

From: [FLNR Old Growth BC FLNR:EX](#)
To: [Old Growth Strategic Review](#)
Subject: FW: Stepping up old growth preservation
Date: Friday, November 22, 2019 8:42:46 AM

From: Steve Billington <steve.billington@gmail.com>
Sent: November 20, 2019 9:19 AM
To: FLNR Old Growth BC FLNR:EX <Oldgrowthbc@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: Stepping up old growth preservation

Hello, BC Government;

I feel strongly that untouched ancient forests are an extremely valuable cultural and environmental asset in the Province of BC. I want the government of BC to move toward greater protections for forests and stands that have not been logged historically and have forestry for harvest purposes focus on areas that have been logged before.

1. Improve protections for existing old-growth forests. Official park or other protected status, and in saying that I am assuming park status is not going to be watered down to allow resource extraction.
2. Expand what protected status means. No exploratory drilling, road building, etc. Certainly no selective logging. I struggle with forest fire protections so don't have an opinion on full natural state vs. fire suppression intervention for parkland.
3. Consider old-growth forests a cultural asset that has inherent value beyond timber and fibre. These forests are a fundamental part of what this province is, what it presents to the world as our values and therefore also have economic benefit without touching them. I know people that have come here and rented hotel rooms, cars and bought meals and gear so that they could go walk around in ancient forests.
4. I want my great, great grandchildren to be able to walk in untouched forests like I have and marvel at things older than they are, that were ancient when Captain Vancouver sailed past. It's humbling and in a time of climate upheaval not only provides the environmental benefits that forests do but can help make us feel that the Earth can rise above the challenges of hosting humans.

Thanks for your time. And a shoutout to the civil servants handling this correspondence. Keep up the good work.

Regards,
Steve Billington
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