

CLOUDBURST



Federation of Mountain Clubs of British Columbia Newsletter

OCTOBER 1985





from the Executive Director

We predicted we would run 43 mountain skills courses this season - and we did just that. Over 400 participants were taught by 16 instructors and assistants in a wide variety of courses. The Snow & Glacier Travel was the surprise of the year filling four more courses than expected, but perhaps proving that the majority of our clients are back country travellers rather than rock jocks.

All participants were sent an evaluation form, and the returns are universally "good" or better. The comments were particularly useful because they help in the planning of better courses for next year. An all-instructors meeting has already been held to discuss course content, expectations and future plans.

Continuing the role of the FMCBC to develop safe mountain recreation skills - we have the Winter Course Brochure now available. The plan is to offer the same courses as last winter, with a few new ones for which there seems to be some demand. The Basic Avalanche Course will this year be taught in Courtenay, Smithers, Prince George, Penticton, Vernon, Grand Forks and Castlegar - as well as Vancouver. See article on Winter Courses.

Environmentally speaking, this summer was a very busy one. The new Federal Environment Minister endorsed the plans for National Park status for South Moresby Island, the Lillooet Tribal Council held a most successful weekend to protest the Stein logging plans, and mining in the Parks has been in all the newspapers.

The President of the FMCBC, Stephan Fuller, has made a contribution beyond any expectations of his volunteer position, and there are a number of assignments for other volunteers which will be both a challenge and a reward to those who wish to help.

Stephan represented the FMCBC at the Canadian Assembly on Parks and Protected Areas in Banff - see article, and as a member of the B.C. Caucus. A notable future event will be the upcoming debate between Fuller and Tex Enermark, President of the B.C. Mining Association, to take place in October.

The U.S. National Wilderness Conference was held this year in Fort Collins, Colorado and Fuller and I attended as reps of the FMCBC. This very impressive conference was a demonstration of the distance we have to go in B.C. - but it also showed that it can be done, and that we shouldn't have to re-invent the whole wheel - see article.

The FMCBC continues to debate the principles involved in Cypress Bowl, but we are having difficulty making our point, which is that the FMCBC is not against fee for service (as in paying for ski tracks) - but that fee for access to a provincial park is against all established principles. There is no provision for winter users to travel to Hollyburn Peak unless they pay to pass through the XC ski area - see article.

The FMCBC is also continuing to question the procedures used in the Yale Supply Block planning process. As more and more people are aware, there is provision in the Forestry Act for determining a variety of uses for forested land, including recreation, but Regional Managers have traditionally treated this process as one of how to log, rather than what to log. In this role they act as reps of the logging companies, rather than representatives of the people - and the best land use options may not be made, or even considered. Arguing only from existing legislation, we are attempting to have this "tradition" changed, see article.

One shining star in the volunteer group has been Nora Layard, a member of the Chilliwack Outdoor Club, who accepted the task of attending the Yale Supply Block meetings. Recently she applied for a vacant position at the Outdoor Recreation Council, and, against 160 other applicants, she won. The FMCBC loses a volunteer, but the whole province gains from her new position. Congratulations, Nora.

Another alliance, though non-professional, with the ORC is the recent marriage of Bruce Blackwell (Chairman of the Trails Ctte.) and Denise Austin (Secretary at ORC). Bruce has asked me to announce the next trails meeting for Oct. 16th and to apologize for the delay - he has been busy with other commitments.

The Vancouver Island clubs held their semi-annual regional meeting on September 14th at Malaspina College, Nanaimo.

And, saving some of the best news for last, Brummett, Minister of LP&H, announced on September 25th the new Recreation Corridors System Plan 1985. This plan, for 21 waterways and 11 trails, will identify, protect and provide for the recreational use of these corridors which are considered to be of provincial and regional significance.

Exploring the North Shore Mountains, Roger & Ethel Freeman's new book, with three maps, is ready. It is superb. This exhaustive work, three years in the making, with excellent two-colour maps covers everything from north of the Lions to Deep Cove. At \$14.95 it is a bargain and you can buy it at the FMCBC office, \$2 off for FMCBC members.

Make it a safe winter - take a Fed. course if you're not sure.

Yours sincerely,

Jim Rutter

Our Cover Photo

Bruce Blackwell, Chairman of the Trails Committee "enjoying" winter conditions on Wilderness Peak, near Mt. Monarch.

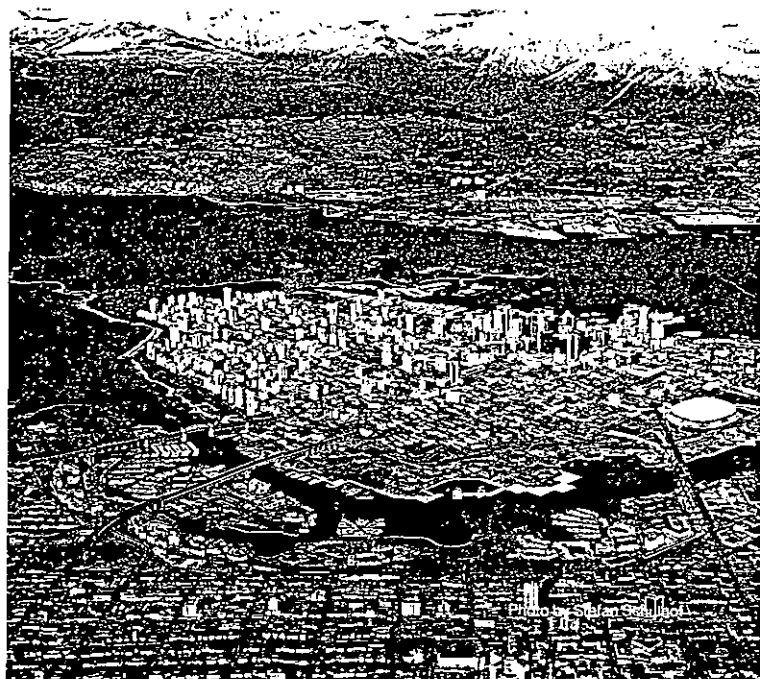
(photo - J. Rutter)

