WHO’S KNOCKING?
AN INVENTORY OF MINERAL TENURES IN CLAYOQUOT SOUND
This report represents a collaboration between Clayoquot Action and Fair Mining Collaborative. Clayoquot Action is a Tofino-based conservation society, whose mission is to protect the biocultural diversity of Clayoquot Sound on the west coast of Vancouver Island.

Fair Mining Collaborative provides technical and practical assistance around the issues and impacts of mining to First Nations people and local communities in British Columbia in the quest to shape a healthy future for families, land, water, and wildlife.

Volunteers and staff of Clayoquot Action were trained by Fair Mining Collaborative to use the Mineral Titles Online (MTO) system, an online catalogue of mineral titles operated by the government of British Columbia. Volunteers then conducted an inventory of mineral claims in the Clayoquot Sound UNESCO Biosphere Reserve region, in Hesquiaht, Ahousaht and Tla-o-qui-aht First Nations territories.

It was found that 5.8% of the study area is under some form of mineral title, with a total of 257 claims held by 23 licensees. As recently as 2010, 24.5% of the region was under mineral tenure—the area covered has fallen due to the low price of minerals. This highlights the ‘boom and bust’ nature of the mining industry. Note that claim staking will likely increase again if and when metal prices rebound.

This report includes a map of the titles as well as profiles of the people and companies looking for minerals in Clayoquot Sound, including what type of minerals they are seeking. It also includes the most recent activity on these claims and the scope of that activity.

The purpose of this report is to help communities in Clayoquot Sound understand who has an interest in the land, what they are looking for, and how serious they are about development.

Typically, community participation has been limited to the narrow 180-day window of an environmental assessment period for a new mine development. This response can involve hundreds of hours of work and the hiring of experts at huge cost to the community. However, if a new mine or a mine expansion falls below certain thresholds (75,000 tonnes annual production or 75 hectares in size, respectively) an environmental assessment is not required before the issuance of a mining permit. The same is true for all exploration and prospecting work of the kind noted in this report. The only requirement for any and all work, short of a major mine development, is a Notice of Work for any exploration by mechanical means. Low-level exploration or ‘prospecting’ requires no permit, and neither level involves an environmental assessment or public participation. And almost all of it occurs outside of public knowledge.

In addition, the recent tailings dam breach at Imperial Metals’ Mount Polley mine in northern Secwepemc territories provides further context and significance to this report.

The Mount Polley disaster has shown that although local communities share few of the benefits of mining, they also bear the brunt of ecological and social impacts. This disaster has demonstrated that the BC government is not only unable to regulate mines safely, but that it is completely unprepared to respond adequately when things go wrong.

The Province of British Columbia is clearly pushing to see more new mines opened on Crown lands. On January 26, 2015, Premier Christy Clark announced millions of dollars to fast track the permitting and approval of new mines.

Her announcement was made in light of the recent 2014 Tslhqot’in Nation v. British Columbia Supreme Court of Canada ruling, which recognized Aboriginal title of the Tslhqot’in First Nation on June 26, 2014. A new legal landscape is emerging that offers the prospect of a more responsible approach to land stewardship, especially on the unceded traditional lands of First Nations (which includes most of British Columbia).

Clayoquot Action and the Fair Mining Collaborative are working to ensure that the people of Clayoquot Sound are prepared to respond to the implications and consequences of mining in the area. This report is a first step in gathering the information necessary to start meaningful dialogue about mining in Clayoquot Sound. Our aim is to increase the transparency of the mining process and its potential to encroach and irrevocably harm the land, water, wildlife, and people of Clayoquot Sound and to support all voices that have yet to be heard.
CATFACE COPPER MINES LTD. is a subsidiary of Imperial Metals, acquired through Imperial’s 2009 merger with Selkirk Metals Corporation. Prior to Selkirk’s exploration of the Catface deposit, Falconbridge Limited worked on the property from discovery in 1960 through 1989 and performed extensive surface exploration and several phases of diamond drilling. The property consists of 145 contiguous two-post claims, of which 117 have been surveyed into a mining lease. The company owns a total area of 3,957 hectares. Of the claims, nine had work performed in December of 2014. The key commodities of interest are Copper and Molybdenum.

200-580 Hornby St
Vancouver BC CANADA V6C 3B6
(604) 669-8959
FMC Certificate Number 110223854
Incorporation Number BC0767155

ELECTRUM RESOURCE CORPORATION is a private company owned 60% by director John J. Barakso and 40% by members of his family. Mr. Barakso has also been the Chairman of Finlay Minerals Ltd. since May 2012 and Director since December 24, 1999.

Electrum owns 12 claims in Clayoquot Sound totaling 2390.81 ha, including several claims near Ellswick Lake, above Toquart Bay, and others in the upper Kennedy River area, west of 5040 Peak. Five of the claims had work performed in 2012 and exploration focuses on Gold and Copper.

