

**From:** [Dystant Trucking](#)  
**To:** [FLNR Old Growth BC FLNR:EX](#)  
**Subject:** Fwd: Old growth review  
**Date:** Friday, January 31, 2020 7:51:20 AM

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Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Dystant Trucking <dystant@telus.net>  
**Date:** November 13, 2019 at 6:53:38 AM PST  
**To:** Dennis Dystant <dystant@telus.net>  
**Subject:** Old growth review

Hello , my name is Dennis Dystant. I am the owner along with my wife and son of a small logging /trucking company based out of Campbell River on Vancouver Island. I'm writing this letter to express my concerns and thoughts regarding this latest attack on what I believe is a well managed properly balanced forestry program in British Columbia.

First a bit of history , my wife and I bought our first off highway log truck in 1983 , worked 6 days and the pulp and paper union of the day picketed the I W A and put us out of work for 2 1/2 months so we faced adversity which in a lot of ways continues to this day , right out of the gate .

Since 1983 we have built our company up to 25 pieces of various types of equipment with a fluctuating seniority list of 12 to 18 employees that earn yearly income of anywhere between \$65,000.00 to \$100,000.00 depending on events that are usually out of our control, fire season , labour unrest, weak markets, and snow . Good paying jobs that Help the local economy . With in the last 2 years we hired and trained a young man that relocated to Campbell River from Revelstoke , he believed as I do there is a future here doing the job he was trained to do , they want to buy a home and stay in C.R. The average age in our company is 55 years old so this guy is very important to us as my son has always planned to carry on with this company For the rest of his working life. .

We have dealt with several dozen suppliers in our community and other communities as well for 36 years . They have always gave us credit and we have always paid our bills on time , logging is vital to most businesses in this town of approximately 35,000 people .

To the uninformed public I'm sure it sounds like a good idea to stop logging the old growth, but the reality is that with out a combination of first and second growth managed in a proper sustainable manner forestry in B.C. would wind down to a stop in very short order.

It's very frustrating to those of us involved in forestry in B.C. when our very livelihoods are continually being attacked by people and groups that are not involved on a daily basis which to me begs the question just how educated and up to date on the actual data of what's already protected and preserved are they ?

The science of forestry in B.C. is something to be proud of in terms of % of land base protected , wild life protected, road building practices, stream management,

First Nation involvement , reforestation, the list goes on and on . 55% of first growth on Vancouver Island is already protected .and of the 8.5 million hectares of forest on the coast , 0.3 % is logged on an yearly basis and replanted in excess of 200 million trees .

In b.c. we are fortunate to have the natural resources that we have and with the current practices in place there is no doubt they will be abundantly available for generations to come .

Nobody in the industry wants to see all the old growth logged either , we have to take all parties interest into considerations on this topic but to just stop logging old growth entirely is wrong and unnecessary. There was a saying in the early 80s “ don’t let your love of the wilderness blind you to the needs of your fellow man “

With out first growth timber available to log going forward there is no doubt the future of our company and I’m sure many others would be in definite jeopardy.

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