Assisted by **BC Recreation and Sport**
Hon. James Chabot, Minister Responsible



Exploring Vancouver's North Shore Mountains

Roger and Ethel Freeman



Vancouver is blessed with North America's most extensive high country on the outskirts of a major city. There are literally hundreds of trails and old roads in this popular area. Now, for the first time, this book (5 years in the making) features:

- "Virtually every trail and most old logging roads in the area from Deep Cove to Horseshoe Bay and north to Deeks Lake-Porteau Cove.
- Measured trail distances (not estimates) in both miles and kilometres, elevations in both feet and metres.
- General and detailed descriptions of trips ranging from easy family walks to rugged back-country scrambles, from low-level winter walks to high peaks accessible only in summer or fall.
- Full access directions, including public transportation.
- Accurate maps keyed to the text.
- Full descriptions and maps of trails in Capilano River Regional Park, Lynn Canyon Park, Cypress Falls Park, Cypress Provincial Park, Mt. Seymour Park, Lighthouse Park, Whytecliff Park, the proposed new Lynn Headwaters Park, and the trails accessible from the Grouse Mountain Skyride.
- The only complete and up-to-date description of the Baden-Powell Centennial Trail.
- Howe Sound Crest Trail, both southern and northern sections.

If you are tired of not knowing where you are in the mountains, where branching trails lead, how far you've come or still have to go, this book will end your frustrations.

Now available at the FMCBC office, 1200 Hornby Street

\$14.95

member discounts \$2.00

Celebrate
Canada's Heritage



Célébrons
notre patrimoine

1885-1985

U.S. NATIONAL WILDERNESS RESEARCH CONFERENCE

Jim Rutter and Stephan Fuller attended the U.S. National Wilderness Research Conference in Fort Collins, Colorado during July. The conference, sponsored in part by the U.S. Forest Service, Colorado State University and advocacy groups, provided the 350 attendees with an update on research and management problems related to virtually every aspect of wilderness preservation and management.

The U.S. Wilderness Act is now twenty years old and the Wilderness Preservation System, which formally designates areas within all four major land management jurisdictions, is still growing. Management problems are actively investigated by research staff in government agencies and universities in all areas of the United States. Both biophysical and socio-economic subjects are researched and the results are proving to be extremely interesting.

Research by Jerry Franklin, Oregon State University in Wilderness Environments, of the Olympic Peninsula has had significant effects on the forest management practices outside the protected area. Franklin was able to show the importance of particular side channel spawning areas, which had been previously unrecognized by the U.S. Forest Service and hence had been often ignored in prescribing riverbank forest harvesting methods. Without the natural river system available for research, the results would not have been possible.

Other examples of useful results from the last decade of research were provided by the sociologists and economists in attendance. Basic trends in the understanding of "who gets to wilderness areas" are emerging. In particular, there are an increasing number of women participating in wilderness related sports. It is also increasingly apparent that the socio-economic background of the user population is roughly the same as the U.S. population, further burying the argument that the wilderness users are part of an elite minority.

During the four days of the conference there were several presentations and events related to the continuing need for strong wilderness advocacy movements and much discussion of new candidate areas, particularly in the western states and Alaska. Given the relatively large numbers of Canadians in attendance (including the NPPAC and AWA) there was a great deal of interest shown in the developing situation in Western Canada. Much useful information and advice on strategy and tactics for achieving B.C. Wilderness legislation was forthcoming.

Rutter and Fuller both indicated that the time was extremely well spent. A full file of materials, contacts and literature are available at the FMCBC office.

YALE SUPPLY BLOCK UPDATE

During the months since the last Yale Supply Block planning meeting, the FMCBC has been attempting through correspondence, to obtain a definite response from the Ministry of Forests concerning our misgivings with respect to the planning process used by the Chilliwack Forest District.

To date, Jack Carradice, District Manager has responded to Nora Lagard, FMCBC representative, that the task of the planning team should be limited to deciding where and how to log. This approach contradicts the MOF Resource Planning Manual, that suggests Supply Block planning should consider land use alternatives and the effect of each on the Annual Allowable Cut, before allocating land.

In effect, Mr. Carradice wants to look at each valley and suggest road locations, rather than consider the viability of preserving the valley for other uses. This means that areas such as the Cascade Wilderness area cannot be discussed in total, and that makes a mockery of the planning exercise. With Mr. Carradice both managing the process and adjudicating our complaints about it, there seems very little opportunity to receive a fair hearing of the issue.

Alternatively we took our concerns to the Regional Manager, Don Grant, who also has not addressed the issue in response to our initial letter, rather he has suggested/accused the FMCBC of wanting special treatment and not being prepared to deal with Mr. Carradice. Seems a little like Catch 22!

In a further letter to Don Grant we have explained our concerns in more detail, hoping eventually to have the MOF live up to both the public involvement and planning policies. Needless to say it is frustrating to receive a series of letters which erect procedural barriers rather than considering the issue at hand. One would think that in the long run it would be easier to deal with an issue head-on than skirt around it for months.

Stay tuned!



NEW WADDINGTON EXPEDITION

Rob & Laurie Wood, two very experienced and well-seasoned climbers, have planned two expeditions for 1986 - both should appeal to Cloudburst readers.

- Mt. Waddington -- 22 days -- sail, ski, and fly. Includes a 4-day orientation on Mt. Munday
- Mt. Col. Foster -- 12 days -- ski, ice climb.

Both trips will be demanding and include instruction in all aspects of survival, avalanche safety, winter mountain climbing, and ski touring.

