APPENDIX B

AREA - SPECIFIC RECOMMENDATIONS
to the

CANADIAN ASSEMBLY

NATIONAL PARKS AND OTHER PROTECTED AREAS

Banff, Alberta

September 4 - 8, 1985

from

British Columbia Caucus - Heritage for Tomorrow
A RECOMMENDATION

TO EXPAND THE NATIONAL AND PROVINCIAL PARKS SYSTEMS AND
PROTECTED AREAS IN BRITISH COLUMBIA

WHEREAS ONLY .4% OF BRITISH COLUMBIA IS PROTECTED BY THE EXISTING
NATIONAL PARKS;

WHEREAS ONLY 5.2% OF BRITISH COLUMBIA IS PROTECTED BY FEDERAL AND
PROVINCIAL PARK DESIGNATION, PERCENTAGES WHICH COMPARE UNFAVORABLY
WITH NATIONAL AND GLOBAL FIGURES;

WHEREAS MANY OF THE IDENTIFIED NATURAL LANDSCAPE REGIONS IN
BRITISH COLUMBIA ARE NOT REPRESENTED OR ARE UNDER PRESENTED IN
EITHER THE PROVINCIAL OR FEDERAL PARK SYSTEM;

WHEREAS SOME OF THE REMAINING AREAS REQUIRED TO COMPLETE BRITISH
COLUMBIA'S AND CANADA'S PARK SYSTEMS ARE CURRENTLY THREATENED
BY ALTERNATIVE LAND USES;

WHEREAS THIS COMPLETION EFFORT SHOULD BE UNDERTAKEN IN RECOGNITION
THAT THERE IS AN IMPORTANT ADDITIONAL MOSAIC OF AREAS IN NEED
OF PROTECTION WHICH WILL ASSIST IN FORMING THE BASIS FOR A
SUSTAINABLE ECONOMIC FUTURE FOR THE PROVINCE;

BE IT RECOMMENDED THAT THE PROVINCIAL AND NATIONAL PARK SYSTEMS
BE EXPANDED TO INCLUDE YET UNREPRESENTED AREAS, INCLUDING THE
SYSTEMATIC EVALUATION OF BRITISH COLUMBIA CAUCUS CANDIDATE AREAS.
A RECOMMENDATION

URGING THE CREATION OF CANADA'S FIRST INTEGRAL NATIONAL
AND NATIONAL MARINE PARK IN SOUTH MORESBY TO
CELEBRATE THE NATIONAL PARK CENTENNIAL

WHEREAS THE 500 SQUARE MILE SOUTH MORESBY AREA OF THE QUEEN
CHARLOTTE ISLANDS IS A NATURAL AND CULTURAL HERITAGE OF BOTH
CANADIAN AND WORLD SIGNIFICANCE RAPIDLY BECOMING AND
INTERNATIONAL TOURIST ATTRACTION;

WHEREAS SOUTH MORESBY CONTAINS MORE INDEMIC (UNIQUE) KINDS OF
PLANTS AND ANIMALS THAN ANY OTHER AREA IN CANADA;

WHEREAS THE 138 ISLANDS IN SOUTH MORESBY PROVIDE OVER ONE
QUARTER OF B.C.'S NESTING SEASBIRD HABITAT, NEARBY 40% OF THE
VERY RARE PEALES PEREGIN FALCONS NESTING SITES AND HAS THE
HIGHEST CONCENTRATION OF NESTING BALD EAGLES IN CANADA;

WHEREAS THE DIVERSITY OF MARINE SPECIES AND PRODUCTIVITY OF THE
AREA'S OCEAN IS SURPASSED ONLY BY THE AREAS EXCEPTIONAL BEAUTY;

WHEREAS THE HAIDA, THE ABORIGINAL TITLE CLAIMANTS TO THE AREA
WANT ALL LOGGING STOPPED AND THE AREA PRESERVED TO PROTECT THE
BASIS OF THEIR CULTURE;

