

FLETCHER CHALLENGE CANADA LIMITED
Sandspit Division

GOVERNMENT CREEK LOCAL RESOURCE USE PLAN

Summary of Responses from Open House Meetings

Local Advisory Groups
March 24,1992

Queen Charlotte City Open House
April 23,1992

Sandspit Open House
April 24,1992

PREAMBLE

The process to develop a Local Resource Use Plan (LRUP) for Government Creek was initiated in late 1989. The Ministry of Forests requested the LRUP to alleviate perceived local concerns regarding harvesting in a generally undisturbed watershed. Early in 1990 the drainage was recommended for temporary deferral as part of the Old Growth Strategy Project. The LRUP process was curtailed pending review by the committee. The conclusion of the committee was to continue with the LRUP process.

At present the LRUP is at the public review phase. Three public meetings, one involving local advisory groups and two general open house sessions, have been held. Based upon the comments received at the first meeting, a questionnaire and response form was developed for the subsequent open house meetings. Of the total 116 persons attending the open houses, 46 returned the completed forms. The following is a summary of the responses and a profile of the comments which were received. A copy of the original response form is included as well as a list of the groups and members of the general public attending the meetings.

Government Creek is wholly contained within Tree Farm Licence #47 and is situated on the west end of Skidegate Channel.

OTHER RESOURCES:

Are there specific non-timbered resources that you are concerned about?

GENERAL COMMENTS:

" Fishing"

" no"

" aesthetics, adequate leave strip along creek for nature walk"

" The LRUP covers them all"

" Fishing and hunting, hiking trails, camping sites"

" Wildlife (Hunting), Fishing"

" sport fishing, wildlife"

" All resources are concerning (sic), but addressed"

" On to Russia where there are no rules yet!"

" I believe that all other resources are to be concerned with so that the best possible plan can be formulated."

"fish habitat, wildlife habitat"

" Spiritual resources concern me, ie. area non-Canadians. Fish habitat and the environment integrity as a whole. Lastly, the resource of tourism will suffer with any clearcut block."

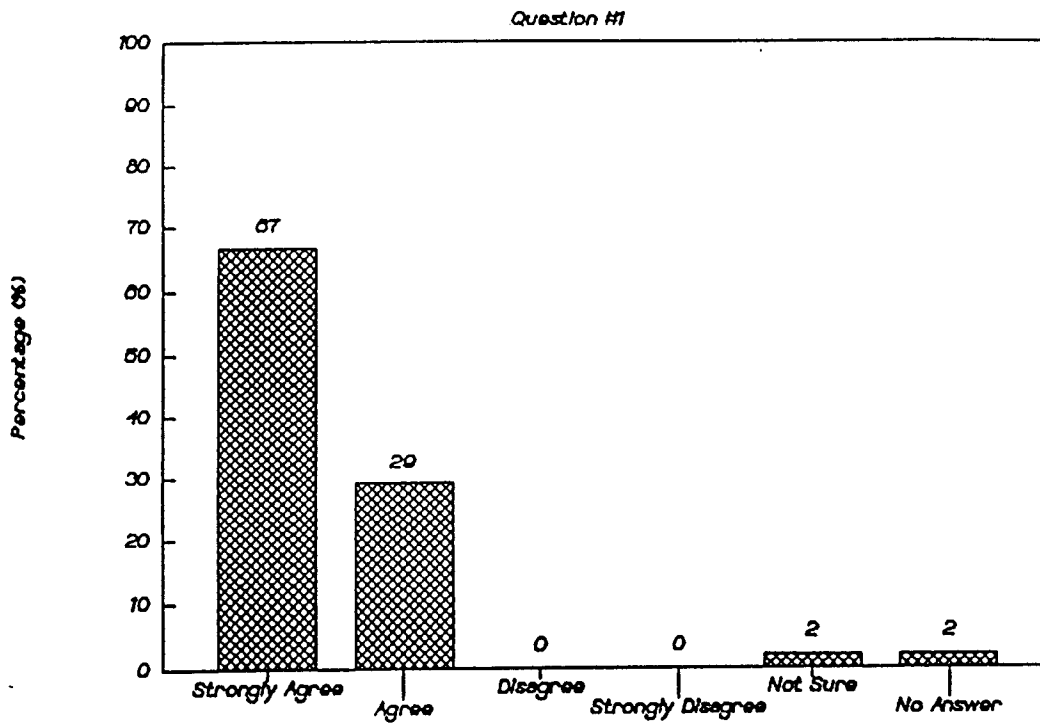
"Yes, fisheries"

"None that I know of"

"All fish stocks"

OTHER RESOURCES:

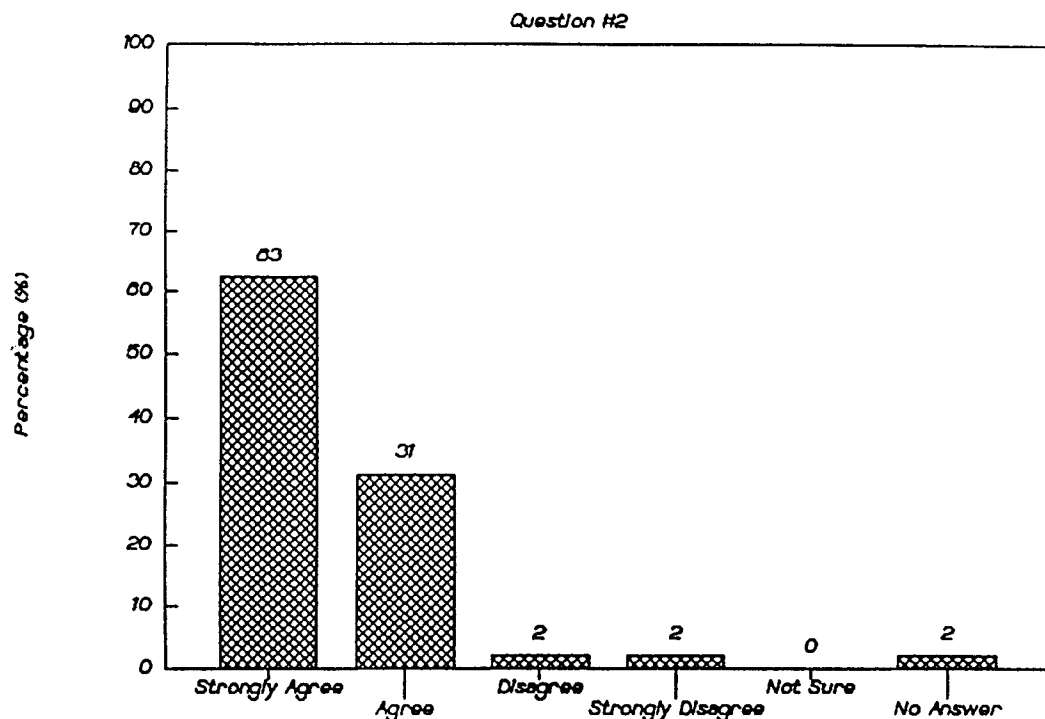
Non-Timber Resources in this watershed can be managed in cooperation with timber harvesting :



Additional Comments:

OTHER RESOURCES

The draft plan adequately addresses the non-timber resources in the watershed :



Additional Comments:

"to much emphasis on non-timber resources"

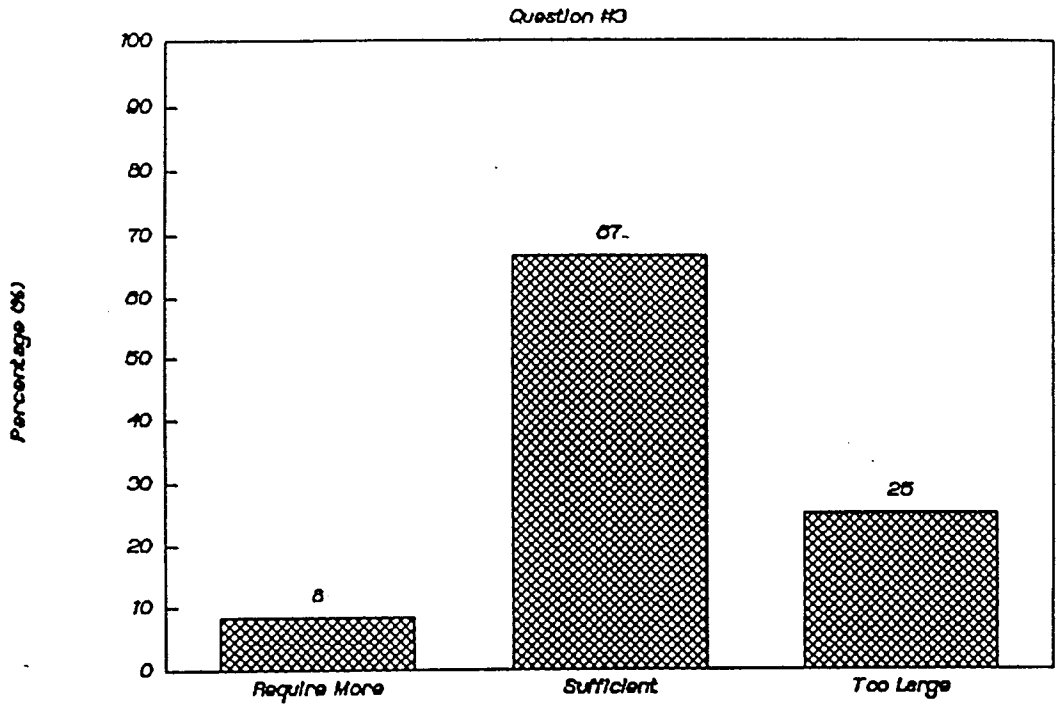
"public should be told how management of other resources is being carried out, keep public informed"

"looks like you have covered it very well"

" using Herb Hammond's book as a model finds partial cutting makes most sense...or none * seeing the Forests Among the Trees. Herb Hammond is a registered forester of some experience".

RECREATION AND AESTHETICS

The draft plan has areas designated for maintenance of fish and wildlife resources which also serve as recreational areas. For the forementioned resources do you think that:

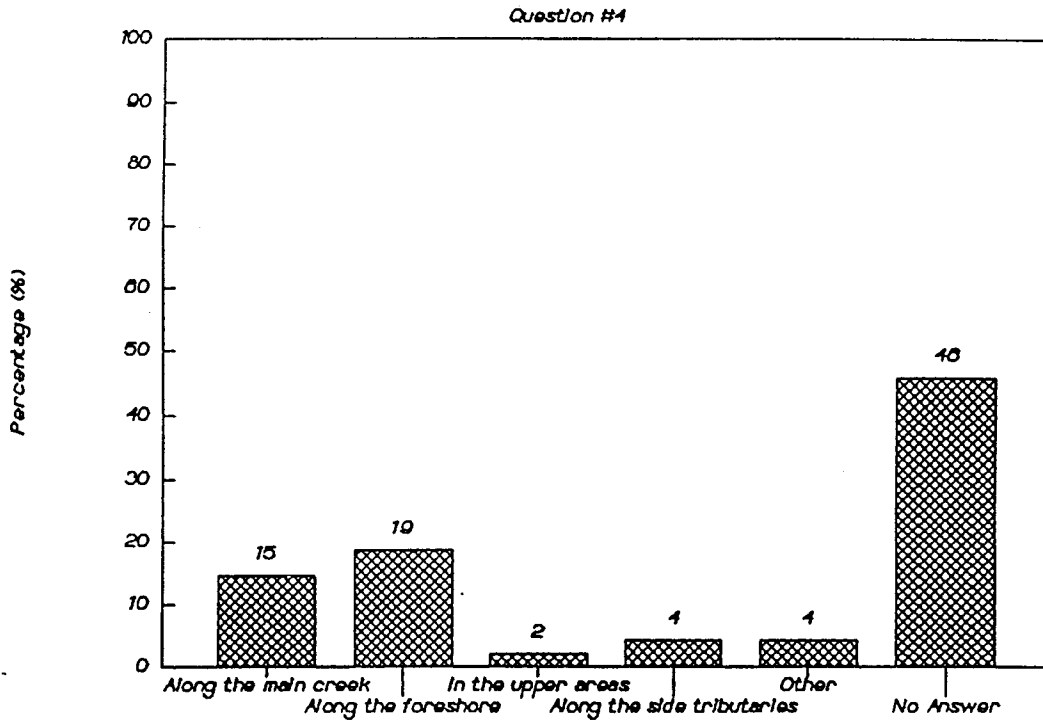


Additional Comments:

"I am concerned about the width of the timber left along the creek"

RECREATION AND AESTHETICS

If you feel more area should be set aside for recreation, where should this be located?



Additional Comments:

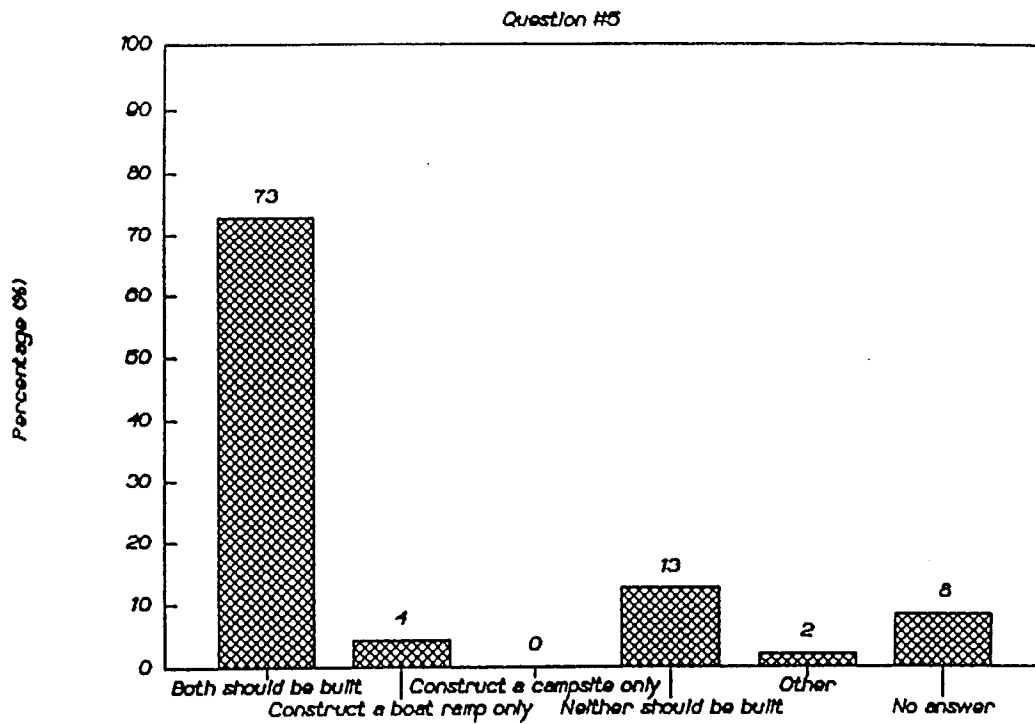
"adequate"

"I feel recreation areas can be further developed on an ongoing basis both during and after timber harvesting."

" Mostly along the tributaries but also in "lumps" elsewhere."

RECREATION AND AESTHETICS

A boat ramp and campsite are proposed for construction at the mouth of Government Creek. Do you think:



Additional Comments:

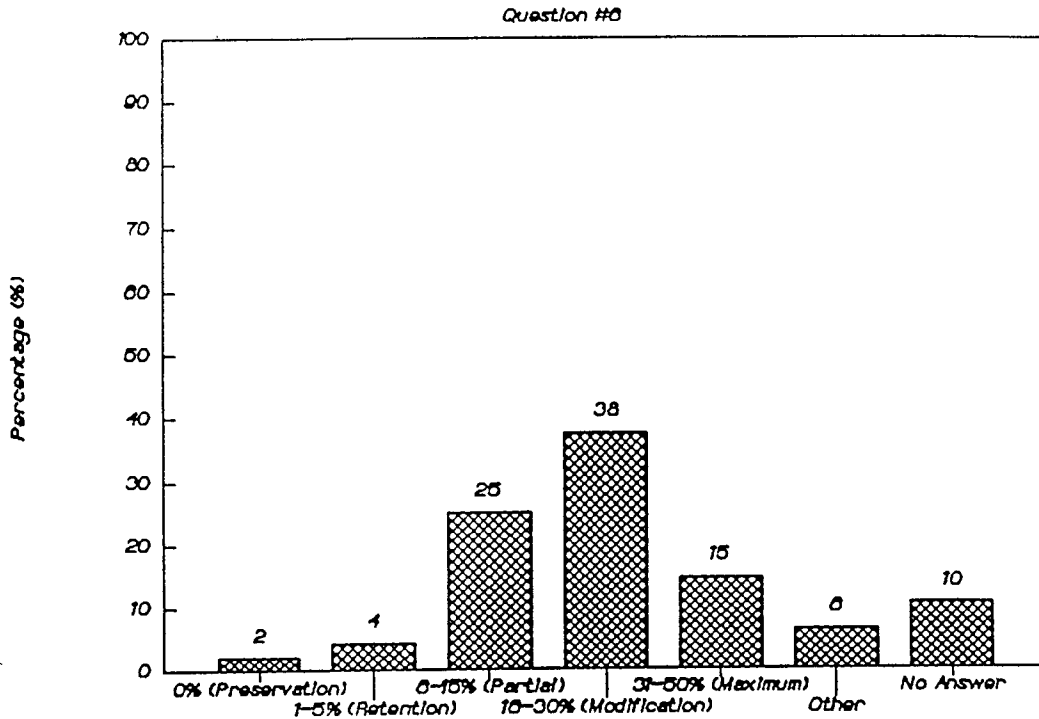
" a boat tie up float should be built"

"(1) this should be done immediately"

" roadbuilding need to be curtailed in my opinion. Once roads exist they can and are used as logging justification."

RECREATION AND AESTHETICS

Visual landscape planning has been addressed in the draft plan. After viewing the display on visual quality objectives, which one of the following categories do you find acceptable?

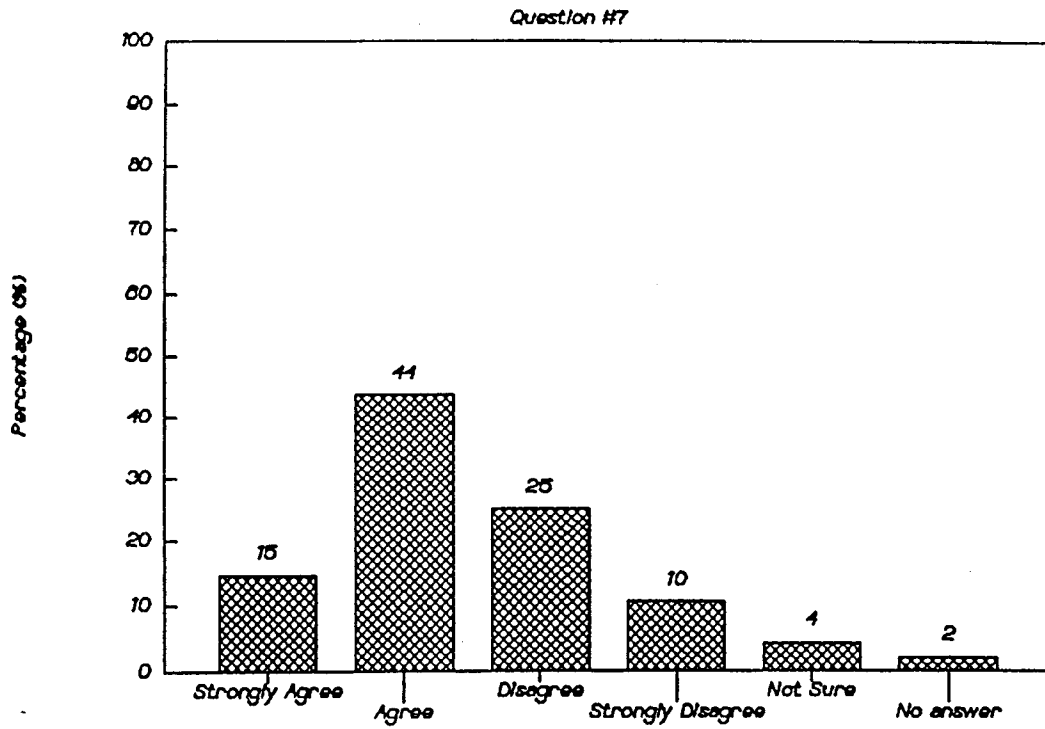


Additional Comments:

" partial cutting I find potential acceptable. The landscape inventory assumes the travel corridor to be marine, Skidegate Channel/Narrows, the perspectives all reflect this. Given that the access roads only public purpose is access to the landscape and beyond, the landscape inventory must this "travel corridor" as well, this especially in light of the recreation inventories at the creek mouth and these areas overlap with several (some entire) clearcut proposals and with the camp ground boat launch proposals."

RECREATION AND AESTHETICS

It is necessary to maintain an illusion of wilderness in some areas of the valley?