For a brochure and further info, contact:

Rob & Laurie Wood
Surge Narrows P.O.
Read Island, B.C. VOP IWO

Bridge River-Lillooet News
[Wednesday, September 4, 1985]

EDITORIAL COMMENT

A Battle Ground for Values

This Labor Day weekend brought hundreds of people into a wilderness area that most had never seen before or even believed existed so close to a vast metropolitan area such as the Lower Mainland.

Native and non-Native alike camped for two days surrounded by the majestic beauty of the mountains that surround the Stein Valley.

They came because they disagree with the ownership of the land and the development of this valley.

The Stein Valley is not the only area where protest groups are seeking public support that would lead to leaving these areas as they have been for thousands of years: untouched by human hands.

We hear about Moresby Island, Meagher Island, the Queen Charlottes, and others.

Why should the Stein be any different? Another opportunity for 'professional' protesters to make themselves heard?

Throughout the years of discussion that has preceded this weekend in the Stein Valley, we have heard about the uneconomical viability to turn this valley into another logging show. Reports claim that logging in the Stein will not be profitable for at least 15 years and then only if certain market conditions would improve.

We don't believe in all the claims made by protest groups. But neither do we believe that logging must take place at all cost.

Perhaps the economic and social benefit of the Stein Valley could be in its natural grandeur and not in the removal of its trees.

If there is only a shred of evidence which would indicate that logging is economically not viable, irrespective of any other economical, environmental, political or social consideration, then the Stein Valley should not be touched by the saw of the faller.

Even after that, we believe that our society must first learn to utilize the resources we already exploit. We must learn how best to use our trees. How to convert them into products we need and which can help us to help others.

We can no longer be satisfied with the simple export of lumber. We must learn to convert a tree into the goods we need rather than look at the forest in terms of so many Two by Fours.

And if we have any doubts about such a process we only have to look at the massive amounts of finished wood products Canada imports each year from Sweden, a country which has learned how to add value to its products and have Canadians.

Rather than spend millions of dollars to bring logging into the Stein Valley, the Ministry of Forests should spend this money in encouraging new industries that will produce 'the end product' that enhances our lives.

If the meeting in the Stein Valley has done nothing but make us realize that there are alternatives, the protest groups have scored a massive success.
J.d.B

CYPRESS BOWL

The FMCBC continues to object to the payment of fees for access in Provincial Parks, though it is not opposed to fee for service.

Following numerous complaints from members of abuse and confrontation while skiing or snowshoeing in untracked areas to Hollyburn Peak, the FMCBC has appealed to the Minister of Lands, Parks & Housing to restore traditional access.

Attempts were also made to discuss a solution with the Parks and Outdoor Recreation Division (PORD) and Cypress Bowl Recreation Ltd. but each time a different set of arguments was introduced.

CBR Ltd. has claimed to be offering new and expanded services, including avalanche control and patrol services to the summit of Hollyburn (outside the lease area). The Federation and its members have not found these to have been necessary during the last 50 years the area has been visited and object to being charged.

Initially, the FMCBC was "advised by the Mt. Seymour PORD office that skiers not using the prepared ski tracks would not have to pay. This was acceptable because the track skier had a groomed track, while non-track skiers could continue to use the traditional access to the peak area without purchasing a ticket.

Members have since been told the area includes the entire route plus five metres into the forest. There have also been demands made for a fee for any use of the area and this does not conform to the original agreement.

PORD has suggested that the groomed track according to the terms of the lease is a five metre wide strip on either side of the cleared area in which the tracks are set. On most routes, this places non-paying skiers in the trees. The powerline clear cut, which is the standard route for most skiers travelling to the peak, is all in the user-pay area whether skiers are anywhere near a groomed track or not.

In other words, it is not reasonably possible under those terms for a backcountry skier to travel to Hollyburn Peak in the traditional manner.

The peak itself is not even suitable for a groomed track, but is a favourite backcountry destination and no track preparation has been undertaken there by Cypress Bowl Recreation.

PORD has suggested travelling to the peak by another route. This suggestion is not possible since all routes outside the area cross avalanche slopes or other hazardous terrain.

Not only have the terms presented not met with the original agreement, but even the employees of CBR Ltd. have been inconsistent and ill-informed.



On one occasion a group was travelling in two cars to snowshoe at Cypress Bowl. The first group was told to carry on after they'd stopped at the pay booth and said they were going snowshoeing, but the second carload with the same objective was told there was a \$1.00 charge.

Only after the driver objected that they would be using the hiking trail, which they'd been told to do on a previous occasion, did the employee say that it was all right to carry on.

If the issue cannot be resolved with local Parks and Outdoor Recreation Division representatives and Cypress Bowl Recreations Ltd., a Ministerial action is needed to change the lease arrangements so that backcountry skiers can travel to Hollyburn Peak and either avoid or pass through the tracked area without paying.

The FMCBC also recommends the terms of the lease be posted on site so that conflicts between skiers and employees can be explained and solved.

The boundaries of the user pay area should be clearly marked.

Also, in the future, user groups should be included in the preparation of such leases so their positive input might help avoid the production of a lease which is incomplete and unreasonable.

A decision should be forthcoming from the Minister of Lands, Parks and Housing.



WASHINGTON WILDERNESS ACT DESIGNATES MT BAKER

The Washington State Wilderness Act was passed early this year, adding 1,000,000 acres to the National Wilderness Preservation System. One of the areas included, of particular interest to FMCBC members, was the Mt. Baker area in the Mt. Baker Snoqualmi National Forest. In effect, this protects much of the high elevation area around the peak adjacent to the North Cascades National Park from further forest harvesting. Further, it bans all mechanized travel in the area.

