

occur. At least five species are already in danger of extinction and an additional hazard could threaten complete extermination. No method presently exists for adequately cleaning oil-fouled birds with the result that the death rate of retrieved birds alone is 97 per cent. The immediate and long-term consequences to local wildlife cannot be estimated, depending as they do on location, toxicity, time etc. Until adequate safeguards or assurances are given for the protection of wildlife in these areas, the potential threat should not be allowed to materialize.

Coastal parks on the west coast of Vancouver Island and within the Straits of Juan de Fuca and Georgia are extremely vulnerable to this type of pollution. The shorelines and islands within these Straits are particularly so because of the relatively slow rate of water exchange and circulation patterns. In the intertidal zone, there would be widespread destruction to marine flora and fauna, in addition oil covered waters would seriously affect sea birds and waterfowl colonies, marine mammals, fishes and the whole ecology and aesthetics of this area.

The fishing industry of British Columbia is a major source of revenue both in the commercial and recreational forms. It is unnecessary to emphasize the physical effects of an oil spill on limiting fishing operations, but equally