

Who manages the forests? I believe the BC government and local watershed groups, not private industry need to be in charge of what is actually happening in our watershed. The few laws in place are insufficient and vague. They have been put in place by the people who are actually doing the logging.

The ecological integrity needs to be considered to ensure the habitat loss is considered whenever logging is undertaken. Large scale clear cutting of our forests effects the ability of our stream to support salmon who are important to wildlife, first nations and us the settlers. Stability of the slopes must also be considered as it will impact wildlife, our communities and our drinking water. Water is the life blood of the planet. We must think long term.

We need a real inventory of what is in our forests (both private and public) and what is being logged. This information needs to be available to the public so that all can participate in decision making.

The carbon storage of old growth forests needs to be recognized. Landowners who preserve this climate mitigating action need to be compensated by the people of BC. Our forests need to grow older and longer.

Any timber harvested must be used locally. No shipments of raw logs should be allowed. Small scale landowners must be encouraged to manage and preserve their forests. Incentives are needed to encourage landowners to keep the forests intact and functioning as part of the ecosystem. A Forest Land Reserve should be established much like the Agricultural Land Reserve.

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