WHEREAS OVER 100 CANADIAN GROUPS, REPRESENTING MORE THAN 500,000
CANADIANS SUPPORT PROTECTION FOR SOUTH MORESBY;

WHEREAS SUITABLE OPPORTUNITIES FOR TIMBER TRADES AND COMPENSATION
FOR EXISTING LOGGING INTERESTS IN THE SOUTH MORESBY AREA HAVE BEEN IDENTIFIED;

THEREFORE, BE IT RECOMMENDED THAT THIS ASSEMBLY SUPPORT AND
URGE PROVINCIAL AND FEDERAL GOVERNMENTS TO PRESERVE THE ENTIRE
SOUTH MORESBY AREA AS CANADA'S FIRST NATIONAL AND NATIONAL
MARINE PARK AS A TRUE CELEBRATION OF PARKS CANADA’S CENTENNIAL;

BE IT ALSO RESOLVED THAT THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT ASSIST THE
B.C. GOVERNMENT TO ACCOMPLISH PRESERVATION FOR THE SOUTH MORESBY
WILDERNESS AREA.
WHEREAS THE STIKINE RIVER, ORIGINATING IN BRITISH COLUMBIA AND ENDING IN ALASKA, IS AN INTERNATIONAL NAVIGABLE RIVER WITH WORLD-RENOWNED NATURAL AND CULTURAL HISTORY;


WHEREAS THE TAHLTAN TRIBAL COUNCIL AND OTHER NATIVE GROUPS HAVE ABORIGINAL LAND TITLE CLAIMS TO THE ENTIRE CANADIAN PORTION OF THE STIKINE RIVER WATERSHED;

WHEREAS THE STIKINE RIVER FLOWS THROUGH THE SPECTACULAR GRAND CANYON, A NATURAL FEATURE UNPARALLELED IN CANADA, AND COMPARABLE TO THE US GRAND CANYON OF THE COLORADO;

WHEREAS THE STIKINE RIVER BASIN IS WORLD-RENOWNED FOR ITS OUTSTANDING WILDLIFE POPULATIONS, INCLUDING STONE SHEEP, OSBORN CARIBOU, MOUNTAIN GOAT, GRIZZLY AND BLACK BEAR, BALD EAGLES AND GYRFALCONS;

WHEREAS ONLY 0.4% OF THE PROVINCE OF BRITISH COLUMBIA IS PROTECTED BY THE EXISTING NATIONAL PARKS SYSTEM, WHICH IS MUCH LESS THAN THE NATIONAL AVERAGE OF 1.3%;

WHEREAS THE STIKINE RIVER IS CURRENTLY THREATENED BY MAJOR RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS, INCLUDING: B.C. HYDRO'S PROPOSED $20 BILLION, 7500 MW HYDRO-ELECTRIC PROJECT; GULF CANADA'S 1.5 MILLION TONNE/YEAR ANTHRACITE COAL MINE IN THE KLAPPAN RIVER HEADWATERS; AND LOGGING OF COTTONWOOD AND SPRUCE TREES ALONG THE LOWER RIVER WITHIN B.C.;

WHEREAS PARKS CANADA HAS IDENTIFIED THREE CONTIGUOUS AREAS AND SITES OF CANADIAN SIGNIFICANCE IN THE STIKINE RIVER BASIN, INCLUDING THE SPATSIZI NATIONAL AREA OF CANADIAN SIGNIFICANCE, THE GRAND CANYON OF THE STIKINE NATIONAL SITE OF CANADIAN SIGNIFICANCE, AND MT. EDZIZA NATIONAL AREA OF CANADIAN SIGNIFICANCE;

WHEREAS REGION 7, THE NORTHERN INTERIOR PLATEAU NATURAL REGION, WITHIN WHICH THE STIKINE RIVER BASIN IS LOCATED IS NOT CURRENTLY REPRESENTED IN THE NATIONAL PARKS SYSTEM;

THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY RECOMMENDED BY THIS ASSEMBLY THAT: THE 
STIKINE NATIONAL PARK RESERVE BE ESTABLISHED ALONG THE ENTIRE 
CANADIAN PORTION OF THE STIKINE RIVER FROM THE NORTH AND SOUTH 
BOUNDARIES OF THE US STIKINE - LE CONTE WILDERNESS AREA AT THE 
US BORDER TO THE HEADWATERS OF THE STIKINE, LITTLE KLAPPAN AND 
SPATSIZI RIVERS;

BE IT ALSO RECOMMENDED THAT THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A STIKINE 
NATIONAL PARK RESERVE BE SUBJECT TO THE RESOLUTION OF THE LAND 
CLAIM OF THE TAHLTAN TRIBAL COUNCIL, THAT THE TRADITIONAL 
ACTIVITIES OF NATIVE HUNTING, TRAPPING AND FISHING ACTIVITIES 
BE ALLOWED TO CONTINUE AND THAT THE TAHLTAN PEOPLE BE FULLY 
INVOLVED IN THE PLANNING AND MANAGEMENT OF THE NATIONAL PARK;

BE IT ALSO RECOMMENDED THAT THERE BE A MORITORIUM ON FURTHER 
RESOURCE EXTRACTION OR INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT UNTIL APPROPRIATE 
CONSIDERATION OF THESE RECOMMENDATIONS HAVE BEEN MADE BY THE 
GOVERNMENTS CONCERNED.
A RECOMMENDATION

TO CREATE THE KHUTZEYMATEEN GRIZZLY BEAR SANCTUARY

WHEREAS GRIZZLY BEARS, SALMON, AND OLD GROWTH COASTAL FOREST ARE ALL LIVING SYMBOLS OF THE WILD CANADIAN HERITAGE, ALL OF WHICH ARE THREATENED IN CANADA AND IN NORTH AMERICA;

WHEREAS THE KHUTZEYMATEEN WATERSHED IS REMOTE, VIRTUALLY PRISTINE, CONSTITUTES A WELL DEFINED NATURAL ECOSYSTEM, SUPPORTS ONE OF THE HIGHEST CONCENTRATIONS OF GRIZZLY BEARS IN CANADA, FOUR VERY PRODUCTIVE SALMON RUNS, AND SUPERLATIVE RIVER BOTTOM FOREST;

WHEREAS THE KHUTZEYMATEEN REPRESENTS AN OPPORTUNITY TO ESTABLISH THE FIRST GRIZZLY BEAR SANCTUARY IN CANADA, AND REPRESENTS WHAT MAY BE THE LAST OPPORTUNITY TO CREATE A RESERVE FOR A CONCENTRATED, COASTAL POPULATION OF GRIZZLIES WITH A HIGH POSSIBILITY OF FUTURE, LONG TERM VIABILITY;

THEREFORE, BE IT RECOMMENDED THAT THE ENTIRE KHUTZEYMATTEN RIVER WATERSHED BE ESTABLISHED AS A WILDERNESS PARK OR CONSERVANCY, WITH A CORE RIVER BOTTOM AREA DESIGNATED AS AN ECOLOGICAL RESERVE, AND BE IT FURTHER RECOMMENDED THAT THERE BE A MORITORIUM ON ANY FURTHER HUNTING, LOGGING OR OTHER INDUSTRIAL ACTIVITY IN THE WATERSHED UNTIL SUCH TIME AS THE PROPOSED WILDERNESS PARK OR CONSERVANCY, AND THE ECOLOGICAL RESERVE, BE ESTABLISHED AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT APPROPRIATE RESTRICTIONS ON HUNTING, LOGGING AND OTHER INDUSTRIAL ACTIVITY, BE PLACED ON AREAS ADJACENT TO THE KHUTZEYMATEEN WATERSHED TO PROTECT THE PROPOSED WILDERNESS PARK OR CONSERVANCY, AND THE ECOLOGICAL RESERVE.
A RECOMMENDATION

