

**B.C. TAP WATER ALLIANCE PRESENTATION  
COURTNEY, VANCOUVER ISLAND, B.C.  
BEST WESTERN HOTEL  
MAY 14, 2007.**



Above is shown Comox Lake (middle of photo), from which Courtney/Comox District receives its drinking water. Comox Lake is fed from three main tributaries, the Puntledge, Beech and Cruikshank Creeks. As you will see, TimberWest is actively logging all drainages at present. Slides shown from Comox Lake were taken on Sunday, May 13, 2007, Mothers Day.

# A HISTORY OF DRINKING WATERSHED PROTECTION IN B.C. AND THE UNITED STATES

## With Comments on Private Forest Land Logging

Note: This is only a summary, with only some slides shown from the lengthy power point presentation of 262 slides. To avoid duplication from the first presentation summary in Port Alberni presentation on March 24, 2007 (available on the Tap Water Alliance website) only the new slides pertinent to the Courtney presentation are given here.



Once again, a Google satellite photo of Comox Lake (bottom centre), lodged in the Beaufort Mountain Range on Vancouver Island. The Beech Creek drainage is at the middle bottom of Comox Lake above, Cruikshank to the right, and the Puntledge is at the extreme right of Comox Lake, which weaves through its source from the Strathcona Park boundary (bottom right), up against which TimberWest is actively logging. On the upper right of this photo is the location of Port Alberni and valley, to the right of the Beaufort Range.

New information not in the Port Alberni presentation.

## **U.S. PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT ORGANIZED TWO IMPORTANT NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCES REGARDING CONSERVATION OF NATURAL RESOURCES**

### **MAY 13-15, 1908 – U.S. WHITE HOUSE CONFERENCE OF GOVERNORS THE FIRST MEETING OF ITS KIND IN WORLD HISTORY**

(This conference led to the formation of the National Conservation Commission in June 1908, and then the Joint Conservation Congress in December 1908 which received the three volume report of the National Conservation Commission)

“It included also the Congress, the Cabinet, the Supreme Court, scientific experts, representatives of national associations, and outstanding citizens.

This Conference set forth in impressive fashion, and it was the first national meeting in any country to set forth, the idea that the protection, preservation, and wise use of the natural resources of the earth is not a series of separate and independent tasks but one single problem. As the President said: “The various uses of our natural resources are so closely connected that they should be coordinated and should be treated as parts of a coherent plan.” The Conference asserted that the conservation of natural resources is the one most fundamentally important problem of all. It drove home the basic truth that the planned and orderly development of the earth and all it contains is absolutely indispensable to the permanent prosperity of the human race. It spread far and wide the new proposition that the purpose of conservation of natural resources is the greatest good of the greatest number for the longest time. It taught the people of the United States, and other peoples, the new meaning of the word conservation, which in its present application to natural resources was then generally unknown.

The Conference of Governors recommended and was followed by the appointment of conservation commissions by a majority of the States, and of the National Conservation Commission, which later in January of 1909 submitted to the President the first national inventory of natural resources ever made.” (Quote from Gifford Pinchot, *Conservation as a Foundation of Permanent Peace*. Article printed in *Nature*, August 20, 1940.)

**FEBRUARY 18, 1909 – NORTH AMERICAN CONSERVATION  
CONFERENCE AT THE WHITE HOUSE – DELEGATES FROM MEXICO,  
CANADA AND THE UNITED STATES MEET TO DISCUSS  
CONSERVATION POLICY**

Roosevelt stated: “It is evident that natural resources are not limited by the boundary lines which separate nations, and that the need for conserving them upon this continent is as wide as the area upon which they exist.” After five days of sessions, the convening body adopted a declaration of principles.

The North American Conservation Conference declared that the movement for the conservation of natural resources on the continent of North America “is of such a nature and of such general importance that it should become world-wide in its scope.” Therefore it suggested to the President “that all nations should be invited to join together in conference on the subject of world resources and their inventory, conservation, and wise utilization.” (Quote from Gifford Pinchot, *Conservation as a Foundation of Permanent Peace*. Article printed in *Nature*, August 20, 1940.)

(The following is a summary of the historic information presented on the liquidation of forests in the United States from 1850 to the early 1900s, and the U.S. federal government's intentions to change forestry practices with the creation of National Forest (Reserve) lands, where selection logging was occurring.)

## **WHAT HAPPENED IN THE EARLY 1950s ???**

The U.S. forest industry lobbyists turned the table on the public, by influencing elected officials and administrators to reintroduce the very logging practices the federal government's advisors and administrators had opposed for fifty years.

This reversal resulted in becoming a global precedent for clearcutting and accelerated roadbuilding. These practices were then condoned in British Columbia's largely untapped forests.

In other words, the captains of the forest industry, and professional foresters, began, **knowingly**, to undermine the hard-fought principles established to protect the nation's forests, through selective logging, as critical regulators of water runoff, along with the protection of the public's collective drinking watersheds.

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# VANCOUVER ISLAND LAND USE PLAN

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V O L U M E I

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**THE LAND USE PLANS DEVELOPED IN THE 1990s FOLLOWED THE FOREST RESOURCES COMMISSION WITH ITS RECOMMENDATIONS FOR A NEW FOREST PRACTICES CODE ACT**

## **Private Managed Forest Land**

Private Managed Forest Land (PMFL) is the most secure form of forest tenure. It makes up almost 20% of the land base of Vancouver Island and includes some of its most productive forest land. Property tax advantages are received by the owners in return for keeping this land in forestry.

