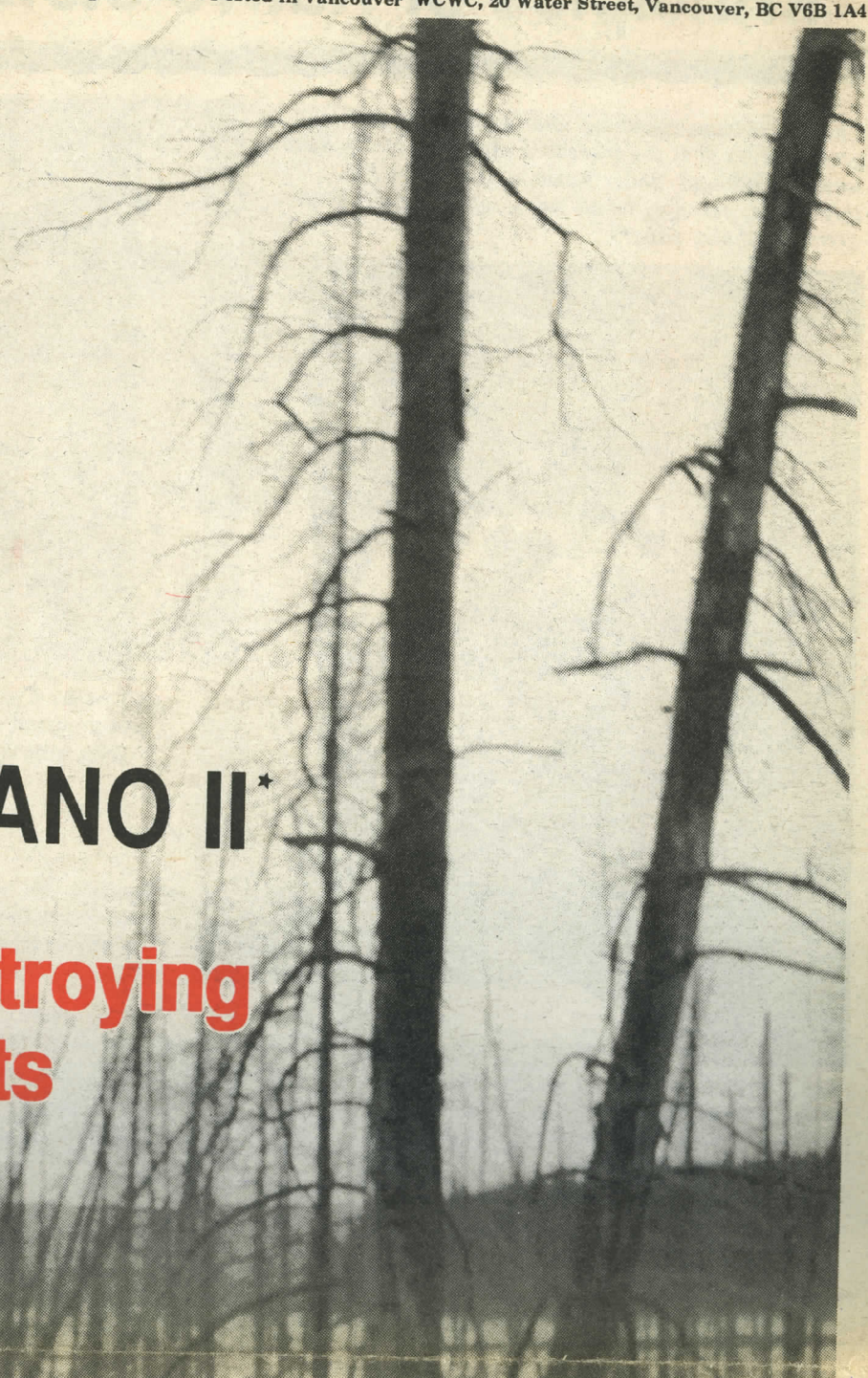


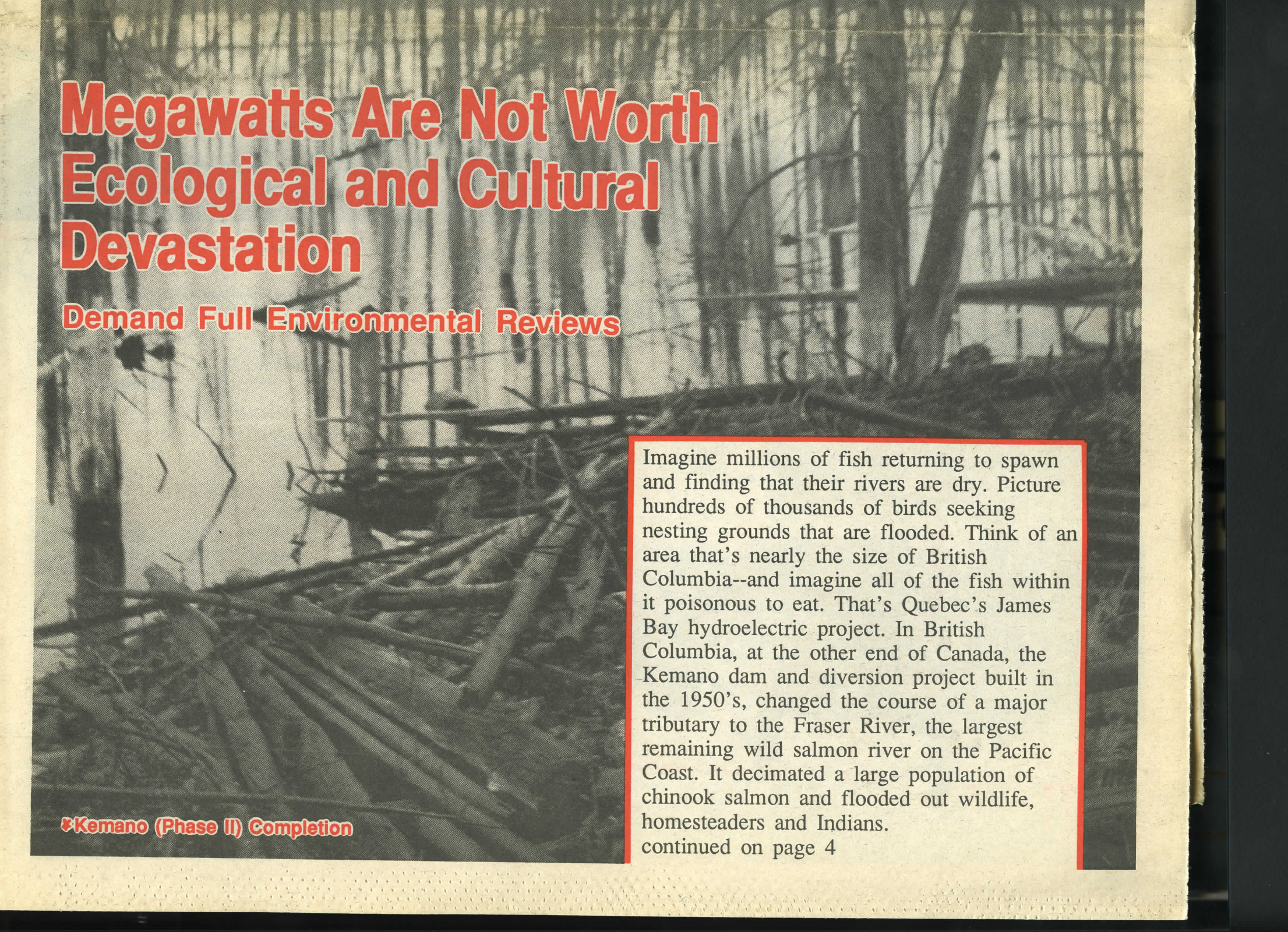
# HELP STOP

**JAMES BAY II & KEMANO II\***

**Two proposed nature-destroying  
hydroelectric megaprojects**







# Megawatts Are Not Worth Ecological and Cultural Devastation

**Demand Full Environmental Reviews**

Imagine millions of fish returning to spawn and finding that their rivers are dry. Picture hundreds of thousands of birds seeking nesting grounds that are flooded. Think of an area that's nearly the size of British Columbia--and imagine all of the fish within it poisonous to eat. That's Quebec's James Bay hydroelectric project. In British Columbia, at the other end of Canada, the Kemano dam and diversion project built in the 1950's, changed the course of a major tributary to the Fraser River, the largest remaining wild salmon river on the Pacific Coast. It decimated a large population of chinook salmon and flooded out wildlife, homesteaders and Indians.

