

LOCAL WOOD. LOCAL WORK. LOCAL BENEFITS.

THIS BIKE SHELTER IS CONSTRUCTED WITH LOCAL TONGASS WOOD

RESTORATION

Improving Tongass ecosystem and watershed function starts with restoration. The Sitka spruce used in this shelter is from Winter Harbor on Prince of Wales Island. It was harvested as part of a wildlife thinning project. This type of project restores forest and watershed functions, protects salmon populations and supports sustainable subsistence resources for our community.



ECONOMIC GROWTH

The Sitka spruce in this shelter provided multiple local businesses with the opportunity to capitalize on restoration by-products. They were able to work with a new product and explore market potential. In addition to timber harvest and processing, restoration projects provide craftsmen the ability to develop new value added products.



TRAINING

A key component to young-growth's success is training and education. This shelter was built by local high school students and community volunteers.

WHAT IS YOUNG GROWTH?

Young-growth is the secondary succession of trees after the harvest of a primary forest. Logging practices in the '60s and '70s resulted in homogenous, even-aged stands that pose threats to ecological function and wildlife. Restorative thinning projects improve habitat, create jobs, enhance subsistence opportunities and generate restoration by-products for lumber and biomass.

COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

The Sitka Conservation Society has partnered with multiple stakeholders to develop this project that highlights young-growth timber. The timber frame design, a traditional form of building using mortise and tenon joinery, was chosen to showcase the Sitka spruce. SCS collaborated with the City and Borough of Sitka Parks Department and the Sitka Sound Science Center to find a location for the shelter and maintain it for public use.



Another example of community partnerships and young-growth use is the Starrigavan Cabin (left), located here in Sitka. This US Forest Service cabin was built in 2008 with young-growth Sitka spruce harvested from Starrigavan Creek as part of a wildlife improvement project. The cabin is an experiment in the longevity of young spruce logs for construction purposes, and is the first young-growth cabin in the Tongass.



Mortise and tenon joint



Shingles: Red cedar (*Thuja plicata*)

Frame: Sitka spruce (*Picea sitchensis*)

Siding: Red cedar (*Thuja plicata*)

Base: Yellow cedar (*Cupressus nootkatensis*)

- 1 Stewardship Contract
- 5 Small, Local Businesses
- 2 Craftsmen/Instructors
- 10 Sitka High School Students
- 7 Community Volunteers



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