

From: [FLNR Old Growth BC FLNR:EX](#)
To: [Old Growth Strategic Review](#)
Subject: FW:
Date: Monday, November 25, 2019 5:01:27 PM

From: Krista Roessingh <wolfwillow@gmail.com>
Sent: November 24, 2019 9:41 AM
To: FLNR Old Growth BC FLNR:EX <Oldgrowthbc@gov.bc.ca>
Subject:

Dear panel members,

I am a resident of Denny Island, Heiltsuk Nation Territory, B.C. (in the Great Bear Rainforest) and am writing as an individual. At this point in time all remaining old-growth forest should be considered endangered habitat and should receive full protection from all forms of destruction. There are vast differences between a tree farm and an intact old-growth forest. Old growth forests surpass tree plantations in biodiversity, carbon storage, habitat value, beauty, and other values that we may not even understand yet. Clearcut logging has impacts beyond the loss of trees. These include: soil erosion, habitat loss, impacts to salmon and drinking watersheds, local climate change, fragmentation of the landscape (which changes predator/prey dynamics and allows for introduction of invasive exotic species), increased incidence of damaging landslides, and loss of tourism and cultural value. Fragile soil cover is being lost with every crop rotation, and at some point, the landscape will no longer be able to sustain the growth of large trees. It was recently discovered (though no great surprise) that most of the carbon sequestration in forests is actually done by fungi that have relationships with trees and other vegetation. Do we know how old these fungal networks are, or how fragile?

Aside from all of the social and economic reasons for not allowing multinational corporations to devour our last precious jewels of forest, don't you think that even the possibility that we might be destroying them forever is cause to stop? I believe we should turn to hemp production for a source of fibre, and start managing previously logged forests ecologically (for example allowing alders to grow for a few decades to feed soils). Forests are ECOSYSTEMS not tree farms! and we have no right to destroy them.

Thank you for your time,

Krista Roessingh
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