City of Campbell River
Open House #1 'Let's Talk Trees'
Summary Report
Urban Forest Management Plan

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Submitted to:
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Table of Contents

List of Tables

List of Figures

1 Introduction

All of the community's trees, vegetation and soil contribute to the urban forest, and this provides a wealth of social, economic and environmental benefits to people who live in urban communities. We want to make sure these important assets are valued appropriately relative to other forms of civic infrastructure and to keep these natural assets thriving in an urban setting through ongoing planning, maintenance and monitoring.

The first phase of Campbell River's Urban Forest Management Plan (UFMP) was completed in 2013, and included an inventory of tree canopy. The second phase will establish guidelines and actions to preserve and enhance Campbell River's urban forest, including plans for canopy cover growth, new tree planting, tree health and maintenance, tree protection and budgeting.

A key aspect of planning for the UFMP is engaging with community members and stakeholders to understand the key issues that affect Campbell River's urban forest today and to develop community supported targets for future canopy cover and any proposed tree management bylaw.

Open House #1 – 'Let's Talk Trees' – was held from 5.30 – 7 pm on September 25 at the Campbell River Museum. Approximately 25 members of the Campbell River community attended and shared their thoughts about the urban forest through several participatory exercises.

The results from the session will be used, together with the urban forest survey outcomes, to draft a vision statement for Campbell River's urban forest, and to inform priorities, principles, strategies and targets when drafting the plan.

1.1 Image preferences

People were shown a poster of 19 images that represented different types of urban forest characteristics and asked to place a dot next to the images that best representing things that should be part of Campbell River's future urban forest. They were then asked to write words or statements that described the things that should be part of Campbell River's urban forest.

The number of dots assigned to each image is shown in Figure 1 with a 95% confidence interval. Those images with confidence limits above the average line were preferred as the best representations of Campbell River's future urban forest, whereas those with confidence limits

below the average line were not preferred as representation of the future urban forest. Where the confidence interval overlaps the average line, those images were neither preferred nor not preferred.

