

Iisaak

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## Acknowledgements

Iisaak Forest Resources would like to thank the many,  
many people who contributed to making this project  
possible.

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# Our History...

Long before the arrival of Europeans, the Nuu-chah-nulth managed the natural resources on the west coast of Vancouver Island based on the belief that their relationship with the world was a gift to be treated with respect and not wastefully depleted. *Hishuk-ish ts'awalk* or “everything is one”, embodies the Nuu-chah-nulth respect for all life forms and their approach to resource stewardship.

- **1978:** The Nuu-chah-nulth Tribal Council (NTC) was asked by its member First Nations to address the declining employment of First Nations in the forest sector, and the damage poor logging practices were causing to fisheries and other resources.
- **1980:** The fifteen Nuu-chah-nulth First Nations of the west coast of Vancouver Island reclaimed their traditional lands. The Canadian government accepted the land claim for negotiation.
- **1984:** Tofino residents organized a boat blockade of Meares Island. The Tla-o-qui-aht and Ahousaht Nations declared the Island a Tribal Park.
- **1985:** A court injunction was granted against logging on Meares Island pending treaty settlement.
- **1989:** Clayoquot Sound Sustainable Development Task Force was set up by the BC government to create a sustainable development strategy. The Task Force failed due to disagreements over interim logging and representation at the table.
- **1990:** The BC government established the Clayoquot Sound Sustainable Development Strategy Steering Committee. Environment Groups walked out following a decision to approve interim logging.
- **1991:** The BC government instructed the Commission on Resources and Environment (C.O.R.E.) to develop a comprehensive land use plan for Vancouver Island excluding Clayoquot Sound.
- **1993:** Following the failure of the C.O.R.E. Steering Committee to reach full agreement on areas to be protected, the BC government announced the Clayoquot Land Use Decision.

Opposition to logging in Clayoquot Sound led to widespread civil disobedience and the arrests of over 800 people for blockading logging operations.

In reaction to the social controversy, the government of British Columbia introduced a new strategy to resolve the issues in Clayoquot Sound. A special panel of scientists and First Nations representatives were charged with the mandate of making recommendations on special forest practices appropriate to Clayoquot Sound.

- **April 1994:** Five *Ha'wiih* (Hereditary Chiefs) of the Nuuchahnulth presented their concerns about land use decisions that were being made in the Central Region without adequate consultation with the region's indigenous people.
- **March 1994:** A historic two-year Interim Measures Agreement (IMA) between the provincial government and the five First Nations of the Nuuchahnulth Central Region, Ahousaht, Hesquiaht, Tla-o-qui-aht, Toquaht and Ucluelet, was signed.

The IMA acknowledged that the *Ha'wiih* of the First Nations have the responsibility to conserve and protect their traditional territories and waters for generations which will follow. Consequently, joint management of the Nuuchahnulth traditional territory's lands and resources was granted until the completion of treaty negotiations.

The Central Region Board (CRB), a unique board with equal aboriginal and non-aboriginal membership, was created as a bridge to treaty. One responsibility of the CRB is to promote sustainability in Clayoquot Sound.

Meetings were held to discuss the possibility of a joint venture between MacMillan Bloedel and the five First Nations but little progress was made.

- **April 1995:** The Scientific Panel completed a series of groundbreaking reports that described how to manage the forests in Clayoquot Sound sustainably.
- **April 1996:** Because treaty negotiations were still in progress, an extension to the initial IMA was signed. This agreement is known as the Interim Measures Extension Agreement (IMEA). Schedule II of the IMEA committed MacMillan Bloedel and the First Nations in Clayoquot Sound to begin negotiations with the objective of forming a joint venture based on a shared commitment to achieving change.
- **April 1997:** Ma-Mook Natural Resources Limited was founded to represent the collective economic interests of the five Nuuchahnulth Central Region First Nations.
- **November 1998:** MacMillan Bloedel Limited and Ma-Mook Development Corporation signed a shareholders agreement detailing their partnership in the operation of a new company to operate in Clayoquot Sound. The new company was named Iisaak Forest Resources Limited. Iisaak (E-sock) means "respect" in the Nuuchahnulth language.
- **July 1999:** A Memorandum of Understanding was signed between Iisaak Forest Resources Ltd. and: Greenpeace Canada, Greenpeace International, Natural Resources Defense Council, Sierra Club of BC and Western Canada Wilderness Committee.

First Nations have shown steadfast resolve and active perseverance in their commitment to improve forest practices and to play a greater role in resource management in Clayoquot Sound. Now, over twenty years later, opportunities have arisen which put the goals of the Nuuchahnulth people and the local communities within reach.

# A History of Change...

## Catalyzed by Conflict

- Blockades and civil disobedience in opposition to logging operations in Clayoquot Sound.
- Initial land use decisions proved ineffective in resolving conflict.

## Interim Measures Agreement 1994

- Established the Central Region Board (CRB), a unique board with equal aboriginal and non-aboriginal membership, created to promote sustainability in Clayoquot Sound.
- Formalized joint management of the Nuu-chah-nulth First Nations traditional lands and resources until the completion of treaty.
- Presented the possibility of a joint venture between MacMillan Bloedel and the five First Nations but little progress was made.

## Clayoquot Sound Scientific Panel 1995

- A series of groundbreaking reports committed to making forest practices in Clayoquot Sound the best in the world.

## Interim Measures Extension Agreement 1996

- An extension to the initial IMA because treaty negotiations were still in progress.
- Schedule II of the IMEA committed MacMillan Bloedel and the First Nations in Clayoquot Sound to begin negotiations with the objective of forming a joint venture based on a shared recognition of the value of change.

## *The Memorandum of Understanding 1999*

On June 16, 1999, a Memorandum of Understanding was signed between Iisaak Forest Resources Limited and

Greenpeace Canada

Greenpeace International

Natural Resources Defense Council

Sierra Club of BC

Western Canada Wilderness Committee.

