Preamble

This Order supports the commitment to sustainable ecosystem management in Clayoquot Sound made by the *Hawiih* (hereditary chiefs) of the Ahousaht First Nation, the Hesquiaht First Nation, the Tla-o-qui-aht First Nations, the Toquaht Nation, and the Ucluelet First Nation and by the Province of British Columbia.

This Order establishes Land Use Objectives that recognize the importance of the Clayoquot Sound Watershed Plans in guiding sustainable ecosystem management, and enables the contents of the watershed plans to be reflected in forest stewardship plans adopted under the *Forest and Range Practices Act*. The Clayoquot Sound Watershed Plans will be updated and modified periodically to reflect new information as it becomes available.

The preamble is provided for context and background and does not form part of the Order.

Ministry of Agriculture and Lands

Ministerial Order

Order Establishing Land Use Objectives for Clayoquot Sound

1 Interpretation

- (1) This Ministerial Order is pursuant to Section 93.4 (1) of the Land Act.
- (2) The Order applies to Clayoquot Sound, as shown on Schedule 1.
- (3) The Order is made without prejudice to First Nations' rights, title or treaty negotiations; and, does not relieve the Province of its obligations to consult with any First Nation.

2 Definitions

"Adaptive management" means the rigorous combination of management, research and monitoring so that credible information is gained and management activities can be modified by experience (Scientific Panel, 1995).

"Clayoquot Sound" means the area shown on Schedule 1.

"Clayoquot Sound Watershed Plans" means the Flores Island Watershed Plan (2003), the Bedingfield Watershed Plan (2003), the Cypre Watershed Plan (2003), and Volumes 1 to 9, in the Watershed Planning in Clayoquot Sound series (2006).

"First Nation" means the Ahousaht First Nation, Hesquiaht First Nation, Tla-o-qui-aht First Nations, Toquaht Nation and Ucluelet First Nation.

"Scientific Panel" means the Scientific Panel for Sustainable Forest Practices in Clayoquot Sound and their final reports: Report 3: First Nations' Perspectives, Relating to Forest Practices Standards in Clayoquot Sound (March 1995) and Report 5: Sustainable Ecosystem Management in Clayoquot Sound, Planning and Practices (April 1995).

3 Land Use Objectives

- (1) Maintain aquatic ecosystems, biological diversity and community values, including First Nation cultural values, by managing forested ecosystems in Clayoquot Sound in accordance with the principles of sustainable ecosystem management as defined by the Scientific Panel and as embodied in the Clayoquot Sound Watershed Plans.
- (2) Despite Section 3 (1) of this Order, use adaptive management where alternative approaches are likely to result in equal or better ecological management outcomes than the principles of sustainable ecosystem management as defined by the Scientific Panel and as embodied in the Clayoquot Sound Watershed Plans.

4 Transition

- (1) This Order takes effect on the date that notice is published in *The British Columbia Gazette*.
- (2) The four month period referred to in Section 16 (2) of the *Forest and Range Practices Act* applies to the objectives established under Section 3 of this Order.
- (3) The applicable period under Section 8 (2) (b) of the *Forest and Range Practices Act* is twelve months, starting on the date this Order comes into effect.

Heather MacKnight

Regional Executive Director, Coast

ILMB, Ministry of Agriculture and Lands

Date

Schedule 1: Area Covered by the Order Establishing Land Use Objectives for Clayoquot Sound