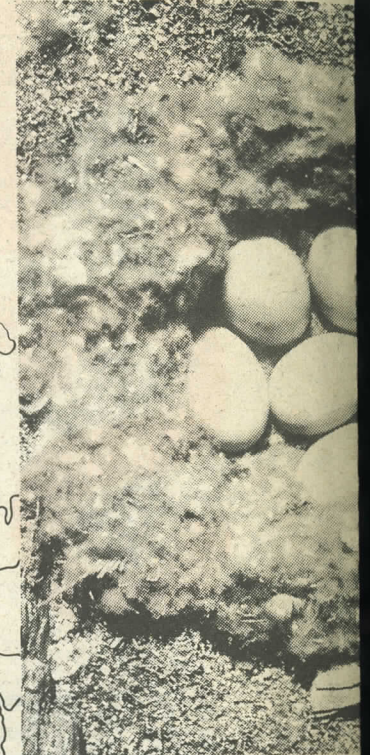
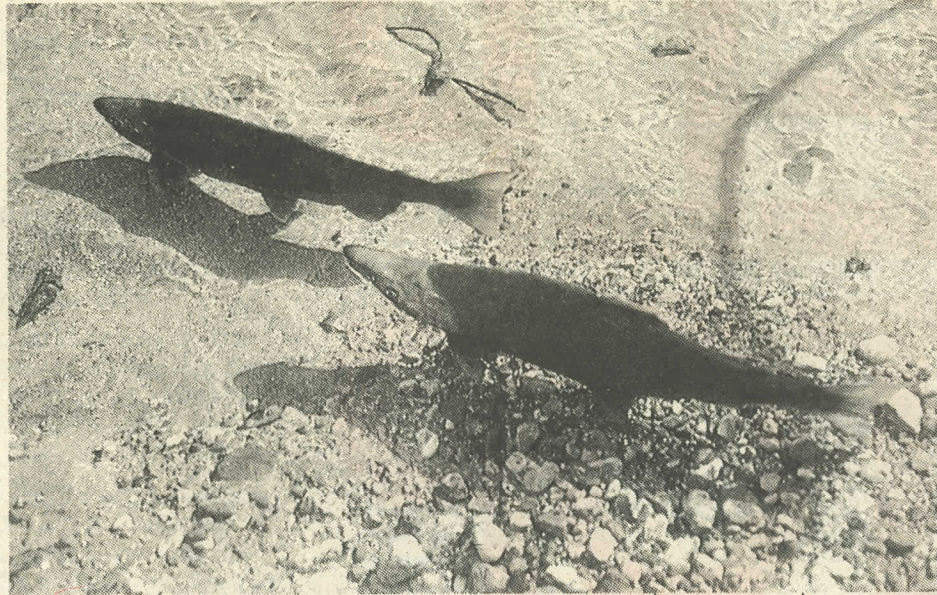
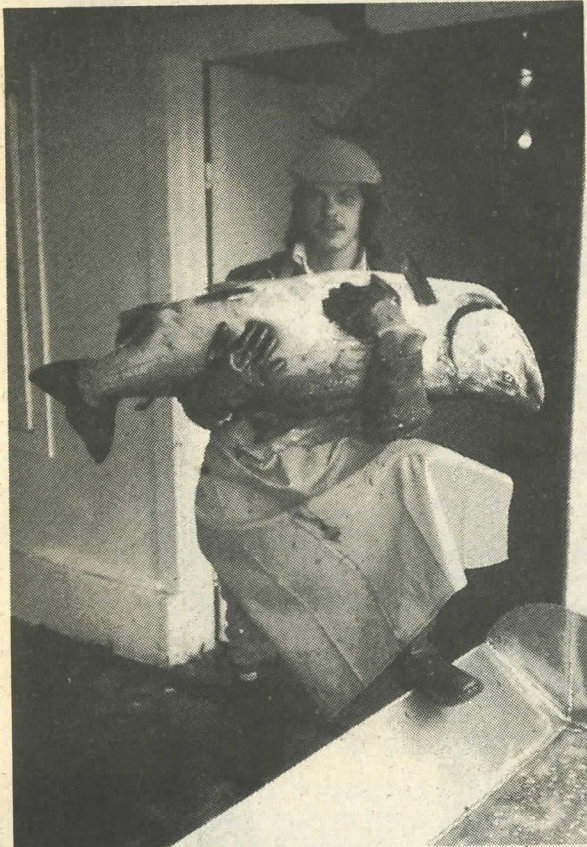
continued on page 4

**\*Kemano (Phase II) Completion**



# Principles of Native *stewardship* and *sustainable devel*

*Chinook salmon spawning and rearing grounds will be greatly reduced if the increased diversion of Nechako waters is allowed under Kemano II. Photos like this would, perhaps, be all we would have left of the great Nechako fishery.*



