



CAMPBELL RIVER INDIAN BAND

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July 31, 2007

District Manager
Campbell River Forest District
670 South Dogwood Street
Campbell River, B.C.
V9W 6Y7

Attn.: Jim Simpson, Woodlot Coordinator

Re: Woodlot Licence W1900, 2007-2016 Woodlot Licence Plan

The Campbell River Indian Band hereby applies for final approval of the 2007 to 2016 Woodlot Licence Plan (WLP) for Woodlot Licence W1900 located at Heydon Bay at Loughborough Inlet. A final copy of the WLP is attached with minor revisions as per Ministry of Forests comments.

The initial draft of this WLP was submitted on June 27, 2007 and a minimum 30 days was provided for review and comment. As of the end of the public review period no responses from members of the public or any organizations have been received (comments have been received from the Ministry of Forests only).

Copies of this WLP have also been referred to 4 First Nations (Cape Mudge, Homalco, K'omox, and Tlowitsis) as well as to the Hamatla Treaty Society. Written responses have been received from Hamatla and K'omox and verbal response has been received from Homalco and Tlowitsis. Copies of all stages of First Nations consultation are included in this final submission.

Operations are scheduled to commence as soon as possible at Woodlot Licence W1900 and a cutting permit application has been submitted. Therefore, your earliest attention to this application would be greatly appreciated. Please contact John Marlow, R.P.F. at 285-2544 with any comments regarding this Woodlot Licence Plan.

Yours Truly;

Chief Robert Pollard
Campbell River Indian Band

cc: Rick Senger, Habitat Protection Officer, Fisheries and Oceans Canada

Corby Lamb, Forestry Manager, Campbell River Indian Band

WOODLOT LICENCE W1900

WOODLOT LICENCE PLAN

TERM – 10 YEARS

August, 2007 to August, 2017

Campbell River Indian Band
1400 Weiwaikum Road
Campbell River, B.C.
V9W 5W8
Phone: (250) 286-6949
Fax: (250) 286-8838

Authorized Licensee Signature:



Chief Robert Pollard, July 31, 2007
(Original Submission June 27, 2007)

Registered Professional Forester Signature:

John Marlow, R.P.F. July 31, 2007



DISCLAIMER:

Recognizing the special nature of management on a Woodlot Licence, this disclaimer forms part of the Woodlot Licence Plan (WLP) for Woodlot Licence W1900 and advises that:

- The decision to operate under one or more of the Default Performance Requirements (DPR) provided in the Woodlot Licence Planning and Practices Regulation (WLPPR) is the sole responsibility of the woodlot license holder. This disclaimer is signed under the explicit understanding of information provided by government that, the use and achievement of a DPR meets the expectations of government with respect to the management of Woodlot Licences.
- The undersigned Registered Professional Forester has been retained to provide advice on the practice of professional forestry with regards to items such as alternative performance requirements that do not have a default performance requirement provided in the Woodlot Licence Planning and Practices Regulation (WLPPR).

Signed: _____

Name: John Marlow, R.P.F.

RPF #: 2638

Contact # 250 285-2544

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INTRODUCTION

Woodlot Licence W1900 located at Heydon Bay at Loughborough Inlet was awarded to the Campbell River Indian Band in 2003 following Ministry of Forests (MOF) approval of the Management Plan.

Forest Management Activities at Woodlot Licence W1900 are now into the sixth year and harvesting is scheduled to commence soon after the approval of this WLP.

2. Mandatory Content for a Woodlot Licence Plan

2-1 Plan Area

Woodlot Licence W1900 is located at Heydon Bay and consists of two small areas of reserve lands (Schedule A Land) and one parcel of provincial forest (Schedule B Lands). The private land is also located at Heydon Bay and includes 8.0ha. The Provincial Forest portion of Woodlot Licence W1900 includes 400ha at Heydon Bay. This Woodlot Licence Plan (WLP) covers the entire area of the woodlot.

All of Woodlot Licence W1900 is located in the Coastal Western Hemlock (CWH) biogeoclimatic zone, and is further stratified as being located in the 'very wet maritime' (vm1) subzone.

2-2 Map and Information

A 1:100,000 scale 'Key Location Map' is provided in Appendix A1, and a detailed 1:10000 scale WLP map is provided in Appendix A2.

