



#3-4890 Rutherford Road
Nanaimo, British Columbia
Canada V9T 4Z4

Tel 250.729.3700
Fax 250.729.9481

April 25, 2006

To: Private Managed Forest Land Council (“Council”)

From: TimberWest Forest Corp. (“TimberWest”)

RE: Investigation: Road Construction Practices on Block T141 Managed Forest #7 Beaufort Range Port Alberni dated February 28, 2006 (the “Investigation”)

-
1. TimberWest is committed to carrying out all of its operations, including its operations within Block T141, in compliance with all applicable environmental protection regulations. It has rigorous operating procedures, and inspection and monitoring systems, in place to ensure that this commitment is fulfilled. If TimberWest is found to have failed in complying with any regulation, it is committed to diligently remedy such non-compliance and, if necessary, to change its procedures and systems to ensure it does not reoccur. TimberWest therefore takes the allegations in the Investigation very seriously.
 2. The heavy run-off experienced throughout the west side of the Beaufort Range was the result of unusually high precipitation over several weeks, culminating in a storm or series of storms in early January, 2006, determined by weather records to be in the range of a one in twenty-five to one in fifty year event. TimberWest believes that any material water quality issues arising from the heavy run-off were the result of these extreme weather conditions, not TimberWest’s forest management practices.
 3. TimberWest acted in a duly diligent manner in dealing with issues that occurred within Block T141 during the storm period.
 4. If TimberWest’s drainage structures caused any sediment to enter streams, the amount of such sediment was small (2 to 4 cubic metres) and the sediment did not significantly affect water quality or fish habitat (according to the Block T141 Assessment dated March 2006 prepared by Shawn Hamilton and Associates for the Council).
 5. TimberWest’s inspected its roads and drainage structures following the period of heavy run-off. As a result of this inspection, and in consultation with the Council and other agency experts, TimberWest voluntarily repaired the damage to the road and to water management structures caused by the run-off, and upgraded its environmental protection systems (including the culverts identified in the Investigation) to protect environmental values from extreme weather events in the future.





6. It is TimberWest's understanding that all work recommended in the Shawn Hamilton and Associates' report has been satisfactorily completed by TimberWest. In addition, TimberWest has reforested all the harvested area within Block T141 and seeded areas of exposed soil that might benefit from this protection.
7. TimberWest remains committed to meeting all regulatory requirements. TimberWest will continue to cooperate with the Council and will keep the Council informed of further work it is carrying on within Block T141 over the next several months. It welcomes any input from the Council regarding that work or its operations generally.

Sincerely,

John Phillips, RPF CEA(SFM)
Manager, Forestry Programs