



# Cheakamus Community Forest GHG Offsets

## What is the Cheakamus Community Forest?

The Cheakamus Community Forest (CCF) manages a 33,000 hectare area of Crown Land surrounding Whistler BC on the north, south and west. The CCF is owned by the Squamish Nation, Lil'wat Nation, and the Resort Municipality of Whistler, as equal partners.

## How do we manage the land?

The CCF manages the land using Ecosystem Based Management (EBM) principles, with the goals of

- Maintaining ecosystem condition and resiliency, to retain and restore all forest values currently and over the long term. This includes maintaining mature and old forests, but also ensuring that younger age classes are present which will form mature and old forests in the future.
- Providing forest sector employment, with a focus on employment for members of the Squamish and Lil'wat Nations
- Supporting the tourism and recreation-based economy of the Whistler area

## How do we generate GHG reductions?

The CCF uses a wide range of management techniques which result in carbon being stored on the land in the form of living and dead biomass, carbon which would have been released into the atmosphere under conventional forest management. Techniques used include:

- Setting areas aside for cultural and ecological values, including rare ecosystems, broader riparian reserves, and area of high traditional or spiritual use or value.
- Using harvest techniques (small patch cuts, selective harvest, extended [harvest](#) rotation) which are designed to mimic natural disturbance.
- Undertaking stand thinning in second growth stands to accelerate return to old forest conditions, and reduce fire risk for the forest and the community.