## *Environment Groups committed to:*

- Supporting Iisaak's operations.
- Actively engaging in promoting markets for products produced by Iisaak.
- Developing ongoing mechanisms for sustaining cooperation.

## *Iisaak committed to:*

- Respecting the role of First Nations in resource management activities.
- Achieving certification.
- Managing *eehmiis*, Nuu-chah-nulth for "precious", areas emphasizing non-timber values.
- Developing ongoing mechanisms for sustaining cooperation.

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**“This Memorandum of Understanding provides a new model for resolve, partnership and forest management that can be acclaimed world wide.”**

**-Adriane Carr, WCWC**

# **Isaak, Nuu-chah-nulth for “Respect”...**

## **What is Isaak?**

Isaak is an innovative ecologically sensitive forest services company built on traditional values and respect for the environment.

## **Who owns Isaak?**

Through the joint venture agreement, the Central Region Nuu-chah-nulth First Nations own 51 percent through Ma-Mook Development Corporation (Ma-Mook) and Weyerhaeuser (formerly MacMillan Bloedel Limited) holds the remaining 49 percent.

### ***Hishuk-ish ts’awalk***

In the Nuu-chah-nulth language, *iisaak* (pronounced E-sock) means “respect”. Isaak Forest Resources is committed to *Hishuk-ish ts’awalk*, the Nuu-chah-nulth belief of respecting the limits of what is extracted and the interconnectedness of all things. This guiding principle of respect is the foundation for restructuring the economic, ecological and social elements of sustainable resource management in Clayoquot Sound.

## **Why was Isaak created?**

Isaak was created to provide a new model of forest management in Clayoquot Sound. Isaak is the direct result of commitments made by the Nuu-chah-nulth Central Region First Nations and MacMillan Bloedel Ltd. in the 1996 Interim Measures Extension Agreement.

## **What is the Interim Measures Extension Agreement?**

The Interim Measures Extension Agreement (IMEA) is the extension of the historic Interim Measures Agreement (IMA). These agreements, between the Nuu-chah-nulth First Nations of the Central Region and the Province of British Columbia, provide for joint management of the Nuu-chah-nulth people’s traditional lands and resources during the completion of treaty negotiations.

### **Setting a worldwide standard for innovative forest management...**

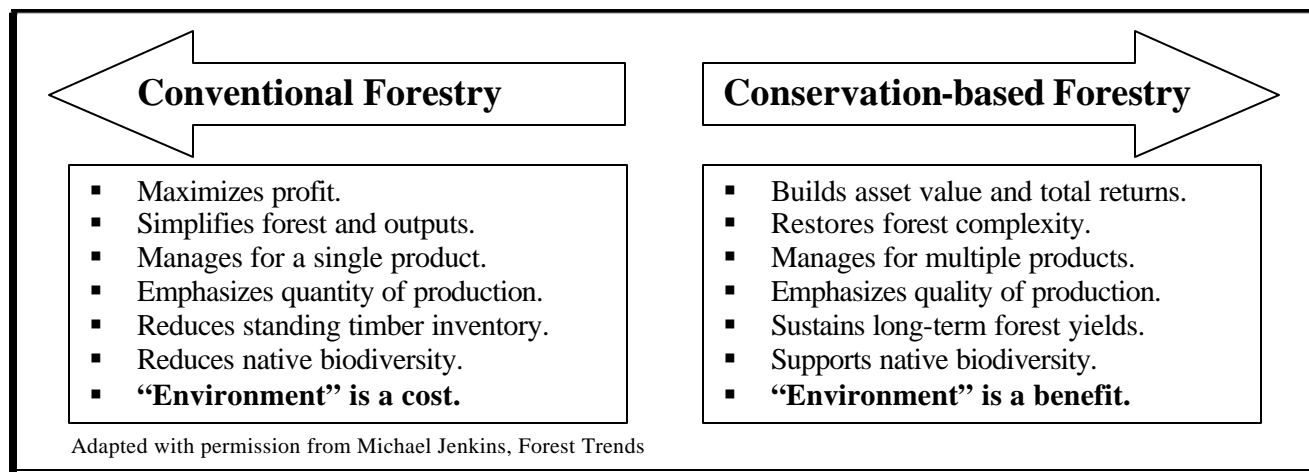
## **How will Isaak set a worldwide standard for innovative forest management?**

- Develop and deliver new, innovative ways of managing the resources of Clayoquot Sound which respect cultural, spiritual, recreational, economic and scenic values.
- Collaborate with local communities and conservation interests to maximize the value of the products delivered through the application of forest practices that respect ecological and cultural values.
- Deliver value based select products that are customized to meet the interests of local and international buyers.
- Achieve certification under an independent, internationally recognized certification system.
- Establish a successful forest services company that will demonstrate innovative approaches to ecologically based forest management.
- Visit and learn from examples of sustainable management of indigenous forests from around the world.
- Manage adaptively.

# A New Approach

## How is Lisaak different from conventional forest companies?

Lisaak represents a turning point in resource management in Clayoquot Sound. A departure from conventional forest practices, Lisaak will respect all forest values.



## How will Lisaak benefit the local Communities?

Local communities will benefit from the development and implementation of conservation based forest practices that protect the environment as well as support community stability and contribute to a diversified forest economy.

### *Creating Diversification*

- Establish economic participation of First Nations in the forest sector.
- Supply logs to local value added sector to create business opportunities.
- Provide opportunities to gain expertise and build capacity in ecosystem based forestry for forestry workers, logging contractors, and small scale specialized equipment manufacturers.
- Integrate forestry with conservation values.

### *Fostering Community Stability*

- Promote local control of resource management in Clayoquot Sound.
- Increase revenue.
- Enhance local employment opportunities.
- Participate in Clayoquot Sound initiatives - including Biosphere.
- Reduce conflict.

