



- **What old growth means to you and how you value it**
 - *CBVA opinion – Old growth is an essential habitat for all bears; black, grizzly and Kermode.*
 - *Bear dens are crucial for reproduction and old growth is prime denning for all species of bears.*
 - *Without bear dens, reproduction would not occur leaving a lack of bears, a keystone species, lacking on our landscape.*
 - *Bears are consistently being pushed and moved around looking for habitat and food sources*
 - *Not good for rural communities trying to coexist with bears*
 - *Tourism would become more difficult with having to “search” for bears*
 - *Adventure Tourism – relies on the environment and the everything that is wild and natural about it. From heli-skiing to bear viewing, all adventure tourism relies on what is present on the landscape.*
 - *Adventure tourism operators are required to report usage through Park Use Permits and other such reporting tools (HeliCat Canada has beacons on their helicopters to report where they fly).*

- **Your perspective on how old growth is managed now**
 - *CBVA opinion – To date, old growth logging is destroying vital habitat on Vancouver Island and within British Columbia that is essential to bears survival. Without old growth, bears are moving around searching for new habitat and food sources, which the old growth help to provide. As well, old growth is essential to bear dens and the health and ecosystem of bears' survival.*

- **How you think old growth could be managed more effectively in the future**
 - *CBVA opinion – Via consultation with bear viewing operators and other users on the land-base to ensure that all tourism operators in an area of old growth are considered before logging takes place.*
 - *That old growth is no longer logged within British Columbia and that a new method for sustainable logging practices is developed and adhered too by logging companies.*
 - *Follow the example from Haida Gwaii – Cultural Feature Inventory Surveyors (CFI) who work with the Taan Forestry company (Indigenous)*
 - *Rural and economic development*
 - *Indigenous economic development*
 - *Similar to the Guardian Watchman program with the Coastal First Nations*