



P.O. BOX 33768 • STATION D • VANCOUVER, B.C. • V6J 4L6

FEDERATION OF MOUNTAIN CLUBS OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

representing hiking, climbing and conservation groups

NEWSLETTER

FALL 1981

Black Tusk Trail

Recreationalists around Vancouver were quite upset this fall when they heard that the Provincial Cabinet had passed an order in council requiring the Parks Branch to barricade the road heading towards the Black Tusk trail, one of the most popular back country areas in B.C. The Ministry of the Environment had written this order in council to make the Parks Branch move the trailhead because of the danger of a large rockslide from the Barrier. We finally found out in late October that the order in council had been rescinded in June four days after it had been passed. This is a good example of poor communications between ministries.

Stein River Valley

Time is running out for the Stein River Valley. Plans are being made right now to construct logging roads into the valley. Road construction could begin in 1982 or 1983.

The Save the Stein Coalition has printed a newsletter that you can receive by sending a donation to: Save the Stein Coalition, Box 338, Lytton, B.C. V0K 1Z0.

Cascade Wilderness

The provincial government will be holding public hearings into this area, north of Manning Park in January.

Valhallas

The Slocan Valley Planning Team is still studying this area.

Skagit Valley

If you support the preservation of the Skagit valley for recreation, please write to James Chabot, Minister of Lands, Parks, and Housing, Parliament Buildings, Victoria, B.C., V8V 1X4, urging him to allow the Parks Branch to develop a campground within the proposed flood basin. Late Flash: IJC to make decision by April 82

Articles and Information Wanted

Please send articles or information for this newsletter to: Newsletter Editor, FMCBC, P. O. Box 33768, Station "D", Vancouver, B.C. V6J 4L6.

Information Pamphlet

The Federation has produced an information pamphlet. The object of the pamphlet is to attract new members and make clubs and their members more aware of how they can get involved in the Federation. If your club has not yet received your copies, your delegate can pick them up at the AGM.

RECEIVED

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OUTDOOR RECREATION COUNCIL

Meares Island

Meares is a large island of some 40 acres located north of Pacific Rim National Park near Tofino. It is part of TFL 20 and the Ministry of Forests as has proposed that logging begin in the near future. They have set up a planning committee. The Friends of Clayoquot Sound is a group that has formed to try to preserve the area for its permanent natural values. To find out how to support them, write FOQS, Box 942, Ucluelet, B.C. V0R 3A0.

Trail Report Form

Lee Bruch has produced a reporting form so that the Federation can try to keep track of trail use and required maintenance. If you lead a trip, please complete a form and mail it to the Federation. Additional forms will be available in the spring.

FMCBC Mountaineering Course

The FMCBC Basic Mountaineering Course came to a successful conclusion over the Victoria Day weekend with a taste of "winter mountaineering" in the Joffre Lakes Area. The weekend previous 32 of the 38 students enrolled climbed to the summit of Mt. Baker despite high winds and intermittent white-out, a good indication of how strong this year's group was. The only casualty was a calf muscle attacked by a ferocious crampon, though there were some close calls. Knowledge of objective dangers such as avalanches and hidden crevasses was gained by direct experience, particularly by the co-ordinator! Instructor turnout was mediocre - the course needs more committed volunteers if it is to maintain a reasonable standard of quality. Those who lent a hand did a fine job, and to them, I extend a hearty thank-you. And from what the students had to say, they appreciate your efforts as much as I do. Special mention goes to the time and energy put out by Peter Jordan, Doug Fox, Sev Heiberg, Bob Plummer, Manrico Scremin, and Don Serl, and to the FMCBC Safety and Ed Committee for putting up with my gross inability to balance a budget! By the way, the cost of the course per student will probably reach the \$100 mark next year.

Mike Down

FEDERATION OF MOUNTAIN CLUBS
OF BRITISH COLUMBIA
TRAIL REPORT

TO HELP ASSESS NEEDED TRAIL MAINTENANCE PLEASE RETURN THIS FORM.

TRAIL NAME _____
LOCATION _____
DATE OF TRIP _____ WEATHER _____
CLUB _____ NUMBER _____
YOUR NAME _____ IN PARTY _____ PHONE _____

GUIDEBOOKS _____ EDITION _____
WHAT GUIDEBOOK USED? _____
TOOL ROUTE DESCRIPTION: _____
ACCURATE _____ UNCLER _____ INACCURATE _____
DIFFICULTY: TRAIL WAS [] MORE [] AS [] LESS DIFFICULT THAN EXPECTED

TRAIL USE _____
APARENT USE OF TRAIL: [] HEAVY [] MODERATE [] LIGHT
HOW MANY PEOPLE DID YOU SEE USING TRAIL? _____ CAMPING? _____

ACCESS ROADS _____
CONDITION OF ACCESS ROAD: [] IMPASSABLE [] IMPASSABLE [] IMPASSABLE [] IMPASSABLE
HAS THE ACCESS ROAD BEEN INTERRUPTED BY THE FOLLOWING?
[] LOCKED GATE [] LOGGING [] SLIDEWASHOUT []

TRAIL CONDITIONS _____
RATE THE TRAIL CONDITIONS LISTED BELOW USING THESE NUMBERS:
1 = SATISFACTORY 2 = MINOR PROBLEMS 3 = MAJOR PROBLEMS
OVERGROWN [] BLOWDOWNS [] SLIDEWASHOUT []
ROAD [] ERODED [] RIVER CROSSING []
HAS TRAIL BEEN INTERRUPTED BY ANY OF THE FOLLOWING:
[] LOGGING [] MINING [] CONSTRUCTION []
TRAIL MARKING AND SIGNING: [] ADEQUATE [] MINIMAL [] SHOULD BE IMPROVED [] EASY TO GET LOST

ENVIRONMENTAL DAMAGE _____
RATE ANY ENVIRONMENTAL PROBLEMS USING THESE NUMBERS:
1 = MINOR PROBLEMS 2 = MAJOR PROBLEMS
3 = SEVERE DAMAGE TO A SIGNIFICANT FEATURE

CARELESS _____ OVERUSE _____ BRAIDED _____
HIKING _____ CAMPING _____ (HIKING) _____ TRAIL _____
LOGGING _____ MINING _____ POLLUTION _____ VANDALISM _____
OTHER _____ GRAZING _____ CONSTRUCTION _____

DESCRIBE MAJOR PROBLEMS AND THEIR LOCATION: _____