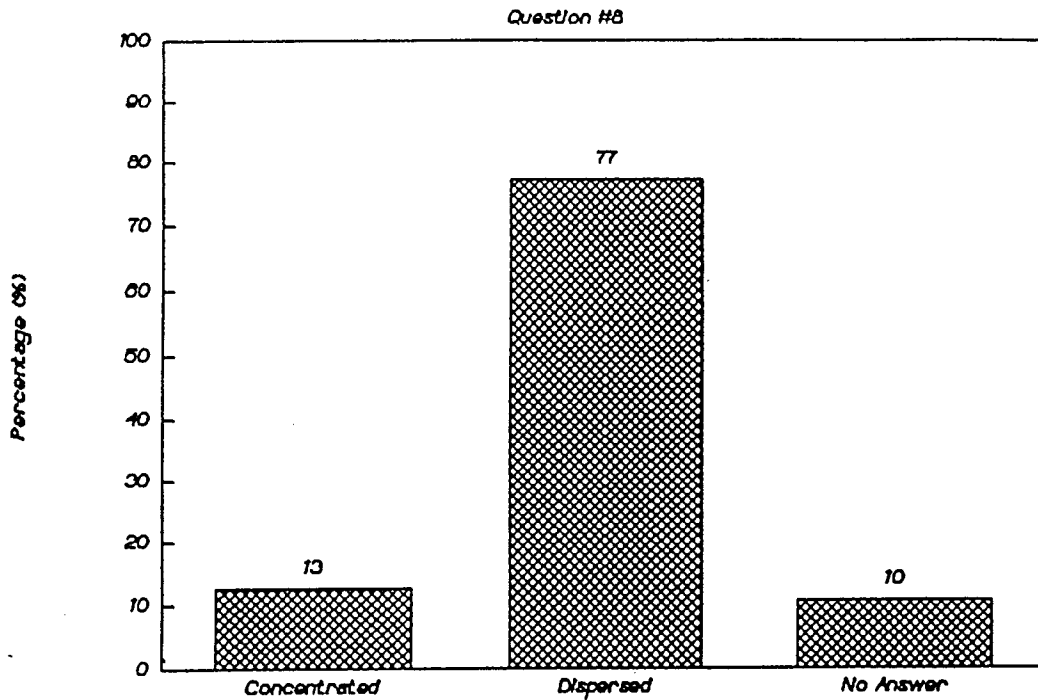


Additional Comments:

" illusion is just that, if I want illusion I'll go to the movies..."

RECREATION AND AESTHETICS

Distribution of cutblocks can be either concentrated or dispersed throughout the watershed. Do you think that cutblocks should be:



Additional Comments:

" which ever is best for the actual land base and not just visual impact - worker safety for possible future blowdown etc. would have to be considered"

" if not a concern for blowdown due to greater "edge" perimeter"

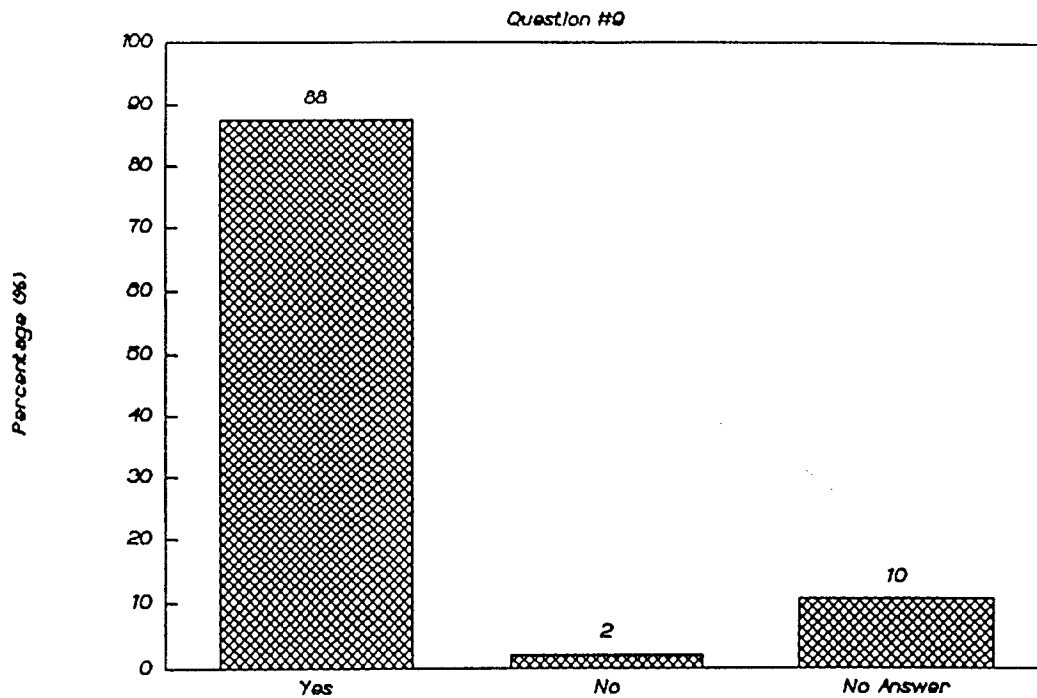
" provide public with examples of how cutblocks look at the different stages of regeneration after being logged"

" roads for hunting OK"

" insufficient data"

COMMUNITY INTERESTS

Do you feel that this plan adequately represents the interests of the local communities?



Additional Comments:

" too much emphasis on non-timbered resources, not enough of the available timber to be logged"

"it would be a sad day for local communities if more workers would have to be laid off due to inadequate timber supply"

" the communities are obviously polarized but feel that it is obvious the B.C. population or Canada's feels that the clearcutting industry must change;"

"It takes into count all values and resources"

" considers environment/aesthetics as well as economical concerns."

"it has taken into account hunting, fishing and tourist attractions"

" Fisheries concerns, recreation concerns and employment are all part of proposal"

