

From: [Kachanoski, Steve B FLNR:EX](#)
To: [Old Growth Strategic Review](#)
Subject: FW: B.C. Forests
Date: Monday, December 2, 2019 12:31:33 PM

From: Guiney, Lisa GCPE:EX <Lisa.Guiney@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: December 2, 2019 10:23 AM
To: Kachanoski, Steve B FLNR:EX <Steve.Kachanoski@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: FW: B.C. Forests

Hello

We received the following email.

From: Bruce Bohm <bohmbruce2@gmail.com>
Sent: November 30, 2019 4:14 PM
To: Guiney, Lisa GCPE:EX <Lisa.Guiney@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: B.C. Forests

Ms. Lisa Guiney
Government of British Columbia
Victoria, B.C.

November 30, 2019

Dear Ms. Guiney:

I am writing in response to the recent government's survey of old growth forests. After 50 years hiking in B.C. I would like to share with you some specific examples of how important old growth forests are to the enjoyment of the backcountry for B.C. recreationists, whose numbers are growing at alarming rate.

The upper reaches of the Beth Lake/Mt. Capilano Trail behind Furry Creek on Howe Sound are a good example of climax forest on the coast characterized by large, old trees with only moss as understory. I have not been there for years but remember it well. I am told that logging is approaching from the north. In the old days upper elevation forests were safe from destruction. They were left to protect watersheds, provide seed for regeneration of clear-cut areas below, and prevent erosion. Why are they now subject to logging? Desperation?

Another great discovery more recently...late summer 2017...were the forests along the first two days of the Hudson's Bay Trail out of Hope. I am very glad I had the experience and am pleased to learn that they are safe from logging, although the clear-cuts approach all around.

The huge forests of the upper Elaho at Sims Creek were not so lucky despite years of efforts by John Clarke, famous B.C. mountaineer who led traverses on skis in the coast mountains.

Anyone who has kayaked the west coast of Vancouver Island has seen the amazing and impenetrable spruce forests underlaid with ten-foot salal and layered deadfalls of huge trees. The wonderful forests of the West Coast Trail are a pitifully narrow strip between the ocean and clear-cuts inland. As well, clear-cut logging has forced streams underground destroying salmon runs.

The Juan de Fuca Trail has surprisingly good remnant forests in the deep ravines and by the water. The Broughton Archipelago, Meares and Flores Islands, the Brooks Peninsula, and among the best of them all, the forests of South Moresby Island on Haida Gwaii are memorable and unique.

Other notable forests include the alpine hemlocks of the Diamond Head Trail, the immense trees of the Cheakamus Lake Trail, which are some of the very few remaining low elevation forests, and the huge resources of Manning Park.

Don't forget the interior cedar/devils club forests of Glacier Park along with the alpine forests in the park, and the drier forests of the South Chilcotin and areas to the north.

The forests in all their variety are what make B.C. what it is and what attracts visitors and locals who value them. Clear-cuts and doghair forest renewal areas, such as International Ridge, Abbotsford, are incredibly depressing, as well as destructive of all the original flora. Take a look at the edge-effect tree death on Mt. Stead Trail, the immense trees on the Chea Head rachan in the Cypress ski development to see the effect of heat and drought from adjacent clear-cut. The temperature difference between forest and clear-cut in summer is huge, and global warming is making this worse, as we are beginning to notice. Water retention will become critical. The viewpoint in 1965 was: cut it all, it's overmature! I hope the thinking has changed.

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