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**NEWS RELEASE  
WEST FRASER TIMBER CO. LTD.**

**For immediate release:**

Tuesday, October 16, 2007

Attention: Environment and Forestry Editors

**West Fraser Supportive of British Columbia's Caribou Recovery Strategy**

West Fraser Timber Co. Ltd. is committed to protecting caribou habitat and the Company welcomes the Province's proposed Mountain Caribou Recovery Strategy released today in Victoria.

"It can be difficult and controversial to make changes to land use plans, but we recognize that it is the government's role to make these decisions," says Bruce MacNicol, West Fraser's Chief Forester for British Columbia. "West Fraser is confident that it is possible to balance environmental values, such as caribou conservation, with economic, human access and other values. We welcome the Province's initiative and we look forward to being engaged in the process."

In BC there are two Mountain Caribou herds located in West Fraser's operating areas – the Barkerville herd and the Wells Grey North herd, both of which are considered stable according to population numbers published by the Province. The Company's operations within these two herd areas have been conducted in accordance with the Cariboo Chilcotin Land Use Plan, which includes a protection strategy for caribou.

As part of West Fraser's commitment to the Province's proposed Caribou Recovery Strategy, the Company will defer normal harvesting operations in areas identified by the Province's Species at Risk Coordination Office as possible incremental no-harvest areas. This deferral will apply to more than 100,000 hectares and will be in place until at least the end of March 2008 when the government is expected to have completed its assessments. "We will work with the government and all other key stakeholders in order to complete this plan by the end of March," says MacNicol, who stresses that increased habitat protection through deferrals is only one element of the proposed strategy.

"There are five elements to the proposed strategy and we believe that caribou recovery will only be successful if the five necessary elements of the plan are fully implemented and supported by all stakeholders," he explains.

The five elements are habitat protection, predator control, alternate prey management, back country recreation management and population transplantation.

West Fraser is an integrated forest products company that produces lumber, wood chips, LVL, MDF, plywood, pulp, linerboard, kraft paper and newsprint. The Company has manufacturing operations in British Columbia, Alberta and the southern United States. West Fraser has approximately 9,000 employees and is headquartered in Vancouver, British Columbia.

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#### Forward-looking Statements

This announcement contains forward-looking statements. The accuracy of these statements depends on a number of assumptions and is subject to various uncertainties. These statements are not guaranteed by the Company.