

Technical Support for the Community Planning Forum

Throughout the planning process, the Community Planning Forum will be provided with technical support in the preparation of background reports, maps, and analyses required to support balanced and informed decision-making at the Forum.

Process Technical Team

The Process Technical Team (PTT) is responsible for coordinating and delivering much of the information required for the planning process. The PTT includes representatives from provincial and federal government agencies with a mandate in land management, and representatives from the Haida Nation. The PTT has been busy preparing for the initiation of the Community Planning Forum, by developing background reports, compiling map information, and preparing tools for analysis of questions and issues that may arise at the Forum.

The Coast Information Team

The Coast Information is an independent, multi-disciplinary information body that was established as part of the Coast Strategy Agreement. Their mandate is



Photo: Haida Canoe

to provide information and analyses for the implementation of ecosystem-based management on the Coast

Haida Land Use Vision (HLUV)

The Haida culture is derived of the relationship of the people to the lands, the waters, and the life of their territory. The Council of the Haida Nation (CHN) is coordinating the development of a Haida Land Use Vision (HLUV) for the Land Use Planning table. This vision will contain maps and written principles regarding land and resource use that describe and illustrate the distribution of

Haida cultural values and environmental objectives. Focal points will center on habitat values for salmon, bear and various threatened species, including plant communities; a strategy for sustaining cedar for cultural purposes and traditional uses. Data and information from the programs administered by CHN Forest Guardians, Haida Fisheries Program and Haida citizens will guide the HLUV as well as oral history. The CHN Lands and Water Committee will facilitate the gathering of information through the CHN Coordinator.

For More Information Please Contact:

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Photo: Helicopter Logging in TFL 39

Haida Gwaii/Queen Charlotte Islands Land Use Plan



Number 1

NEWSLETTER

March 2003

Agreement Reached on Land Use Planning Framework

The Province and the Haida Nation have reached agreement on the design and management of a land use planning process for Haida Gwaii / the Queen Charlotte Islands (HG/QCI). This agreement follows extensive consultation with island elected officials.

The Framework Agreement reflects the interests of both the Province and the Haida Nation in cooperatively managing and delivering an efficient land use planning process, that provides for direct community input and negotiation on the management of lands and resources on HG/ QCI.

Recommendations for land use designations and management direction will be developed by a **Community Planning Forum**, consisting of island residents, sectors or interests, and one representative of each level of government – provincial, local and Haida Nation.

Goal of the HG/QCI Land Use Planning Process:

Develop a comprehensive, balanced, ecosystem-based management plan that:

- protects ecosystem integrity
- maintains spiritual and cultural values
- enhances sustainable economic opportunity, and;
- fosters community well-being



Photo: Yakoun Lake

The Framework Agreement also supports the Haida Nation in their development of a **Haida Land Use Vision**. The Vision will be provided to the Community Planning Forum in its early stages, to help guide and inform the negotiations with respect to Haida interests in a land use plan.

The Land Use Plan will incorporate the principles of **Ecosystem-Based Management**, recognizing the importance of both healthy ecosystems and healthy communities for long term sustainability.

Process Co-Chairs Appointed

Two Co-Chairs have been appointed to guide the process, and ensure the process is open, fair, equitable and accountable to both the Province and the Haida Nation. The Minister of Sustainable Resource Management Stan Hagen has appointed Carol Kulesha to fulfill the role of provincial Co-Chair, and the Council of the Haida Nation has appointed Gilbert Parnell as the Haida Nation Co-Chair.

The Co-Chairs will receive support in process management by Ministry of Sustainable Resource Management Process Coordinator Leah Malkinson and Planning Manager Gary Reay, and Haida Nation Process Coordinator Kim Lewis.

A Streamlined Process

The planning process has been designed to be delivered in an efficient 15 month timeframe from the timing of the first Community Planning Forum meeting. The combination of a small, focused Community Planning Forum, two Process Co-Chairs, and significant technical support in the development of information and analyses should help to ensure these timelines are realized.

Once completed and approved by the province and the Haida Nation, the land use plan will identify goals, objectives and measures of success for the management of a full range of values and resource uses.

Haida Gwaii/Queen Charlotte Islands



Description of the Plan Area

The HG/ QCI Land Use Plan will provide strategic land and resource management direction for terrestrial and inland freshwater areas within the planning area (see adjacent map).

The plan area does not include coastal areas below the high tide line, offshore oil and gas or marine protected areas under federal jurisdiction. Marine and coastal zone planning will be addressed in a separate planning process.

Exceptions may be made, however, to allow consideration of protection of foreshore and nearshore areas within this process, if adjacent upland terrestrial areas are being considered for protection.



Variable Retention Harvesting

Implementing Ecosystem-Based Management

The HG/QCI Land Use Planning process is part of a broader Coast Strategy, in which several agreements were signed in April 2001 with respect to land use planning on the Coast of BC. Central to these agreements was a commitment to implementing Ecosystem-Based Management (EBM).

EBM was defined as "a strategic approach to managing human activities that seeks to ensure the coexistence of healthy, fully functioning ecosystems and human communities.

EBM fundamentally recognizes the

interdependence of healthy communities and healthy ecosystems. Some of the principles of EBM that were agreed to in the Coast Strategy that highlight this mutual dependence include the following:

- Healthy, fully functioning ecosystems provide the basis for sustaining communities, economies, cultures and the quality of human life. Therefore ecological sustainability is fundamental to land and marine management.
- Empowered and healthy communities play a leadership role in sustaining healthy ecosystems,

cultures and economies.

- Natural, social and economic capital in the region should be maintained to preserve the full range of options for future generations.
- Human communities should be sustained within the limits of ecosystem processes.

To assist each of the coastal land use planning tables in defining and implementing EBM, an independent group of scientists and specialists known as the **Coast Information Team (CIT)** has been created.

Land Use Plan

Next Step: Setting Up the Community Planning Forum

The Community Planning Forum will be comprised of a **10-15 member committee**, representing a balanced cross-section of values and interests in the community. Criteria for the selection of Forum members will include the following:

- Skills, knowledge and experience related to land use planning, resource and environmental management and economic development;
- Ability to represent key community interests and values;
- Ability to effectively represent a sector or identified interest group, and ensure communication with that sector or interest group;

- Ability to work in team settings, respect diverse interests, be creative in exploring options, and look for mutually acceptable outcomes that meet the interests of all parties;
- Respect, credibility and identified support from community members, and;

Potential Interests/ sectors to be Represented at the Forum

DForestry	DMining and Energy
DTourism	DCommunity Sustainability
DConservation and Environment	DPublic Recreation
DCultural Values	DNon-timber forest products
DHunting, Fishing, Trapping	DProvincial Government
DGuide Outfitting	DHaida Nation
DLabour	DLocal Government

Are You Interested in Participating?

Participating in the Community Planning Forum will entail a commitment of roughly 3-5 days per month over a period of 15 months.

If you think you might be interested in participating in the Community Planning Forum, let us know by providing the following information either in the application form enclosed or by other means:

- Why you would like to participate.
- What interests and/or sectors you would represent.
- Your work history, skills, and training.
- Your experience and skills specifically related to land use planning, interest-based negotiation, working in team environments.
- Letters of recommendation or documentation of support.

Please send this information to Kim Lewis, at the contact information shown on Page 4.

Land Use Plan Process Steps & Timelines