2-3 Higher Level Plans / Government Objectives

Operations at Woodlot Licence W1900 are generally guided by the Campbell River Indian Band's Strategic Plan and the Management Plan for Woodlot Licence W1900. Woodlot Licence is also within the area of the Central Coast Land and Resource Management Plan (CCLRMP).

In addition to these higher level plans, the Campbell River Forest District has established 'Recreation Resource Features (Establishment of Recreation Sites and Trails), 'Known Scenic Areas' and 'Visual Quality Objectives' for areas included in Woodlot Licence W1900.

2-4 Areas Where Timber Harvesting Will Be Avoided

Biodiversity Management and riparian and fisheries management are considered to be high values in general management practices at Woodlot Licence W1900. As per Table 1, Wildlife Tree Patch #4 (within Heydon Creek Special Management Zone), and all Riparian Reserve Zones (RRZ's) are included as 'Areas Where Timber Harvesting will be Avoided.

In total 55ha +/- or 12% of Woodlot Licence W1900 is included in permanent reserves as RRZ's, WTP's, and shoreline buffers. These reserve areas are indicated on the WLP Maps.

Table 1: Woodlot Licence W1900 Permanent Reserves

Reserve Name	Location	Area
WTP4	Heydon Creek Riparian Reserve – Schedule B Lands.	22.8ha
Riparian	General RRZ's – Schedule A and B Lands	32.2
Total Reserve		55.0ha

2-5 Areas Where Timber Harvesting Will Be Modified

All areas classified as having a Visual Quality Class are considered to be 'Areas Where Timber Harvesting Will Be Modified' for the purpose of this WLP. The Heydon Bay Visual Polygon has a 'Visual Quality Objective of Modification'. The definition of Modification (Forest Planning and Practices Regulation, Section 1.1) is: (d) *modification*: consisting of an altered forest landscape in which the alteration, when assessed from a significant viewpoint is (i) very easy to see, and (ii) is (A) large in scale and natural in its appearance, or (B) small to medium in scale but with some angular characteristics. This visual quality class definition is from the Forest Planning and Practices Regulation (FPPR) which applies to major licensees. Woodlot Licence planning is governed by the Woodlot Licence Planning and Practices Regulation (WLPPR) where these definitions are adopted for use. Section 1(1) of the WLPPR states 'unless otherwise indicated, words and expressions not defined in this regulation have the meaning given to them in section 1 [definitions] of the Forest Planning and Practices Regulation'.

A 'Special Management Zone' has been established along Heydon Creek for the protection of high fisheries value of this stream. The objective is to apply less intense timber management along this stream and to increase the rotation ages along the stream to twice the culmination age. This generally entails the use of partial cutting systems including uniform retention, group selections, or narrow strips. At any given time, 50% of the stand has to consist of trees that have reached or passed their culmination age.

Table 2: Areas Where Timber Harvesting Will be Modified

Modified Harvest Area Name	Purpose	Area
Heydon Bay Visual Polygon	Visual landscape management as viewed from Loughborough	(13.4ha) incl. in Heydon Bay Special Management Area
Heydon Creek Special Management Area	Riparian and Biodiversity Mngt along Heydon Creek	66.5ha
Riparian Management Zones	Riparian and Biodiversity Mngt along all streams	47.5
WTP1	South of Heydon Bay – Schedule A Lands	0.5ha
WTP2	NW of Heydon Bay – Schedule A Lands	0.8ha
WTP3	NW of Heydon Bay along foreshore – Sch A Lands	1.7ha
WTP5	Roberts Creek Old Growth Reserve – Schedule B Lands	1.2ha
WTP6	Roberts Creek Old Growth Reserve – Schedule B Lands	1.0ha
WTP7	NW portion of Woodlot W1900 – Old Growth / Terrain Stability Reserve	3.6ha
Total Modified Harvest Area		122.8ha

In addition to the Modified Harvest Areas outlined in Table 2, harvesting will also be modified in the following areas:

Riparian Management Areas

All fish-bearing streams with a stream width >1.5m have both a Riparian Reserve Zone (RRZ) and a Riparian Management Zone (RMZ). These streams are stream class S1, S2 and S3. Fish-bearing streams <1.5m (class S4) and all non-fish streams (class S5 and S6) have a RMZ only. Harvesting is prohibited in all RRZ other than for special circumstances such as stream crossings. The RMZ for all streams designates areas of riparian influence and these RMZs are often areas of high ecological value. All RMZs will be assessed site specifically and appropriate leave tree strategies will be developed for each situation. Non clear-cut harvesting systems will be utilized at all RMZ's. A minimum of 10 co-dominant trees / hectare will be maintained at all RMZ and the range of retention will be between 10 trees / ha and full retention.

