

the ground surrounded by branches and needles. Soon Grapple-Yarders will move in and drag the logs to the roadsides, devastating everything in their paths. The upper valley is now almost completely logged and the lower valley will be cut down next. The really big trees are still standing in an intact pristine rainforest, which stretches from the East Creek estuary at Klaskish Inlet upstream about 4 km where LeMare Logging has already logged the watershed.

Western Forest Products will be moving in to replace LeMare Logging in the next couple of months and they will destroy the lower valley. This transition will occur in the next few months. As far as the BC Ministry of Forests is concerned this is a done deal with no public process for approval.

Along the largest tributaries, the final two waterways that flow into the lower East Creek at a junction fork, stand a row of single trees along the water. Many of the 'leave' trees have blown down in winds funneled by clear-cuts in the forest structure. The public has been lead to believe that roads and logging are kept away from the watershed of creeks.

The logging of East Creek appears to be an improvement from logging in the neighbouring Klaskish Creek valley where stumps stand on the banks of the waterway and even on small islands in the middle of the creek. The fragmented strips of forest that are left behind contain the smallest trees, growing on the rock outcropping between the soiled areas along the waterways where the heaviest logging has occurred. The biggest fear of logging companies is that the public will find out what is happening on public land and put a stop to logging of old growth temperate rainforest.

East Creek is designated as a Special Management Zone by the Vancouver Island Land Management and was considered a Natural Disturbance type #1 by the Forest Practices Code. Both of these distinctions would have the public believe that the highest standards of logging regulations would be upheld in this ancient forest. However, the 'Results Based Forestry Code' leaves it