Unit 28. Kingcome Estuary <u>click here for a detailed map</u>

| Marine Area | 1060 ha | Shoreline | 53.3 km |
|-------------|---------|---------------------|-----------|
| Substrate | mud | Slope | sloping |
| Exposure | low | Depth | mid-depth |
| Current | low | Benthic Summer Temp | cold |
| Roughness | low | | |

Management Emphasis - Conservation

Description

The area is characterized by a steep walled inlet with considerable freshwater outflow and sporadic development activities leading to but excluding the Kingcome River estuary.

Unit Attributes

This unit is significant for migratory waterfowl (Western Grebes, Common Mergansers, gulls, Canada Geese, Goldeneye, diving ducks) and is a CWS area of interest

Salmonid Streams: 6 observed, 7 assumed

Herring spawning (14 spawns recorded); major holding areas, migration routes

Orca spring feeding area: Resident and West Coast transient populations are listed as threatened nationally (T), and imperiled provincially (S2). They are provincially red-listed.

Harbour Porpoise area: provincially blue-listed species

Moderate prawn value

Significant eulachon values, eulachon holding area

Non-native cultural feature (1)

Cultural heritage values in estuary

Estuary and adjacent upland areas were proposed as Goal 2 protection area (Kingcome Estuary)

by CCGAT in CCLRMP process; estuary being addressed in CCLRMP

Finfish aquaculture potential: OA 2 (very limited)

Forest industry has identified potential log dump sites along the north shore

Tsawataineuk traditional territory

Adjacent Indian Reserve at Gwa-Yee

Private upland parcels at head of estuary

Current Uses & Activities

First Nations: Extensive fishing areas throughout

Remote campsite

Secondary boating route

Public wharf (1)

Other tenures (1)

Log handling and storage (7); upland logging camp, storage tanks

Commercial wharf (1)

Heavy industrial (1)

Commercial prawn and crab fisheries

Acceptable Uses & Activities

Tenured Uses

- ✓ Community & Public Institutional
- Light Industrial
- O Marine Telecommunications & Utilities
- X Rural Development

Aquaculture:

- X Finfish
- X Marine Plant
- X Shellfish Beach
- X Shellfish Deep Water Aquaculture

Ongoing Non Tenured Activities

- ✓ Commercial Fisheries
- ✓ Marine Transportation

- ✓ Conservation
- ✓ Log Handling, Storage & Infrastructure
- ✓ Private Moorage
- General Commercial

Commercial Recreation:

- X Lodges and Base Camps
- ✓ Guiding Operations
- ✓ First Nations
- ✓ Public Recreation

Code

- ✓ The use or activity is considered acceptable and appropriate. Applications for tenure of this use should be accepted for processing and evaluation.
- The use is considered conditionally acceptable. Applications for tenure for use require more specific information on capability and potential to accompany a tenure application before it is accepted for processing.
- The use is acceptable at existing levels of tenure, subject to limited modifications as required by government. Applications for new tenures should not be accepted. Abandoned or unutilized sites should not subsequently be made available for the same use.
- **X** The use is considered inappropriate. Applications for tenure of this use should not be accepted for processing and evaluation.

Management Provisions

This unit should be managed to maintain development at levels that do not adversely impact the adjacent estuarine values.

New tenures should be compatible with any future protection area planning or designation of estuary.

New tenures should be designed and located to avoid impact on eulachon habitat and migration routes

New tenures should be located and designed to minimize visual and aural effect on identified campsites.

All applications for use within the unit should be referred to CWS.

Conditional marine telecommunications/ utilities uses require submission of supporting biophysical information with license or lease application.