



2019

Ancient Forest Alliance

**Activity Report &
Financials**





The Ancient Forest Alliance (AFA) is a registered non-profit organization working to protect BC's endangered old-growth forests and to ensure a sustainable, second-growth forest industry.

Founded in 2010, the AFA is now BC's main organization working to secure science-based, province-wide legislation to protect old-growth forests for the sake of wild species, freshwater, the climate, tourism, Indigenous cultures and communities.

2019 Was an Incredible Year Thanks to You!



To our dedicated supporters,

Thank you for helping make 2019 another great year for the AFA and the campaign to protect BC's endangered old-growth forests!

We are continuously encouraged by your passion and dedication, inspired by the communities determined to protect their local forests and watersheds, and sustained by the uniqueness and beauty of the wild places we work to protect.

With your help this past year, we continued to make significant strides in our efforts to ensure ancient forests finally get the protection they deserve and we are eternally grateful for your generosity and support.

Thank you for standing with us!

For the forests,

TJ Watt, Andrea Inness, Joan Varley, Tiara Dhenin, Amanda Evans, Jacob Swain, and Rachel Ablack





Year at a Glance

These are just some of the accomplishments YOU helped us achieve in 2019!



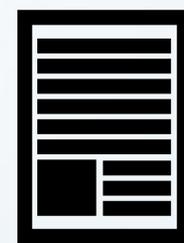
Over **10,000** messages sent to provincial decision makers via our NEW digital campaign tools.



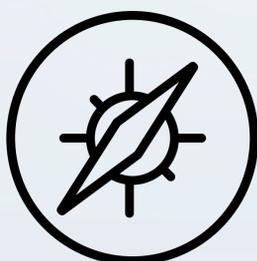
Exposed non-compliant logging of some of Earth's grandest forests and near-record-sized-trees in the Nahmint Valley in Hupacasath and Tseshaht territories.



Climbed, measured, & documented two giant Sitka spruce trees in Mossome Grove near Port Renfrew in Pacheedaht territory that were then later protected.

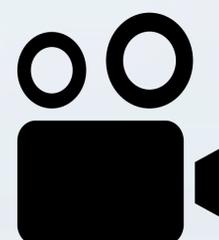


Prepared formal feedback submissions & mobilized supporters to provide input on Budget 2020, proposed changes to the Forest and Range Practices Act, and the BC government's Old Growth Strategy.



Explored and documented unprotected old-growth forests on Vancouver Island:

- Caycuse River Watershed - Ditidaht territory
- Central Walbran Valley, San Juan Valley & Edinburgh Mountain - Pacheedaht territory
- McKelvie Valley - Mowachaht/Muchalaht territory.



Launched our first "community spotlight" video focusing on Tahsis to help elevate the voices of communities on the "front lines" of ancient forest protection.



Exposing Non-Compliant Logging by BC Timber Sales in the Nahmint Valley

In September, we received the results from a 2018 Ministry of Forests investigation into the logging of some of Canada's finest old-growth forests and monumental, centuries-old trees in the Nahmint Valley, located in Hupacasath and Tseshaht territories near Port Alberni.

The Ministry's report, obtained through a Freedom of Information request, showed BC Timber Sales, the BC government's own logging agency, failed to comply with the Vancouver Island Land Use Plan when laying out cutblocks in the Nahmint and hasn't protected enough old-growth forest to prevent biodiversity loss.

[Click here to read our press release.](#)



The Narwhal

NEWS

'Indicative of a truly corrupt system': government investigation reveals BC Timber Sales violating old-growth logging rules

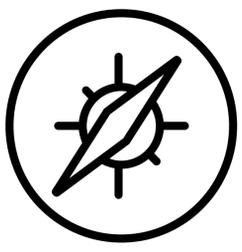
Two investigations, released under Freedom of Information laws, show a government agency ignored best practices and available data when auctioning cutblocks in the Nahmint Valley — home to some of Vancouver Island's last remaining stands of unlogged ancient forest — where clearcutting continues to this day

[Click here to read this Oct 7, 2019 article in The Narwhal](#)

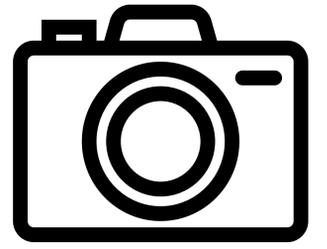


The AFA's TJ Watt stands next to Canada's 9th widest Douglas-fir tree, which was cut down in the Nahmint Valley in May, 2018, sparking widespread outrage.