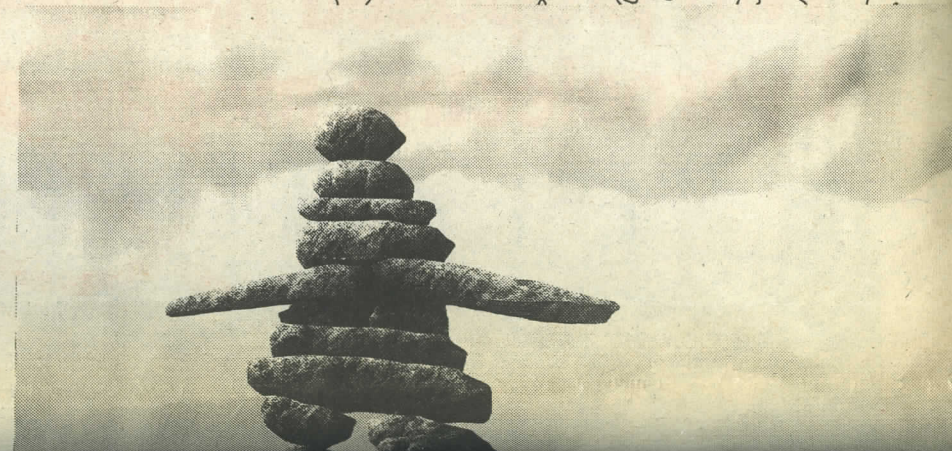
*Eider Ducks use this region. Millions of migratory birds will be lost if the 16 billion dollar, 9,000 megawatt Broadback-Rupert phase of J.A. Irving is allowed to go ahead.*

*The Fraser River's great sockeye salmon and steelhead runs will be in great jeopardy with so little water left in the Nechako, a major tributary.*



Yukon

Northwest Territories







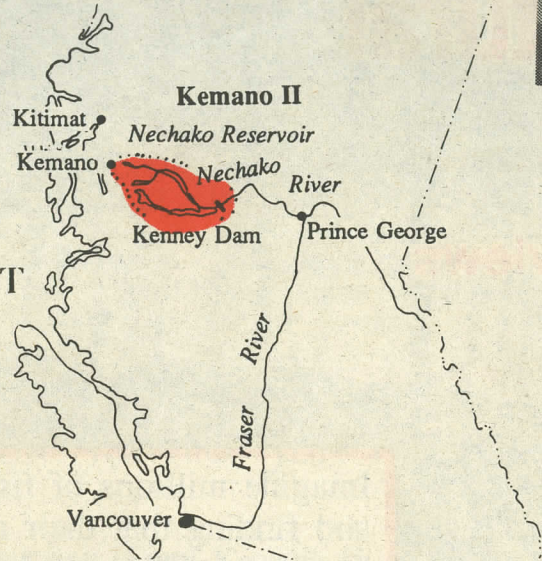


British Columbia

Pacific Ocean

 COMPLETED PROJECT  
 PROPOSED PROJECT

*Recreation would be ruined on the Nechako if the agreement of 1987 is not rescinded.*