Three points seem logical from this situation. First, it is in the public interest to encourage private owners of this productive forest land, largely situated where it can be profitably harvested, to maintain it for this purpose. Second, the expense of silviculture should be borne fully by the land owner, as the beneficiary of the future productivity. Third, the Forest

Practices Code should apply to PMFL in the same way as it does to similarly harvested Crown forest land to the extent necessary to protect resource productivity and external public interests regarding such matters as community watersheds and fish-spawning streams.

This Plan recommends designation of PMFL for Multi-Resource Use consistent with its current use and classification under the Assessment Act. It is the responsibility of the provincial government to assess the need for changes in the policy or legislation related to the PMFL and to establish fair processes to deal directly with land owners regarding the implications of any changes.

**(Vancouver Island Land Use Plan, Volume 1, pages 13-14.)**

**TIMBERWEST IN COMOX LAKE DRINKING WATERSHEDS  
(EXPLORING THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN WHAT YOU ARE TOLD  
AND WHAT ACTUALLY OCCURS)**





**ACTIVE ACCELERATED LOGGING  
IN COMOX LAKE DRINKING WATERSHED**





## **LOGGING OF SECOND GROWTH**



## PUNTLIDGE DRAINAGE – NEW ROADS AND LOGGING OF OLD AND SECOND GROWTH



## WATER QUALITY AND RUNOFF IS DEVALUED AND IGNORED



Above – Logging next to Puntledge River. Below – same clearcut, but next to Willemar Lake.



**BLATANT DISREGARD FOR, AND  
LONG-TERM DAMAGE TO, STREAMS**



## CLEARCUTTING AND THE WEAKENING OF SOILS



**RECENT LANDSLIDE BELOW A HELICOPTER LOGGING BLOCK**



**LOGGING ROADS AND THE ACCUMULATED TRANSFER OF FINE SEDIMENTS AND DUST INTO COMOX LAKE SYSTEM**





**STEEP TERRAIN ROAD BUILDING AND HELICOPTER LOGGING  
ACCESS THROUGHOUT ALL DRAINAGES AND SLOPES**



(Beech Creek logging road access)

## RECENT VIOLATION OF RIPARIAN MANAGEMENT CODE FOR PRIVATE LAND LOGGING IN BEECH CREEK CANYON

(No standing trees left for over 100 meters along buffer)



**POISON PESTICIDE IN COMOX LAKE WATERSHED DRINKING WATER**  
– How long has this being going on and who is responsible for authorizing this practice???





# NOTICE

FOR VEGETATION MANAGEMENT  
DECIDUOUS BRUSH IN THIS  
AREA HAS BEEN TREATED  
WITH THE HERBICIDE

VISION  
& RELEASE

BY FOLIAR & BASAL SPRAY  
BY INDIVIDUAL TREE INJECTION  
UNDER PESTICIDE USE PERMIT

103-357-98100

START DATE  
FINISH DATE

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION CALL  
TIMBERWEST FOREST LIMITED  
CAMPBELL RIVER, B.C. 830-2800

**THIS SCENE FROM WITHIN COMOX LAKE WELL EXPRESSES  
THE PRESENT PREDICAMENT AND ATTITUDE BY BOTH  
TIMBERWEST AND THE PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT**  
(Location: just west of the Cruikshank Bridge)



**THE CONTROVERSY AGAINST LOGGING IN COMOX LAKE DRINKING WATERSHED SOURCE SHOULD HAVE ENDED LONG AGO**



Willemar Lake (Puntledge River)



## WHAT IS HAPPENING TO BC'S LEGISLATIVE ACTS BY THE CURRENT GORDON CAMPBELL LIBERAL PARTY?

THERE HAS NEVER BEEN A RULING PARTY IN GOVERNMENT THAT HAS CAUSED SO MUCH HARMFUL CHANGE TO BC'S ADMINISTRATIVE POLICIES OVER THE GOVERNANCE OF CROWN AND PRIVATE LANDS AS THE PRESENT GOVERNMENT

REMEMBER THE TIRESOME RHETORIC ABOUT THE "NEW ERA" WHEN THE BC LIBERALS FIRST WALTZED INTO OFFICE !!!

### **A Results-Based Forest and Range Practices Regime for British Columbia**

*"I have emphasized the importance of economic development and restoring a vibrant economy. We will not, however, achieve economic development at the expense of a sustainable environment."*

*—Premier Gordon Campbell*

When our government was elected, we promised bold and decisive action to open up government, to rebuild the economy and to lead the way to a New Era full of promise and potential for all British Columbians.

Forests have historically been our single-most important source of wealth so our vision included a leading-edge forest industry that is globally recognized for both its productivity and its environmental stewardship.

This discussion paper outlines the policy work that has been done to fulfil one of the key promises that will help us achieve this vision—to establish a workable results-based Forest Practices Code, with tough penalties for non-compliance.

The new code is part of a forest policy framework that will lead to a competitive market-based forest industry in British Columbia, one that reflects a high level of commitment to environmental and economic responsibilities, and that provides stability for forest workers and their families.

**The Challenge:**

For too long, the forest industry has been captured in an inefficient and ineffective legislative maze that has required companies to simply satisfy process requirements. It is time to cut that regulatory burden to enable a competitive market-based forest industry in British Columbia.

There may have been a time when heavy government oversight was seen as essential to protect forest values and public interests. Today, audits and certification initiatives are solid proof that industry has the knowledge and the incentive to do its job properly.

**THE DRAMATIC SHIFT AND PRIVATE ALTERATIONS TO BC'S ENVIRONMENTAL LAWS (2001 – 2007)****THE BLATANT AND CONSISTENT REMOVAL OF REGIONAL AND MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENT VETO ON LAND USE PLANNING**





STAN HAGAN



GORDON CAMPBELL



GEOFF PLANT



GEORGE ABBOTT



MIKE DE JONG



TED NEUFELD



KEVIN FALCON