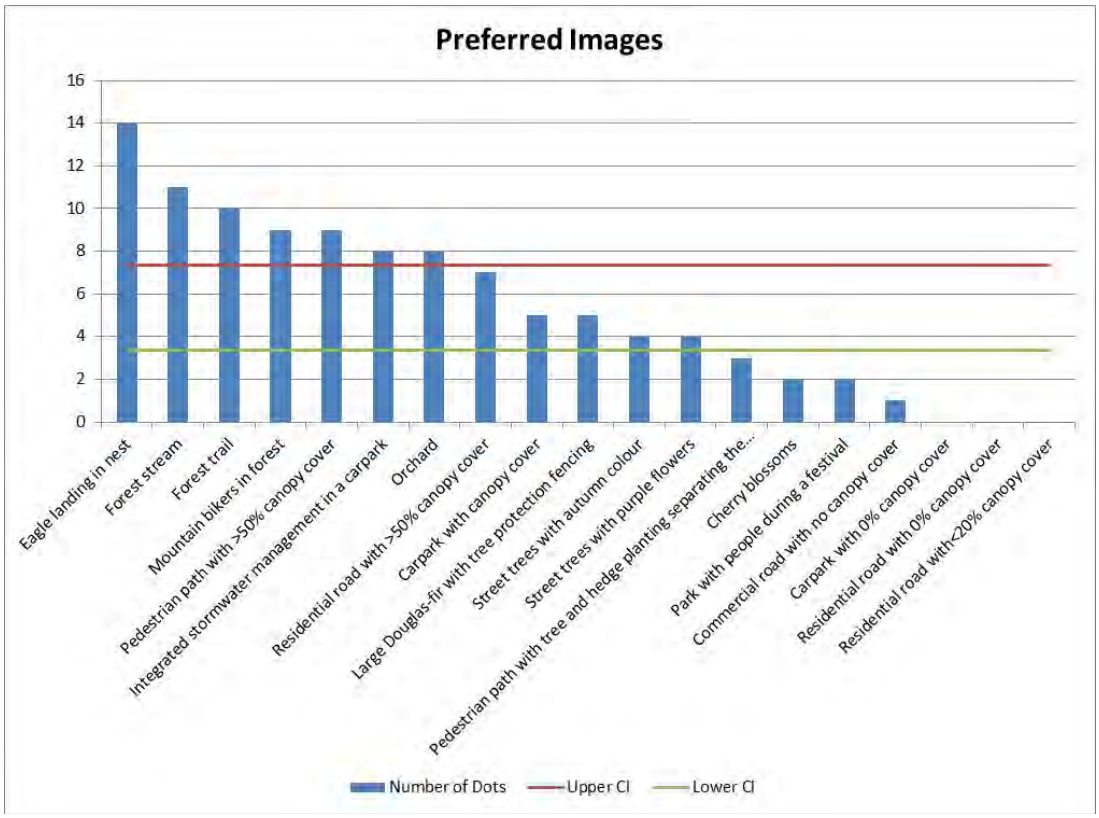

Figure 1. Graph showing the number of dots assigned to each image with upper and lower 95% confidence intervals around the mean. Those images with results above the upper 95% confidence limit were taken as preferred.

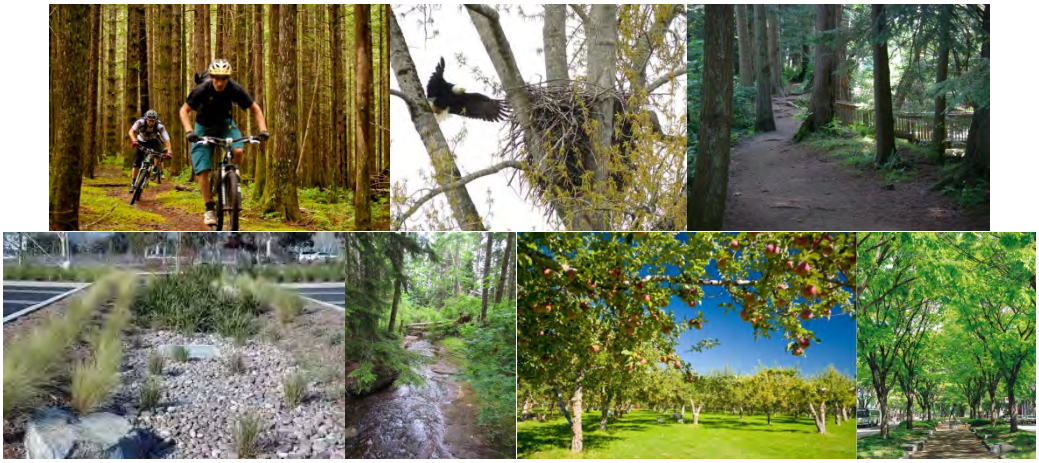

Figure 2. Images preferred representations of Campbell River's future urban forest

People provided the following text to describe things that should be part of Campbell River's urban forest.

1. Tree protection
2. Tree retention
3. Canopy closure
4. Subdivision tree canopy
5. Street Trees!
6. Best practices
7. Treed picnic areas in parks
8. Native trees
9. Diverse
10. Cool
11. Temperature (shade in summer, sun in winter with deciduous)
12. Food-bearing trees and plants (and public education around how to use them)
13. Food for the community
14. Noise reduction
15. Beauty
16. "Meditation groves"
17. Activities for my family
18. Reflects the nature of the area, while enhancing recreation opportunity and enjoyment of the outdoors
19. Promotes ecological health while sustaining human well-being
20. We live in a rainforest, the idea should be to keep the essential treed structure.
21. Sound floodplain management! Keep in mind the impact of development on the local watershed.
22. Start with a greenhouse to manage smaller trees (plants) - greenhouses in every school.
23. Establish a true rooftop garden

The images in Figure 3 were not preferred as representations of Campbell River's future urban forest.

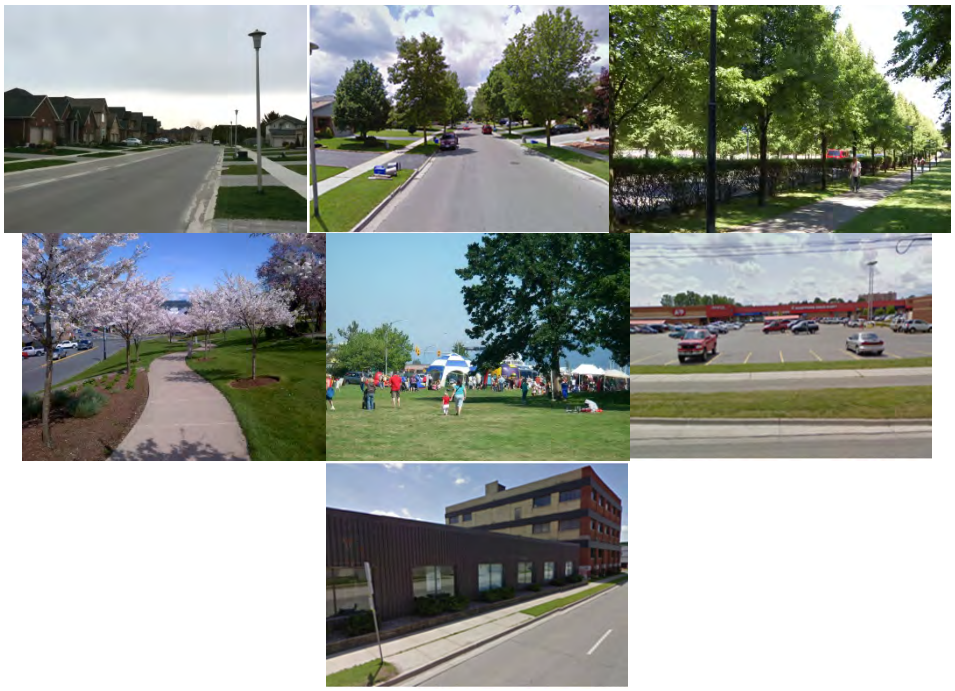

Figure 3. Images not preferred as representations of Campbell River's future urban forest.

Based on the images selected and the text provided during the image preferences exercise, several themes emerged:

Number of times referenced	Theme
5	Ecological health and naturalness
3	Tree protection and retention
3	Canopy closure
3	Recreation
3	Food
3	Shade and cooling
2	Street trees and tree growing
2	Native trees and tree diversity
2	Beauty
2	Human well-being and "meditation groves"
1	Rainforest
1	Noise reduction
1	Floodplain management and watershed
1	Rooftop garden
1	Best practices

1.2 Values Mapping

People were asked to assign defined values about the urban forest to different parts of Campbell River, and to identify locations for more tree planting. The values are defined in Table 1.

Table 1. Value categories used in values mapping exercise.

Red star	**Aesthetics:** These areas are important because they are attractive for reasons including sights/views, smells or sounds.
Green Star	**Naturalness and biodiversity:** These areas are important because they are relatively untouched, ecological processes are intact and provide habitat for different types of animals.
Blue star	**Environmental quality:** These areas are important because they provide clean air, clean water, cooling, slope stability or other environmental benefits.
Orange star	**Social values:** These areas are important because they provide places for recreation, places for community to meet, feel welcoming, and contribute to character or sense of place.
Purple star	**Personal well-being:** These areas are important because they contribute to your personal enjoyment because of shade, relaxation, peacefulness, spirituality or other qualities that contribute to your well-being.
Yellow star	**Significant or heritage trees:** These areas are important because they contain trees that are particularly large, old, culturally important, or have other unusual features that make them special.
Dot (any)	**Priority for more tree planting:** These areas should be prioritised for tree planting.