### **Benefits to Nuu-chah-nulth Central Region First Nations**

- Participate in joint management of traditional lands.
- Gain special management, professional, and technical training.
- Build capacity and financial resources.
- Create a solid foundation for business ventures.
- Participate in policy and management decision-making.
- Increase employment opportunities.
- Implement world class ecosystem based forest management.
- Promote non-timber forest products.

*“The time is right for all parties to take new action to secure the future of communities and ecosystems in Clayoquot Sound.”*

**-CRB, Fall 1996 Newsletter**



# The Central Region Board

## What is the Central Region Board?

The Central Region Board (CRB) was formed as a result of the 1993 Interim Measures Agreement (IMA) between the Provincial Government and the *Ha'wiih* (Hereditary Chiefs) of the Nuu-chah-nulth people. The IMA provided for joint management of the Nuu-chah-nulth traditional lands during the completion of treaty negotiations.

## How is the CRB involved in the planning process?

The Central Region Board serves as a link between first Nations, the provincial government and local communities. The CRB is responsible for reviewing and making recommendations on all proposed development plans relating to Clayoquot Sound. Based on its stated objectives pertaining to forestry, the Board makes recommendations to the Ministry of Forests (MoF) either to accept, modify, or reject any proposed plan or permit. The Ministry of Forests then either approves the proposed plan or directs the licensee to make the recommended changes.

## Who does the CRB represent?

The Central Region Board (CRB) is a unique board comprised equally of First Nations and non-First Nations members. Of the ten CRB members, five are appointees from the Nuu-chah-nulth First Nations, and five are Provincial appointees, including community representatives from Tofino, Ucluelet, and the Alberni-Clayoquot Regional District.

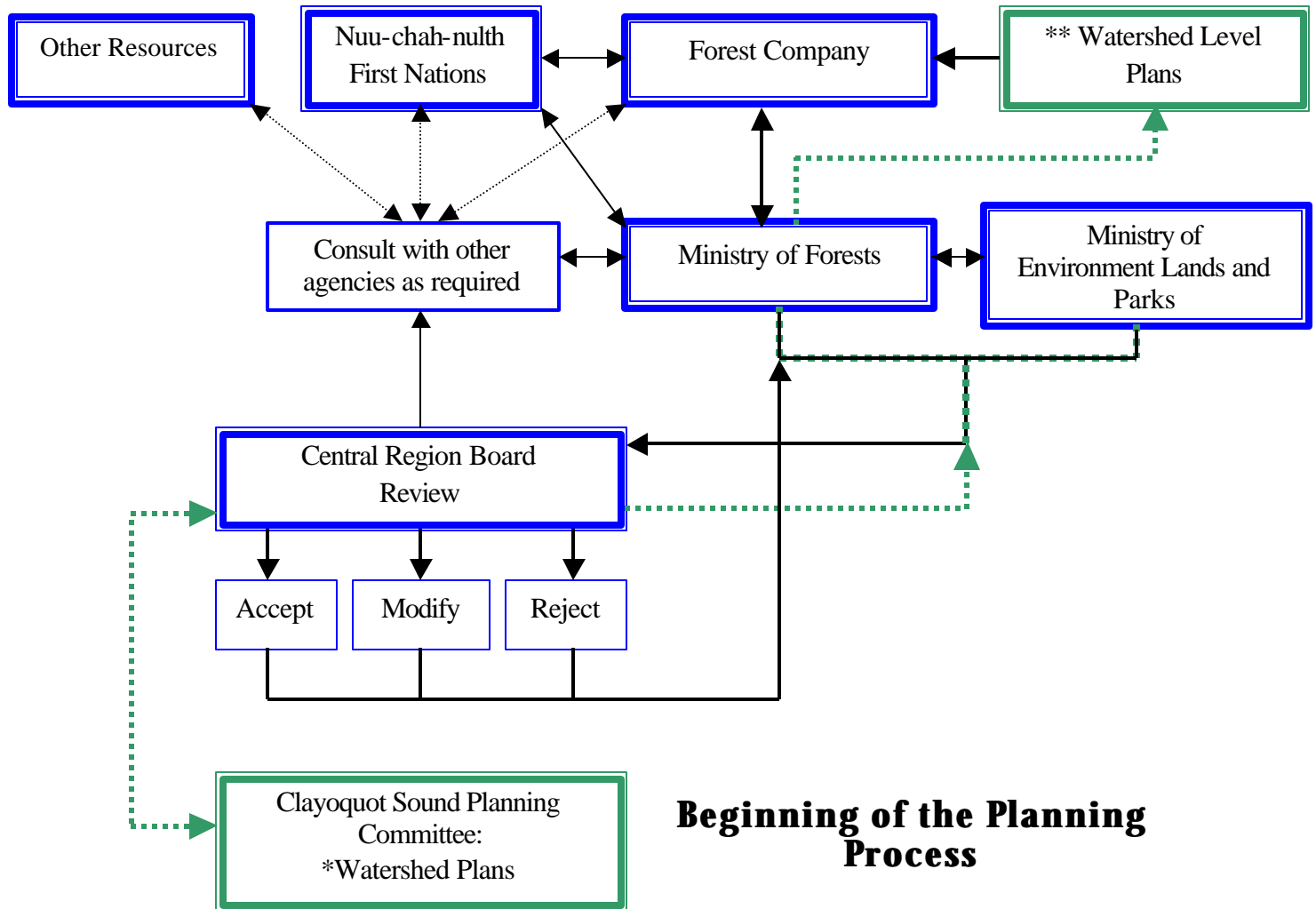
**“The establishment of the Board fundamentally changed the dynamics of Clayoquot Sound by shifting the power from the provincial government to the community.”**

-Larry Baird, Ucluelet First Nation Chief Councilor & Bob Peart, BC Ministry of Aboriginal Affairs

## What are the CRB's Stated Objectives for Clayoquot Sound?

- Promote sustainability, economic development, and diversification of local communities.
- Provide a viable, sustainable forest industry.
- Respect the IMA/IMEA and its implementation.
- Reduce the 70% unemployment levels within the Aboriginal communities.
- Enhance fish and wildlife and restore damaged streams and forest areas.
- Assess compliance with world class forest standards, such as the Scientific Panel recommendations and Forest Practices Code.
- Ensure the maintenance of visual values and ecological integrity is given high priority in any proposed resource extraction or development.
- Increase local ownership within the forest industry.
- Work towards reconciliation between environmentalists, labor, industry, First Nations, recreational users, governments, and all others with concerns in Clayoquot Sound.
- Encourage respect for aboriginal heritage.