In terms of direct effects on user groups, the maximum trip size will now be limited to 12 members each in an effort to reduce the human impact on popular areas, such as the Glacier Creek trail and Coleman glacier. It is likely that Kulshan cabin will never be reopened and that increased efforts will be made to revegetate the areas eroded by overuse.

Although regulation of a maximum party size will be difficult, every effort is being made to get all organized groups, both U.S. and Canadian, to voluntarily support the limit. The Executive of the FMCBC urges all member groups to do so. The practice of splitting one large group of sixty into five smaller groups of twelve DOES NOT lessen the impact of this group on the area.



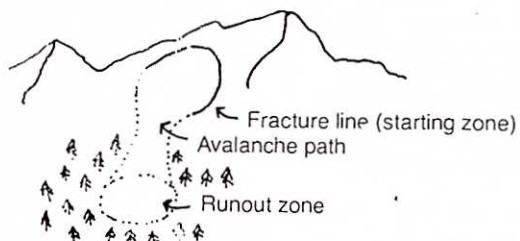
A diagram showing the 'Danger Zone' for avalanches. It is a wedge-shaped area starting from a point on a horizontal line representing the ground. The wedge is bounded by two lines: one at 30° and another at 60° from the horizontal. The area between these two lines is shaded and labeled 'Danger Zone'. The angle between the 30° line and a vertical line (90°) is labeled 'Dry sluffs'. The angle between the 60° line and the horizontal line is labeled 'Wet snow'.

7. Mark the slide with flagging or packs and note the location on your map if assistance has to be brought in.

Immediate Measures to Sustain the Victim's Life Once Uncovered:

1. Immediately clear obstruction from the mouth cavity and administer artificial resuscitation, such as mouth to mouth - nose. (The respiratory tract may have been blocked by snow, vomit, or the tongue. If lack of oxygen has resulted in circulatory collapse, the chances of survival have probably diminished greatly.)
2. Protect the victim from further cooling with special sleeping bags, rescue bags or rescue blankets. Additional warming is not recommended -- no Hiebler package; no medication when the victim is unconscious. A seriously hypothermic person may appear dead -- breathing and pulse cannot be detected, but minimal circulation should be sufficient to provide the brain with oxygen.
3. Transport the victim by helicopter immediately, ensuring that further cooling cannot occur. This also applies to transport by Akja or improvised toboggan, if that is the only way to transport the victim to a medical facility. Artificial respiration should be continued during the transport.
4. Cardiac massage for the seemingly dead hypothermic victim should only be started by companions if it can be continued without interruption during transportation to a medical facility. Fibrillation will likely occur when massage on a cold hypothermic heart is applied.
5. Death of a hypothermic victim can only be confirmed in a hospital after the victim has been rewarmed.

Information from the Canadian Avalanche Association's Avalanche News



1984-1985 WINTER STATISTICS

Persons Involved

- 12 persons were caught and remained on the surface
 - 13 persons were partially buried, not injured
 - 2 persons were completely buried and rescued alive
 - 6 persons were completely buried and found dead
- Of the two skiers completely buried and rescued alive, one was located by an object on the surface and the other by probing with ski poles.

A slide from a roof in Stewart, B.C. buried two children completely and two children partially. They were recovered alive by shovelling.

Vehicles Involved

- 3 vehicles on roads were trapped
- 5 vehicles on roads were partially buried
- 1 train was derailed
- 1 train had minor damage
- 2 snowmobiles had minor damage

FIRM BLAMED IN SKI DEATHS

by Larry Still

Vancouver Sun

The owners of a lodge that offers helicopter skiing holidays in the Purcell Mountains of B.C. were found negligent Thursday in the avalanche death of two skiers.

Senior guide Rudi Kaser, who was leading the nine-member skiing party when the avalanche hit Feb. 23, 1981, was also held liable in the deaths of the two Vancouver men.

Justice J.G. Gould, who dealt only with liability during the 13-day B.C. Supreme Court trial, said the question of damages will be decided later.

Marlene Lowry, widow of David Lowry, and Margaret Shannon Rondeau, widow of Paul Rondeau, alleged negligence against Kaser and Canadian Mountain Holdings Ltd. Rondeau's five children were parties to the suit.

Justice Gould recalled that Lowry, 46, and Rondeau, 55, were killed by a snow avalanche in the Purcell Mountains near Golden while skiing with Kaser as their guide.

(A third man who died in the avalanche, Jerry Rossmarin of New York, wasn't a party to the lawsuit.)

The judge said the two men who died were paying guests of Canadian Mountain Holdings, which sold one-week heli-skiing holidays at its Bobbie Burns Lodge.

He noted that the two fitted a lodge rule that stated guests should be "strong advanced skiers, able to handle all kinds of snow conditions."

The judge said the heli-skiing is attractive because it affords skiers a chance to ski virgin powder snow in otherwise inaccessible areas at altitudes of 2,700 metres (about 9,000 feet) above sea level.

Citing a report on the accident, Justice Gould said Lowry and Rondeau were skiing with seven others on a slope known as the Sundance run when the avalanche occurred.

Kaser and another man skied on to a narrow ridge, where the avalanche split and flowed around them on both sides.

Five others, including Lowry, were caught up in the right-hand branch of the split flow and came to rest on a lower bench.

Three others, including Rondeau, were carried by the left-hand and main body of the avalanche over a zone of cliffs and gulleys to the valley floor, some 500 metres below.

Justice Gould said the evidence indicated the lodge maintains an elaborate system of weather and avalanche forecasting.

He added; "It must be kept in mind that weather and avalanche forecasting, along with an estimate of snow conditions for skiing, are paramount considerations in the safe and efficient operation of a ski facility such as that at Bobbie Burns.

"The criticisms which are the foundation of the negligence (claim) are as to interpretation of the information and records that were available, inadequate personnel observation, and the total lack of any snow-profiling at the 8,000- to 9,000-foot level."



