

Monday » December  
12 » 2011

## Court injunction allows Nanoose band to work on tree lot

First Nations fallers able to get on land without interference from Western Canada Wilderness Committee

**Matthew Gauk**

Daily News

*Saturday, December 03, 2011*

With a B.C. Supreme Court injunction in place, logging on a controversial land west of Nanoose Bay is now in full swing.

Last week, the B.C. Supreme Court found in favour of Snaw'Naw'As First Nation and issued an injunction and enforcement order to keep Western Canada Wilderness Committee members from getting too close to falling activities on District Lot 33, which had previously created a safety concern and halted the work.

"In the last three weeks we've only been able to have two (or) three full days of operations," Snaw'Naw'As band administrator Brent Edwards said. "The last couple of days we've been able to work unimpeded up there."

DL 33 is a 64-hectare block of land that contains one of the last remaining coastal Douglas-fir forests on Crown land on eastern Vancouver Island. The band has a five-year, non-renewable forest licence that it considers important to its economic development plan.

Annette Tanner, chairwoman of the mid-Island chapter of the WCWC, said the injunction wouldn't be a problem for her organization because they work within lawful means and wouldn't do anything dangerous.

WCWC members were monitoring the falling on Friday and Tanner said the logging was proceeding "very, very quickly."

The Wilderness Committee put out a news release Friday pointing to what is purported to be a video of eight Roosevelt elk making their way through DL 33. Roosevelt elk in B.C. are a blue-listed species, meaning they are at-risk and considered especially sensitive to human activities or natural events.

"For elk winter range, they need to have the tops of old-growth trees come down with wind and snow to sustain them because they eat the moss . . . on top of the trees," said Tanner. "It is typical elk winter range and that's all there is in area for them."

MGauk@nanaimodailynews.com 250-729-4229

© The Daily News (Nanaimo) 2011

CLOSE WINDOW

Copyright © 2011 CanWest Interactive, a division of [CanWest MediaWorks Publications, Inc.](#) All rights reserved.  
CanWest Interactive, a division of [CanWest MediaWorks Publications, Inc.](#) All rights reserved.

<http://www2.canada.com/components/print.aspx?id=7f590886-d9e6-4065-8f8d-04224c1a...> 12/12/2011