



MEDIA RELEASE

Canfor Donates to The Heart of the Fraser

**For Immediate Release
September 18, 2006**

(North Vancouver, BC)—In the run-up to this weekend's Rivers Day festivities, Canfor got to the heart of the matter by donating a 22 hectare (54 acre) property on Harrison Knob to The Nature Trust of British Columbia in support of the Heart of the Fraser River initiative.

"Canfor's proud history began along the banks of the Fraser River with one veneer plant in New Westminster. Our growth to become British Columbia's largest forest products company has always included a firm belief in responsible environmental stewardship. As such, we are delighted to contribute this ecologically and culturally significant property and hope that this will encourage others to join in this very worthwhile initiative," said Ken Higginbotham, Vice President of Forestry and Environment at Canfor.

The Fraser River is the world's greatest salmon river. Yet, for the past 13 years it has been prominent on the annual list of endangered rivers in BC as designated by the Outdoor Recreation Council and one of the reasons for this pertains to a loss of riparian habitat. The Harrison Knob, which remains in its natural state, is considered to be extremely important from both an environmental and cultural perspective.

"The Hope to Mission stretch of the Fraser is one of the most productive stretches of river in the world," said Mark Angelo, Rivers Day founder and spokesperson for the Heart of the Fraser initiative. "The protection of the Harrison Knob is a key step forward in protecting this part of the river, which is one of the most important conservation initiatives in Canada," added Angelo, who also heads BCIT's Fish and Wildlife Department.

The Heart of the Fraser initiative is supported by The Nature Trust of BC as well as BCIT, the North Growth Foundation and the Pacific Fisheries Resource Conservation Council and it seeks to boost public awareness of this area's outstanding ecological, cultural and recreational attributes while promoting the need to set aside key properties for conservation purposes.

"This land is located in the heart of Scowlitz Territory. As historical aboriginal title land, it is an important burial site and cultural heritage resource of the Scowlitz people. We look forward to working with The Nature Trust to ensure the ongoing protection of and recognition of our interest in this land," said Chief John Pennier.

Doug Walker, CEO of The Nature Trust, said, "We are delighted to accept this significant donation from Canfor for its mature Douglas-fir riparian habitat, its importance as a heritage site to the Scowlitz band and its location at the confluence of the Harrison and Fraser rivers." The Nature Trust has a longstanding commitment to the protection of the lower Fraser area. Since 1971, we have acquired 9 properties totaling 340 hectares (840 acres) including the MacGillivray Slough.

The Nature Trust is a leader in protecting BC's natural diversity of plants and animals through the acquisition and management of critical habitats and other areas of ecological significance. The Nature Trust and our partners have invested \$65 million to secure over 61,000 hectares (150,000 acres) throughout British Columbia.

Conserving BC's natural beauty.

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