

Cod war strategy is embarrassment

BRUSSELS (CP) — The European Community and Newfoundland Premier Clyde Wells both tried strategies aimed at embarrassment Wednesday in the ongoing fishing dispute between Canada and the EC.

The EC asked Canadian Fisheries Minister John Crosbie to rethink what it calls his plan to kill 500,000 seals he says are threatening cod stocks in Canadian waters.

Meanwhile, Wells, who is in Brussels, said Canada will have to take action that will embarrass the European Community into changing its attitude on overfishing off Newfoundland.

Wells said EC officials he met on his trip to Europe this week displayed an "intransigent attitude" to his proposal that Canada take custodial management of the fishing stocks off the Grand Banks if the EC does not agree to stop overfishing within the next few weeks.

"It is clear that we have to take the approach of causing as much embarrassment as can be in order to get the EC to change its position," he said.

Ottawa is considering resumption of a large-scale seal hunt as part of an effort to save dwindling fish stocks, but no decision has been made.

In a letter sent to Crosbie on Wednesday by EC Fisheries Commissioner Manuel Marin and Environment Commissioner Carlo Ripa di Meana, the EC seeks clarification of the plan, which it learned through press reports in Canada.

The EC has asked Crosbie to clarify his intentions regarding seals and to rethink his policy if it does involve slaughtering over 500,000 seals.

The EC spokesman said studies in Canada showed that only one per cent of the stomach contents of seals is made up of cod.

"There is no biological link," the spokesman said. "We want them to reconsider before they kill

these seals."

Marin has also asked Crosbie to organize a meeting of the Northwest Atlantic Fisheries Organization's Scientific Committee within the next few days and not wait until June, an EC Commission spokesman in Brussels said.

"This is ridiculous," the EC spokesman said. "There's no reason we can't hold the meeting right away."

Canada agreed on April 21 to hold a meeting of NAFO's scientific committee to examine evidence regarding depletion of cod stocks off Newfoundland.

Wells said his visit to the Belgian capital on Wednesday resolved nothing, though he said EC officials there shared his concerns about depletion of the stocks.

Wells also said he got support from environmental and industry groups in Germany, where he began his trip April 17.

"I believe European public opinion is on our side," he said.

Wells told EC fisheries and environment officials in Brussels he would press for an international police force to be set up to patrol the area outside Canada's 200-mile limit to ensure that overfishing is curtailed.

An EC official, who asked not to be identified, said the community viewed Wells's visit as an attempt to upstage the Canadian government which is suffering from low popularity.

"The EC's position has not changed as a result of Wells's visit," he said.

"We are still willing to go along with Canada if it introduces a total moratorium, but we are still not willing to carry all the blame."

The EC has said it is ready to reduce its catches if a scientific study proves cod stocks are endangered. Though Canada agreed to the study, Wells has said the EC move appears to be only a gesture to quell Canadian criticism.

Environmentalist says forests disappearing

NEW YORK (CP) — Canadian Colleen McCrory, winner of one of the world's most prestigious environmental prizes, said Wednesday that the "forests of Canada are in an emergency situation."

"Canada is the Brazil of the north," McCrory told a news conference at the New York Academy of Science. "Brazil is losing one acre of forest every nine seconds.

We're losing one acre every 12 seconds."

McCrory, who meets today with United Nations Secretary General Boutros Boutros-Ghali, said "the governments of Canada and B.C. are not listening."

McCrory was one of six environmental "heroes" from around the world who were awarded \$60,000 US each Monday from the Goldman Environmental Foundation. Rhoda Goldman, the San Francisco heiress of the Levi Strauss clothing fortune, and her husband Richard Goldman began awarding the prize three years ago.

One award goes to a grassroots fighter on each continent who is working for natural preservation. McCrory is the first Canadian winner.

The six winners will meet with U.S. President George Bush at the White House on Friday.

McCrory, one of nine children of a mining family in New Denver, B.C., (population 800), said she was "raised on deer meat and macaroni."



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LEGALS

Province of British Columbia Ministry of Forests

NOTICE INVITING APPLICATIONS FOR TIMBER SALE LICENCE A28474

Pursuant to Section 16 of the Forest Act, sealed tender applications will be accepted by the District Manager, Prince George Forest District, 2000 South Ospika Boulevard, Prince George, B.C., V2N 4W5, for a Timber Sale Licence to authorize the harvesting of timber in the Prince George Timber Supply Area as follows: SL A28474: -vicinity of Canfor Isle Paper Mill approximately 55 km west of Prince George. - Category 1 - Standing green - one (1) year term. - 11:00 a.m., Thursday, May 14, 1992.

Coniferous: 23,661 m² more or less: 50% Spruce, 45% Lodgepole Pine, 4% Fir, 1% Balsam.

Deciduous: 3,673 m² more or less: 27% Aspen, 3% Birch.

Total Volume: 27,334 m³ more or less.

Bidding is restricted to persons registered in the Small Business Forest Enterprise Program in the category indicated above.

Particulars may be obtained from the Prince George Forest District Office, 2000 South Ospika Boulevard, Prince George, B.C. V2N 4W5.

LEGALS

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

I, Antonia Crossan, President of Up The Creek Garment Company, 461 Robson Avenue, Prince George, B.C. V2M 5S6, will not be responsible for any debts incurred in my name, by anyone other than myself, on or after this date, April 30, 1992.

Invitation to Tender

In accordance with the Ministry of Transportation and Highways Act, Section 49(1), sealed tenders are invited for the following:

Project No.: 08385. Location: Upper Fraser Road, approximately 40 km North East of Prince George-Willow River Howe Truss Bridge #0447. Description: The replacement of the existing 55 metre truss deck with a longitudinally laminate post-tensioned deck and the strengthening of the bottom chord by post-tensioning.

Sealed tenders, completed in accordance with the Conditions of Tender on the forms provided, will be received by the Ministry of Transportation and Highways at 4055 - 15th Avenue, Prince George, B.C., V2N 1A5 until 2:00 p.m. (local time) on May 20, 1992, when tenders will be opened in public.

A security deposit/surety bid bond will be required (in accordance with the conditions of the tender).

A pre-tender meeting will be held on May 14, 1992 at 10:00 a.m. at the Willow River Bridge site on the Upper Fraser Road.

Tender documents complete with envelope, plans, specifications and conditions of tender are available from the Ministry of Transportation and Highways, Fort George Highways District Office, 4055 - 15th Avenue, Prince George, B.C., V2N 1A5 (Ph: 565-6160) at a cost of \$25.00 per set plus 6% P.S.T. (\$1.50) and 7% G.S.T. (\$1.75) for a total of \$28.25, between the hours of 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday to Friday, except holidays.

Payment for contract documentation shall be made by certified cheque or money order, made payable to the Minister of Finance and Corporate Relations. All purchases are non-refundable.

For further information contact Ed Cienciala, Area Manager, Bridges at (604) 565-6180, or fax (604) 565-6820.

The lowest or any tender will not necessarily be accepted.



Province of British Columbia
Ministry of Transportation and Highways

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