Wildlife Tree Patches

Generally, timber harvesting will be avoided within designated WTP's and no harvesting is currently planned in these areas for the term of this WLP. Harvesting will be considered in these areas for the purpose of blowdown salvage (if blowdown occurs), safety, and access development if required. Details in regards to operations within WTP's and replacement of WTP's is outlined in section 2.7 (Wildlife Tree Retention Strategy).

2.6 Protecting and Conserving Cultural Heritage Resources

Prior to the award of Woodlot Licence W1900, the Ministry of Forest conducted an 'Archaeological Overview Assessment' (Golder and Associates, June 1999). This assessment describes 3 distinct classes for Archaeological Resource (AR) potential (low III, moderate II, and High I), and 2 classes for Culturally Modified Tree (CMT) potential (moderate II, and high I). The Campbell River Forest District (CRFD) has conducted another Archaeological Overview Assessment (AOA – Millenia Research Ltd.) in 2007. Once this information is provided to CRIB, affected plans will be updated to reflect the results of this AOA.

Private Portion 1 – This area has AR potential of Class I (high) adjacent to the shores of Heydon Bay, and Class II further inland. No CMT potential has been identified. An archaeological review will be conducted prior to any Cutting Permit Issuance in this area.

Private Portion 2 – This area has AR potential of Class I (high) adjacent to the shores of Heydon Bay, and Class II further inland. No CMT potential has been identified. A Campbell River First Nation representative conducted a walk-through CMT survey in 2002 and determined there were no CMT's inside the Woodlot Licence W1900 area of private land portion 2. An archaeological review will be conducted prior to any Cutting Permit Issuance in these areas.

Western Crown Portion – This area has large area types out as AR potential of Class II (high) with some class I area adjacent to the Heydon Bay Lake. Where there is presence of older stands (polygons 171, 175), Class I/II CMT potential has been identified. An archaeological will also be conducted in these areas prior to CP issuance.

Eastern Crown Portion – This area has Class I AR potential along the southern shoreline adjacent to Heydon Bay with Class II AR potential further inland. Class II CMT potential has been identified along the northwestern boundary where there is an older stand remaining. An archaeological will also be conducted in these areas prior to CP issuance.

For the preparation of future cutblocks and ecological mapping, blocks that fall within a polygon of moderate or high AR potential will be reviewed by an archaeologist. Blocks that fall within moderate or high CMT potential will be CMT surveyed.

During all fieldwork associated with Woodlot Licence W1900, care will be taken to recognize and record any archaeological or historic evidence found within the Woodlot Licence area. Should any archaeological features be identified, affected first nations as well as the Ministry of Forests will be contacted and an appropriate management strategy will cooperatively be developed. Operations will cease both at the archaeological feature as well as in the near vicinity of that feature and the affected First nations will be contacted to review the archaeological feature and to develop a strategy for forest management in close proximity to that feature.

The Cape Mudge First Nation, Comox First Nation, Homalco First Nation, Tlowitsis First Nation have all received a copy of this WLP map and the Hamatla Treaty Society has received a full copy of this WLP.

The licensee (Campbell River Indian Band) is committed to working with any other First Nations affected by this WLP in regards to resource use of the area. This includes First Nation requests for use of traditionally used plants in the WLP area and any information sharing requests by first nations which may arise following approval of this WLP. In addition, the licensee is committed to working with other First Nations in regards to provision of opportunities for Monumental Cedar for traditional and cultural purposes. The licensee is also committed to cooperatively working with other affected First Nations, major licensees, and the Ministry of Forests to collectively develop a cedar strategy.

If requested by other affected first nations, the licensees commits to discuss any current or future block specific operational plans at any time during the term of this Woodlot Licence Plan.