Alberta

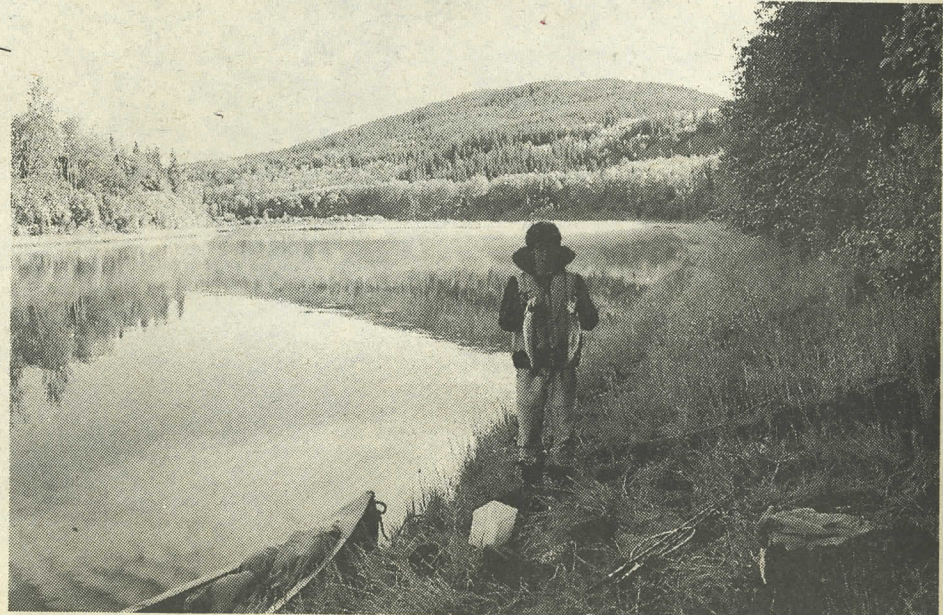
# INUKSHUK • Ken Kirkby

STEWARDSHIP FROM SEA TO SEA TO SEA

*Thousands of mysterious stone Inukshukiat, reminders of the need for stewardship, dot the Arctic homelands of the Inuit.*

