



NEWSLETTER

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FEDERATION OF MOUNTAIN CLUBS OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

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MEMBER GROUPS

Alpine Club of Canada	Mountain Rescue Group (MRG)
Vancouver Section	North Shore Hikers
Vancouver Island Section	North Vancouver Emergency Measures Organization
B.C.I.T. Outdoor Club	Okanagan Similkameen Parks Society (OSPS)
B.C. Mountaineering Club	Outward Bound (B.C.)
Caledonia Ramblers	Sierra Club of B.C. (SC)
Canadian Youth Hostel Assn.	Simon Fraser Outdoor Club
Island Mountain Ramblers	Valley Outdoor Association
Kamloops Outdoor Club	Vancouver Natural History Society
Kootenay Mountaineering Club	Varsity Outdoor Club

RESOURCE FOLIO NEWS

We are very pleased that the VFD of the BCFS has begun to inform us and some other groups of the initiation and completion of each resource folio, so we may have input before approval of a logging plan (Letter from J.B. Nyberg, 21 April 1975; see last NEWSLETTER, p. 2). With reference to the previously supplied list, DELETE Sechelt Peninsula and Ahnuhati River, and ADD the following:

<u>Folio Area Name</u>	<u>Reference</u>	<u>Folio Area Name</u>	<u>Reference</u>
Big Silver Cr.	E. side Harrison L.	Tahsish R.	Enters Tahsish Inlet
Sowaqua Cr.	Enters Coquihalla R.	Handy Cr.	Enters Alberni Inlet
Chilliwick R.	-	Hecate Channel/ McBride Bay	Nootka Island
Roe & Chance Crs.	Enter Cheakamus R.	Upper Nimpkish/ U. Oktwanch R.	-
Ryan R./South Cr.	Enter Upper Lillooet	Kaipit Cr.	Enters Nimpkish R.
Walian Cr./Simms Cr.	W. side Harrison L.	Kilpala R./ Karmutzen Cr.	Enters Nimpkish L.
Norrish Cr.	Enters Fraser R.	Naka Cr.	Enters Johnstone Str.
Upper Pitt R.	Above Pitt L.	Bigtree Cr.	Enters Salmon R.
Cogburn Cr./Bear Cr.	E. side Harrison L.	Klootchlimmis Cr.	Enters Quatsino Sound
Wahleach Cr.	Enters Fraser R.	Kakweiken R.*	Enters Thompson Sound
Emory Cr.	Enters Fraser R.		
Scuzzy Cr.	Enters Fraser R.		
Coquihalla R. West	Ten-Fifteen Mile Crs.		
Port Renfrew Div., T.F.L. 22	Gordon/San Juan Rivs.		

*Folio completed, submitted to Weldwood
for logging plan preparation.

As mentioned in the last NEWSLETTER, if you have a specific interest in one of these areas, please inform the R & C Committee [R. Freeman, Chairman, 263-9101 (H)].

ABBREVIATIONS USED IN THIS ISSUE: BCFS = B.C. Forest Service; Cr. = Creek; ELUC = Environment & Land Use Committee; FMCBC = Federation; L. = Lake; PB = Parks Branch; R. = River; R & C = Recreation & Conservation; VFD = Vancouver Forest District, BCFS.

CONFERENCE ON RECREATIONAL USES OF WILDLAND

The Proceedings of the Provincial Conference (April 12-13 at BCIT) have been printed and should be available through your group delegate. 160 persons attended, including 50 sponsored delegates from outside the Lower Mainland. Speakers were Hon. Jack Radford, W.G. Hughes (BCFS), Jack Toovey (BC Forest Products), W. Cheffins (ARC Branch, Parks Canada), and John Hasell (FMCBC). Participants attended one of 5 different workshops dealing with Administration, Outdoor Recreation Development, Trails, Wilderness, and Safety/Education. Mr. Radford announced the formation of an Outdoor Recreation Branch in his Department and introduced a discussion paper on Recreational Corridors. The new Branch will play a coordinating and advisory role in working with other government agencies and recreational groups. The PB is working on legislation to protect trails and waterways.

At the Plenary Session the workshop chairmen presented the findings of each group and these were voted upon by the delegates. Considering the diversity of subjects and types of recreationists, there was a surprising amount of consensus.

The Advisory Council for the Conference has now become the Provincial Outdoor Recreation Advisory Committee as directed by the delegates at the Plenary Session. Some initial funding is in hand. The primary purpose is not to set up another level of bureaucracy, but to coordinate efforts of various user groups in dealing with each other and the Government in matters of outdoor recreation. Prince George and Kitimat have already held initial meetings to set up Regional Committees.