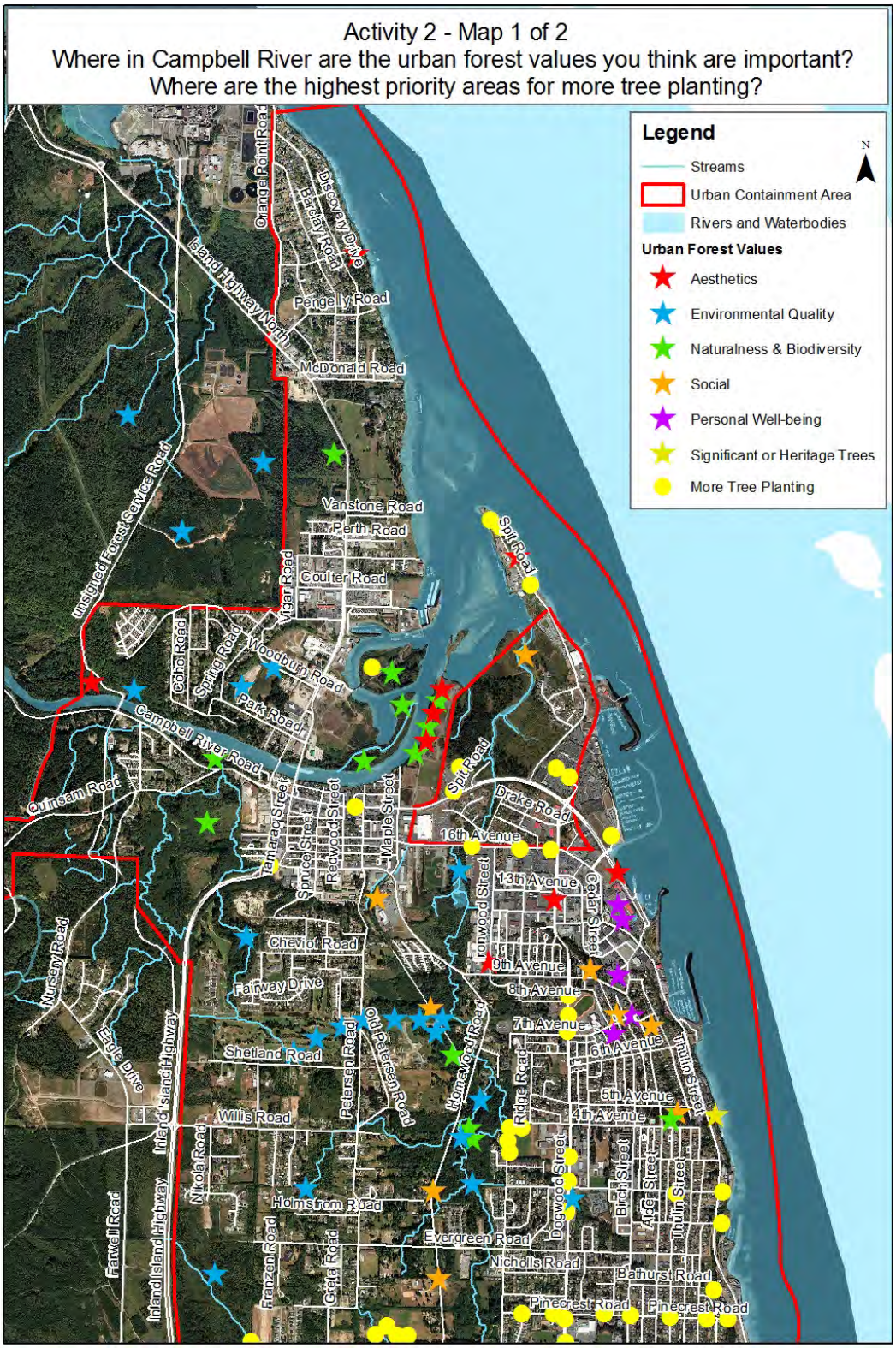

Figure 4. Values mapping raw output (map 1 of 2).

