



HAIDA NATION

November 20, 2017

CHN BULLETIN: BCTS LOGGING AT NADU AND LAWN HILL

British Columbia Timber Sales has posted logging blocks near Nadu Road and Lawn Hill. These blocks went before the Solutions Table where the application was vetted by representatives of the Haida Nation and Province of BC. The Haida Nation found the blocks had a variety of issues and did not approve them; the Province did approve the blocks and British Columbia Timber Sales has posted them to start the contractor bidding process that may lead to logging the areas. The bidding process closes November 30, 2017.

BCTS' rationale to log the areas says, "that after much deliberation and discussion with the Council of the Haida Nation, Misty Isles Economic Development Society (MIEDS) and local residents, BC Timber Sales (BCTS) is moving forward with the auction".

The Haida Nation disputes the outcome of the "deliberation and discussion", which is to log the areas, as do other parties who took part in those discussions.

While the blocks meet current Land Use Objectives Order regulations, broader forest management issues have been brought to the Province for nearly a year – by both Haida and Islands' communities – and yet remain unresolved.

As a result, earlier in 2017, the Council of the Haida Nation deferred the blocks for a variety of reasons, including the following:

- 1) The Nadu River and Lawn Hill blocks are within areas proposed for the Community Forest.
- 2) Over the past couple of years BCTS has been logging areas that have been allocated to the Community Forest. BCTS is logging these areas to meet the Provincial governments' Market Pricing System obligations.
- 3) BCTS logging within the proposed Community Forest areas has been done without partnering with communities.

- 4) Areas close to communities have a limited amount of mature cedar available for the local economy including cultural use and there are concerns that these accessible areas are being logged too fast. Despite having almost a year to address this issue, no action has been taken to demonstrate or change the blocks in order to meet Community Forest principles jointly proposed by the CHN and communities.
- 5) Other concerns not addressed include questions about the visual impacts along the highway corridor, and how BCTS has applied strategies to protect red and yellow cedar rare site series within these areas.

To address the issues the CHN has, in part:

- 1) Tabled a set a of principles with the Province that would guide operations in the community forest which include the use of innovative harvesting practices, minimizing waste, managing the forest in recognition of the growing tourism industry, and ensure benefits from any logging are accrued to Islands communities. (see attached Principles)
- 2) Posted signs in the areas of the Nadu and Lawn Hill blocks indicate that logging may not proceed without the written permission, or a license issued by the Council of the Haida Nation.
- 3) Worked to ensure that all ages of cedar are maintained and sustained over the landscape and into the future. To further this, the Haida Gwaii Management Council requested a "cedar partition", which was brought into effect under Provincial law by the Chief Forester on October 24 of this year.
- 4) The CHN is working with all Island communities to formalize a Community Forest where benefits from a sustainable harvest will benefit Islands' communities.

PLEASE JOIN HAIDA NATION REPS TO TALK MORE ABOUT THESE
CONCERNS AND OTHER FORESTRY ISSUES.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 23, 2017

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Forest Management Principles for the Haida Gwaii Community Forest

January 11, 2017

Stewardship

Protect the environmental and cultural values in the forest for future generations through implementing sustainable forest practices and adhering to the Haida Gwaii Land Use Objectives Order;

Provide lasting security and incentives for sound stewardship and long term investments through an area-based tenure that has a good profile of forest age and species and is reasonably proximal to the communities;

Aspire to high standards in forest management and accountability through third-party certification;

Manage the forest using innovative silviculture strategies and ecologically based forest management to maintain, enhance, or restore healthy forests;

Manage commercial access to cedar to ensure its availability throughout the transition to the harvesting of second-growth, including managing for old-growth red and yellow cedar and fire-origin second-growth cedar within the timber harvesting land-base;

Minimize wood waste and support the utilization of salvageable wood;

Support an active role in implementing ecosystem based management to achieve an adaptive, systematic approach to managing human activities, that seeks to ensure the co-existence of healthy, fully functioning ecosystems and human communities;

Implement forest development that complements community based tourism values;

Contribute credible benchmark data for government to develop stumpage rates

Benefits to the Communities

Use the diversity of resources in the forest to generate economic benefits for communities, and offer employment for Haida Gwaii residents;

Engage Haida Gwaii residents in broad level community collaboration in near term and long term forest management planning;

Ensure respectful integration of Haida and community values into tenure management planning;
Ensure that the forests are managed using sound business practices whereby profits are managed for the best-interests of all communities;

Develop procurement policies that are cost effective and provide longer term opportunities for local suppliers;

Provide forest access for the public through an access management strategy that ensures infrastructure is maintained to an extent that is appropriate to the scale and activities of the Community Forest operations;

Explore opportunities for local value-added wood product manufacturing;

Explore opportunities for education, research and testing innovative forest planning and practices, community resource stewardship, and climate change adaptation;

Explore opportunities for economic diversification, such as non-timber forest products, forest carbon offsets, tourism, or bioenergy production;

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