2.7 Wildlife Tree Retention Strategy

The default standard for wildlife tree retention (Woodlot Licence Planning and Practices Regulation (WLPPR) section 52(1)) is “ The proportion of the Woodlot Licence area that is occupied by wildlife tree retention areas is no less than, a) the proportion specified for the area in a higher level plan, or b) the proportion specified in a WLP, or c) 8%.

Permanent reserves currently occupy 12% of Woodlot Licence W1900.

2.7.1 Individual Wildlife Trees

a) Species and Characteristics

Harvesting at Woodlot Licence W1900 utilizes patch cut silviculture systems, retention silviculture systems, shelterwood silviculture systems, or commercial thinning silviculture systems where various levels of forest retention are prescribed. With all these systems, a percentage of individual trees are retained subject to the ecological and geographic characteristics of the area.

Selection of trees for 'Wildlife Trees' will be based on current Wildlife / Danger Tree assessment procedures where all trees can be classified between class 1 and 9 based on the quality of that tree for wildlife value. Classes 1 and 2 are live trees, trees 3-7 are dead standing trees, and class 8 and 9 are dead fallen trees. By default, tree classes 4-9 are all reserved from harvest as there is generally no merchantable log value in those trees. Tree Class 3 are recently dead but are sound and have high wildlife tree value. These trees will be selected where safety permits. Tree class 1 and 2 are live trees with class 1 being healthy and tree class 2 being unhealthy. These trees provide long-term wildlife tree value as those trees will ultimately deteriorate in quality and ultimately become higher tree classes. It is important to identify a variety of tree classes for wildlife trees to provide many biodiversity values (nesting, roosting, feeding) for a variety of species (birds, reptiles, amphibians, insects) at all times. Species of individual wildlife trees will include all common tree species present at Woodlot Licence W1900 including western hemlock, Douglas fir, western red cedar, amabilis fir. Where western white pine, yellow cedar (cypress), and big leaf maple are present, these species may also be selected as wildlife trees.

"Good" Characteristics of wildlife trees include some or all of the following features:

- Greater than 15m in height,
- At least 30cm in diameter for species such as woodpeckers, martens or owls,
- Smaller diameter for species such as chickadees and nuthatches,
- Broken tops,
- Some intact bark and branches
- Forks and crooks,
- Windfirmness.

Where possible, individual wildlife trees will be selected based on trees that exhibit these features.

b) Conditions Under Which Individual Wildlife Trees May be Removed

Trees specifically identified as 'Wildlife Trees' are generally planned for permanent retention. These trees are considered to have biodiversity / wildlife tree value even if they fall to the ground as the trees provide coarse woody debris which has value for habitat, food for a variety of species, nutrient cycling for forest soils, etc.. These trees will be removed if they pose a safety hazard and for block access where other reasonable access locations do not exist. Wildlife trees will be designated in the Site Plan for each cutblock.

c) Replacement of Individual Wildlife Trees

As wildlife trees will generally be retained should they fall, replacement of these trees is not essential. In addition, a substantial number of wildlife trees exist in the 12% of the woodlot

included in permanent reserves. As harvesting progresses, additional wildlife trees and wildlife tree patches will be established. Should areas within WTP's be harvested (blowdown, safety, access),

2.7.2 Wildlife Tree Retention Areas

a) Table 3 – Wildlife Tree Retention Areas and Forest Cover Attributes

Reserve Name	Forest Cover Attributes	Function
WTP 1	Polygon 231 – HB 3407 Site Index 32	Biodiversity management, preservation of riparian values and old growth.
WTP 2	Polygon 234Ep – HCF 4407 Site Index 19	Biodiversity management, protection of ecologically sensitive sites, old growth preservation.
WTP 3	Polygon 233 – HFC 4407 Site Index 26	Biodiversity management, old growth recruitment, visual landscape management.
WTP4	Polygon 30Ep – HB 2303 Site Index 30 Polygon 32 – D(HB) 3306 Site Index 28	Biodiversity management, maintenance of riparian ecosystems Heydon Creek.
WTP5	Polygon 31 – HC(B) 3408 Site Index 33 Polygon 175 – CH(B) 8416 Site Index 20	Biodiversity management, old growth preservation and recruitment.
WTP 6	Polygon 31 – HC(B) 3408 Site Index 33	Biodiversity management, old growth preservation and recruitment.
WTP 7	Polygon 177 – CH(B) 8416 Site Index 20	Biodiversity management, old growth preservation and recruitment.
Riparian Reserve Zones	Polygon 31 – HD(BD)2303 Site Index 33 Polygon 32 – D(HB) 3306 Site Index 28 Polygon 56 – HC 3102 Site Index 22 Polygon 114 – HBD 3406 Site Index 34 Polygon 156 – DH 2308 Site Index 32 Polygon 174- HBD 3406 Site Index 34 Polygon 176 – HB(D) 3408 Site Index 32	General Riparian Values

