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October 29, 2020

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing on behalf of the Association of Wetland Stewards for Clayoquot and Barkley Sounds to affirm our support for the continued designation of the Clayoquot Sound UNESCO Biosphere Region, established in 2000.

As a partner of the Clayoquot Biosphere Trust, our organization has been able to collaborate in advancing the objectives of the UNESCO Biosphere Reserve program in our region. We have worked on a variety of research, monitoring and education projects that have helped promote biodiversity conservation, sustainable development and reconciliation. Our efforts in conjunction with others in the region have included:

- Participating in processes for managing and monitoring ecosystem health;
- Developing biodiversity conservation projects;
- Advancing climate change awareness;
- Developing alliances and partnerships to strengthen the stewardship of ecosystem services in our region;
- Contributing data and knowledge to the Vital Signs program;
- Developing and promoting education tourism opportunities through participation in the West Coast N.E.S.T.; and,
- Contributing to the achievement of the UN Sustainable Development Goals.

We are proud to support the continued Clayoquot Sound UNESCO Biosphere designation, and look forward to participating in the next ten years of activities in our region.

Sincerely,

Barbara Beasley, Ph.D.

Project Leader, Director

Association of Wetland Stewards for Clayoquot & Barkley Sounds

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