



Deputy Minister investigates steelhead habitat on Gordon River

Deputy Minister **Philip Halkett** donned dry suit and snorkel in mid-September for a closer look at the effects of road-building and harvesting on steelhead habitat in the Gordon River watershed.

The Gordon is an intermediate-sized steelhead and salmon stream in the Duncan forest district. With its headwaters to the southwest of Cowichan Lake, the river winds through the mountains, draining into a series of canyons before it reaches the Pacific coast north of Port Renfrew.

Steelhead are the rarest of sport gamefish on the coast. In recent years, Ministry of Environment, Lands and Parks fisheries staff have observed a decrease in steelhead stocks that may, in part, be related to impacts of harvesting on spawning and rearing habitat.

In a June 30 *Vancouver Sun* article, fisheries biologist **Craig Wightman** expressed concern about the Gordon River's steelhead stocks.

In response to this article, **Mike Brownlee**, acting manager, integrated resources section, integrated resources



Deputy Minister Philip Halkett (middle right) and Mike Brownlee (far right) of integrated resources branch, suited up to assist Craig Wightman (middle left) and Ron Diederichs (far left) of Environment, Lands and Parks on their annual snorkel survey of Gordon River steelhead.

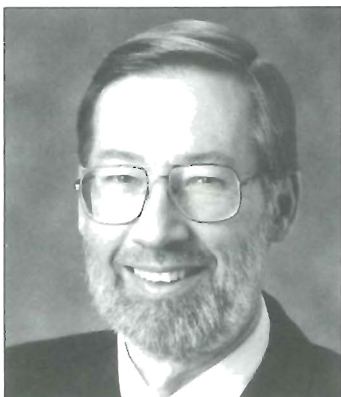
branch, asked to accompany fisheries staff on the annual snorkel survey of the river. He also invited the deputy minister and **Steve Chatwin**, manager, fish/forestry watershed assessment, research branch.

"The trip was really worthwhile," Halkett said. "There is no substitute for getting out into the field, seeing the

problems at first hand, talking to the people, and getting their perspectives."

Halkett, Brownlee and Chatwin assisted fisheries biologists Wightman and **Ron Diederichs** of BC Environment's Nanaimo region, in the enumeration of 277 adult steelhead over the four-kilometre reach of river.

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New Minister of Forests Art Charbonneau.

New Minister appointed

On September 17 **Art Charbonneau** was appointed Minister of Forests.

Charbonneau was elected in the riding of Kamloops in the 1991 provincial election. In November 1991, he was appointed Minister of Transportation and Highways.

Charbonneau is also responsible for BC Rail, is chair of the Motor Carrier Commission Appeals Board, and sits on several Cabinet committees including

Sustainable Development, Crown Corporations, Environment and Land Use, and Treasury Board.

Born in Regina, the minister has a BSc from the University of Alberta and an MA from the University of Minnesota.

Before entering politics, Charbonneau was a civil engineering consultant and also developed and marketed computer software for engineering, business and education.

Forest Service at Demo '92

Buyers and sellers of high-tech forestry equipment from around the world converged on the Goudy Plateau, east of Kelowna September 17-20 for a trade show of olympian proportions.

Demo '92, an event which occurs every four years, attracted just over 100 exhibitors and 6,000 people, most of whom were shopping around.

But the poor weather and the recession may have dampened many potential buyers' enthusiasm. The organizers, the Canadian Pulp and Paper Association, had expected 10,000 to 14,000 people to attend the exhibition.

Billed as a showcase for cutting-edge forest technology and services, Demo '92 highlighted environmentally sensitive logging practices with the theme of 'woodlands operations with a soft footprint.'

And the Forest Service was on hand to educate the international audience on how that 'footprint' is managed on British Columbia's Crown lands.

The Forest Service display, which was organized by **Doug Adderley** and **Shannon Holms** of public affairs branch, emphasized integrated resource management and also supplied information on the Okanagan timber supply area. New government initiatives, such as the Commission on Resources and Environment and the

Protected Areas Strategy were also featured.

Knowledgeable staff from the Kamloops region (**Phil Van Mol**, **Rita Eremko**, and **Dennis Lloyd**), the Penticton (**John Griffin**, **Jim Mottishaw**, **Laverne Cormier**, and **Gerry Cooper**) and Vernon (**Steve Carr**, **Ted McRae**, and **Jeff Moore**) district offices, Vernon's Kalamalka Research Station (**Gisele Phillips**), and integrated resources branch (**Al Niezen**)

helped to interpret the display and various demonstrations.

The protection demonstration was a definite highlight. A raised platform provided visitors with an excellent vantage point for the air tanker drops and rapattack demonstrations.

The horse logging show was also a hit, as was a model of a very large mountain pine beetle that illustrated the beetle-proofing program now under way in the south Okanagan area.

DM investigates steelhead

(continued from page 1)

"In one pool not much larger than someone's living room we saw about ninety 12- to 14-pound steelhead," Brownlee said, "It was very impressive."

But despite the relatively healthy adult count, very few juveniles were seen during the survey.

The biology of steelhead and their specific habitat needs were discussed and illustrated during the swim, as were the implications of stream sedimentation on food production and loss of over-wintering cover for juvenile steelhead, and on reduced egg to fry survival.

The biologists feel that significant sand and gravel infilling of the Gordon from its Loup Creek tributary may be modifying the preferred habitat of the young "parr" or "fry." The area around Loup Creek has experienced widespread slope instability and road failures during major winter storms since 1989.

Duncan forest district staff are currently implementing a rehabilitation plan for Loup Creek and the Forest Service has recently conducted a study of gravel transport and deposition processes in the Gordon River watershed.

Record-breaking fire season winds down

With the fire season drawing to a close, we have recorded 3,719 wildfires in a record-breaking year. