



SUNSHINE COAST COMMUNITY FOREST

BUILDING VALUE FOR OUR COMMUNITY

April 5, 2011

Press Release

Sophisticated Forest Management Planning processes in use

The Sunshine Coast Community Forest (SCCF) continually strives to increase public involvement in our forest management planning processes. We encourage community members to contact us to discuss how their values and concerns may be addressed and either join or make presentations to the Community Forest Advisory Committee (CFAC) regarding their particular issues in our forests.

It is unfortunate that a recent campaign attempting to stop harvesting is making statements based on misconceptions and based on information that was released several years ago. Many of the concerns being raised have already been addressed in the updated logging site plan. For example, the overall logging area in the Wilson Creek has been reduced to 40% of the area to account for old growth trees, wind effect, Spruce and White Pine trees, water and wetland areas and adjacent logging operations. In short, we have carefully listened and met the needs and values of the majority of the community while also meeting our forest management obligations.

We have also responded to requests for proactive public involvement opportunities in our long-term planning. For example, the SCCF expanded the old 5 Year Forest Development process into a Community Forest Operating Plan (CFOP). This enables the public to bring forward specific block by block concerns in advance of harvesting. In addition, the community not only sees what areas are chosen for harvesting, but also all the areas set aside for other values.

To date, public input and support has been tremendous! We have made considerable changes to our forest practices as a result of that public input. The SCCF has adopted and developed comprehensive strategies to address biodiversity, wildlife, hydrology, water quality, recreation, timber management and economic benefits to the community through direct jobs and support services. In an area where so many values are dear to the public, managing forest resources is a complex process and we strive to balance all reasonable concerns.

Please visit our website at www.sccf.ca for more information.

For further information:

John R Henderson
Chair & President
Sunshine Coast Community Forest
604 885 7809

Suite 201 – 5606 Wharf Road, P.O. Box 215, Sechelt, BC V0N 3A0
Phone 604-885-7809 Fax 604-885-7859 E-Mail: info1@SCCF.ca www.SCCF.ca

Sunshine Coast Community Forest Operated by Sechelt Community Projects Inc.