Riparian Reserve Zones (cont.)	Polygon 236 – D(HB) 3306 Site Index 27 Polygon 237 – HF 4506 Site Index 38 Polygon 241 – H(CF) 3507 Site Index 38 Polygon 255 – HB 3409 Site Index 36 Polygon 264 - HB(D) 3307 Site Index 31	
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b) Conditions Under Which Trees May be Removed from Wildlife Tree Retention Areas.

Trees can only be removed from Wildlife Tree Retention Areas for public safety or for access to areas beyond the Wildlife Tree Retention Area.

c) Replacement of Trees Removed from Wildlife Tree Areas

As trees will not be removed from wildlife tree areas, a replacement strategy is generally not required. Should a substantial number of wildlife trees be lost due to wind, etc., and if the appropriate strategy would be to remove these trees, those wildlife trees will be replaced with a similar number and types of wildlife trees. A limited number of trees may be removed for safety or access issues but the biodiversity value of these trees is accounted for in the extensive reserves and individual trees retained throughout the woodlot licence area. Where individual wildlife trees are removed (access or safety) these trees will be replaced with alternate wildlife trees of a similar wildlife tree class.

2.8 Measures to Prevent the Introduction or Spread of Invasive Plants

Appendix 4 contains the 'Invasive Plants Regulation' where "Known" invasive plants of British Columbia are recognized.

It is a general policy at Woodlot Licence W1900 that native plants are allowed to vegetate skid trails and roadsides where experience has shown that natural vegetation is effective. Where roadside application of grass-seed mixture is required, seed mixtures free of invasive plant seed will be used. When roads are built at Woodlot Licence W1900, road surfacing is generally created onsite either by developing gravel quarries or drilling and blasting rock quarries. As the surface vegetation and humus layer of the soil is removed in the development of these rock sources, the surface material is 'clean' gravel of rock and will minimize the spread of invasive plants. The licensee commits to continue to use 'clean' surfacing material for road construction at Woodlot Licence W1900.

The holder of this WLP will instruct persons conducting forest management activities (timber harvesting, silviculture treatments, road construction, or road deactivation) to remove any observed invasive plant material from machinery being relocated from outside the Woodlot Licence area.

Where invasive plants are observed within the Woodlot Licence area, the licensee commits to removing those plants as soon as possible to limit the spread of invasive plants.

2.9 Measures to Mitigate the Effect of Removing Natural Range Barriers

As there are no natural range barriers within Woodlot Licence W1900, there are no measures proposed to mitigate the effect of removing or rendering ineffective natural range barriers.

2.10 Stocking Standards for Specified Areas

Areas subject to removal of individual trees, harvest of special forest products, or other types of intermediate cutting are considered 'Specified Areas' for the purpose of this Woodlot Licence Plan. Examples of this type of situation would be minor blowdown salvage, small market opportunities in special forest products, or salvage of diseased or damaged timber. At these 'Specified Areas' stands will be generally be maintained fully stocked post harvest. Where opening are > 0.1 ha in size, these areas will be reforested and basic silviculture (even-aged) will apply. These activities are permitted anywhere in the Woodlot Licence Area other than areas where 'Timber Harvesting Will be Avoided'.

For these areas, the 'Uneven-Aged Stocking Standards' as found in the MOF Publication "Reference Guide for FDP Stocking Standards" are adopted.

2.11 Performance Requirements

2.11.1 Soil Disturbance Limits

Accept Default Performance Requirement – Section 24(1), Woodlot Licence Planning and Practices Regulation.

- 8% of Net Area to be Reforested

2.11.2 Permanent Access Structures

Accept Default Performance Requirement – Section 25, Woodlot Licence Planning and Practices Regulation.

