



Resources & Agriculture

# Wild salmon plan panned by conservation groups

Strategy recommends increased hatchery production, seal cull, falls short on habitat protection: Skeena Wild

By Nelson Bennett | March 8, 2019, 3:33pm



Strategy focuses largely on impacts on coastal communities hurt by a decline in commercial fishing and processing, like this cannery in Prince Rupert that shut down in 2015. | BIV Archives

**The B.C. government's new wild salmon strategy is a missed opportunity, says the executive director of Skeena Wild Conservation Trust, because it does not contain strong enough measures in the one area where the province has jurisdiction: habitat protection.**

And the BC Wildlife Federation is concerned that, if the government adopts recommendations of the Wild Salmon Advisory Council, B.C. may follow Alaska on an over-reliance on hatchery production – something which itself may be one of the problems contributing to decreases of certain wild stock species.

It also fears that the report appears to support selective culling of seals and sea lions.

The government-appointed Wild Salmon Advisory Council has submitted its final recommendations for addressing a decline in wild salmon stocks to the provincial government.

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