

AMALGAMATED CONSERVATION SOCIETY
1101 MUNRO STREET, VICTORIA, B.C., V9A 5P2

REPRESENTING THE ANGLING COMMUNITY OF SOUTHERN VANCOUVER ISLAND

November 13, 2018.

Pacific Balance Pinniped Society,
Roy Jones Jr., President,
pacificbalance@haidagwaii.net

Dear Sir:

The Amalgamated Conservation Society fully supports a substantial and effective coastwide harvest of harbor seals, Stellar sea lions and invasive California sea lions to mitigate the harmful effects of their predation on numerous fish species; particularly chinook salmon.

The ACS has operated continuously since 1954 representing angling and salmonid enhancement organizations in the southern Vancouver Island area. Our Society was instrumental in the formation of the Sport Fishing Advisory Board in 1964. We currently have ten member associations representing close to 5000 individual members.

Our members operate fish counting fences on two local creeks; Colquitz River and Craigflower Creek. They also run the Howard English Goldstream Hatchery which works on chum, coho and chinook salmon. All three operations have experienced problems with seals in the estuaries targeting returning salmon, and the Colquitz fish fence has had seals chasing coho right at the fence.

Anglers fishing the waters around Victoria have experienced numerous occasions where seals have taken chinook salmon from their lines. A few anglers have lost more than 20 salmon to seals between November and April.

The evidence is overwhelming that seals and sea lions are having a significant detrimental impact on salmonids; particularly chinook and steelhead. The ACS wishes you and the Pacific Balance Pinniped Society success with your initial test harvest of 30 seals. We look forward to a continuing harvest of these pinniped predators to give some relief to our depressed salmonid populations.

Our members associations include:
Clover Point Anglers' Association
Esquimalt Anglers' Association
Goldstream Volunteer Salmonid Enhancement Association

Haig-Brown Flyfishing Association
James Bay Anglers' Association
Royal Canadian Navy Anglers' Association
Sidney Anglers' Association
Victoria Fish & Game Protective Association
Victoria Golden Rods & Reels
Westcoast Flyfishers Association

Yours truly,

Wayne Zaccarelli,
Secretary-Treasurer,
Amalgamated Conservation Society

cc. Thomas Sewid

UNITED IN PROTECTING THE DEMOCRATIC RIGHTS OF INDIVIDUALS