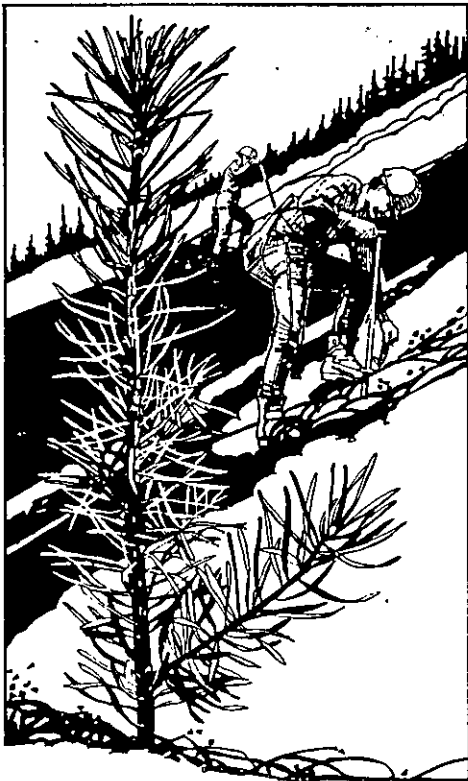
Recreation and Conservation

CONIPHOBIA

In the far north of Scotland, in Sutherland and Caithness, there is a vast and desolate stretch of bog and moorland called the "flows". This land has had hardly a tree upon it since prehistoric times. Now that is changing. One third of the 469,000 acres of the flows belongs to forestry interests, and half of that is already either planted or approved for planting. A good use for a bleak desert? Or a wanton destruction of an ecology unique in Europe, all for a subsidised financial gain?

The latter, says the Nature Conservancy Council (NCC), the government's watchdog on wildlife. The NCC, like many other conservation bodies, has become increasingly alarmed by the spread of coniferous forestry across the British landscape. It has just drafted a paper, calling attention to the damage done to the ecological balance by forestry. The Forestry Commission, which owns most of Britain's coniferous forests and approves government grants for the planting of the rest, is extremely cross. It has written in wounded tones to the director general and the chairman of the NCC, urging them to tone the paper down before it is published.

The NCC argues that the way conifers are now being planted impoverishes or permanently damages wildlife, soil and vegetation. The sheer scale of new tree-planting -- 62,000 acres a year -- has meant that forestry has become the main way in which the landscape and the ecology is being changed. New land is being planted, mainly with foreign species of trees like the sitka spruce. Often, the new trees are planted close together, in straight lines and great swathes, mostly of one species, all of one age. This has a number of worrying effects:



- o Rare moorland birds lose their habitat; the birds which haunt coniferous forests are mainly from common species like blackbirds, wood pigeons or songthrushes.
- o Less water drains from planted hillsides; but what there is runs off more rapidly, carrying with it much acid sediment. The water in a Galloway stream running through a largely forested valley was found to be eight times as acid as that in a neighbouring, unforested area. Acidity has made water authorities increasingly hostile to forestry, especially on bare uplands, where thin soil is easily eroded.
- o Fish in forest streams, especially brown trout, breed and grow more slowly.
- o Pest problems, to which all monocultures are vulnerable, require the use of pesticides which may leak into water supplies.

The NCC's greatest worry is about the potential impact of forestry on sites of special scientific interests. The NCC has the job of selecting these, and it now has the power to decide when the government should bribe landowners to keep their hands off them.

The council hopes eventually to designate 10% of Britain this way. Many of the sites it wants are in the uplands, often in Scotland: "the last refuge", says the NCC, "of wild nature in Britain, covering about nine tenths of the 30% of land which still remains natural or semi-natural ecosystem".

The Forestry Commission is aghast. It believes that there remain 7.4m acres of plantable land in Britain, of which Scotland has 4.2m. It won't tell the public where they are, but many of them lie in the very regions which the NCC is staking out for rare birds and bog grasses. No site of special scientific interest has yet been planted with conifers, but there is no commitment by the forestry commission not to do so. The NCC would like a firm promise from the commission not to allow any forestry on the sites without the council's agreement.

Much of the tree-planting of the wild uplands would not pay were there not treasury support both for the commission and for private investors, who use trees as a way of dodging top rates of tax. The commission has long argued that this support is justified by the prospect of rising demand and prices for timber. Its last projections, made in 1977, foresaw demand for 1.5 billion cubic feet of timber in 1985; in the event, Britain used only 1.1 billion cubic feet last year, and this year will be much the same. The commission is now about to rework its projections, to take account of the recession. But it remains incurably hopeful about the trend of world timber prices into the next century. The argument that trees grow much faster in tropical countries, and so any big rise in prices would be absorbed by them, rather than by Caithness sitkas, cuts no ice. Perhaps, as coniferous forests are simply tree-farms, the working paper which the department of the environment is preparing on the effect of agricultural subsidies on the environment should include this branch of agriculture in its scrutiny.

[THE ECONOMIST, September 7, 1985]



Trails

SQUAMISH MUNICIPALITY SUPPORTS FMCBC PROPOSED RECREATION DEVELOPMENTS

Potential land use conflicts close to the Chief and Smoke Bluff rock climbing areas in Squamish have been increasing as the population in the area grows and new housing developments occur. Several concerns arose during the spring including problems with gravel extraction and access roads for new housing. At the same time the FMCBC was sponsoring new trail building projects in the area and there was concern that we should develop a list of priority projects for the future.

After meeting with the Municipality of Squamish on several occasions to try to provide an increased profile for the climbing "resource" it was decided that we would jointly sponsor a Concept Plan for a series of recreation developments, which would then be used to seek government support and funding. New trails, a campground, toilets, and lookouts would be proposed which would provide economic benefits to Squamish and protect the climbing areas from alternative unrelated uses.