912–510 Hastings St W
Vancouver BC CANADA V6B 1L8
FMC Certificate Number 110226224
Incorporation Number BC0268239

GONZAGA RESOURCES LTD. is an exploration company based in Mission B.C. The company is engaged in exploration, development and exploitation of mineral resources in Canada. As of December 30, 2010, Gonzaga has held 10 claims on the west side of Kennedy River totaling 803.02 ha. The most recent work on all ten claims was recorded in April of 2014.

8888 Shook Rd.
Mission BC CANADA V2V 7N1
FMC Certificate Number 110221648
Incorporation Number BC0878006

LOGAN RESOURCES LTD is a junior exploration company that has owned over 200 titles in B.C., chiefly spread between the Quesnel area and the Kennedy River area. Logan Resources currently owns 30 claims in the Kennedy area totaling 11,752.56 ha. Interest on the property revolves chiefly around the former Brymner Iron (magnetite) deposit developed by Noranda Mines in the 1960s. One claim had work performed in 2012; the rest had payments made in lieu of work.

1240–1140 W Pender St
Vancouver BC CANADA V6E 4G1
(604) 681-8030
FMC Certificate Number 110224009
Incorporation Number BC0177147

SELKIRK METALS CORPORATION is a Vancouver-based mineral exploration and development company. Selkirk Metals merged with Imperial Metals on November 2, 2009.

Selkirk owns 18 active claims on the Catface Mountain Cliff Zone totaling 4660.67 ha. Other properties in B.C. include Wasi Creek, 150 km NW of Mackenzie; the Kneb Property, located 70 km northwest of Revelstoke; the LJ Property, located 35 km north-northeast of Revelstoke; and Ruddock Creek, Selkirk’s flagship property, in the Kamloops and Revelstoke mining divisions. Of Selkirk’s 18 properties in Clayoquot Sound, 3 had work performed in November 2014. Exploration in Clayoquot Sound focuses on Copper, Molybdenum and Gold.

Selkirk also owned what is known as the Fandora gold property in the Tranquil valley. Ownership of the property was transferred from Selkirk Metals to Imperial Metals Corp. and work was performed on the property in 2013. However, since then the company has made payments in lieu of performing work. The Fandora property, measuring 379.59 ha, lies in the centre of several large claims still registered to Selkirk Metals, at the head of Tranquil Inlet.

200–580 Hornby Street
Vancouver BC CANADA V6C 3B6
FMC Certificate Number 110226823
Incorporation Number BC0865420
Active Mining Tenures in Clayoquot Sound

Mapping by: Wilderness Committee, Mar. 2015
UNINCORPORATED FREE MINERS

Bakus, John N. is the President of MLS Mining. MLS has mineral properties all over British Columbia, and Bakus personally owns 23 claims in the Kennedy River area. The Kennedy River claims total 802.66 ha. The properties focus on Gold deposits, and five of them had work performed in June 2014.

3-1572 Lorne St
East Kamloops BC CANADA V2C 1X6
(250) 377-8918
FMC Certificate Number 11022577

Paterson, Robert T. is the president of Snowfield Development Corp., a junior exploration firm based out of Port Alberni. Paterson owns two active claims between the Taylor and Kennedy rivers totaling 779 ha. On the last statement of work in 2015, one claim property had work performed and the other had a payment in lieu of work. The claims in question are being surveyed for Gold, Silver, Lead, Copper and Zinc.

3793 14 Ave
Port Alberni BC CANADA V9X 5B8
FMC Certificate Number 110225254

Birkeland, Arne O. is a Professional Engineer and president of Arnex Resources Ltd. Birkeland owns seven active claims in Clayoquot Sound totaling 1143.71 ha. The claims are focused primarily on Nickel and Copper commodities. Birkeland's claims are located at the foot of Imperial Metals' Fandora property, on the Tofino Inlet, with others in Deer Bay and on Woman Island. Only one of the claims had work performed in the latest statement of work in 2012.

101 - 735 W 15th St
North Vancouver BC CANADA V7M 1T2
(604) 904-0606
FMC Certificate Number 110222291

Funk, Kelly B. is the founder and part owner of Piston Well Services Inc. in Red Deer, AB, and is the sole owner of 802213 AB Ltd and BC Mining Properties. Funk owns active claims on Hesquiaht Lake and near the mouth of the Moyeha River, right next to Strathcona Provincial Park. Funk has chosen to make payments instead of performing work on these claims. The primary commodities are Copper, Iron, Gold and Silver.

301 Mount Royal Place
Nanaimo BC CANADA V9R 6A4
FMC Certificate Number 110224653

Birkensky, Richard J. has owned one 21.14 ha claim in the Kennedy River area since 2011. Krivensky also has multiple claims in the Port Alberni area. The claim focuses on Gold, Silver, Zinc and Copper, and no work was recorded on the last statement of work.

4895 Dunbar St
Port Alberni BC CANADA V9Y3G8
FMC Certificate Number 110226898

Laroche, Francis R. is a prospector and mineral exploration contractor who has owned many mineral titles mostly in the interior of the province. In 2012, Laroche purchased four claims totaling 84.48 ha in the Kennedy River area from Chris Zimmer. He has recently made payments in lieu of performing work on these claims.

