

Trail

FILE COPY

THETIS ISLAND RESIDENTS' AND RATEPAYERS' ASSOCIATION

Phone 250-246-1509

Box 14-1

Fax 250-246-3084

Thetis Island, British Columbia
Canada V0R 2Y0

April 1, 2004

Ian Ralston
Trax Developments Ltd.
Thetis Island, B.C.

Dear Ian;

Re. Hazardous Old Growth Tree

May 1/04
We were subsequently
advised that this tree
is on the trail and
not on adjacent property.
Mey

As you know, the north end of the "community trail" (a.k.a. "Lawrence Trail") is situated adjacent to a portion of Trax's strata that is within the conservation covenant designation. A few yards south of the north end of the trail, a large old growth Douglas fir is located beside the trail. This tree seems to be a wildlife tree and is located within the covenanted area.

During an examination of the trail for hazards, the deteriorating condition of this tree was noted. Local residents recall that, several years ago, this tree lost its top 75' in calm conditions, suggesting that it had rotted through. It collapsed across the trail. The remaining 75' (estimate only) of the specimen, while magnificent, is showing strong evidence of rapid decay and poses a significant threat to users of the trail, almost directly beneath it. A large limb has recently plummeted to earth and it seems that it had been attached only by the outer bark, since the affixed interior wood is rotten. Several more limbs loom high above the path.

Since the tree is not on TIRRA property, we can take no direct action. For the immediate period, we will post notice of the hazard and will attempt to provide a temporary detour. Such a detour would take hikers off the path owned by TIRRA and onto adjacent land. We believe that, in consideration of public safety, this tree should be felled but recognize that this decision lies between your company and the trustees of the nature covenant area. We recommend that a competent silviculture professional examine this tree and provide recommendations with respect to optimizing public safety in the context of its wildlife values.

Yours truly,

Graeme Shelford

Graeme Shelford, President