The Plan, which will take the form of an annotated map, and will include proposed facilities and land use issues, is now under preparation and will be available by late September. We will then begin discussion with private land owners, local industries and government agencies to reach some sort of approval in principle. Then all we need is the money.

Representatives for Squamish Municipal Council, and the FMCBC, along with the landscape architect, made an on-site tour of all the climbing areas on August 23rd. Kevin McLane, a prominent Squamish rock climber, conducted this inspection and he represented the views and concerns of the local climbers.

A superbly presented article, written by McLane, is printed in the most recent issue of Mountain Magazine. It describes the history of Squamish climbing and is illustrated by excellent photographs and route diagrams.

FMCBC PRESIDENT RESIGNS

Stephan Fuller, President of the FMCBC, will complete his 2nd term in office on November 30th and resign to make a major career change. This new position will be with the Yukon Government's Dept. of Renewable Resources, as Policy Advisor to the Director of Policy. This will provide Stephan with an opportunity to combine his expertise as an Environmental Consultant with his extensive knowledge and experience of the Yukon.

The FMCBC has benefitted greatly from Stephan's volunteer contribution and from the professional manner in which he effected his role as President. Although his list of credits is long, and includes member of the B.C. Caucus at the Banff CAPP meeting, FMCBC rep at U.S. Wilderness Conference, numerous radio and newspaper interviews, and the person selected to interview the new Federal Environment Minister Tom MacMillan, Stephan is perhaps best known for his commitment to having wilderness legislation for B.C. He spearheaded the production of the FMCBC Wilderness Policy, which was, in large part, the basis for the ORC Wilderness Policy, and he has effectively represented the need to both recognize and protect wilderness as a resource in its own right.

Congratulations to him on his new appointment. He leaves a large gap, which will not easily be filled.

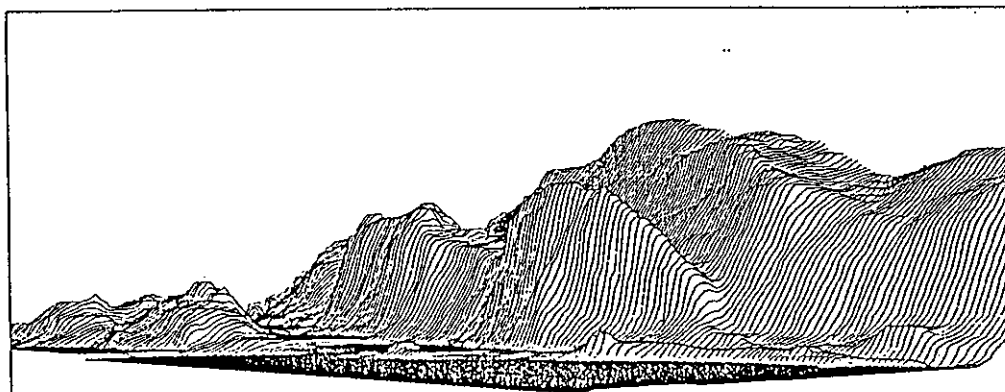
NEW FACILITIES

The high demand by B.C. residents for park improvements and the expected influx of visitors to Expo '86 has resulted in a major initiative to develop new facilities in provincial parks, says Lands, Parks and Housing Minister Tony Brummet.

Ten parks have been selected for improved services and amenities: Windermere Lake, Manning, Mount Robson, Crows Nest, Wells Gray, Liard Hot Springs, Garibaldi, Stone Mountain, Meziadin Lake and Valhalla.

The \$3 million program will include a variety of projects to improve access to park features and to promote a range of outdoor recreation opportunities.

The Minister says other projects will be initiated as funds become available during this fiscal year.



Digital Terrain Model for Squamish

Developed by J. Maedel using a computer program distributed by Digital Resource Systems Ltd. of Nanaimo, B.C.

SOUTH MORESBY

It has been said the unique landscapes and powerful spirit of the Queen Charlotte Islands is the result of tremendous energy caused by tension, compression and expectancy.

Earthquakes, storm force winds, and evolution in isolation over tens of thousands of years have left us an archipelago unique to the world.

The 138 islands and 42 freshwater lakes that make up the southern third of the area is South Moresby. An area that has attracted world-wide attention and has been selected by UNESCO for a possible World Heritage Natural Site, South Moresby is also one of the last remaining wilderness areas in B.C.

But the tension that is the most controversial and important environmental issue in Canada could destroy that environment.

Although the number of people supporting preservation has been continually increasing since 1974 when a conflict began over Tree Farm Licence 24, an average 200,000 cubic metres of old growth timber has been logged annually for the past ten years out of Lyell Island, an area within the wilderness proposal.

According to Dick Vivian, spokesman for licence holders Western Forest Products in Vancouver, by mid-October the contractor will have logged off what was allowed on their current cutting permit.

After that, there will be no more logging on Lyell until a further cutting permit is issued by the Environment Land Use Committee (ELUC), which came through in an almost identical situation a year ago with a permit to take more timber out of Lyell.

At the time it was said the approval would not affect land use options for South Moresby but would "enable logging to continue for the time being".

The most promising development is Federal Environment Minister Thomas McMillan's recent announcement that making a national park in South Moresby is his priority.

"It may well be that what we will end up having is a national park installed in the middle of a provincial park or circumscribed by provincial park," McMillan said in a recent interview on CBC Radio.

"Now all options are open except I have made up my own mind that the case is very strong," he added.

The options outlined in the South Moresby Land Use Alternatives Study encompass a study area extending from Tangil Peninsula in the north to Cape St. James in the south and includes numerous islands adjacent to Moresby; the largest being Lyell, Kunghit, and Burnaby Islands. TFL 24 constitutes about 39% of the total 145,000 hectares and the Queen Charlottes Timber Supply Area covers about 60% of the land base.