Despite these findings, not only has the BC government allowed logging to continue in the Nahmint Valley, another 600 hectares of old-growth forest is slated for logging in coming years under the current, non-compliant forest stewardship plan.



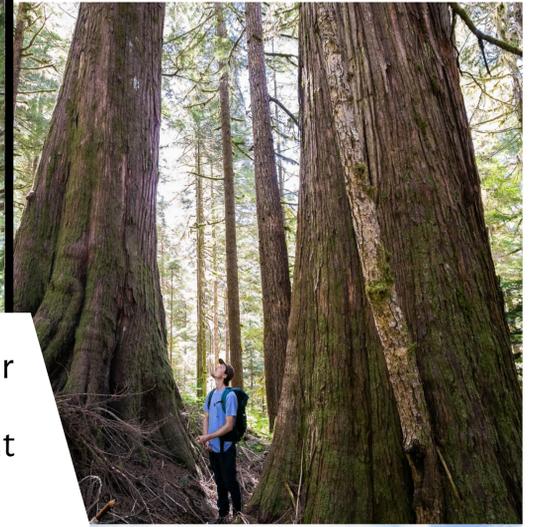
Keeping the Beauty and Destruction of BC's Ancient Forests in the Spotlight



In 2019, the AFA explored remaining unprotected old-growth forests in the Central Walbran Valley, Caycuse River Valley, the San Juan Valley, Edinburgh Mountain, and more, where we located spectacular ancient forest stands, monumental trees, and witnessed the devastating impacts of clearcut logging.



Before-and-after photos from a stunning ancient forest in the Caycuse River Watershed in Ditidaht territory that was largely logged by Teal Jones.



This monumental redcedar is located in the Central Walbran Valley, in Pacheedaht territory. It's now safe from logging thanks to the BC government's promise to protect 54 of BC's biggest trees, but there are countless other ancient giants and entire old-growth ecosystems still at risk across the province.



The McKelvie Valley. One of Vancouver Island's last unprotected, intact watersheds.



In May, we travelled to Tahsis in Mowachaht/Muchalaht territory to explore the beautiful McKelvie Valley, one of the last intact watersheds left on Vancouver Island, and to hear local residents' concerns about Western Forest Products' plans to log the valley.

We later launched our very first "community spotlight" video to raise awareness of the area and to highlight an innovative conservation proposal, "Salmon Parks," being championed by local Nuu-chah-nulth First Nations that could keep this magnificent valley intact.

[Click here to watch our community spotlight video!](#)





Expanding the Ancient Forest Movement



1. For the third consecutive summer, we hosted a series of old-growth forest ecology tours in Vancouver's Stanley Park in collaboration with the Stanley Park Ecology Society.

2. We gave numerous slideshow presentations throughout the year to educate and engage students, interest groups, and the general public. In the photo: AFA campaigners TJ Watt & Andrea Inness present to a full house at Patagonia Victoria.

3. We engaged the news media and accompanied reporters into some of BC's most famous and threatened old-growth forests. In the photo: AFA's Andrea Inness and a CBC news reporter in Avatar Grove.

4. We brought a group of Hupacasath band members on a tour of the Nahmint Valley, highlighting some of the valley's biggest trees and recent old-growth clearcuts.

Non-Traditional Allies Outreach

Building a broad-based movement of support for old-growth forest protection among diverse segments of society

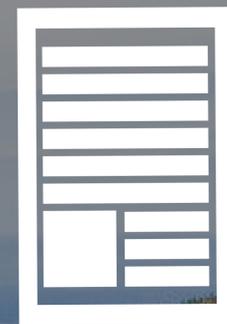
13

resolutions signed in support of old-growth forest protection in 2019

(5 faith groups | 7 recreation groups | 1 union)

Total resolutions signed to date: 129

Government Engagement & Lobbying



Through meetings with Ministers and bureaucrats, formal feedback submissions, and by flooding the inboxes of key decision makers with emails (thanks to you!), we continued to ramp up pressure on the BC government to implement both immediate and long-term measures to protect old-growth forests while supporting sustainable, second-growth forestry jobs and upholding First Nations' rights and title.