# Clayoquot Sound Forest Resource Plan Approval Process Outline



- ..... Watershed Planning Process
- Resource Plan Approval Process

\* Currently four Watershed Level Plans are being finalized for review and approval.

\*\* Licensee operations within Clayoquot Sound are being conducted under approved interim Watershed Plans.

# Conservation-Based Forestry

## What is Conservation-based Forestry?

Iisaak has developed conservation-based forestry in response to society's demand for a higher standard of environmental protection. Conservation-based forestry is designed to protect the environment while meeting local and global social and economic needs. To do so, Iisaak will maximize the value of the timber harvested rather than the volume. For example, Iisaak expects to receive a greater return on its products in recognition of the company's high standards and enhanced resource protection. By protecting the forest resource Iisaak will develop opportunities for new markets in:

- botanical forest products
- under-valued species
- carbon
- biodiversity
- eco-tourism
- recreation

Iisaak will provide opportunities for private investment in environmental values such as carbon and biodiversity to support our conservation efforts.

*"I have read many definitions of what is a conservationist, and written not a few myself, but I suspect that the best one is written not with a pen but with an axe. A conservationist is one who is humbly aware that with each strike he is writing his signature on the face of his land."*

**- Aldo Leopold**

## How is Iisaak Implementing Conservation Based Forestry?

Iisaak's conservation-based approach protects biodiversity; water systems and water related resources; eco-tourism, recreational and research opportunities; spiritual and sacred values; and traditional cultural uses. Iisaak's approach:

### **Respects areas of special value to the Nuuchah-nulth people**

Iisaak respects *eehmiis* areas, and will emphasize opportunities associated with non-timber values in undeveloped areas that are in the words of the Nuuchah-nulth, "very, very precious".

### **Creates a continuous reserve network**

To maintain a connected forest environment, Iisaak has created a continuous reserve network spanning the entire drainage system. Once the reserve network was established, detailed site level inventories and layout led to the finalization of harvest units. This approach allows for the protection of key elements of the ecosystem as well as movement and dispersal of animals and plants throughout the landscape.

### **Implements variable retention harvesting systems**

Iisaak is creating and maintaining structurally complex managed stands in order to achieve the multiple objectives of forest management in Clayoquot Sound.

### **Emphasizes value**

Iisaak is developing a "value-based" ecosystem management approach. This approach includes incrementally shifting to a second growth economy as well as maximizing product values through value added manufacturing.

## **Focuses on developed drainages**

Iisaak's initial ecosystem management efforts will focus on previously developed drainages. Iisaak will maintain old-growth forest characteristics at the stand and the landscape level and encourage the transformation of some second growth forests into old-growth forests. Old-growth forest characteristics will be maintained at the stand level as well as at the landscape level through an extensive reserve network and a variable retention approach to harvesting.

## **The Clayoquot Sound Scientific Panel Planning Framework**

The Clayoquot Sound Scientific Panel (CSSP) recommends a new comprehensive approach to planning that includes all scales; the landscape or watershed level, the forest level, and the site or stand level.

### **Scientific Panel Site Level Planning**

The objective for site level planning is the identification of smaller features requiring protection that were not identified during watershed level planning. These areas may include small ephemeral streams and wetlands, wildlife trees, culturally important sites including culturally modified trees, recreation sites, and scenic features.

Specific objectives for sites proposed for harvesting include:

- Protect all resource values, including diversity of aquatic and terrestrial species, cultural concerns, and scenic and recreational values.
- Develop comprehensive silviculture prescriptions that include retention levels.
- Identify road locations and harvest area boundaries.
- Specify harvesting methods and seasonal constraints.
- Identify specific constraints to road construction and harvesting activities.

### **CSSP Ecosystem Management Objectives**

- *Maintain watershed integrity.*
- *Ensure managed forests support and maintain biological diversity, structural diversity, and ecological function.*
- *Protect areas and sites significant to First Nations.*
- *Maintain scenic, recreational, and tourism values.*
- *Provide a sustainable flow of ecosystem products.*

## **2000 Operational Highlights**

### **Cypre Planning Area**

The Cypre planning area (15km north east from Tofino) is within the CWH vm1 (Coastal Western Hemlock very wet maritime, submontane variant) and CWH vh1 (very wet hypermaritime) ecological variants. The topography is flat near the shoreline rising to steeper hill as one moves away from the ocean. The lower slopes in the CWH vh1 and the CWH vm1 are characterized by moist, rich ecosystems with deep well-drained soils adjacent to creeks.

### **Approvals**

Iisaak's 2000 Forest Development Plan has been approved by: the Ministry of Forests, Ministry of Environment Lands and Parks, the Central Region Board and the Ahousaht First Nation. Harvesting will begin in August 2000.

# UNESCO Biosphere Reserve

On May 5, 2000, as a result of community, First Nations, Government and industry efforts, Clayoquot Sound was designated as a UNESCO Biosphere Reserve dedicated to promoting and demonstrating a balance between people and nature.

## What is a Biosphere Reserve?

Biosphere reserves are areas of terrestrial and/or coastal ecosystems which are internationally recognized through the Man and Biosphere (MAB) Program of the United Nations Educational Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO).