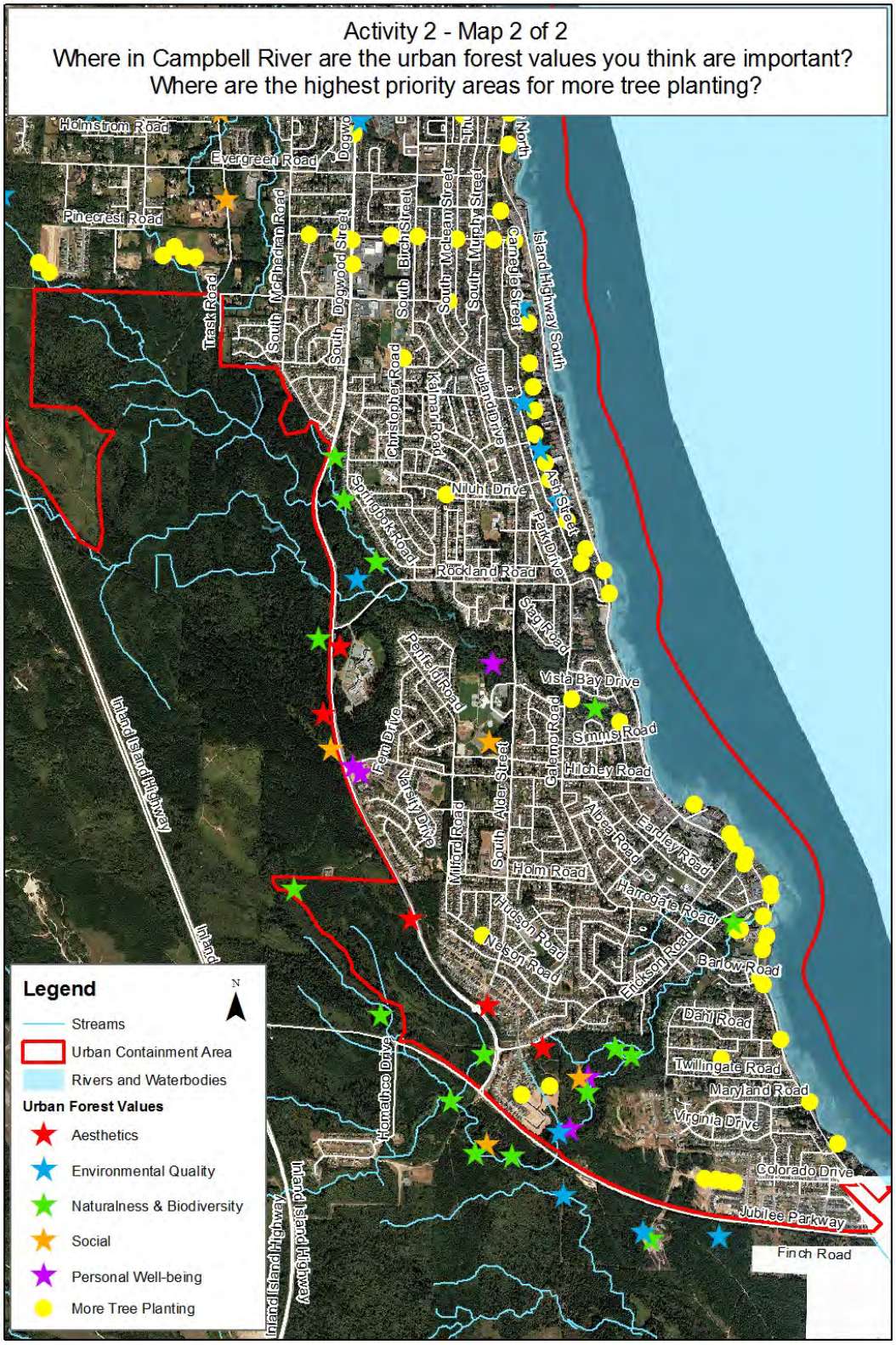

Figure 5. Values mapping raw output (map 2 of 2)

Several comments also accompanied the maps:

- Corridors (with native species) between streams and wetlands for wildlife movement
- Biodiversity and significant trees are all locations where bald eagles nest! See SOCP map for locations.
- Residential, industrial and commercial – plant over entire area
- Expand buffers on urban streams/wetlands!

Based on the values mapping, it is evident that the Beaver Lodge Lands, the forested ridge adjacent to the foreshore, stream corridors and forested portions remaining within the City are highly valued for reasons including aesthetics, naturalness and biodiversity and environmental quality. Social values are spread over a variety of locations in residential or forested/park areas. Personal well-being values were centred in the downtown commercial areas and residential areas, as well as the Sims Creek and Willow Creek forested areas adjacent to new subdivisions. Only one heritage tree location was highlighted; however, a map comment also noted that all eagle nest trees should be considered significant. More tree planting was highlighted for foreshore areas, several subdivisions and in some park areas. See Figures 6 – 9 for maps of each value generated using a kernel density function (magnitude per unit area for a point feature).

