NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

Forest Practices Board

Aug. 8, 2017

Board to audit forestry operations of Gwa'Nak Resources Ltd.

VICTORIA – The Forest Practices Board will examine the activities of Gwa'Nak Resources Ltd. on forest licences A93095, A93096 and A75918, north of Port Hardy along the Belize Inlet, during the week of Aug. 14, 2017.

Auditors will examine whether harvesting, roads, bridges, silviculture, fire protection and associated planning, carried out between August 2015 and August 2017, met the requirements of the *Forest and Range Practices Act* and the *Wildfire Act*.

Characterized by rugged mountains and numerous inlets, the audit area is remote and only accessible by boat or helicopter. Part of the Great Bear Rainforest, the area is ecologically diverse, supporting a range of wildlife including marbled murrelets, goshawks, grizzly bears and salmon, and is a popular area for fishing and tourism.

Once the audit work is complete, a report will be prepared, and any party that may be adversely affected by the audit findings will have a chance to respond. The board's final report and recommendations then will be released to the public and government.

The Forest Practices Board is B.C.'s independent watchdog for sound forest and range practices, reporting its findings and recommendations directly to the public and government.

The board audits forest and range practices on public land, as well as appropriateness of government enforcement.

For more information:

Website: <u>www.bcfpb.ca</u>

Facebook: www.facebook.com/pages/BC-Forest-Practices-Board/163884970335862

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