

FACT SHEET



December 22, 2015

Teal-Jones Explains Facts Around Walbran

At Teal-Jones Group, we recognize that the Walbran Valley is a special place, and it is as important to us to ensure our harvesting practices are sustainable for the long term as it is to the general public. To help inform the conversation around harvesting in the Walbran Valley, Teal-Jones wanted to outline the facts that better identify the regulatory requirements in protecting forest values and the economic value of those harvesting activities.

- The Walbran 'bite' area is adjacent to protected areas in the Carmanah-Walbran Park (16,365 hectares) and Pacific Rim Park (27,600 hectares).
- The Walbran 'bite' area is the area of noted interest and is made up of 485 hectares, which is 1% of the protected area in adjacent parks.
- Within the Walbran 'bite' a minimum of 120 hectares of the 485 hectares are either reserved for large old growth trees, wildlife habitat or terrain stability restrictions.
- Within the Walbran, large areas of old growth are already protected, including the 2 largest trees identified in the area – the Tolkien Giant and the Castle Giant – located in reserves that will not be harvested.
- Teal Jones current permitting in the Walbran 'bite' (Block 4424) legally allows for the harvest of only 3.2 hectares.
- The area known as 'the bite' is encompassed within a Special Management Zone (SMZ21). These SMZ's help further conserve the values in this area by enforcing more stringent rules such as requiring a high level of old tree retention, small block sizes, and placing an emphasis on management of streams wildlife habitat and recreation features, as well as other forest values.
- Limestone and karst geology is present in the Walbran 'bite'. Teal-Jones conducts formal karst assessments which provide appropriate management strategies as part of the planning process.
- Teal-Jones has been and continues to be actively involved in discussions with government, ENGO's and other stakeholders regarding 'the bite'.
- There are no immediate plans to harvest block 4424, nor are there immediate plans to proceed with other cut blocks within 'the bite'.
- Teal-Jones operations on Southern Vancouver Island, as well as its other logging operations, have been certified to the Canadian Standards Association Z809 Sustainable Forest Management Standard since 2005. For more information visit; <http://www.csasfmforests.ca/>
- Independent third-party certification is a means of protecting forests by promoting responsible and sustainable forest management and the production of sustainably sourced wood products.
- Teal-Jones will be manufacturing the wood from the Walbran in their BC mill facilities, which in combination with logging operations provide livelihoods for over 2000 men and women.

For further information on Teal-Jones operations on Vancouver Island, please visit:

<http://www.tealjones.com/our-company/news/TFL46>

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