

Cadborosaurus — or a relative — spotted swimming in Alaska waters

JUDITH LAVOIE
Times Colonist

Cadborosaurus, the sea serpent beloved by Victoria residents, may have left the balmy waters of Cadboro Bay and moved north, video images suggest.

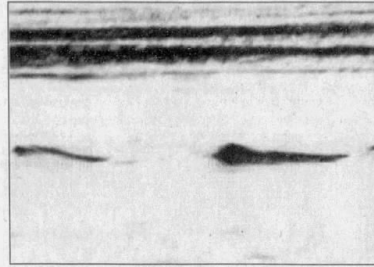
The film, showing undulating shapes, was shot by a fisherman in Nushagak Bay, Alaska.

More likely, the images show that Caddy has many relatives, said Paul LeBlond, an ocean scientist and professor emeritus at the University of British Columbia.

LeBlond is also a cryptozoologist who has spent decades trying to prove the existence of B.C.'s equivalent of the Loch Ness monster.

"This is an amateur video and it's not absolutely conclusive, but it's the clearest video we have of Caddy by a long shot," said LeBlond, who watched the video before fisherman Kelly Nash turned it over to the Discovery Channel and who is interviewed during a program on the creature.

The grainy images were scheduled to be shown Tuesday evening on the channel's *Alaskan Monster Hunt: Hillstranded*, along with footage of efforts to



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A still from the Alaska film shows shapes in the water. The footage is "the clearest video we have of Caddy," says B.C. scientist and cryptozoologist Paul LeBlond.

catch the creature.

LeBlond expects waves of renewed interest in Caddy and his family.

"My first thought was it doesn't look like anything we have in the book. It doesn't look like a whale or a seal or a fish," said LeBlond, in an interview from his home on Galiano Island.

"It looked as if one was blowing through a hole in the back of the head. There was a very visible eye when one of them turned and looked at the boat."

There appeared to be a whole family of the creatures, LeBlond said.

"In that particular video

there seemed to be anything between five and 10 of them," he said.

Sightings of similar animals have been reported from southern California to Alaska, LeBlond said.

That means that the animal intermittently spotted in Cadboro Bay could still be in the area.

Local cryptozoologist Jason Walton keeps 24-hour digital video surveillance of Telegraph Bay in hopes of coming up with absolute proof.

"No, I haven't seen him yet," Walton said. "But we do get a handful of reports every year."

Anyone who has Caddy

information can call Walton at 250-721-3836.

There are two schools of thought about Caddy's pedigree. Some believe he has a sea mammal background and others put him in the marine reptile category.

LeBlond does not understand why some find it difficult to accept that there are ocean creatures that have not yet been identified. A recent census of marine life, involving 80 countries, found 5,000 new species.

"There's still a lot to be discovered," LeBlond said.

Caddy and his family are not necessarily "leftovers" from previous millenniums, but could be descendants, LeBlond suggested. "Every animal in the ocean has ancestors," he said.

Caddy first appeared in the news 75 years ago, when, according to oral history, the *Victoria Daily Times* was looking for a snappy headline on a slow news day. But that does not mean the story was inaccurate, LeBlond said.

"It was on the front page of the newspaper for a week and it was certainly used to boost circulation, but that doesn't mean the witnesses were not believable," he said. "These were honourable people."

jlavoi@timescolonist.com

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