

Notice to community regarding dumping brush on Toquaht Nation Land

There has been a serious concern brought forward by Salmon Beach owners and The Toquaht Nation regarding brush piles on Toquaht Nation Land. The disposal of organics when clearing land within Salmon Beach has been an ongoing issue and there is need to establish measures when removing such material. Illegal dumping on Toquaht Nation Land is not acceptable. Please use the RAPP service if you see any illegal dumping being carried out.

Conservation Officer Service **Report All Poachers and Polluters (RAPP)**

Dial Toll Free 1-877-952-7277 (RAPP) or Report Violators using the online form:

<http://www.env.gov.bc.ca/cos/rapp/form.htm>

Here are a few suggestions on how to dispose of brush properly:

1. Organize a dump run. Either use your own equipment or hire a contractor to haul the material to the local landfill.
- *2. A series of small campfires over your time spent at Salmon Beach. The safest method of burning is to cut the material to manageable sizes and have periodical, small campfires.
- *3. Category 2 open fire. There are very strict procedures when burning a category 2 open fire. To list a few, you must report the fire, monitor it at all time and have 6 people, a suppression system and heavy equipment ready to respond while you are burning. This is endorsed only as a last resort.

*If you need to burn material it is highly recommended to first check the fire ban status and venting index, review the regulations concerning camp/open fires and proceed with extreme caution and due care. **It must be stressed that Salmon Beach has zero fire protection services.** There are risks to people's lives and home's on top of extremely expensive fines and jail time for allowing a burn to get out of control. Below are some links.

Wildfire Status

<http://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/safety/wildfire-status>

Fire Bans, Regulations and Restrictions

<http://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/safety/wildfire-status/fire-bans-and-restrictions>

Fire Categories Pamphlet

http://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/public-safety-and-emergency-services/wildfire-status/fire-bans-and-restrictions/ofr_poster_email_distribution_72dpi_no_bleeds.pdf

The piles that have accumulated on Toquaht Nation land will be removed at the same time Deer Bay Contracting is conducting brush management in early December 2016. The cost associated with removing the brush piles will be paid for by Salmon Beach.

Longer-term solutions are being investigated. One of which is a "Village Clean-Up Day/Week/Month", where a garbage bin dedicated to organic material is available for the community to use over a period of time. Another option would be along the same idea but with a properly controlled and permitted annual fire within Salmon Beach grounds.

Thank you. If you have any questions or suggestions please forward them to:

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