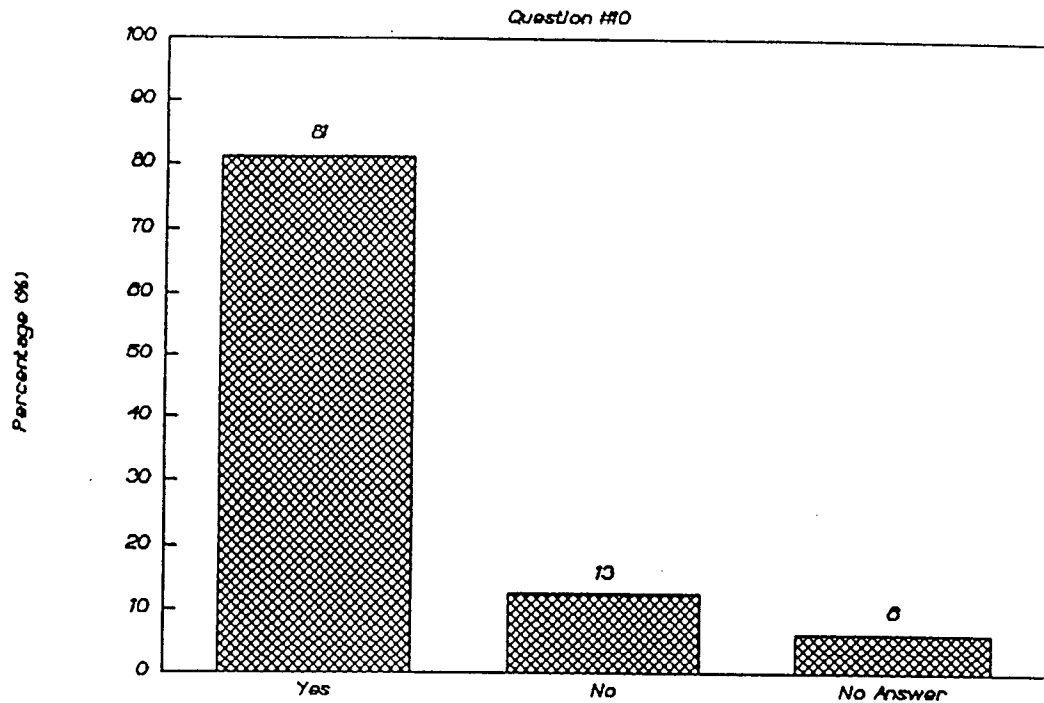
"it spreads the cut over a long period and considers other needs ie. wildlife and visuals"

"because they are taking recreation, wilderness and environment into consideration."

"jobs"

COMMUNITY INTERESTS

Do you think that this plan addresses employment considerations?



Additional Comments:

"I feel that the future employment prospects for the forest company and the business community are held to much "in limbo" by the public input process. In the interest of community stability, I urge all parties to proceed towards an equitable plan as soon as possible"

"I still feel there could be added employment by harvesting a larger portion of the T.F.L. that is not being harvested due to preservationist pressure put forth."

"not only logging will be carried out which employs a vast # of locals but will provide employment in the fishing/hunting/tourism resources also"

"keep public informed especially the people who are directly affected ie. people and businesses at Sandspit"

"I am concerned that a few individual discourage the campsite and boatlaunch. At the disadvantage to the majority of residents. Not all of us can afford to be chartered etc. Extra camping and boating facilities are a fantastic benefit to the logging in this area."

"not enough of the available timber to be logged"

"Real questions are being asked about Fletcher Challenge's commitment to remaining in the Charlottes. Outdoor recreation add to community stability"

"Process held at Sandspit was extremely well done. The attendance was an indication of the concern within the community as to what it feels is in store for the future. While I strongly support the Government Creek proposal I am not so supportive of the employment figures put forth. More emphasis must be put on maintaining an employment level to keep this community stable. In the event T.F.L. holders do not respond to meeting this challenge I expect T.F.L.s becoming a thing of the past. Not being a doomsayer my suggestion to Fletcher Challenge is to take notice and respond to the communities wants and needs.

" I said yes but have mixed feelings. It looks like most will get 6 months work but that isn't necessarily the companies fault. Economics and preservation certainly affect".

"because they are preserving jobs".

"jobs"

"for more jobs"

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS:

"Community stability is the largest single most factor that is reliant on the forest companies and the ministries planning process. Unless both or either really feel that they are doing something wrong lets proceed with a majority decision so that the planning process does not drag on and on, thus creating a more uncertain future within our communities. We feel that a large, but not all percentage of faith and trust be left with the so called "experts" to render a resource use plan that addresses almost all concerns (the reason I say almost is because when you try to please all the people all the time, you end up with a majority getting frustrated that nothing positive is happening what so ever). I would like to thank both Fletcher Challenge Canada Limited and the Ministry of Forests for taking all these concerns for scrutiny and application into their final decisions and recommendations."

"so much of the objection to logging is visual aesthetics. Media portrays the "bad guy" image and people will readily believe that if they see "ugly" looking clearcuts, because Government Creek is fairly accessible from QCC/Sandspit it's necessary to give visuals a high priority. Also anyone stopping there would most likely concentrate on the creek edge for hiking, nature walks etc. so if any further considerations are to be made I would like to suggest a nature trail area along creek where views of clearcuts are limited. Thank you."

"glad to see an excellent turnout, perhaps some local advertising in the way of posters in prominent locations, phone campaign and local TV coverage, definitely need more donuts, why isn't in the Lions Hall, good to see all levels of management in the presentation of the plan."

"I am impressed with the overall plan and process!"

"another waste of paper. How about getting input from N.W.Territories. Logging will come to a stop when the old "free trees" are gone. Costly private tree farms will exist and be farmed-toilet paper will go up in price and houses will be made of concrete and brick - Fletcher Challenge will be just a memory!"

"The public presentation was well done. Lots of information, very educational. I'd like the older kids in the schools to see this, maybe grade 6 and up. Some will be bored but it would certainly educate them in the process and give them an idea of the time involved. One of the largest problems surrounding the industry is lack of knowledge."

"I think a very good plan and go ahead as planned"

"A very good plan, keep as many people employed as possible. I think these plans help the people in the community to understand the forest. I think something like this should be in Fletchers tour building too, to help people from outside understand."

"it is crucial to take 20 years to log watershed-for long term employment for the Islands plus it will be easier on the landscape."

