



Friends of Clayoquot Sound

Forest & logging fact sheet

Clayoquot Sound — May 2011

Temperate Rainforest Globally

- Temperate rainforests are rare to begin with: originally covered only a fraction of one percent of the earth's land surface.
- Just over 1/2 of the world's temperate rainforest has been logged already.
- Only 25% of Washington's, 4% of Oregon's and 4% of California's original rainforests are left.
- Large tracts of temperate rainforest remain only in BC, Alaska and Chile.

Temperate rainforest in BC

- BC has about 1/4 of the world's remaining coastal temperate rainforest.
- Just over 1/2 of BC's coastal temperate rainforest has been cut already.

Temperate rainforest of Vancouver Island and Clayoquot Sound

- 3/4 of the productive ancient forest on 3,175,000-hectare Vancouver Island has been logged already.
- 13% of Vancouver Island's area is protected in parks, but only 6% of the Island's productive forest.
- Clayoquot Sound's terrestrial and ocean area is 350,000 hectares.
- Terrestrial area: 272,000 hectares (263,000 land and 9,000 lakes) = 2,720 square kilometres/1,050 square miles or about 8% of Vancouver Island.
- Clayoquot Sound has the largest area of old growth forest and the only cluster of unlogged valleys remaining on Vancouver Island.
- Of 89 large primary valleys on Vancouver Island (valleys 5,000 hectares or larger that empty directly into the ocean), only 6 remain undeveloped (completely unlogged or less than 2% logged).
- Four of these 6 large primary intact valleys are in Clayoquot Sound: Megin and Moyeha Rivers (in Strathcona Provincial Park); Sydney and Bulson Rivers (unprotected).
- Clayoquot Sound also has 2 large upland (secondary) valleys that are intact: Ursus and Clayoquot Rivers.
- The only 2 large undeveloped islands off Vancouver Island are also in Clayoquot Sound: Flores Island & Meares Island.

Logging tenures in Clayoquot Sound

- Tree Farm License 57, Iisaak Forest Resources (formerly MacMillan Bloedel's TFL 44): 87,400 hectares (1 hectare = 2.5 acres)
- Tree Farm License 54, Iisaak Forest Resources (via its parent company, Ma-Mook Natural Resources) (formerly Interfor's TFL): 45,700 hectares
- Timber Licenses, Iisaak Forest Resources: 3,600 hectares
- Arrowsmith Timber Supply Area, BC Timber Sales: approx. 20,000 hectares

- Pacific Timber Supply Area, BC Timber Sales (formerly MacMillan Bloedel's TFL 44): approx 11,000 hectares
- Forest License A19235, International Forest Products (Interfor): approx. 4,000 hectares
- Private forest land owned by Island Timberlands: 1,350 hectares

Clayoquot Land Use Decision, April 1993

- 33% of land area (90,400 hectares) protected in parks — translates into 22% of productive ancient forest protected.
- 62% of area open for logging — translates into 74% of productive ancient forest open for logging (22% already cut; 52% to be cut).
- 5% not included in decision: District of Tofino; private land; native reserves; Meares Island (still under treaty negotiation).

Science Panel for Sustainable Forest Practices, 1995 (legislated in 2008)

- Science Panel planning process placed 60% of Clayoquot Sound's land base off-limits to logging (33% already protected in parks, plus an additional 27% in Science Panel "watershed reserves" outside of parks)
- Watershed reserves are small and fragmented; part of every intact valley is open to logging, whereas recent science increasingly shows the importance of protecting large intact areas to maintain biodiversity and ecological resilience and connectivity, especially in the face of climate change.
- Watershed reserves apply only to logging; the reserves are open to other industrial activities such as mining, hydro, roads, etc.

Volume of wood cut in Clayoquot Sound 1988–2010 (in cubic metres)

(Approximate equivalents: 1 cubic metre = 1 telephone pole; 1 logging truck = 33 cubic metres)

1988	959,000	(29,000 truckloads)	2000	25,000
1989	958,000		2001	81,000
1990	763,000		2002	145,000
1991	777,000		2003	70,000 (estimated)
1992	467,000		2004	153,000 (estimated)
1993	456,000	(13,800 truckloads)	2005	94,000
1994	406,000		2006	66,000
1995	323,000		2007	120,000
1996	106,000	(under Science Panel guidelines from 1996 onward)	2008	160,000
1997	84,000		2009	161,000
1998	17,000		2010	216,000 (6,500 truck loads)
1999	32,000			