*Promoting the efforts of different communities to find the delicate balance between conservation and sustainable development is the core objective of the biosphere reserve concept.*

—Man and Biosphere Program

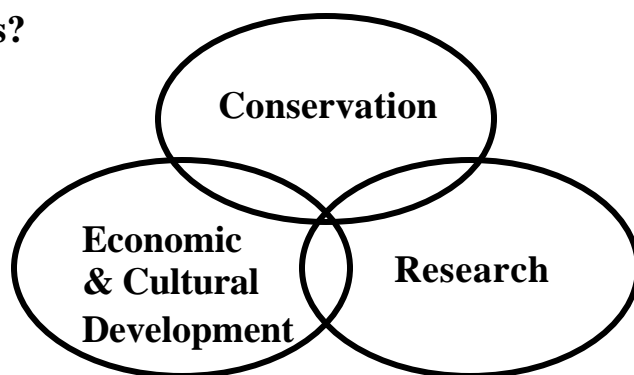
## Why were Biosphere Reserves created?

Biosphere reserves were designed to meet one of the most challenging issues that the world faces:

**How can we conserve the biodiversity of plants, animals and micro-organisms which make up our living biosphere and maintain healthy natural systems while at the same time, meet the needs and aspirations of an increasing number of people?** —Man and Biosphere Program

## What are the functions of Biosphere Reserves?

- Conserve biological diversity
- Maintain healthy ecosystems
- Learn about natural systems and how they are changing
- Learn about traditional forms of land-use
- Share knowledge on how to manage natural resources in a sustainable way
- Co-operate in solving natural resources problems



## How are Biosphere Reserves selected?

To qualify for consideration as a Biosphere Reserve an area should:

- Be representative of a major biogeographic region that includes a variation of human activities.
- Contain landscapes, ecosystems or animal and plant species or varieties which need to be conserved.
- Provide an opportunity to explore and demonstrate approaches to sustainable development within the larger region where they are located.
- Be of an appropriate size to serve the three functions of Biosphere reserves illustrated above.
- Have an appropriate zoning system, with a legally constituted core area or areas, devoted to long term protection; a clearly identified buffer zone or zones and an outer transition area where most human activity occurs.

**The essential criteria for a biosphere reserve designation is a balance between conservation and sustainable development with broad local support.**

—Man and Biosphere Program

# Forest Certification

Iisaak's ambitious goal is to have all of its 2000 harvest certified under the FSC label. First Nations majority ownership combined with the implementation the Clayoquot Sound Scientific Panel recommendations and the support of environmental groups and the local communities within the context of UNESCO's newest Biosphere reserve make Iisaak a truly unique forest tenure holder. These unique qualities will serve to set a precedent for a new model of forest management locally, regionally and internationally.



## What is Forest Certification?

Forest certification is a voluntary, market driven, conservation strategy designed to allow consumers to distinguish timber products produced by sustainable, socially acceptable forest practices.

**“Certified forests are among the best managed forests on earth.”**

## What is the Forest Stewardship Council?

The Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) is a non-profit, independent and internationally recognized organization that accredits and monitors independent forest product certifiers. FSC assures consumers that certification labels are consistent and reliable, and that practices adhere to an international set of principles as well as locally developed forest management standards.

## What's the difference between FSC and other certifiers?

FSC certification is conducted by independent, credible, non-governmental organizations. Accreditation ensures that certifiers are independent from the timber trade, that they are qualified to make accurate forest assessments, that their standards are consistent with international principles, and their assessments are conducted in a reliable and consistent manner. For more information about the Forest Stewardship Council and its *10 Principles and Criteria for Sustainable Forest Management* visit their Website at: <http://www.fscoax.org/principal.htm>

## Why buy FSC certified wood?

The FSC logo provides consumers with the assurance that the wood they use comes from forests that are managed in a way that protects forest ecosystems, recreation values, water quality, wildlife habitat and other values in an environmentally and socially responsible manner. By buying FSC certified wood products consumers can choose to support companies who practice careful forest management.

## Who is SmartWood?

Iisaak has contracted SmartWood to certify the management of Tree Farm License 57. SmartWood is an independent, non-governmental organization accredited by FSC as a forest management certification body. SmartWood is experienced in certifying forest management practices in tropical, temperate, and boreal forest types according to the FSC *10 Principles and Criteria for Sustainable Forest Management*.

# Results-Based Pilot Project

Iisaak Forest Resources has been selected to develop a detailed proposal for a Results-Based Forest Practices Code Pilot Project.

## What is a Results-Based Forest Practices Code Pilot Project?

A Pilot Project is an approach designed to improve the regulatory framework for forest practices by testing innovative approaches which will:

- Meet or exceed the current level of resource protection required by the Forest Practices Code.
- Maintain or enhance environmental protection.
- Reduce costs for government and industry.
- Ensure effective relationships with the public, Environment Groups and First Nations.

***“We’re not suggesting for a minute that code standards don’t apply but we think that we can deliver the same objectives in a better way and be more responsive to First Nations and environment groups”***

*-David Zirnhelt, former Minister of Forests*

Completed Pilot Project proposals are submitted to government and reviewed by senior government officials. The pilots are then made available for review by stakeholders, the public and First Nations and forwarded to Cabinet for a decision.

## What are the criteria for selecting pilot projects?

Pilot Projects should test innovative ways to regulate forest practices as well as:

- Provide measurable monitoring and evaluation criteria established to measure the on the ground results.
- Provide for broad application, in both the short and long term, and not exclusively to the piloting proponent.
- Establish predetermined timelines with specified end points and measurable deliverables.
- Describe the quality assurance/compliance and enforcement regime to meet the defined results.
- Build on higher level plans and progress being made towards a broad range of resource management objectives at a landscape unit level.
- Demonstrate broad based support from the public, including known resource users within the piloting area.

## What is included in Iisaak’s Pilot Project Proposal?

- Replace the Allowable Annual Cut (AAC) with an area-based management parameter that is consistent with the Clayoquot Scientific Panel recommendations (CSSPR).
- Remove the current cut control provisions to allow for area-based harvest management over the business cycle
- Base annual rent on the area harvested (or available for harvest) not a predetermined AAC.
- A “one plan” approval process for operations within TFL 57.

***“adopt an ecosystem approach to planning  
...abandon the specification of Allowable Annual Cut”***

Clayoquot Sound Scientific Panel  
Recommendation 7.1

***“Iisaak looks forward to working with stakeholders, First Nations, the public and government to develop a sound and workable pilot project for implementation within TFL 57.”*** –Eric Schroff, Iisaak General Manager

# **Adaptive Management & Monitoring**

## **What is Adaptive Management?**

Adaptive management is an active process for continually improving management policies and practices by learning from their outcomes. Management objectives, forecasts and assumptions must be continually re-evaluated and approaches adjusted as new information becomes available.

Adaptive management involves all people who make, implement, or are affected by forest management decisions, such as: members of the local communities, First Nations, environmental groups, forest workers, forest managers and scientists. Iisaak is committed to both an adaptive management approach to forest management in Clayoquot Sound and to implementing the necessary monitoring program to support it.

## **What is monitoring?**

Monitoring is embedded in the adaptive management approach. The Clayoquot Sound Scientific Panel (1995) defines monitoring as the repeated observations, through time of different aspects of the ecosystem to determine the state of the system.

## **Why do we need to monitor the results of implementing the Clayoquot Sound Scientific Panel Recommendations?**

Although the Scientific panel is based on the best available knowledge combined with professional expertise, the results remain uncertain. The Scientific Panel recommends many new, previously untested strategies. The panel's innovative approach to forest planning has not been tried before. It is experimental and will need careful monitoring and evaluation. (Fred Bunnell, CSSP 1995)

## **Adaptive management offers a valuable approach for monitoring, evaluating and improving the Scientific Panel by enabling managers to:**

- Determine whether practices are meeting objectives.
- Improve our understanding of the mechanisms that underlie how ecosystems respond and adapt to management practices.
- Determine the effect of management actions on the ecosystem.

The information gained through the monitoring process must be fed back into the planning process to guide future management decisions and changes in management strategies.

## **What can you do?**

- Participate in problem assessment and help to develop creative solutions.
- Help to synthesize local knowledge about ecosystems.
- Work with managers to initiate a community run monitoring programs.
- Help to distribute results and information.
- Support agencies in search of better solutions.
- Encourage innovation.
- Expect learning and improvement, not “perfect” answers, quick fixes or absolute certainty.



# Monitoring

In partnership with the Long Beach Model Forest Society, Iisaak Forest Resources has initiated a monitoring program designed to monitor the results of the implementation of the Clayoquot Sound Scientific Panel Recommendations. Iisaak will utilize the results of the monitoring program to improve management plans and strategies through adaptive management.

## Monitoring Program Objectives

- Ensure that the integrity of ecosystem processes and ecosystem states is maintained.
- Ensure that forest practices comply with prescribed standards including both the Forest Practices Code and Clayoquot Sound Scientific Panel Recommendations.
- Determine whether the prescribed standards are effective and appropriate for achieving the intended management objectives.
- Determine the effects that Variable Retention harvesting systems have on the health of the forest ecosystem.
- Improve planning and management strategies through adaptive management practices.
- Improve our understanding of the mechanisms that create change in forest ecosystems.

## Pre-harvest Field Assessments

**Hydroriparian:** A large number of unmapped streams were located, traversed, assessed for fish presence, and classified according to both the Forest Practices Code and the Clayoquot Sound Scientific Panel Recommendations.

**Wildlife habitat:** Habitat was evaluated on the ground with particular emphasis on marbled murrelets, black bears, and eagles. Occurrence surveys were done for marbled murrelets.

**Terrain and soils:** A terrain stability and soil sensitivity assessment was done in accordance with Clayoquot Sound Scientific Panel and Forest Practices Code.

**Culturally Modified Trees:** The entire area that was proposed for harvest was surveyed for culturally modified trees (CMTs), these were identified, recorded and locations confirmed by GPS.

**Visual impact:** A Visual Impact Assessment with detailed visibility analysis from a number of viewpoints was conducted. Visual impact could be assessed and linked to stand development and visually effective green up under partial cutting prescriptions.

## Cypre Monitoring Project Research Initiatives

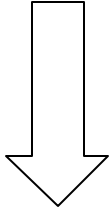
Pre-harvest sampling data has been collected. This data will be used to determine the 'base-line' condition of the forest ecosystems. Following harvesting the same areas will be sampled again to determine the effects of dispersed and aggregate retention harvesting activities.

### Criteria and Indicators:

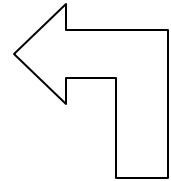
- Windthrow
- Snag distribution
- Course woody debris abundance and distribution
- Native plant distribution
- Residual stand damage

# How is Adaptive Management Applied?

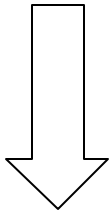
## Preparation



- Define the forest area and present conditions.
- Determine values and goals.
- Identify indicators.
- Collect maps/data/records including: wildlife habitat, timber, water quality, recreation, social and economic values and cultural values.

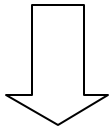


## Plan Development



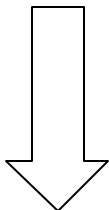
- Forecast expected temporal and spatial changes within the area.
- Without intervention.
  - With planned interventions.
  - Assess the risk of undesirable outcomes
- Select forecast and associated strategy to reach defined goals.
- Include management objectives and strategies.

## Implementation



Implement the Management Plan.

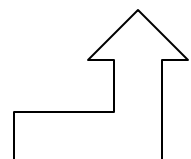
## Measurement/Assessment



- Compare performance to objectives.
- Assess actions against plans.
  - Measure forest conditions.
  - Measure the key indicators to determine how well the plan met the objectives.