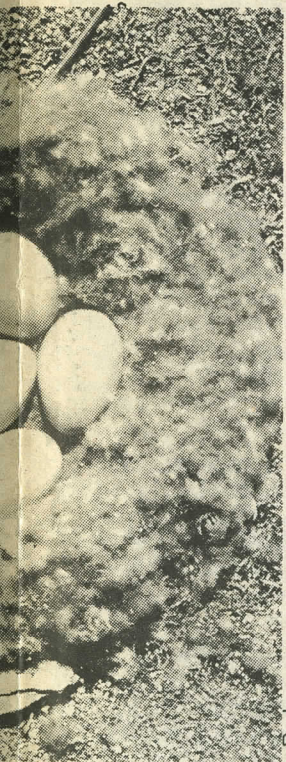
Saskatchewan

Manitoba





# Development demand **James Bay II** and **Kemano II** be halted

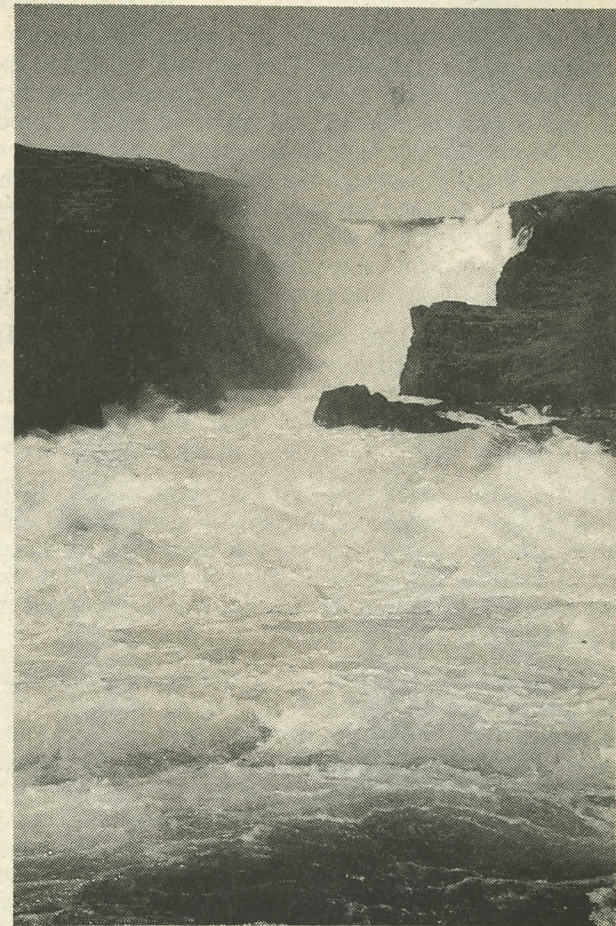


The habitat of  
will be destroyed if the  
Nottaway-  
James Bay II is

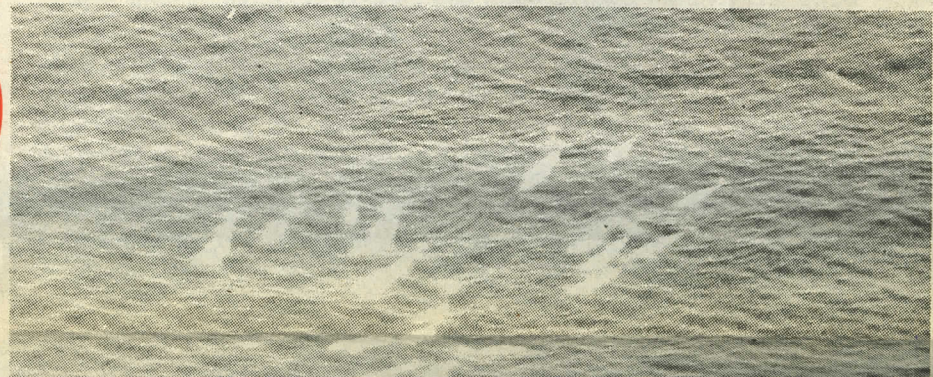
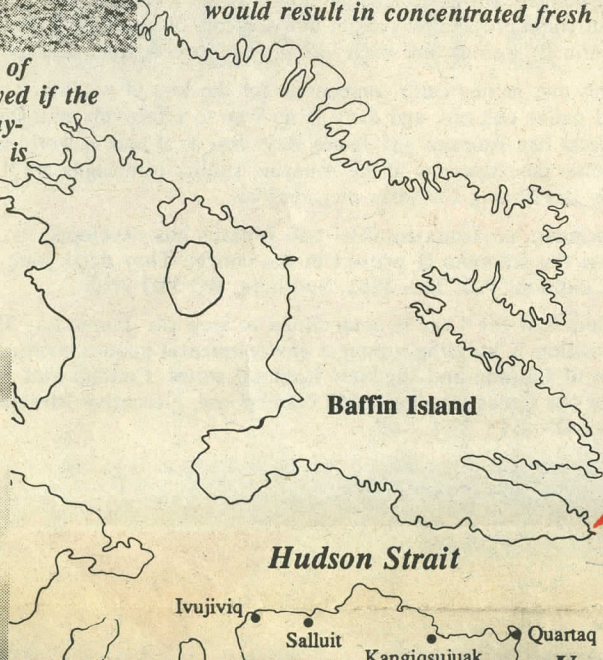


James Bay II would disrupt major migratory routes for hundreds of thousands of caribou. The diversions would result in concentrated fresh water

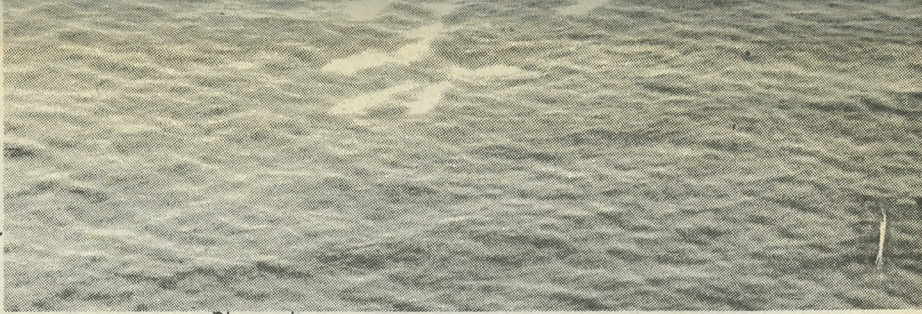
outflow during winter into Hudson Bay, causing changes in water temperature and ice conditions which could spell ecological disaster.



Reduced water flow over this Nastapoka waterfall will destroy forever critical habitat for beluga whales and the only run of Atlantic salmon in Hudson Bay.







*Beluga Whales in Hudson Bay and James Bay are already in great jeopardy from bio-accumulation of methyl-mercury due to James Bay I. Additional mercury poisoning is sure to occur if James Bay II goes ahead and could very well force them into local extinction.*



*Fish, the staple of the Cree and Inuit diet, already have dangerous levels of mercury and some species cannot be eaten. If James Bay II goes ahead, fish over an area far larger than British Columbia will be inedible, for probably many decades.*

*This stretch of the upper Nechako River near Greer Mountain Stream would be an empty, muddy channel if the flows are reduced to 13% of the natural flows as allowed by the Alcan-Canadian government agreement of 1987.*



These projects are completed and people must live with their negative consequences. But people are wiser now and won't automatically support the massive second phases of these hydro-electric developments, James Bay II and Kemano II. Both are supposed to create wealth and jobs by subverting nature--impounding and diverting more water from natural watersheds in order to force it into adjacent watersheds and then through electricity-generating turbines.

Although located on opposite sides of Canada, the Kemano and James Bay projects have much in common. They are both related to the aluminium industry. Both were initiated without any consultation with the local people directly and negatively affected, and approved behind closed government doors. And both have extremely high environmental price tags--destructive consequences that far outweigh the energy they would produce. The parent projects, James Bay I and Kemano I, were dreamed up long before the environmental movement began in Canada, and decades before the concept of "sustainable development" was coined. Now we know the damage which these projects have caused--the true price tag of "cheap, clean" electricity.