It is worth noting that these results reflect the value preferences of the people in attendance at the open house and are not statistically representative of the Campbell River population. The qualitative information from the open house will be combined with the survey results (from a larger population size) to develop the urban forest vision and priorities.

Figure 6. Kernel density map showing the location of aesthetic and environmental quality values. The darker the colour, the higher the density of value points.

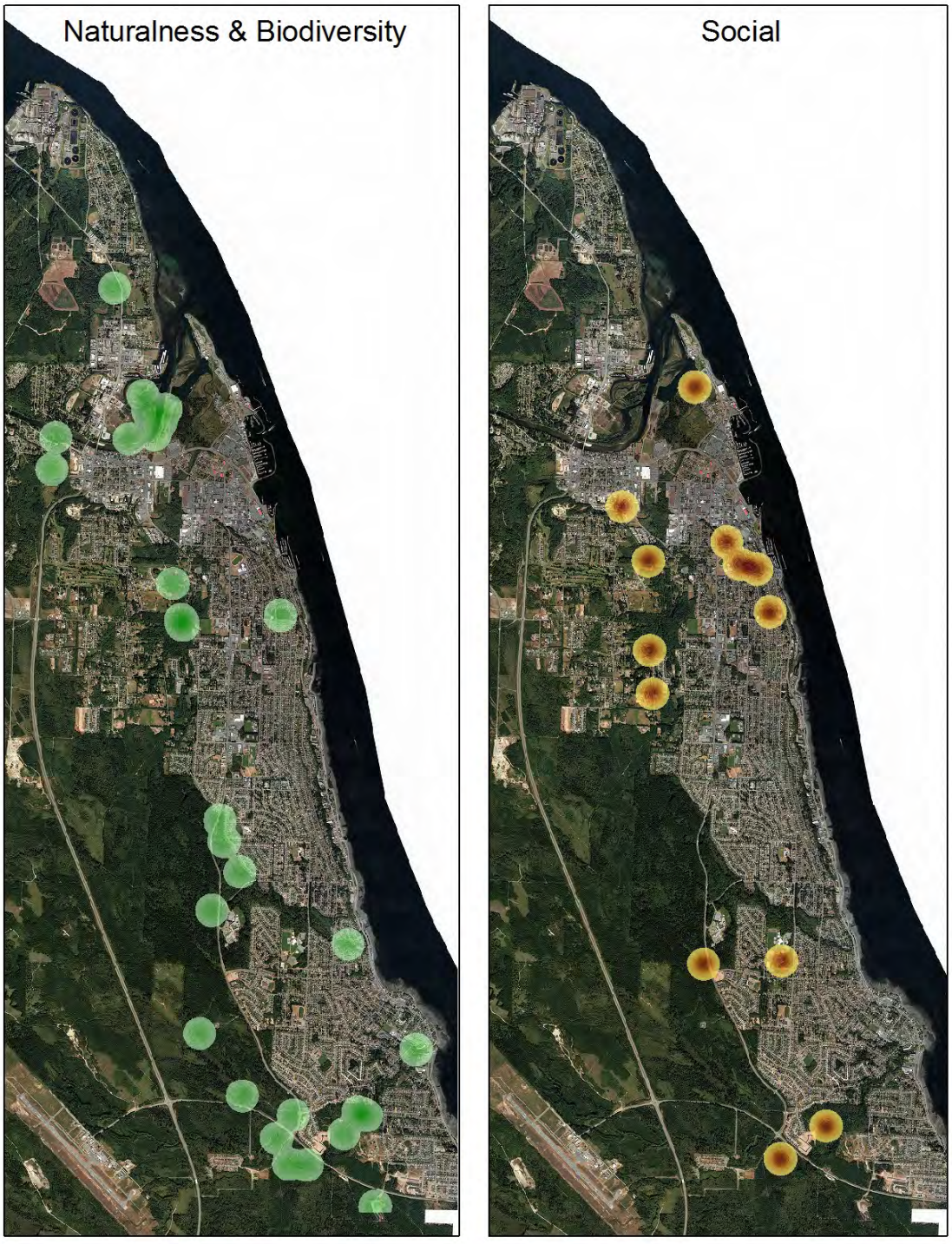

Figure 7. Kernel density map showing the location of naturalness & biodiversity, and social values. The darker the colour, the higher the density of value points.

