

Stop Clayoquot Sound Copper Mine



On July 16, Vancouver-based Selkirk Metals Corporation started exploratory drilling for copper on Catface Mountain in Clayoquot Sound. Drilling will determine whether or not it is economically feasible to develop the low-grade copper-molybdenum deposit on Catface into a large open-pit mine. The potential mine would be one of the biggest industrial projects on Vancouver Island and would remove the top third of Catface Mountain. It would be located in the middle of the Clayoquot Sound UNESCO Biosphere Reserve, within sight of the tourist town of Tofino. Exploratory drilling will itself be damaging; it will involve re-building/building roads to bring in drill rigs, and drill holes could leach toxic levels of heavy metals and chemicals into groundwater and surrounding salmon streams.

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