



CENTRAL  
WESTCOAST  
FOREST  
SOCIETY

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**October 8, 2020**

To Whom It May Concern:

This letter is to affirm our support for the continued designation of the Clayoquot Sound UNESCO Biosphere Region, established in 2000.

Our region has worked together for the past decade to advance the objectives of the UNESCO Biosphere Reserve program in our region. As a partner of the Clayoquot Biosphere Trust (CBT), our organization has been able to contribute to achieving the objectives of sustainable development, biodiversity conservation and reconciliation, through education, research and collaboration. Central West Coast Forest Society (CWFS) works closely with CBT to help meet these objectives through:

- Co-leading sustainable development and biodiversity conservation projects;
- Actively participating in the Clayoquot Salmon Roundtable; a co-management process with partnerships between First Nations, governments, and stakeholders with an overall goal of the recovery and sustainable management of Clayoquot Sound's wild salmon populations;
- Conducting research in Clayoquot Sound with help from the Biosphere Research Award; research includes determining size, abundance, and distribution of Chinook salmon and completing habitat assessments through orthophotos and ground truthing within the Tranquil Estuary to help inform and guide restoration and recovery efforts for Chinook salmon;
- Accessing facilitation connections to bring university groups out to the Biosphere to learn about watershed ecology, restoration, research and monitoring;
- Developing partnerships and securing funding to complete watershed restoration projects;
- Developing alliances and partnerships to strengthen the development of citizens, communities, and ecosystems as well as stewardship of ecosystem services;
- Contributing data and knowledge to the Vital Signs program;
- Participating in networks to enhance communication and coordination;
- Advancing climate change research, monitoring, mitigation and adaptation projects;
- Participating in processes for implementing, managing, and monitoring community and ecosystem health; and
- Contributing to the achievement of the UN Sustainable Development Goals, specifically contributing to good health and wellbeing, gender equality, decent work and economic growth, reduced inequalities, sustainable communities, climate action, life below water, life on land, and partnerships for the 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,

Mandala Smulders  
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