Figure 8. Kernel density map showing the location of personal well-being and significant or heritage tree values. The darker the colour, the higher the density of value points.

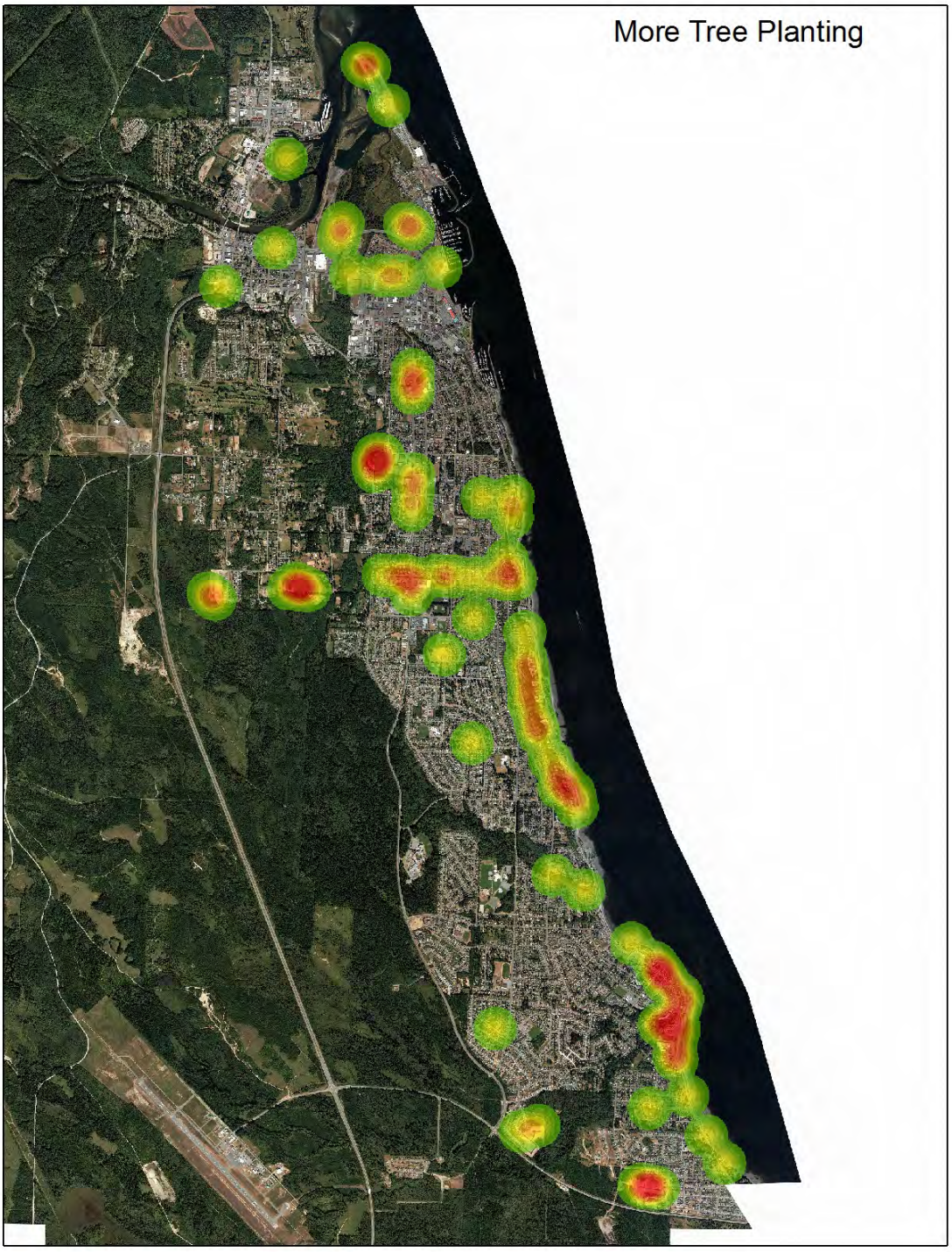

Figure 9. Locations where more tree planting we suggested. The central red areas contain the highest density of points proposed for more tree planting.