" In general I do not feel that enough (or any consideration) is given to the peace of mind or spiritual satisfaction in knowing not even necessarily visiting pristine area of our environment remaining. Instead, what is remaining to see in our environment is plantations in various stages of growth apparently none (see Focus) harvesting to date by Companies in B.C.. I am not advocating here the illusion of wilderness. Instead I advocate partial, non destructive (to the forest whole), cutting in non-sensitive areas. Forest continuity can be maintained (and ecology) the public can see little difference and large healthy trees (young healthy and middle aged trees). Will still maintain the values associated with any area of sufficient insensitivity, if well done. I refer to Herb Hammond's "Seeing the Forest among the Trees (1991) and other please understand that I realize that plans of this nature must reference many guidelines and that much of the plan follows at least some of these guidelines carefully, I contend however that the guidelines are largely outdated, arbitrary and mostly " not the will of the public".

" I have walked Government Creek many times in the past 7 years for DFO and also recreationally. I would like to see some of the wilderness character of the area continue especially in the lower reaches and creek mouth and foreshore areas. Some fisheries concerns: The gradient of the creek is not steep and creek bed gravels are generally small size so that increased siltation of spawning gravels will likely occur with increased peak runoff and erosion from cut blocks. Larger peak runoff will also result in an increased gravel transport. Creek flow is often very low in August and September when pink salmon enter the system. Large cutblocks in the watershed will alter flow timing and water temperatures possibly resulting in salmon mortality; dissolved oxygen is inversely proportional to water temperature. A large SMZ should be left along the whole main creek and tributary to maintain bank integrity and reduce erosion from the increased peak flows to be expected with clearcutting and to keep small organic debris (tops, branches, etc.) from entering the creek. S.O.D. tends to build up at log jams sometimes forming debris jams impassable to salmon. Intact S.M.Z. is also necessary to provide L.O.D. in the creek over the long term from occasional fallen trees as it forms pools necessary to fish survival during low water periods, and also the rootwads provide excellent fry habitat. Blowdown of a large portion of trees in a narrow leave strip adjacent to the creek in a matter of a few years following logging degrades fish habitat over the long term. Thanks for the opportunity to comment."

Summary of Attendance

Local Advisory Groups

Council of Haida Nations

Department of Fisheries and Oceans

IWA/Canada

Ministry of Environment

Ministry of Tourism

Moresby Island Advisory Planning Commission

Moresby Island Tourism Society

QCI Subcommittee - Sport Fishing Advisory Board

Queen Charlotte City Harbour Association

Regional Economic Development Initiative

Sandspit Rod and Gun Club

Sandspit Tourism Society

Sandspit Business Association

Share the Rock Society

Skidegate Inlet Sport Fishing Association

Steelhead Society



GUEST BOOK

NAME	ADDRESS
AL COWAN	DFO, QCC
T. Hayward	MUF QCC Box 521, QCC BC
B. Eccles	BOX 131 Queen Charlotte, BC
Rob Kuttig	Box 999 Queen Charlotte City, BC
T. Ross	Queen Charlotte city
GREG WIGGINS	QCC
JACK ARMSTRONG	- Q.C.C.
AN BERGSTROM	Q.C.C.
Jamie Wyatt	Q.C.C.
Terry Dyer	Q.C.C.
D Plumb	QCC
M. Marin	Queen Charlotte
R. Nelson	QCC
Dawn Smith	Q.C.C.
Mavis & Fay Lawson	Sandspit B.C.
Bob Banks	Sandspit B.C.
A. L. Lake	SANDSPIT B.C.
JE Huebner	SANDSPIT BC

+BOBBIE



GUEST BOOK

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22	Jim + Laila Henry	Box 82 Sandspit BC
23	B. Ho	Box 281 SANDSPIT BC.
24	J. Saunders	Box 442 Sandspit BC.
25	R. Mayken	Box 182 Sandspit BC.
26	J. Lilly	Box 157 SANDSPIT B.C.
27	Olaf Hansen	Box 103 SANDSPIT B.C.
28	John R. Biehl	Box 115 SANDSPIT B.C.
	Al Klover	Box 144 sandspit, B.C.
29	Murray Gushult	Box 486, Sandspit B.C.
31	Ch. Goodacre	Box 231 Sandspit
32	W. B. Goodacre	Box 232 Sandspit
33	F. Lawson	Box 306 Sandspit
34	C. Carter	Box 301 Sandspit, B.C.
35	M. Pezel	Box 444 SANDSPIT.
36	L. Jensen	Box 38 Sandspit
37	Marcel Kusti	Box 27 Sandspit, BC
38	JAMES E. OLSON	Box 264 Sandspit B.C.
39	ROBBIE OLSON	Box 264 Sandspit B.C.



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Richard Sample	Box 436 SANDSPIT
Car Harker	Box 322 SANDSPIT
JOHN HOUSTON	Box 322 SANDSPIT
RYANIK NIELSEN	Box 401 SANDSPIT
DANIE NIELSEN	Box 401 SANDSPIT.
Tony Sturmanis	Box 135 Sandspit
Mise Bundoek	Box 232 Sandspit.
SANDSPIT BUSINESS ASSOCIATION	P.O. Box 415 SANDSPIT.
Bob Bennett	Box 789 Sandspit
KAROL JEFFREY	Box 251 SANDSPIT
M. F. Dubasou	Sandspit
Karen Bennett	Box 189, Sandspit, Q.C.N., B.C.
Mike Sturmanis	Box 45 Sandspit B.C. V0T-1T0
Peg Brady	Box 128 Sandspit - B.C. V0T-1T0 -
Paul Hershberg	Box 257 Sandspit B.C. V0T 1T0
H. Hershberg	Box 257 Sandspit B.C. V0T 1T0