The percentage of timber harvesting and forest management that would be allowed in each option are:

Option 1: 22% of the South Moresby land base or 99% of the net operable area.

Option 2: 15% of the total land base or 67% of the net operable forest base.

Option 3: 12% of the total land base or 50% of the net operable forest area. (Option 3 would allow continued logging on Lyell Island, on the smaller islands north of Lyell and on the adjacent portion of the T.S.A. Windy Bay is excluded for ecological reserve provisions.)

Option 4: Seven per cent of the total land base or 28% of the net operable forest land. Logging would be limited to northern and central Lyell Island.

Another option 1-A proposes to allow logging and mining all along the east coast. It would also allow logging in the Windy Bay ecological reserve.

You can bet the forestry industry will fuel their fight with the 'lost jobs' argument.

But as Jack Miller, who was a public representative on the South Moresby resource planning team, points out, "What jobs are lost in Lyell are a pittance compared to how many jobs have already been lost due to poor forest management practice, due to over-commitment of timber and lack of real long-term sustained yield ... just the way they've creamed the timber and the amount of stuff they've left behind."

The argument that jobs will be lost if logging is not permitted disregards the employment and spin-off tourism would create.

Over a five year period there has been an elevenfold increase in visits to South Moresby — from 360 to 3,994 visitor days annually on organized tours.

How can anyone put a single economic value on trees that were a century old before Columbus set foot in North America?

Besides the massive old growth forests, species of plants and animals unique in the world interact in South Moresby. The area supports, to mention a few, the world's largest black bear, the greatest density in Canada of bald eagles, eleven species of whales and over half of B.C.'s sea lion population, and among the largest giant red cedars, western hemlock, yellow cypress, and Sitka spruce on earth.

It's an unparalleled natural area that has inspired many visiting artists and writers long after the Haida Nation developed their distinguished art form. Their rich culture and heritage is one worth preserving.

When provincial Environment Minister Austin Pelton met with the Haida Nation representatives in mid-August, he was given an ultimatum to resolve the logging contract on Lyell Island in forty days or the Haida would step in itself to prevent further logging.

Pelton said in the Sun, September 11th, that "preserving South Moresby (is) a priority" and that he is "delighted with federal government plans to speed up negotiations to turn it into a park".

Whatever option is chosen, and at this point, it could be any of the ones proposed, the Haida Nation claim it's their land to control.

Said Miles Richardson of the Haida Nation band office in Queen Charlotte city, "There are too many values there that would be compromised by industrial development ...

"It has only taken 60 years to threaten all the values that have been there for centuries.

"The Provincial Government has shown very little respect for the Haida Nation.

"That's Haida land and Haida territory. It must have Haida control -- nobody else has proven they are capable of it."

M'LUD, I DID HELP KILL OUR FORESTS

Eric Nicol - Vancouver Province

Forest management has Canada stumped.

Having discovered that this country is running out of marketable timber, our elected bodies - also known as the Living Dead - are casting about for someone to blame.

Well, I'm pleading guilty. Yes, m'lud, I did it. I helped to murder the Canadian forest. Hang me, if you will, from a scaffold made of B.C. No. 1 fir.

I didn't actually wield the axe. I was an accessory before the fact of the chainsaw massacre, working as a sparkchaser, many summers ago, in a West Coast logging camp. Like my cohorts in crime, I believed the treacherous school books that had told me Canada's timber resource was inexhaustible. I couldn't see the forest for the trees because my eyes were full of sawdust.

Nobody told me then that it took 100 years to create an inch of soil. Let's face it: I treated topsoil like dirt. Somewhere in the hopper of my mind, I felt uneasy about the vicious, red wounds we were inflicting on the flanks of the green hills, but both government and industry, as well as my social teacher Miss Griswold, assured me that the forest would be replenished by the Tree Fairy. Squads of wood nymphs would take over, I assumed, as soon as our fallers and buckers moved on to demolish other stands of timber, and they would quickly restore the supply of the largest living thing on Earth.

I remained unmoved by poet Joyce Kilmer, his "tree whose hungry mouth is prest/Against the earth's sweet flowing breast." Tough titty. Put the darn sapling on the bottle.

In this cavalier and criminal act, I was abetted by those who knew better - presidents of forest-product companies, the government forest service, all the bulls of the woods that are now neutered into bum steers.

We still hear them bawling, pitifully, for the right to log the few remaining stands of virgin forest. Even the head of the IWA, who will never see a poem lovely as a log, says, "The trees are going to fall down anyway" - as though this were an offence against the natural cycle of union dues.

None admits that it is impossible to replace four tons of organic matter with a two-ounce seedling. In my own defence, m'lud, I ask that it be entered in evidence that my part in the woods slaughter preceded introduction of the portable toilet. I did contribute something to the restoration of organic material, especially on the day when I encountered two bears on the cut site. But anyone who has watched a big boom of logs moving out into the chuck knows that it is an unequal struggle to replace it with a comparable amount of guano.

NEW SHELTER

A new day use shelter will be built this year in the Diamond Head area in Garibaldi Provincial Park, Tony Brummet, Lands, Parks and Housing Minister announced.

The shelter, to be completed in early 1986, will be in the Red Heather Ridge area halfway between the parking lot and the lakes. It will be similar to the one at Elfin Lake.

Now, then, do we atone for our murdering a prime resource? One thing we can do is pray for the global spread of Christianity, as what we'll be trying to market is Christmas trees. Mostly four-footers.

Alternatively, we can try to sell our conventional scrub lumber to foreign carpenters who enjoy the challenge of two-by-fours that split faster than a Hollywood marriage.

Or - probably the most practical option - we can forget altogether about being hewers of wood and concentrate on being drawers of water, damming our rivers and flooding the denuded valleys to sell the water to the Yanks as the world's largest leak.

But the old forest industry is dead. Brutally butchered.

