

Seagate and Wild Blue Alaska Cruise – Sunday, May 11, 2008

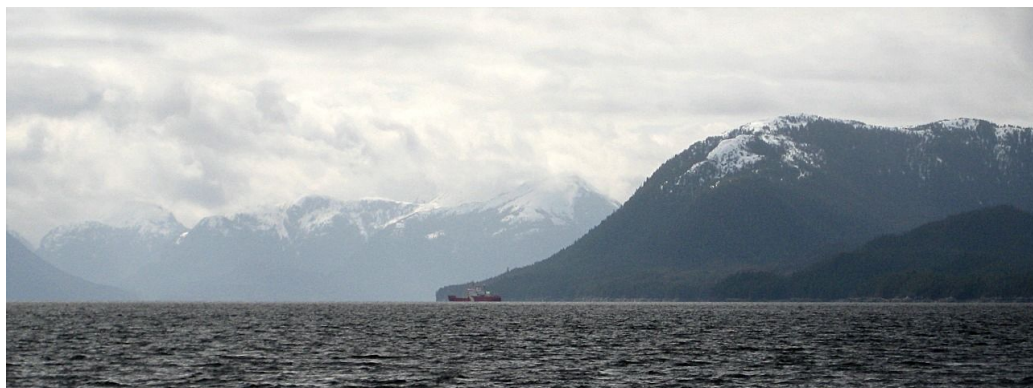
Sunday morning we awoke side-tied to the fuel dock in Hartley Bay. Somehow Alex was able to get an Internet connection from somewhere in the community on a network named “default”. Blogs were emailed and hopefully you received them. We checked our email, adjusted plane reservations and left for the Passage around 10AM.



Just outside Hartley Bay in Coghlan Anchorage we passed Canadian Coast Guard Ship *Tanu* at anchor. Once again Dick on Seagate became a little nervous, passed the helm over to Ray, and went below. We're not sure whether the Mexican Government exchanges information with Canada, but Dick was not taking any chances. As we rounded Dawson Point turning north into the Grenville

Channel, yet another Coast Guard ship was sighted, the 200' *Sir Wilfrid Laurier*. We were sure that the Coasties had dispatched two ships to make the arrest! The skipper of Seagate had to suppress a great desire to turn back, but slid through their dragnet, up the Inside Passage.

As it turns out, *Sir Wilfrid Laurier*, was anchored directly over the sight where the *Queen of the North* sank two years ago. I suppose they may be assessing the sunken vessel, which is still full of bulk oil.



(←*Sir Wilfrid Laurie in the distance over the grave of the Queen of the North.*)

Next the Passage provided a unique sight – a tug towing 25 sportsfishing boats, obviously on there way to a summer fishing lodge. Check this out!



At about 11AM the current turned against us. We were making 7-8 knots while cranking turns for 9. So The Seagate crew suggested Lowe Inlet anchorage for lunch, crabbing, fishing, hiking and a nap. The Inlet provided a safe quiet anchorage while we waited for the tide to turn in our favor.



(← Cheryl and Ray go waterfall hiking! Note Ray is sporting a bear “deterrent” whistle.)



(Gayle and John trek the falls. John is styling in his utility mud boots and neoprene gloves. →)



(← *Seagate anchored in Lowe Inlet close to shore.*)

After fishing without bait for days, John Curry caught about 20 2-inch rock crabs for later use. Harriett loves crab, and when she heard “crabs”, asked if Wild Blue would be sharing the catch. It took her a while to believe that John had just caught bait crabs.

(*Wild Blue on the hook in Lowe Inlet*→)

Back in Ocean Falls, Willie had been puzzled as to why there were two giant crabs in one trap, yet the other trap set just 100 feet away, was empty. The Wild Blue crew has been crabbing with the same two setups all week. Then John Curry asked today how can the crabs get in the trap when the doors are



banded shut! Turns out when the second trap was assembled last week, one of us forgot to remove the bands. So we’ve been baiting and soaking a trap with locked crab doors all week!

Anyway, the tidal current up the Grenville Channel turned in our favor at 5PM. We continued up to Klewnuggit Inlet, East Inlet anchorage. There was just one boat there, the ubiquitous IMB. We anchored for the night in a very quiet cove.



(← *The boats at anchor in Klewnuggit Inlet.*)



(Dick and Harriett enjoy a ride in the Seagate tender at Howe Inlet, Northern BC)



(← The ubiquitous IMB keeps showing up at every anchorage. We've seen them coming into Ocean Falls, at Shearwater, Bottleneck Cove, Hartley Bay and today here in Klewnuggit Inlet.)

Tomorrow we head to Prince Rupert a city of 18,000 for laundry, water, provisions and eating out.