The price of Kemano I, completed in the early 1950's, includes 800 sq. km. (200,000 acres) of flooded forest lands. The project turned a wildlife-rich area of beautiful lakes and streams into a reservoir filled with snags and deadheads, displaced an entire Cheslatta Indian Band, and severely impacted the Chinook salmon by decreasing the water flows in the Nechako River by nearly 40%.

James Bay I, called "La Grande Project", began in the 1970's and is just now being completed. Its total reservoir area is about 14,000 sq. km., including 10,000 sq. km. of flooded land--an area more than ten times larger than that flooded by the Kemano I project. It has already severely impacted the Cree and Inuit people who depend on the wildlife that in turn need the sea ice, forested lands, and naturally flowing rivers.

One of the worst consequences of La Grande Project is the growing "plume" of mercury poisoning associated with the rotting vegetation under the reservoir waters, now moving out of the reservoirs and into James and Hudson Bays. No one knows how long this mercury contamination, for the most part an unforeseen spin-off of the project, will last or what its full, long-term environmental consequences will be. The government now admits that the mercury-contaminated fish are inedible, but who issues warnings to bears, seals, beluga whales and eagles and how are a people whose food, livelihood, culture and spirituality come directly from the land, going to survive?

Despite the obviously devastating environmental and social impacts of both James Bay I and Kemano I, government and industry are forging ahead with second phases in both projects.

Starting out as opponents in the B.C. courts, in 1987, Alcan and the Canadian government struck a private agreement allowing Alcan to further divert waters of the Nechako to double the company's power output. The project would leave only 13% of the original flow in the Nechako, the migratory route of about one-fifth of all the mighty Fraser River's sockeye run. It is estimated that the waters at Hell's Gate, currently one of the most difficult obstacles to migration,

might be lowered by several feet at critical times of the year. The lowered flow of water will also increase the concentration of toxins discharged from pulp mills into the Fraser, posing additional threats to the river's fish.

The Alcan-government agreement is complex. It allows the private company the right to diminish much of the fishery in the Nechako as long as it "mitigates" the loss by producing an equal number of fish elsewhere. But no one really knows the full impact of the reduced flow of the Nechako on the Fraser River and its salmon runs. A hatchery operation can never adequately replace a wild salmon run. Any threat to the Nechako and Fraser Rivers is a threat to British Columbians. It is ironic that the ordinary citizens of British Columbia must raise funds to demand in court that the government obey its own law and undertake a full independent environmental assessment and review of Kemano Phase II.

Environmental unknowns surround Quebec's James Bay II proposal as well. James Bay II involves two separate projects, one to the north of La Grande Project, called Great Whale and one to the south, called Nottaway-Broadback-Rupert. Both are huge, even in the world of megaprojects. In total they will cost an estimated 25 billion dollars. If completed, the entire James Bay project would be the largest hydroelectric project in the entire world, necessitating the diversion and impoundment of 20 major rivers, with combined reservoirs drowning forests and critical fish, wildlife and migratory bird habitats in an area the size of France. Combined with similar hydro developments in Ontario and Manitoba, the James Bay project is destroying the very nature of James and Hudson Bays, and the entire northern heartland of Canada.

With the permission of the federal government, the Quebec government recently split the necessary environmental review process for James Bay II into two stages, allowing reviews of the road to Great Whale and the dams and diversions to be conducted separately. This opens up the possibility that construction of the Great Whale road, and associated airports and buildings, will begin in January of 1991. The existence of this "infrastructure" and the "investment" it represents could then be used during the environmental review of the dams and diversions to force their acceptance.

In the province of Quebec, conservationists are fighting a nationalist agenda. Quebec's political leaders have played a major role in promoting both James Bay I and II, despite their high long-term dollar, human, and environmental costs, as the lever to Quebec's economic independence. But some economists predict that the cost of servicing the James Bay project's long term debt alone will make the project an economic disaster.

We are learning as a species that money can't compensate for the loss of wildlife, dollars can't heal destroyed native cultures, and there is no way to effectively mitigate the damage caused by projects like Kemano and James Bay. Just as it took a world-wide outcry to halt the hydroelectric developments in the Amazon, similar campaigns are needed to halt these equally devastating Canadian megaprojects.