2589 Thompson Dr
Kamloops BC CANADA V2C 4L5
(250) 374-8850
franklaroche@shaw.ca
FMC Certificate Number 110223632

Lawes, Steven J. is a prospector who acquired a small 21 ha claim on Ursus Creek, near the base on Veella Peak. No work was done since the claim was acquired.

Box 1202
513 Mayne
Princeton BC CANADA V0X 1W0
FMC Certificate Number 110222393

McKinney, William J. owns one 42.05 ha claim located near the Strathcona Park boundary, on Ursus Creek. McKinney owns an excavation and bulldozing company in Richmond B.C. and has operated as a small-time prospector throughout B.C. No work was recently recorded on McKinney's claim. The potential commodities on the property are Gold, Lead, Zinc and Copper.

11751 Shell Road
Richmond BC CANADA V7A 3W7
billdozer111@gmail.com
FMC Certificate Number 110223067

Darrien: Derrien, Anthony C. & Mattu, Sukhraj S. co-own two claims in Clayoquot Sound (50%-50%). One claim on the south side of Clayoquot Arm has had no work done since its acquisition in 2014. The other claim, in the Kennedy River area, has had no work performed since its acquisition in 2009.

6202 190th St
Surrey BC CANADA V3S 8H7
(604) 537-5834
FMC Certificate Number 110225792

Darren: Mattu:
1766 Salisbury Ave
Port Coquitlam BC CANADA V3B 1X7
(778) 836-8819
FMC Certificate Number 110224400

Howie, William I. owns six claims totaling 159.7 ha near Kennedy Lake, along the border of Pacific Rim National Park Reserve. The primary commodity on the claims is Gold. Three of the six claims had work performed in 2014, according to the last statement of work. Howie has owned many claims in the Alberni Mining Division, as well as on the east side of Vancouver Island.

5690 Beaver Creek Road
Port Alberni BC CANADA V9Y 8X5
FMC Certificate Number 110227627
CONCLUSION

Clayoquot Sound is experiencing a moderate to high level of mining exploration. Brownfields (previously mined ore bodies) are an attractive alternative to new mine development because globally, the best locations have been mined out. Clayoquot Sound has at least 2 such brownfields (Fandora and Brynnor) which have experienced very recent exploration and are being seriously explored as viable mine developments (endorsed, along with all other mining, by the British Columbia government’s new mining initiatives).

Just outside the Clayoquot Sound UNESCO Biosphere Reserve, an active iron ore mine in the middle of Strathcona Park (Nyrstar’s Myra Falls mine—active since 1966), and Pacific Iron Ore’s ‘Pearson Project’ (a potential development north of Port Renfrew) exemplify the high viability of Vancouver Island in the eyes of the mining industry.

It is not inconceivable that mine applications are forthcoming in Clayoquot Sound.
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Written by Dan Lewis (Clayoquot Action) with the assistance of Elyse Goatchev-Bergmann and Glenn Grande.

Crayoquot Action would like to acknowledge the expertise and assistance of the Fair Mining Collaborative, in particular Amy Crook, Glenn Grande, Stan Tomandl, and Ann Jacobs.

The bulk of the research for this report was carried out by Clayoquot Action volunteers Hélène Descoteaux, Elyse Goatchev-Bergmann and Nuri Nolla. Thank you!

Thank you to everyone who supported this project:

Crayoquot Biosphere Trust for partial funding
Long Beach Lodge Resort in Tofino for hosting the FMC training
Geoff Senichenko and the Wilderness Committee for mapping support
Sander Jain and T’ashii Paddle School for photography
Tom Fortington for graphic design

NEXT STEPS

Fair Mining Collaborative recently published the Mine Medicine Manual: A Community Resource (MMM) which comes with an invitation to participate. The MMM guides readers through mining, and the mineral tenure system in a practical way. Using a series of hands-on tasks, the MMM helps especially in situations encountered by First Nations when responding to proponents undertaking mining activities on traditional territories.

This report is a result of using the MMM, specifically the 1st and 2nd tasks.

Further steps might include:

1. **Contacting each miner or company operating in Clayoquot Sound.** Under Canadian law, mining on First Nations traditional territory requires the Crown to meaningfully consult and accommodate the host First Nation(s). This is especially true in the wake of Tsilhqot’in Nation v. British Columbia 2014. Failure on the part of the miner to adequately consult and accommodate a First Nation can trigger further legal action, which is bad for business and all concerned. Miners should receive and address all the concerns of a First Nation. First Nations mining policies contain provisions—such as Section 2 of the Northern Secwépemc te Qelmucw Mining Policy of the Northern Shuswap Tribal Council, outlining meaningful consultation in precise detail.

2. **Investigate any Notices of Work miners receive and respond to each.** Notices of Work can be sorted according to priority set out on pages 58–61 of the Mine Medicine Manual. ‘Responding’ to a Notice of Work could require anything from a phone call to a miner to a multi-day field visit to an exploration site.

3. **Conducting site visits to gather baseline data before site disruption begins.** Site visits should not be undertaken lightly. Safety is the prime concern. Consult the “Site Visit Pre-Check” on page 86 of the MMM for a start.