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Comments:

This past summer we drove, hiked and paddled throughout much of Prince of Wales. last year we did the same on Kuiu Island. True Old growth groves were very few and far between, except in protected wilderness, on both Islands. On Prince of Wales we looked at most of the proposed old growth areas and a good percentage were buffers between roadways and waterways. Environmentally damaging locations that were originally set aside for habitat protection. There were vast areas of third growth that had no potential as wildlife habitat at all. Some of the older second growth was just getting to the point where it would be approaching the composition of young old growth in 50-100 years and a proposal to cut that would be a step back not foreword. It also seems that on Prince of Wales recreational activities are being promoted as the economy of the future but clearcuts will not attract visitors. The roadways are quite well maintained but your established campgrounds are not. My friends child sat on one of the benches at a picnic table and it literally broke in half. And he only weighed about 90 lbs! The island has some beautiful areas. The priority management should be directed towards recreation and wildlife, not logging. Spend your dollars on that and not on new roads or other means of access to cut more trees. Thank you for the opportunity to comment.