- The maximum area occupied by permanent access structures is as follows:
 - Cutblocks \geq 5ha = 7% of cutblock area
 - Cutblocks < 5ha = 10% of cutblock area
 - Total Woodlot Area = 7% of Woodlot Licence area

2.11.3 Use of Seed

Accept Default Performance Requirement – Section 32, Woodlot Licence Planning and Practices Regulation.

- The Chief Forester's Standards for seed use are adopted for this WLP.

2.11.4 Stocking Standards

Accept Default Performance Requirement – Section 35, Woodlot Licence Planning and Practices Regulation.

- The stocking standards described in the MOF publication 'Reference Guide for Forest Development Plan Stocking Standards' as amended from time to time, which are in effect at the time of harvest for each cutting permit.

2.11.5 Width of Stream Riparian Areas

Accept Default Performance Requirement – Section 36(4), Woodlot Licence Planning and Practices Regulation.

2.11.6 Width of Wetland Riparian Areas

Accept Default Performance Requirement – Section 37(3), Woodlot Licence Planning and Practices Regulation.

2.11.7 Width of Lake Riparian Areas

Accept Default Performance Requirement – Section 38(2), Woodlot Licence Planning and Practices Regulation.

2.11.8 Restrictions in a Riparian Reserve Zone

Accept Default Performance Requirement – Section 39, Woodlot Licence Planning and Practices Regulation.

- Cutting, modifying, or removing trees in a riparian reserve zone is limited to the purposes described in section 39(1) of the Woodlot Licence Planning and Practices Regulation.
 - felling or modifying a tree that is a safety hazard, if there is no other practicable option to address the safety hazard
 - topping or pruning a tree that is not windfirm
 - constructing a stream crossing
 - creating a corridor for full suspension yarding
 - creating guyline tiebacks
 - carrying out a sanitation treatment
 - felling or modifying a tree that has been windthrown or has been damaged by fire, insects, disease, or other causes if the felling or modifying will not have a material adverse impact on the riparian reserve zone.
 - felling or modifying a tree for the purpose of establishing or maintaining an interpretive forest site, recreation site, recreation feature or recreation trail
- Restrictions on constructing a road in a riparian reserve zone are as described in section 39(2.1) of the Woodlot Licence Planning and Practices Regulation.
 - A woodlot licence holder must not construct a road in a riparian reserve zone unless the construction has been specified in a Woodlot Licence Plan.

2.11.9 Restrictions in a Riparian Management Zone

Accept Default Performance Requirement – Section 40, Woodlot Licence Planning and Practices Regulation.

- Construction of a road in a riparian management zone is limited to the conditions described in section 40(1) of the Woodlot Licence Planning and Practices Regulation
 - the construction of the road is provided for in the WLP
 - locating the road outside the riparian management zone would create a higher risk of sediment delivery to the stream, wetland, or lake to which the riparian management zone applies
 - there is no other practicable option for locating the road
 - the road is required as part of a stream crossing

- Restrictions and conditions on road construction, maintenance, and deactivation activities, and on cutting , modifying or removing trees in a riparian management zone are as described in section 40 of the Woodlot Licence Planning and Practices Regulation.

2.11.10 Wildlife Tree Retention

Accept Default Performance Requirement – Section 52(1), Woodlot Licence Planning and Practices Regulation.

- The proportion of the Woodlot Licence area that is occupied by wildlife tree retention areas is no less than 8%.

2.11.11 Coarse Woody Debris

Accept Default Performance Requirement – Section 54(1), Woodlot Licence Planning and Practices Regulation.

- Minimum retention of 4 logs per hectare $\geq 5.0\text{m}$ in length and $\geq 30\text{cm}$ diameter at one end.