## Review/Improvement

- Understand the differences between actual and planned outcomes.
- Document actions and communicate results.
  - Use active learning to improve management.



**Redefine / Reconfirm Goals and Indicators**

# Questions about Iisaak...

## **Why is Weyerhaeuser involved in a joint venture with First Nations?**

The concept of a joint venture company between MacMillan Bloedel (now Weyerhaeuser) and the Nuuchahnulth First Nations crystallized in April 1996, with the signing of the Clayoquot Sound Interim Measures Extension Agreement (IMEA). The IMEA is an agreement between the Nuuchahnulth Central Region First Nations and the provincial government to provide for joint management of natural resources until the completion of treaty negotiations.

The IMEA made specific reference to the formation of a joint venture company in Clayoquot Sound and an agreement in principle between the First Nations and MB was attached as Schedule II of the IMEA.

The reasons for the joint venture were to:

- Create a partnership between MacMillan Bloedel (MB) and First Nations based on a shared commitment to achieving change.
- Incorporate the recommendations of the Scientific Panel and make Clayoquot Sound a leading global example of ecologically sensitive resource management.
- Investigate and support opportunities for locally-based, value added manufacturing.
- Create training and employment opportunities for First Nations.
- Improve community stability.
- Build economic diversity.

## **Why did Iisaak get the tenure? Shouldn't it have gone to a community organization?**

Iisaak is a community-based organization. The Nuuchahnulth Central Region First Nations make up approximately 50% of the local communities. Iisaak is an opportunity for the people of the local communities to engage in forest management activities.

Recent initiatives in tenure reform, including programs such as the Provincial Community Forest Pilot Project Program, may provide additional, direct access to community based tenure.

## **How will the establishment and operations of Iisaak contribute to employment opportunities in local communities?**

Creating jobs in the local communities is a primary business objective of Iisaak Forest Resources. Both Ucluelet and Tofino support small manufacturing operations, producing a range of products. Iisaak has committed 30% of the timber volume harvested to local value-added businesses in order to create jobs, promote community stability and enhance the quality of life in the community overall. The availability of logs to the local market is expected to attract new businesses to the area.

## **How will employment opportunities be distributed within the local communities?**

Employment opportunities will be available to members of all communities. Capacity building will take time and the transfer of expertise from those members of the community who possess the required skill sets. Consistent with the Memorandum of Understanding that has been developed with the Ucluelet community, Iisaak will use the best, most cost effective contractors available with an emphasis on ensuring access to local firms and individuals. Over time, Iisaak will expand its business resulting in additional local employment opportunities.

## **What is the relationship between Iisaak and the Industrial wood and allied workers of Canada (IWA)?**

Iisaak looks forward to working with the IWA to develop a mutually supportive relationship based on the concept of voluntary recognition.

## **How many people does Iisaak expect to employ?**

Currently, several contractors are involved in planning, engineering and management activities. Future employment will be proportional to the activity and growth of the company. Iisaak's business strategy includes increasing employment in local value added industries. Creativity is the only limit!

## **Does Iisaak have a business strategy?**

Yes, a business strategy is guiding Iisaak through the formative stage of business development. Information is currently being developed around products, production, costs, revenues, and timing. This information will provide the foundation for a formal business plan to direct Iisaak Forest Resources.

## **How does Iisaak expect to be profitable?**

Iisaak's operations will represent a significant departure from conventional forestry operations on Vancouver Island. Iisaak will actively manage the risk associated with breaking new ground by maintaining a high degree of market flexibility through the development of a wide range of forest goods and services. This approach will provide the basis for unique market appeal that can benefit both Iisaak and the region as a whole.

Iisaak will seek financial returns from higher standards and greater resource protection. Part of Iisaak's business strategy is developing new markets for:

- certified wood,
- undervalued species,
- non-timber products and,
- research and conservation values.

Conservation values include biodiversity, water and water related resources, eco-tourism, and recreation.

In the long term, Iisaak will encourage government recognition that resource management objectives in Clayoquot Sound are unique. Conducting effective, efficient and viable ecosystem based forestry operations in Clayoquot Sound will require changes to existing regulations and administrative structures. Iisaak will work with the Ministry of Forests, other agencies and government to adapt policy and regulation to suit the unique conditions in Clayoquot Sound.

## **What is Iisaak's marketing strategy?**

Iisaak is developing a unique and readily recognizable marketing strategy aimed at local and specialty markets for wood products as well as a range of other forest products that can benefit from the "Clayoquot" name. Certification of activities and products is a priority.

The Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Environment Groups opens the door to having a Clayoquot regional brand both endorsed and carried forward to millions of people worldwide. Environment Groups committed to:

*"actively assist Iisaak, within the capacity of each Environment Group and as enabled by FSC-accredited certification, in the marketing of Iisaak's forestry and associated value added forest products."*

Iisaak's marketing strategy is to benefit local value-added manufacturers through niche markets and price premiums.

## **How will raw logs be utilized? Will they be exported?**

With market development, Iisaak will pursue markets that provide the highest return. Weyerhaeuser has right of first refusal on up to 49 percent of log production. In order to foster community stability, Iisaak has committed to providing 30% of the volume harvested to local value added businesses.

Raw log export is not an Iisaak solution.

## **When is logging proposed to start?**

Iisaak Forest Resources' first Forest Development Plan has been approved by the Ahousaht First Nation, the Central Region Board, the Ministry of Forests and the Ministry of Environment Lands and Parks. Iisaak expects to commence harvesting activities in August 2000. Critical factors in making the decision include environmental (rainfall) conditions and market prices for the timber products.

## **With Weyerhaeuser as a major shareholder, how can the public be sure this isn't conventional forestry repackaged?**

Iisaak is a departure from conventional forest management. Iisaak was built on the initiative of the Nuuchahnulth First Nations of the Central Region and designed to reconcile the differences between the forest industry, First Nations, government, environment groups and local communities.

