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Trip Report

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Mon Jun 06 to Thu Jun 09, 2011

 Leader: **Susan Holvenstot**

Co-Leader:

A last minute trip, it worked out beautifully, with 4 people sharing Kate's Subaru on the drive to and from Tahsis. We made a brief stop at Strathcona Park Lodge, for a muffin and coffee, for old times sake. It's a good gravel road after Gold River, and we enjoyed the spectacular scenery, snowy mountains and full waterfalls.

Shannon met us in Tahsis for the 3 hour trip down Tahsis and Esperanza Inlets in her motor sail boat. Once on the island, actually private land in the middle of Nuchatlitz Provincial Park, we settled into, or near, Susan's small cabin. Kate and Pat found great campsites overlooking the water, while Susan and Heather shared the cosy cabin with the few mice who visit.

We had pretty much sun and warm every day, as we made the rounds of the best local beauty spots. Chias Island is reached by walking at low tide via the 1 mile spit. The flowers were particularly spectacular, with huge waves of columbine and Indian paintbrush, and monkeyflower. We canoed and kayaked to the Grassy Knoll, and Port Landford, and had a beautiful early morning paddle to Eagle Islet, heading a bit into the open ocean swell.

We also hiked the entire 60 acre island, enjoying the huge old growth forest trees, and visiting Shannon and Brian's beautiful house site, garden and B We visited Bob and his sawmill, and boatshed. He is the founder of this land share company, and the resident with the most time in paradise.

We cooked fantastic oysters and mussels on a beach fire, and walked to the Indian Reserve Island for sunsets.

For wildlife we saw a bear, many otters, eagles, oystercatchers, and lots more. We kept a look out for wolves, often seen on the beach opposite our campsite, but none showed themselves this time.

I will be putting on another Nuchatlitz trip in Aug, so let me know if certain dates are better if you want to go. Susan 334-2375.

In honor of the ancient forest we sang "Tree" by Rick Scott

500 years ago, there was nobody round when they planted
 And on, and on, and on I grow,
 Now your're standing here gonna end it.
 But if I could show you the magic of my rings
 And mother of time has told me it can be done
 You'd never cut me down.

I am not afraid of falling down,
 that's the way you go, the old ones told me
 But now I hear a painful sound,
 I wish there were someone to hold me.
 But if you need the miracle of my grain,

to keep the water off your head
Just remember your life and mine are the same.

Rum de dum,de dum, de dum, de diddle de
Rum de dum, de dum."



Susan's cabin
[Kate Pierce photo]



Kayaking
[Kate Pierce photo]



Bridges to our campsite
[Kate Pierce photo]



*Heather, Susan and Pat in one
of the many big trees*
[Kate Pierce photo]



Our transport to Nuchatlitz
[Kate Pierce photo]



*One of the many views of
Nuchatlitz coastline*
[Kate Pierce photo]

Report contributors: Susan H, Kate P,

Participant list (4 of 4): Pat F, Susan H, Kate P, Heather W:**guest**,

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