May 5, 2020

Doug Donaldson, Minister of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development FLNR.Minister@gov.bc.ca

Re: Land use designation for Skagit-Manning “Donut Hole”

Before addressing the Skagit-Manning “Donut Hole”, first let me congratulate you and our BC government for its excellent handling of the Covid-19 pandemic. Coming from many parts of the province, the 6000 members of BC Nature do appreciate the provincial efforts to help us all through this pandemic as safely as possible.

By comparison, the land use designation for the Skagit-Manning “Donut Hole” seems a small consideration, but we look forward to the day when our provincial parks will once again be open to the public and we can reconnect with the spirit-lifting wonders of our beautiful province. BC Nature has previously written to you as part of a joint letter, to thank you for government’s decision to halt logging in the Skagit-Manning “Donut Hole”. We are writing now to encourage you to establish a land use designation on those lands that will clearly end any future consideration of logging and that will bring us one step closer to park designation, awaiting only the resolution of the mineral claim.

We trust you can facilitate the best land use designation to further the eventual park designation, to bring together the whole and intact Manning and Skagit Provincial Parks. With our growing population, the park location close to the Lower Mainland and adjacent to the wilderness lands of our American neighbours becomes ever more valuable.

Thanks in advance for your efforts to achieve eventual park status for this “donut hole”.

Yours truly,

Cornelis (Kees) Visser, Ph.D., P. Geol.
President, BC Nature

cc: George Heyman, Minister of Environment and Climate Change ENV.Minister@gov.bc.ca