BC Greens

May 2019: We joined the BC Greens at a press conference in Victoria where they formally called on the BC NDP to halt logging in Vancouver Island's last intact, low elevation old-growth forests.



Budget 2020

June 2019: We spearheaded a joint submission to the Province, signed by 16 other conservation and recreation groups, calling for the creation of a provincial Land Acquisition Fund in the 2020 budget to purchase and protect endangered ecosystems on private lands, including old-growth forests.

FRPA Amendments

July 2019: We mobilized thousands of British Columbians to submit comments on spring 2020 amendments to the Forest and Range Practices Act (the main piece of legislation governing forest practices in BC).

Old Growth Strategy

December 2019: We launched an online call to action to encourage British Columbians to submit their feedback on the BC government's proposed Old Growth Strategy, demanding science-based legislation and policy changes to protect old-growth forests.

We adopted a new digital campaign tool that makes it even easier for British Columbians contact provincial decision makers. In 2019 alone, over 10,000 messages were sent - a true testament to the overwhelming support for increased old-growth forest protection in BC.

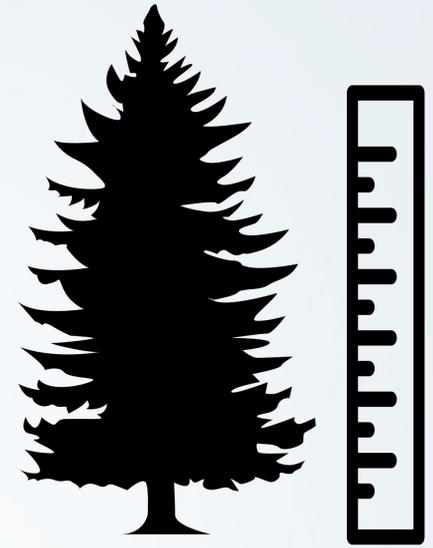


In April, 6,000 messages were sent to the BC government, opposing the auction of old-growth forests next to Juan de Fuca Provincial Park in Pacheedaht territory by BC Timber Sales. The mass mobilization of concerned citizens helped to temporarily stall the auction.

Measuring Mossome Grove's Ancient Giants

With the help of our arborist friends at Expedition Old Growth, we climbed and measured two of Mossome Grove's tallest Sitka spruce trees, located in Pacheedaht territory near Port Renfrew, and submitted them to the BC Big Tree Registry. The biggest tree was measured at over 10ft wide at the base and came in at 246.5ft (75m) tall – as tall as a 23 story building!

These ancient giants are now safe from logging due to the BC government's promise to protect 54 of the biggest trees on the Big Tree Registry with one-hectare forested buffer zones, however, while there are no current logging plans for Mossome Grove, without sufficient policies and legislated protection, the future of endangered ancient forests like the unique and photogenic Mossome Grove remain uncertain.