In a historic Memorandum of Understanding, the Nuuchahnulth First Nations, MacMillan Bloedel (now Weyerhaeuser), and Environmental Groups agreed to work together to promote the resolution of land use conflicts in a way that respects the First Nations Traditional ownership, enhances local sustainable economic development opportunities, and provides community stability

The structure of Iisaak Forest Resources embodies the collaboration between cultures. First Nations and non-First Nations are involved from the ground level to the Board of Directors.

The Iisaak Board of directors is comprised of two Weyerhaeuser representatives and three Nuuchahnulth First Nations representatives. With First Nations in control, the decision making power is held in the local communities.

Iisaak will facilitate the achievement of a common vision: supporting ecologically sound sustainable resource management in Clayoquot Sound.

## **Will Weyerhaeuser ever own more than 49 % of Iisaak?**

No. The Iisaak shareholders agreement is structured to eventually phase out Weyerhaeuser. First Nations can increase their shares in the company but Weyerhaeuser can not.

## **How were the Iisaak Board of Directors selected?**

The Iisaak Board of Directors were selected by Ma-Mook Natural Resources by consensus to ensure that those First Nations who were primarily affected by Iisaak's activities would be represented.

## **How are individual First Nations who are not on the Iisaak Board of Directors represented?**

Any of the Central Region First Nations may send an observer to the Iisaak Board meetings. For information regarding the dates, times and locations of the Iisaak Board meetings please contact Cindy Hazenboom at 726-2446.

## **What is the term of the Iisaak Board members?**

The Iisaak Board of Directors are reviewed annually at the Iisaak shareholders meetings. It is contemplated that tenure consolidation will result in increased First Nations ownership of Iisaak.

## **What type of harvesting methods does Iisaak plan on using?**

Consistent with the stated comments of Iisaak to implement the Scientific Panel recommendations, harvesting activities will be conducted based on the concept of variable retention.

The trees retained will be either dispersed across the harvest area, concentrated in patches or distributed in a combination of both types of retention. Harvesting methods will include cable systems, helicopter and where terrain and site conditions permit, ground-based forwarding and loading.

## **Does Iisaak plan on harvesting old growth?**

Iisaak is committed to the conservation of Clayoquot Sound's temperate rainforests and recognizes their significance both locally and globally. Iisaak has committed to recognizing *eehmiis* areas, and will emphasize opportunities associated with non-timber values, in undeveloped areas that are in Nuu-chah-nulth "very, very precious".

Iisaak has a stated strategy that involves increasing emphasis on harvesting second growth over time. In the interim, Iisaak's operations will be focused on developed drainages. Old growth forest characteristics will be maintained at the stand level as well as at the landscape level through an extensive reserve network and a variable retention approach to harvesting.

Iisaak is committed to supporting the watershed level planning process. It is a shared view that long-term landscape level planning will provide the foundation for protecting the ecological integrity of Clayoquot Sound.

## **What is the AAC going to be?**

The annual allowable cut (AAC) is determined by the Chief Forester of British Columbia based on a timber supply review. The current AAC attributable to TFL 57 (formerly the Clayoquot portion of TFL 44) is approximately 100,000 m<sup>3</sup>/year. This figure represents an upper maximum based on a preliminary interpretation of some of the key Clayoquot Sound Scientific Panel recommendations. Iisaak will produce a Management Plan that includes a timber supply analysis based on Iisaak's ecologically sensitive management approach. The AAC and cut control issue will be reviewed with full consideration of the adoption of the Scientific Panel Recommendations.

*"Because innovative forest practices may have unanticipated consequences, policy must also be adaptive...Act to ensure that monitoring procedures anticipate surprise and that regulation can be quickly modified to reflect new information."* -Scientific Panel 1995.

Iisaak is value driven not volume driven; as a result the actual volume harvested will be based on the application of the principles of sustainable ecosystem management outlined in the Scientific Panel. The Scientific Panel recommends a flow of forest products dictated by the local environment.

## **Is Iisaak committed to implementing the recommendations of the Clayoquot Sound Scientific Panel?**

Iisaak is committed to making Clayoquot Sound a leading global example of ecologically sensitive forest management. The implementation of the Clayoquot Sound Scientific Panel recommendations form the technical basis for Iisaak's approach to forest management in Clayoquot Sound.

Iisaak recognizes that the application of the Scientific Panel is a continuous learning process and that based on what is learned, the process of adaptive management will be applied. "Both management and policy must be adaptive" Scientific Panel 1995.

## **How will Iisaak incorporate traditional knowledge?**

Iisaak believes that Clayoquot Sound provides an opportunity to demonstrate traditional ecological in sustainable ecosystem management. Iisaak will integrate traditional knowledge with technical and scientific knowledge as recommended in the Scientific Panel.

## **How will cultural values be recognized and protected?**

Iisaak will not harvest timber without the express written permission of the Nuu-chah-nulth First Nations within whose traditional territory operations are planned. Detailed assessments are conducted prior to all forest management activities to ensure that cultural values are recognized and receive protection.

The First Nations are involved in the entire planning process from ground level assessments through harvest design and engineering, to consultation with Council and Elders. First Nations have the opportunity to manage decision making at the Board level in Iisaak and Ma-Mook, and at the Central Region Board level.

## **How can timber harvesting and tourism co-exist?**

Iisaak recognizes that tourism is an important contributor to the local economy. Enhancing tourism values such as recreation and eco-tourism are embedded in the principles under which Iisaak will operate. Iisaak considers the maintenance of visual quality a high priority.

## **How will Iisaak affect Treaty negotiations?**

The Joint Venture Agreement is without prejudice to Treaty negotiations. The acquisition and management of a tree farm license will provide an opportunity for First Nations to engage in resource management on their traditional lands.



# Notes