**A coalition of unions, fisherman, environmentalists and Indians has developed in British Columbia to oppose the Kemano II project in the courts. They need your support: Rivers Defense Coalition, P.O. Box 2781, Smithers, BC V0J 2N0.**

**In Quebec, the Grand Council of the Cree is determined to stop the James Bay II project in court, and opposition is building amongst environmental groups within Quebec as well as the rest of Canada and the New England states. Contact and support: Grand Council of the Crees (Quebec), Bill Namagoose, Executive Director, 24 Bayswater Ave., Ottawa ON K1Y 2E4.**

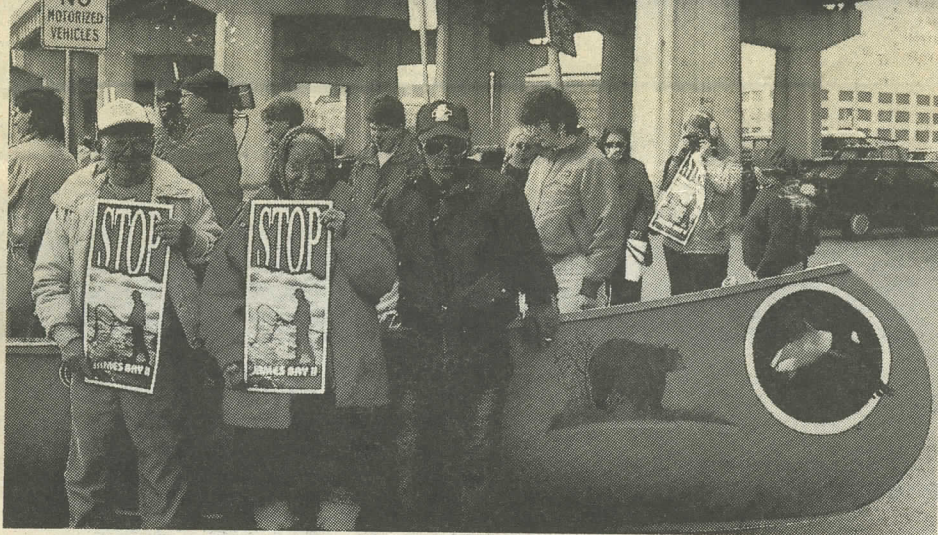
Open your heart, add your voice, and use your pen and pocketbook to help make sure these two life-destroying megaprojects die on the drawingboards.



*"Canadians have to realize that environmental*







Billie and Mina Weetaltuk and son Moses with the boat Odeyak in Albany, New York. Sixty-two Inuit and Cree from Great Whale River paddled Odeyak from Montreal to New York City for Earthday, April 1990, protesting the sale of James Bay electricity to the United States at the cost of their homelands.

*"Canadians have to realize that environmental disasters don't only happen in the Brazilian rainforest. Hydroelectric development is destroying wildlife and killing my people and eventually, we will all be the victims."*

Matthew Coon-Come,  
Grand Chief of the Grand  
Council of the Crees of  
Quebec



## STEWARDSHIP FROM SEA TO SEA TO SEA

- Yes I want to help halt James Bay II and Kemano II - two proposed megaprojects that are ecologically unsound, until full environmental reviews are conducted.
- Here is my donation of \$\_\_\_\_\_ to help launch the massive educational campaigns needed to stop these destructive projects. Please use it to fight James Bay II  Kemano II  Both
- Please send me \_\_\_\_\_ copies of the Ken Kirkby art poster titled *INUKSHUK - Stewardship from Sea to Sea to Sea* (\$20 each, includes postage and all applicable taxes). This limited quantity poster of the Inukshuk image in this paper is 29" by 23" and is printed on environmentally friendly fine art paper. All poster proceeds go to the campaigns to stop hydro megaprojects and save Canada's wild rivers. Also available are artcards of the same Kirkby Inukshuk image (blank inside, with envelope) for \$2 each or 5 for \$8. I would like \_\_\_\_\_ cards.
- Please send me an application for membership in the Steelhead Society of B.C.
- I want to join Western Canada Wilderness Committee. Enclosed is my \$25 membership fee.

Please make out cheques to **WCWC-WILD - Wild Rivers Defense Fund** and mail to Western Canada Wilderness Committee's WILD Campaign - 710-340 West Cordova St., Vancouver, BC V6B 2V3. Phone 604-669-9453.

### WRITE AND EXPRESS YOUR OPINION

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House of Commons  
Ottawa, ON K1A 0A6

Premier Robert Bourassa  
885 Grande-Allee East  
Quebec, PQ G1A 1A2

Premier Bill Vander Zalm  
Legislative Buildings  
Victoria, BC V8V 1X4



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