I feel bad about my role in the atrocity, but I was just one of the foot soldiers. The capos were the government, the forest industry, the unions.

Don't trust any of 'em, m'lud, or they'll have your wooden leg off before you can say "Long John Silver".

IMPROVED ACCESS TO LOWER STEIN HIKING TRAIL

Public access to the lower Stein River hiking trail has been improved by the construction of a trail bypassing the Lytton Indian Reserve. During September 1982 members of the Stein Coalition received permission from the owners of Earls court Farm for vehicle access and parking on their land. It is now possible to park a vehicle on the farm, walk across the farm to Crown Land and connect to the main Stein River trail without the necessity of crossing the Lytton Indian Reserve. These new directions replace those on pages 55 and 71 of the guidebook, EXPLORING THE STEIN RIVER VALLEY.

This access is being provided by the kind permission of the owners of Earls court Farm who request that all vehicles be registered. Please respect their private property or we will all have this access privilege withdrawn. BE AWARE THAT ENTRY UPON THESE FARM LANDS IS ENTIRELY AT YOUR OWN RISK.

Earls court Farm is 1.6 km north of the Lytton Ferry. Enter the farm road and follow the orange markers to the visitor register which is just in front of the main farmhouse. After registering, continue driving to the designated parking area next to the orchard. From here your walk along a marked route will take 30-45 minutes to the Stein River.

Remember easy hiking is available in the lower Stein River Valley, year round.

Further descriptions of hiking trails and routes can be found in the guidebook, EXPLORING THE STEIN RIVER VALLEY, available from the Coalition, \$6.95 post paid.

If you wish to join the Coalition and help preserve the Stein River Valley as a roadless wilderness, send a \$5 membership fee to Save the Stein River Coalition, Box 338, Lytton, B.C. V0K 1Z0.



Events

UPCOMING FMCBC EVENTS

- | | |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------|
| Oct.5&6 National Trail Assoc. Mtg.
Banff | J. Rutter |
| Oct.5&6 Wells Gray Mtg.
Clearwater | Ross Peterson |
| Oct.9 Mtg. Dept. Min. of LPH,
Tourism
ORC, Vancouver | S. Fuller |
| Oct.15 Faculty of Forestry -
Lecture on Concerns of
FMCBC and Role of
Professional Forestry
UBC | J. Rutter |
| Oct.16 Trails Ctte. Mtg.
Sport B.C., Vancouver | B. Blackwell |
| Oct.18 NPPAC - AGM, Presentation
on Role of FMCBC
Vancouver | S. Fuller |
| Oct.19 All Presidents Mtg., FMCBC
Sport B.C., Vancouver | FMCBC Exec. |
| Oct.23 Environmental Law Club - Need
for Wilderness Legislation | S. Fuller |
| Oct.26 Boy Scouts - Presentation
Vancouver | J. Rutter |
| Oct.30 Rec. & Conser. Ctte. Mtg.
Vancouver | R. Freeman |
| Oct.30 FMCBC Winter Instructors
Mtg.
Sport B.C., Vancouver | J. Rutter
R. Peterson |
| Nov.30 FMCBC - AGM
S.P.E.C., Vancouver | FMCBC Exec. |
| Nov.30 Avalanche Instructors Wrkshp.
-Dec.1 Sport B.C. | Frank Bauman |
| Dec.4 B.C. Bar Assoc. - Envir.
Law Section, A Debate | T. Enermark
(Min.Ass.)
S. Fuller
(FMCBC) |
| Dec.13 Sierra Club Lecture
Robson Square Cinema
"Wilderness-The Need is Now" | |
| Dec.14 Basic Avalanche Course
-15 Sport B.C. | |

ORC LOSES CULLINGTON

The Outdoor Recreation Council (of which the FMCBC is a member) will lose one of its ablest employees at the end of September. Judith Cullington,, second only to Robin Draper in importance at ORC, is leaving to become reacquainted with her husband Glen Okrainetz (sorely missed by the Sierra Club) who fled to Ottawa to become a Parliamentary Researcher attached to Charles Caccia (ex-Liberal Minister of Environment). The gaps left by these two departures will be hard to fill. If anyone knows of any good jobs in Ottawa give Jude a call (ORC 687-1600).

WINTER COURSE SCHEDULE

Basic Avalanche Safety \$55

December 14 & 15
January 11 & 12; 25 & 26
February 8 & 9; 22 & 23 (snowshoes)
March 8 & 9; 22 & 23

Intermediate Avalanche Safety \$60

January 3 - 5
February 21 - 23

Basic Snow Camping & Winter Survival \$40

January 11 & 12	X-country Ski
February 8 & 9	Snowshoe
March 8 & 9	X-country Ski
March 22 & 23	Snowshoe
April 12 & 13	X-country Ski

Basic Ice Climbing \$59

January 18 & 19
February 1 & 2; 15 & 16
March 1 & 2; 15 & 16

Backcountry Ski Touring \$145

January 15 - 19
January 29 - February 2
February 26 - March 2
April 16 - 20

Winter Mountaineering \$135

January 24 - 26
February 14 - 16
March 14 - 16
April 25 - 27

Guided Ski Touring \$40

January 25 & 26
February 15 & 16
March 15 & 16
April 12 & 13

Easter Camp \$120

March 30 - April 5



FMCBC COURSE EVALUATION

Thank you to everyone who has returned our course evaluation form. The response is fantastic! As we continue to collect them we will attempt to tabulate and analyze the results.

Your suggestions help all of us to know how we are doing and what changes to make. We think we have a good product but we know we can improve it. Our instructors too are always appreciative of any feedback from course participants.

Already your comments have been considered and we have tried to incorporate your ideas into our upcoming winter courses.

If you did not receive an evaluation form and if you would like to fill one out, drop by the office at 1200 Hornby St. or phone us at 687-3333 to have one sent.

Thanks again!