The FMCBC wishes to thank all those who participated in the Regional Seminars and Provincial Conference, those who gave freely of their time in helping to organize the sessions, and all those groups who contributed space and money, including BCIT and other colleges, the Government, industry, and the B.C. Sports Federation. Without all these efforts, success would have been impossible.

WELCOME TO NEW MEMBER GROUPS!

Caledonia Ramblers, c/o Bryan Looker, 6090 Caledonia Crescent, Prince George.
North Vancouver Emergency Measures Organization, Ray W. Kinshela, Coordinator,
1305 St. Georges Ave., North Vancouver V7L 3J2.
Okanagan Similkameen Parks Society, H.D. Arnold, Secretary-Manager, Box 787,
Summerland, B.C. V0H 1Z0.

TRAIL NEWS

There will be a full report on trail and access conditions in the next NEWSLETTER, including changes in Park regulations---this should be out before the end of June. PLEASE SEND ANY COMMENTS TO THE TRAIL CLEARINGHOUSE COORDINATOR (see below).

CYPRESS BOWL FROM SUNSET BEACH. 1000' of trail relocated around private land on March 2 by NSH; start from highway the same, but follows beginning of pipeline road, then new trail, rejoining old route. Signs indicating "No trespassing" on road will be removed; no trail sign at highway.

MT. REXFORD TRAIL. Study of route for relocation around logging planned for June.

SINGING PASS TRAIL. [PB, Garibaldi Park] Road access by car difficult; road is not in Park, not under PB control. Highways Dept. budget does not include any upgrading this year. Trail bridges across some creeks reported washed out; replacement dates unknown.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED for trail maintenance in Lower Mainland (Paul Binkert - 263-4360).

TRAIL CLEARINGHOUSE

If our NEWSLETTER is to be of maximum use, and if the many guidebooks now available are to be as accurate as possible in their new editions, we need corrections and comments about them, as well as about trail conditions. Contact: Elizabeth Walker, Coordinator, Suite #108 - 4875 Valley Drive, Vancouver V6J 4B8; 261-5383 evenings.

MOUNTAIN HUT QUESTIONNAIRE

EXPLANATION (Questionnaire on reverse side)

The Federation is developing a policy on the building of mountain huts. The first phase of this program is to gather information. THIS QUESTIONNAIRE IS BEING CIRCULATED WITH THE KNOWLEDGE OF YOUR GROUP'S EXECUTIVE.

In the past, mountain huts were regarded as a necessity and were encouraged by almost everyone who ventured into the mountains. In the last few years attitudes have been changing. Modern camping equipment is so light that people are questioning the need for huts. Some unpleasant experiences with overcrowded huts have no doubt been partly responsible for this change in attitude.

The FMCBC policy must answer the following questions: (a) Are huts desirable? (b) If so, where should they be located? (c) From which areas should they be restricted? (d) What hut designs should be used? (e) Who should administer and maintain these huts?

To answer these questions, numerous things should be considered. Some of the controversial issues are listed below to promote thought on the subject.

- I. ENVIRONMENTAL CONSIDERATIONS. Huts attract people and this may lead to environmental damage. It can also be argued that damage is reduced by concentrating people in a hut rather than letting them camp. *Suggestions*: Have a study period of at least two years on any proposed hut location; restrict huts from delicate areas (e.g., build huts either above summer snow line or below tree line and not on alpine meadows); build huts only in areas which are heavily used to reduce damage by camping, if this is a problem; ensure proper consideration is given to a good sanitation system before the hut is built; build huts a long way from any roads.
- II. SAFETY. Obviously a hut provides shelter from a storm; however, people without camping equipment can be caught in a dangerous position if they cannot locate a hut in bad weather, especially well above tree line. *Suggestions*: Do not build huts; paint all huts bright red or orange for better identification (this conflicts with aesthetics); construct well-marked paths leading to huts (limited value in winter and not practical for huts above tree line).
- III. AESTHETICS. Most outdoor people object to hotels and freeways, etc., in the mountains, and some also object to mountain huts. *Suggestions*: Do not build huts; locate huts so they are hidden from view (i.e., behind rocks, trees). This conflicts with safety considerations; construct huts to blend with landscape (stone on rocky ridges, log cabins in trees)--also conflicts with safety considerations.

OTHER CONSIDERATIONS AND SUGGESTIONS: Construct huts at least 5-6 hours' hike from roads; employ hut custodians; for climbing huts ensure location is a reasonable distance from summit; consider ski approach for winter use, including avalanche danger, etc.

