## **CORPORATE AWARD**



## Glen Dunsworth (left) and William J. Beese (right), Weyerhaeuser Corporation British Columbia Coastal Group

The Corporate Award of the ESA is made to recognize and honor a company for accomplishments incorporating sound ecological concepts, knowledge, and practices. It is given in one of six categories. The award in 2001 is for stewardship of land resources. The winner of the 2001 Corporate Award is Weyerhaeuser

Corporation British Columbia Coastal Group and Forest Project Team, for the conception of, commitment to, and implementation of their "Forest Project" approach to management.

Ecologists and staff of MacMillan Bloedel Ltd., a large forest products company operating in BC in the late 1990s, originated this new approach to ecosystem management in 1997. The Forest Project planning and stewardship approach, led by the same individuals, has persisted through the purchase of MacMillan Bloedel by Weyerhaeuser in 1999. The Forest Project allocates the land resource base into three zones, each with a unique mix of management objectives and techniques: Timber, Habitat, and Old Growth. Even in the Timber zone, clear-cutting has been eliminated and each zone is managed with a distinct mix of partial cutting systems. The shift from clear-cutting to the silvicultural system of Variable Retention (based on recommendations from a scientific panel on sustainable forestry practices) is being accom-plished with an emphasis on employee safety and a corporate objective focused on economic margin rather than absolute harvest volume. The Forest Project Team has developed formal mechanisms for adaptive management and for seeking feedback and input from the scientific community, including the organization of annual reviews by a panel of external evaluators from the scientific, environmental, and corporate communities. The Forest Project has also formed notable partnerships, such as the creation of a new company, Iisaak Forest Resources, with five First Nations in the local area.

The Ecological Society of America is very pleased to recognize these efforts by presenting Glen Dunsworth, Forest Renewal and Biodiversity Program Leader, and Bill Beese, Forest Ecologist, with the Corporate Award for 2001.

Corporate Award Subcommittee: Laura Foster Huenneke (Chair), Gregory Aplet, Joan Ehrenfeld, Susan Galatowitsch, Carolyn Hunsaker, Kate Lajtha