

Bulkley Valley Community Resources Board, BVCRB

Website: bvcrb.ca E-mail: <u>info@bvcrb.ca</u>

Mail: Treasurer Ron Vanderstar, 11565 Old Babine Lake Road,

Smithers, BC. V0J2N7

Cam Bentley, District Manager and First Nations Consultation Manager, Regional Operations - Skeena Stikine Natural Resource District, Ministry of Forests Cam.Bentley@gov.bc.ca, C: 250 847-7388.

Tara Dunphy, Director of Strategic Initiatives and Forest Landscape Planning, Skeena Region, Ministry of Forests Tara.Dunphy@gov.bc.ca, C: 250-643-7127

(Letter sent by email)

February 21, 2025

Hello Cam and Tara,

After reflection on your comments at the meeting in December 2024, the Board is hoping for a presentation regarding the criteria used in the field (and/or office) to determine Old Growth designations. We want to be sure that our diverse community has the same understanding of the definitions used in your office and that of other Provincial offices. We would be sure to notify our members and invite both the public and the BV Naturalists specifically to that meeting.

We have some questions around whether your team is visiting old growth stands in the valley and when, where and how were they identified as such. We also have questions on specific criteria you may be using. Some discussion in meeting has been noted here:

'logged previously': if stands were logged selectively for railway ties for example would this disqualify them from the the old growth criterion? What constraints are there? Are there conditions to having been previously logged?

eco system based definitions: define composition and structure of the old growth forest

age: what are practices to establishing age by inferring from core samples? Are there confidence intervals applied?

Thank-you both once again for engaging with the Board. Please contact a Director or email us at the info@bvcrb.ca mailbox to schedule a date for this presentation.

Regards,

Anne Hetherington

Director, Bulkley Valley Community Resources Board

cc: Nick Dormaar, ndormaar@merakiresources.com