

### **RGS Policy Direction Relevant to the Juan de Fuca Electoral Area**

The RGS policy direction relevant to planning in the Juan de Fuca Electoral Area (JDFEA) is summarized as follows:

#### Initiative 1.1 – Keep Urban Settlement Compact

*The Long-term Rural Vision:* Action 6 states that: “The jurisdictions responsible for administering the Juan de Fuca electoral area, within two years of adopting the Regional Growth Strategy, agree to update current Official Community Plans in a manner that maintains a long term rural vision for the Electoral Area.”

*The Regional Urban Containment Boundary:* Should communities within the JDFEA wish to change the rural designation to either accommodate urban-style growth or to include lands within the Regional Urban Containment and Servicing Policy Area (RUCSPA) it must do so through a RGS amendment. The RGS provides the electoral area with a two-year time frame to define such a boundary. Currently, all of the JDFEA is situated outside the RUCSPA.

*Maintenance of the Regional Urban Containment Boundary:* Action 1 states that the CRD, when it designates urban containment and servicing areas in an OCP, agrees to further adopt associated policies regarding the protection, buffering and long term maintenance of the boundary. Further, Action 2 states that the CRD agrees to include policies in its OCP’s that permit amendment of the urban containment and servicing area designation, generally, only as an outcome of a comprehensive 5-year review of the RGS.

*The Servicing Policy:* Action 5 restricts the extension of piped services beyond the regional urban containment boundary, or increases in servicing capacity to encourage growth beyond designated OCP limits at the date of RGS adoption [August 2003], “... except to address pressing public health and environmental issues, to provide fire suppression or to service agriculture.” Where expansion or increased capacity of existing sewer and water services is proposed beyond the RUCSPA boundary, guidelines for service expansion and extension should be identified in the OCP, and would require amendment of the RGS.

*The Growth Projection:* Table 1 in the RGS identifies the projected level and distribution of growth in the region to 2026. The JDFEA is projected to grow from a 1996 population of 4,140 to a 2026 population of 6,500. The strategy also anticipates an additional 820 dwelling units over the next 25 years (from 1,680 to 2,500).

#### Initiative 1.2 - Protect the Integrity of Rural Communities

*Capital Green Lands Protection:* Action 1 calls for the establishment or strengthening of policies in CRD and municipal OCP’s to provide long-term

protection of Capital Green Lands (RGS maps 3 & 4), including policies aimed at buffering these lands from adjacent urban uses.

*Renewable Resource Lands Protection:* Action 2 calls for the establishment or strengthening of policies in CRD and municipal OCP's to ensure long term protection of Renewable Resource Lands (RGS maps 3 & 4) including policies aimed at buffering these lands from adjacent urban uses, policies that support farming in the Agricultural Land Reserve (ALR), and forestry within managed forest areas.

*Limitations on Rural Subdivision and Development:* Action 3 calls for the CRD and municipalities to establish or strengthen policies within OCPs through regional context statements, that generally limit rural subdivision and development to designated OCP capacity levels at the date of RGS adoption [ie: August 2003], including specific reference to mechanisms that could be used to achieve this.

#### Initiative 2.1 – Protect Regional Green and Blue Space

*Protection of Unprotected Green Space:* Action 2 calls for the CRD and municipalities to establish, through regional context statements in OCP's, programs aimed at protecting lands within the Unprotected Green Space Policy Area described on RGS Map 4, including such mechanisms as policies, development permit guidelines, and supporting regulations and incentives.