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DEBB BODENHAM	Box 142 SANDSPIT VOT 170
CHRIS KETCH	Box 185 SANDSPIT
CARL KETCH	Box 185 SANDSPIT
PAULA KETCH	Box 185 SANDSPIT
G BELLEFLEUR	Box 434 ✓
L. BELLEFLEUR	✓ - ✓
Mark Bellefleur	Box 36 ✓
Box Bldn	Box 482 SANDSPIT
Sula Zala	" "
Holly Berg	Box 65 Sandspit
Paul Leslie	Box 408 Sandspit
JAN MARLEY	Box 272 SANDSPIT
Lynne Kay	Box 166 ✓
Sue Peake	Box 42 Sandspit
Dorey Peake	" " "
RON KETCH	Box 117 SANDSPIT



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LEE THOMSON	Box 242 SANDSPIT B.C.
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Audrey MacMunn	Box 405, Sandspit, B.C.
Robert Fearing	Box 405 Sandspit, B.C.
Loralie Moore	Box 242 Sandspit B.C.
BILL TENSKEN	Box 38 SANDSPIT B.C.
LYNN SCOTT	BX 63 Sandspit B.C.
Jim Scott.	Box 67 Sandspit B.C.
JACK McKEITH	Box 59 SANDSPIT B.C.
Jim Sharpe	Box 467 SANDSPIT B.C.
Bob MANDRELL	Box 130 SANDSPIT B.C.
Jim MacMunn	Box 23 Sandspit B.C.
STEPHAN GRAVIES	Box 183 SANDSPIT B.C.
CAROL GRAVIES.	Box 183 SANDSPIT B.C.
Frank MacMunn	Box 273 SANDSPIT, B.C.
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John [Signature]	Box 446 SANDSPIT B.C.



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94	m. Pacht	Box 57, SANDSPIT, BC
95	J. Freer	Box 450 Sandspit
96	R. Freer	" " "
97	Mr. Jamoat	RR#1 GARDEN 13A7 BC V0T 1S0
98	A. Clemence	" " "
99	Brianne A. Corey	Puffin Cove 30 BOX 55, SANDSPIT
	Neil Casey	" " "
101	Lynel Hinkes	Box 94 SANDSPIT BC
102	W. Henry	Box 201 Sandspit, BC
103	Kristin	" " "
104	Ryan	" " "
105	Erin Gould	Box 421 Sandspit B.C.
106	Chris Rigus	" " "
	Jane Fraser	Box 454, Sandspit BC
	Noah Fraser	Box 454, Sandspit BC
	Tegan Fraser	Box 454, Sandspit BC
	John Zoney	Box 448 SANDSPIT B.C.



GUEST BOOK

NAME	ADDRESS
Peter Nash	Peter Nash Box 382 Sandport

Questionnaire and Reponse Form



MINISTRY OF FORESTS

FLETCHER CHALLENGE CANADA LIMITED

GOVERNMENT CREEK LOCAL RESOURCE USE PLAN

OPEN HOUSE MEETING - RESPONSE FORM

The Resource Use Planning process is an opportunity for concerned citizens and groups to make recommendations and provide directions to the Ministry of Forests, other regulatory agencies and industry on forestry related matters. This Open House is a step in the overall LRUP process. The following questions are based upon comments provided by local interest groups. We appreciate your time in supplying specific or general comments on our information base and draft plans for Government Creek.

Other Resources:

- Are there specific non-timbered resources that you are concerned about?

Please specify:

- Non-timber resources in this watershed can be managed in cooperation with timber harvesting.

- strongly agree []
- agree []
- disagree []
- strongly disagree []
- not sure []

- The draft plan adequately addresses the non-timber resources in the watershed.

- strongly agree []
- agree []
- disagree []
- strongly disagree []
- not sure []

- Other Resource Recommendations:

Recreation and Aesthetics:

- The draft plan has areas designated for maintenance of fish and wildlife resources which also serve as recreational areas. For the forementioned resources do you think that:

- 1) more area should be designated.
- 2) the present area is large enough.
- 3) the area is larger than needed.

If you feel that more area should be set aside for recreation, where should this be located:

- 1) along the main creek
- 2) along the foreshore
- 3) in the upper areas
- 4) along the side tributaries
- 5) other: _____

- A boat ramp and campsite are proposed for construction at the mouth of Government Creek. Do you think:

- 1) both should be built
- 2) a boat ramp but no campsite should be constructed
- 3) a campsite but no boat ramp should be constructed
- 4) neither should be built
- 5) other: _____

- Visual landscape planning* has been addressed in the draft plan. After viewing the display on visual quality objectives which one of the following categories do you find acceptable?

- 1) 0% - Preservation
- 2) 1-5% - Retention
- 3) 6-15% - Partial Retention
- 4) 16-30% - Modification
- 5) 31-50% - Maximum Modification

* Please refer to the Forest Landscape Handbook Display.

- It is necessary to maintain an illusion of wilderness in some areas of the valley.

- strongly agree []
- agree []
- disagree []
- strongly disagree []
- not sure []

- Distribution of cutblocks can be either concentrated or dispersed throughout the watershed. Do you think that the cutblocks should be:

___ Concentrated ___ Dispersed

- Other Recreational/Aesthetics Recommendations:

Community Interests:

- Do you feel that this plan adequately represents the interests of the local communities?

Yes ___ No ___

Why? _____

- Do you think that the draft plan adequately addresses employment considerations?

Yes ___ No ___

Why? _____

- Other Community Interests Recommendations:

General Comments:

Please place this form in the box provided.

Thank-you for attending this open house and supplying your comments. If necessary, please forward your comments to:

Ministry of Forests,
Queen Charlotte Islands District,
P.O. Box 39
Queen Charlotte City, B.C. V0T 1S0
Attention: R.O. Timber

OR

Fletcher Challenge Canada Limited
Sandspit Division
P.O. Box 470
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Attention: Divisional Engineer