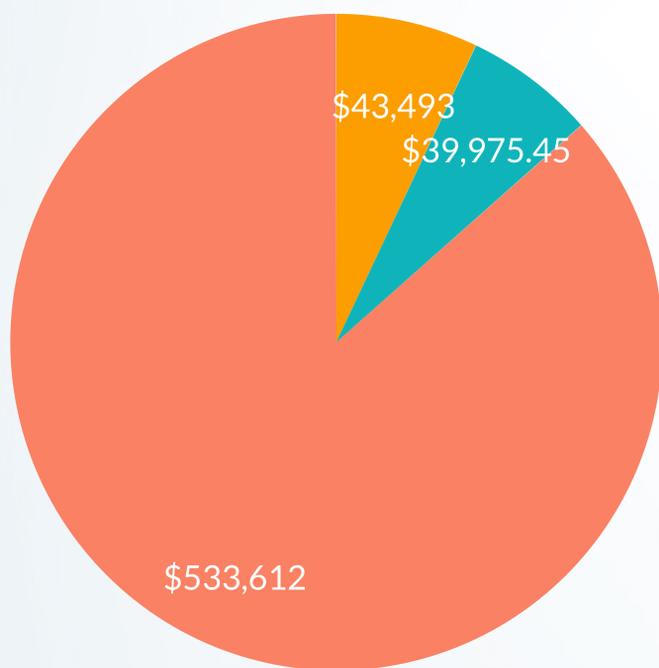


2019

in Numbers

Statement of Operations for the year ending December 31st, 2019

Funding Sources 2019

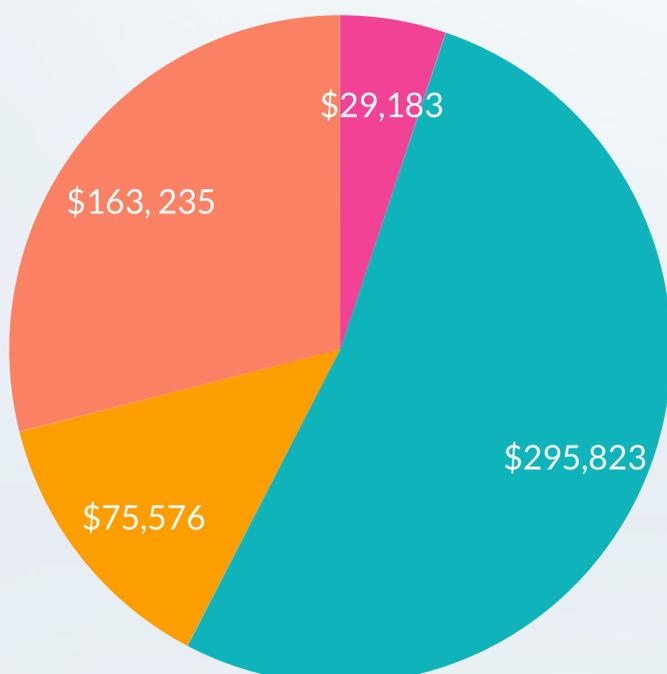


Total Funding: \$617,080

Please see page 12 for a full copy of our Statement of Operations for the year ending December 31, 2019.

■ Grants (7.05%)
 ■ Sales (6.48%)
 ■ Donations (86.47%)

Expenditures 2019



Total Expenditures: \$563,817

■ Cost of Goods Sold (5.18%)
 ■ Campaigns (52.47%)
 ■ Administration Operations (13.4%)
 ■ Public Outreach (28.95%)

Looking to 2020

Our top priorities for 2020 include:



Supporting an academic study on the economic value of recreation in old-growth forests on Vancouver Island



Commissioning a GIS specialist to undertake mapping of old-growth forests in key areas on Vancouver Island



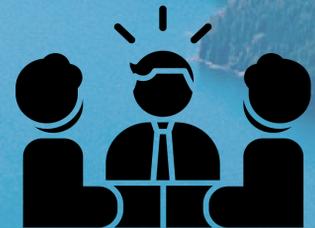
Further expanding our engagement with 'non-traditional allies' including First Nations, chambers of commerce, and tourism associations



Continuing to explore and document the beauty and destruction of BC's ancient temperate rainforests and engaging the news media to raise awareness



Mobilizing our supporters to increase pressure on the BC government to enact science-based protection measures for old-growth forests



Lobbying the BC NDP to support new and existing Indigenous Protected and Conserved Areas as well as funding for First Nations' conservation financing solutions

With the BC government having promised to develop a new provincial Old Growth Strategy, 2020 is shaping up to be a pivotal year for the ancient forest campaign.

With your help, we'll work hard to ensure the Province's Old Growth Strategy is ambitious, science-based, and has a clear timeline for implementation.

We'll also work cooperatively with First Nations communities to support conservation solutions that uphold their rights and values and advance their cultures, economies, and community wellbeing.

With financial help from Patagonia's Environmental Grants Program, we'll complete at least two more "community spotlight" videos to highlight some of BC's most spectacular and threatened old-growth forests while showcasing local efforts to expand ancient forest protections.

As always, we couldn't do any of this important work without the generous support of our donors. Thank you for continuing to stand with us and for making this campaign possible.

- The AFA Team



Statement of Operations

For the year ending December 31st, 2019

Receipts

Donations	\$533,612
Grants	\$43,493
Sales	\$39,975
Total Receipts	\$617,080

Expenditures

Cost of Goods Sold	\$29,183	
Campaigns		
Campaigners	\$126,645	
Research & Campaign Development	\$36,679	
Public Education & Engagement	\$132,499	
Operations		
Administration	\$75,576	
Public Outreach	\$163,235	
Total Expenditures		\$563,817

Net Surplus **\$53,263**

designated for special
campaign projects



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