FOR PROTECTION OF THE CASCADE WILDERNESS AREA

WHEREAS THE HISTORIC AND NATURAL HERITAGE VALUES WHICH HAVE BEEN IDENTIFIED IN THE PROPOSED CASCADE WILDERNESS AREA: INCLUDING A LONG LIST OF WELL DOCUMENTED HISTORIC TRAIL AND TRADE ROUTES SIGNIFICANT IN THE EXPLORATION AND DEVELOPMENT OF BRITISH COLUMBIA;

WHEREAS THERE IS A LONG TRADITION OF RECREATIONAL USE OF THESE AREAS WITH DEMONSTABLE ECONOMIC VALUE;

WHEREAS THE GOVERNMENT OF BRITISH COLUMBIA HAS INCLUDED THE AREAS WITHIN THE PROVINCIAL FOREST AND IS COMMENCING WITH PLANNING ACTIVITIES WHICH MAY LEAD TO FOREST HARVESTING IN THE AREA, BEFORE DEMONSTRATING THE ECONOMIC VIABILITY OF SUCH LOGGING;

WHEREAS THE TIMBER RESOURCE MAY BE FACTORED INTO THE CALCULATION OF THE ANNUAL ALLOWABLE CUT FOR THE AREA, AND OTHER RESOURCES RESTRICT THE OPPORTUNITIES FOR FURTHER PRESERVATION;

WHEREAS THE AREA HAS BEEN PROPOSED AS AN EXTENSION TO MANNING PROVINCIAL PARK BY MANY PUBLIC INTENT GROUPS AND THE PARKS AND OUTDOOR RECREATION DIVISION OF THE MINISTRY OF LANDS PARKS AND HOUSING;

THEREFORE, IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT THE GOVERNMENT OF BRITISH COLUMBIA TAKE IMMEDIATE ACTION TO PROTECT THE CASCADE WILDERNESS AREA IS PERPETUITY,
A RECOMMENDATION

TO ENDORSE WILDERNESS PROTECTION STATUS FOR THE STEIN WATERSHED
IN SOUTHERN BRITISH COLUMBIA

WHEREAS the 400 square mile Stein watershed, only 100 miles from Vancouver, is the largest remaining undeveloped natural watershed in Southern British Columbia;

WHEREAS this area, composed of glaciers, and mountains, deep forest and broad meadows, forms an area of great diversity from desert at 800 ft. where the Stein enters the Fraser to 8000 ft. alpine peaks, contains the best representation of Southern B.C. wildlife;

WHEREAS the wilderness recreational resource exceeds the values of industrial forest resource - all economic analysis indicating that the B.C. tax-payers will have to subsidize the logging by over $15 million to pay for the difficult access road to this rugged area;

WHEREAS the pictographs and archeological evidence indicates this is one of the oldest inhabited valleys in B.C.

WHEREAS the Lilooet Tribe, native title claimants to much of the Stein, hold the area to be sacred and have formerly requested that it remain natural wilderness;

Therefore, be it hereby recommended that this Assembly urge the Provincial Government to assign wilderness designation protection to the Stein watershed.
A RECOMMENDATION

FOR PROTECTION OF MEARES ISLAND

WHEREAS Meares Island, adjacent to Pacific Rim National Park is a 22,000 acre island with a magnificent old growth rain forest containing some of the oldest and largest trees in Canada, including the largest known living cedar over 62 feet in circumference;

WHEREAS this island’s forest and the wildlife it harbours is not only a Canadian treasure, it is also the cultural heritage of the local native residents, the Clayoquot and Ahousat Indians;

WHEREAS the entire island has been declared a Tribal Park by these aboriginal title claimants, to be preserved and protected in its natural state for all to enjoy;

THEREFORE, BE IT RECOMMENDED THAT THE ASSEMBLY SUPPORT THE PRESERVATION OF MEARES ISLAND IN ITS EXISTING STATE.