Your views are urgently needed as it is important that the ideas of the majority of mountain users are reflected in FMCBC policy. Please fill in the questionnaire.

- 3 -

STEIN RIVER MORATORIUM

The FMCBC has started a study of the Stein River basin which will culminate in several expeditions this summer. Main purpose is to determine recreational potential of this vast, unspoiled area between Lillooet L. and the Fraser at Lytton. It is the only major valley within 100 miles of Vancouver which has not been logged, and contains many unusual features. It was placed under a moratorium in 1974 and its fate will be decided after review by the ELUC Secretariat in September. The various government departments are now finalizing their submissions to ELUC; we are not attempting to duplicate their work. It is important that we receive any information or suggestions soon. (Contact: David Thompson, address & phone on page 1)

RECREATION & CONSERVATION NEWS IN BRIEF

- o Tweedsmuir Park. PB is preparing recreation development plan for southern area.
- o Ecological Reserves. According to North Okanagan Naturalists Club NEWSPACKET in April, regulations for protection of reserves are being finalized.
- o Cosens Bay area was added to Kalmalka L. Prov. Park instead of being developed by Marathon Realty; OSPS & North Okanagan Naturalists participated in effort.
- o Tsitika-Schoen proposals receiving final consideration by ELUC; decision soon.
- o Squamish-Lillooet Recreation Study nearing completion (PB, March).
- o Lions/Stawamus Chief Proposal. Protection was suggested by MRG; R & C Committee prepared brief; submitted by FMCBC to Mr. Radford; PB will do study of areas.
- o OSPS Newsletter mentions involvement in 3 projects: (1) extension of Cathedral Park (under ELUC Secretariat study); (2) proposed Osoyoos Conservancy; (3) Mission Cr./Greystokes Area, E. of Kelowna.
- o Valhalla Proposal (see References) was prepared by late Mr. Eweson; efforts now being continued by Dr. C. Stedman and Valley Resources Society, Box 329, New Denver, B.C. Area will be studied this summer by PB; R & C Committee will try to find out how seriously this study will be pursued by government.
- o Mt. Seymour Park Trails. FMCBC has written PB expressing concern & frustration in getting trails improved, made safer, & properly signed. PB has replied they agree, but budget will not permit this until next year, though signs will be installed.
- o Spectrum Creek Approach Trail into Monashee Park is being approached by active logging near Rainbow Falls. Letter from PB to Mrs. K. Wiffin (Nov. 25) stated they are reviewing a protective corridor; R & C Committee has inquired further of BCFS, PB, OSPS, and Kamloops Outdoor Club (May).
- o Reorganization of Inter-Sector Committees. ELUC has announced formation of 7 Resource Management Regions with regional Resource Management Committees to provide interdepartmental communication and planning. Present differing boundaries of various departments will be made congruent. Areas are: Lower Mainland, Vancouver Island, Thompson-Okanagan, Kootenay, Cariboo, Omineca-Peace, and Skeena. Committee members have been appointed; R & C Committee has list.
- o Lands Branch has expressed interest in attending our R & C Committee meetings, and provided information on procedures for trail-building approval; is on our mailing list.

NOTICES

- o Change of address of Sierra Club to Box 35520, Station "E", Vancouver V6M 4G8.
- o Talchako Lodge, operated by SC, is in a very scenic area of Tweedsmuir Park accessible by road from the Bella Coola Road; available for individuals and groups. Contact: Roy Abbott, 2621 - 126th St., Surrey, or 531-3153.

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- 4 -

Yes No

- (a) Future building of huts in the mountains?..... ☐ ☐
- (b) Building as many huts as possible..... ☐ ☐
- (c) Strictly limiting hut building to locations which will not cause environmental or other problems?..... ☐ ☐
- (d) Other [Please specify - attach additional information if necessary]

Do you want huts primarily for: climbing
hiking
skiing & winter use

Do you want huts:

- | | Yes | No |
|---|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| (e) Restricted from alpine areas and environmentally delicate areas..... | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| (f) Below tree line..... | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| (g) Above summer snow line..... | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| (h) One day's hike apart on extended trail systems..... | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| (i) In areas which are presently heavily used..... | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| (j) In remote areas..... | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| (k) With a custodian..... | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| (l) With a reserve booking system..... | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| (m) Which blend into the landscape (e.g., stone huts in rocky areas, etc.)..... | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| (n) Hidden from view..... | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

How many hours' hike should huts be from the nearest road?