2.11.12 Resource Features

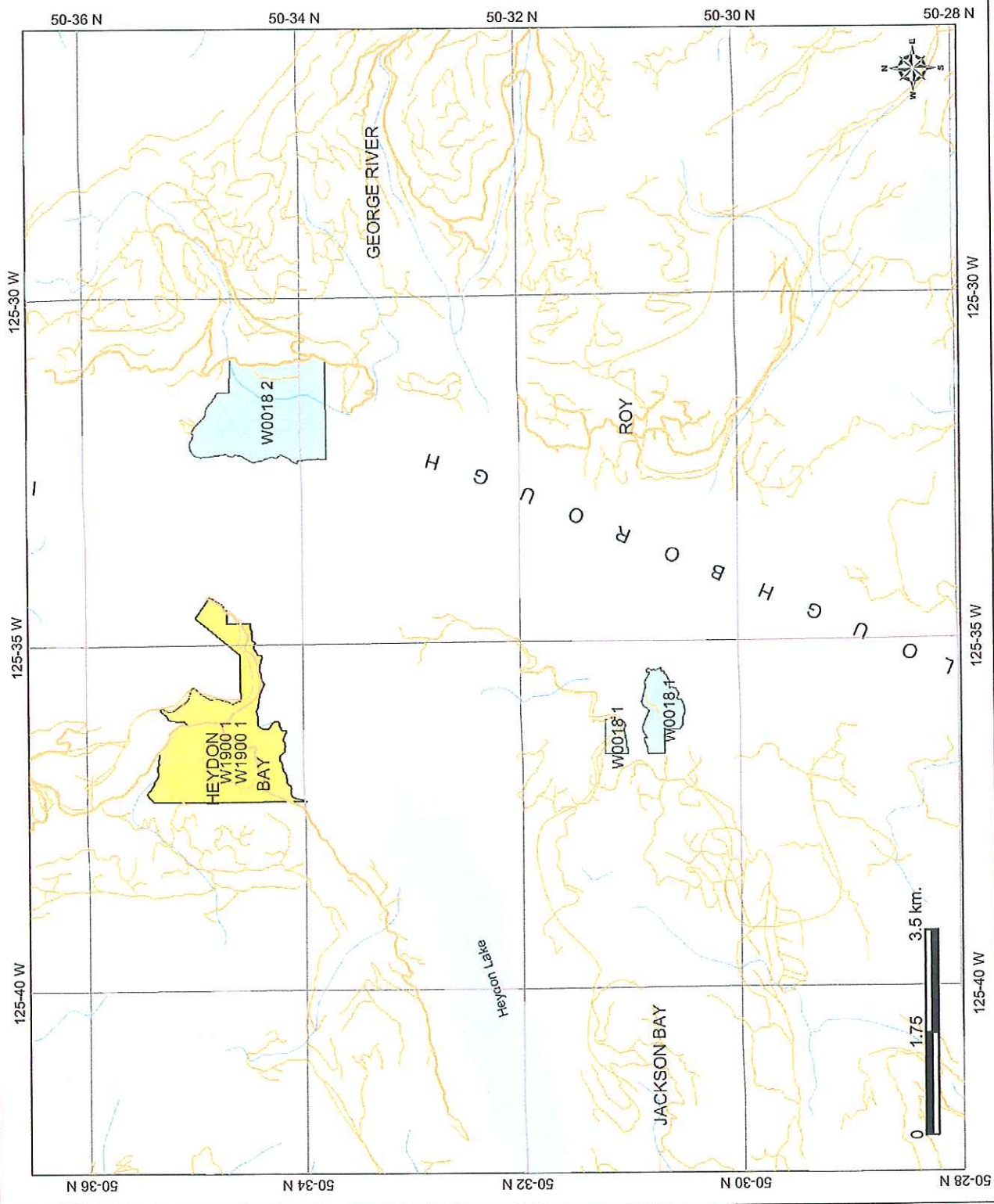
Accept Default Performance Requirement – Section 56(1), Woodlot Licence Planning and Practices Regulation.

- Forest practices will not damage or render ineffective a resource feature.

APPENDIX A1 – 1:100,000 Key Location Map



WL 1900 Key Map



Legend

- Approved Managed Licence
- Pending Cut Blocks
- Approved Cut Blocks
- Protected Areas
- Parks
- National Parks
- Provincial Parks
- Wetland
- Inundated Land
- Marsh
- Swamp

Scale: 1: 100,000

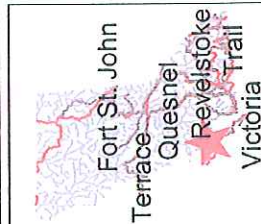
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Datum/Projection: NAD83, Albers Equal Area Conic

Key Map of British Columbia



APPENDIX A2 – 1:10,000 Woodlot Licence Plan Maps