Minimum	hours	Maximum	hours

How many people should a hut accommodate? ☐ 0-10; ☐ 10-20;

☐ 20-30; ☐ over 30; ☐ varying numbers

Do you ever use mountain huts? ☐ Yes; ☐ No.

How many overnight trips do you participate in per year? _____

Of these, how many times do you use a hut?

THANK YOU FOR YOUR COOPERATION.

[illegible]

Address _____

PLEASE ATTACH ANY ADDITIONAL COMMENTS AND RETURN TO:

Ross Wyborn, Hut Policy Information Coordinator
Box 18, R.R. #1
Whonnock, B.C. W0M 1S0.

TEAR OFF AND MAIL

- A GUIDE TO KOKANEKE GLACIER PARK, by John Carter, 2nd ed., 1974. 54 pp., maps, illus. Pub. by John Carter, available (to members) for \$1.80 at Mountain Equipment Cooperative in Vancouver.
- A RECREATIONAL CORRIDOR SYSTEM FOR BRITISH COLUMBIA (Discussion Paper), by PB. 19 pp., 1974. [Includes waterways, scenic coastlines, trails, recreational roadways, legislative alternatives, corridor systems in Canada and U.S.]
- CULTUS LAKE PROVINCIAL PARK, Brochure, PB, 1974 (map).
- EARL GREY'S DREAM, in Beautiful British Columbia magazine, 17:1, Summer 1975, pp. 1-14, incl. cover [excellent pictures of new Purcell Wilderness Conservancy].
- ELBOW-SHEEP HEADWATERS, Alberta Wilderness Assn., Box 6398, Station "D," Calgary, Alta. T2P 2E1. 42 pp., 16 maps, illus. \$3.00, 1974.
- GLACIER NATIONAL PARK, B.C., by John Marsh, Melanie Miller, & Marlis Lindsay. Canadian Recreation Services, 1971 (no price or address known).
- HIKING TRAILS III: CENTRAL AND NORTHERN VANCOUVER ISLAND, INCLUDING HIKING ROUTES OF STRATHCONA PARK, Outdoor Club of Victoria Trails Information Society, P.O. Box 1875, Victoria, B.C. V8W 2Y3. 72 pp., maps, illus., March 1975, \$1.87 incl. postage. [Prices, including postage, from same address, on Guides already listed in this NEWSLETTER are as follows: VOL. I, VICTORIA AND SOUTHERN VANCOUVER ISLAND, \$1.09; VOL. II, SOUTHEASTERN VANCOUVER ISLAND, \$1.54.]
- MOUNT SEYMOUR PROVINCIAL PARK, Brochure, PB, 1974 (map).
- 9 WILDLAND RECREATION AREAS ON ALBERTA'S EAST SLOPE, Alberta Wilderness Assn., as above, 42 pp., 16 maps, trail guide, illus., \$3.00, 1974.
- PROCEEDINGS OF THE PROVINCIAL CONFERENCE: THE RECREATIONAL USES OF WILDLAND IN B.C., by Provincial Outdoor Recreation Advisory Committee, May 1975, 55 pp.
- SUNSHINE COAST: CONCEPTUAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN, PB Coastal Section, Planning Division, internal document prepared Nov. 1974, submitted 30 January 1975.
- THE LIVABLE REGION 1976/1986: PROPOSALS TO MANAGE THE GROWTH OF GREATER VANCOUVER, by the Greater Vancouver Regional District, 1975. 52 pp., maps, illus. Avail. from GVRD Planning Dept., 2295 W. 10th Ave., Vancouver V6K 2H9 [includes recommendations affecting lower slopes of N. Shore Mountains, regional parks].
- THE VALHALLA PROPOSAL: A BRIEF CONCERNING A PROPOSAL FOR A NATURE CONSERVANCY AREA IN THE WEST KOOTENAYS, BRITISH COLUMBIA, by A. Eweson, July 1974. 18 pp., 1 map. Submitted to Hon. Jack Radford. Temporarily out of print.
- WILDERNESS LEADERSHIP REFERENCE GUIDE AND SUPPLEMENT NO. 1, by the Wilderness Resource Centre, Capilano College, 2055 Purcell Way, N. Vancouver V7J 3H5, 1974. 24 pp. (Supp. 4 pp.) [Extensive references to books, articles, films, etc. Supplement No. 2 to appear shortly.]
- WILLMORE WILDERNESS PARK, by Alberta Wilderness Assn., address above. 45 pp., 6 maps, trail guide, illus. \$3.00, 1973.

PLEASE NOTE: We need information on new references, and copies of all guides and briefs. Your help will mean wide dissemination of this information throughout the Province. (Corrections in prices and addresses will also be welcomed.)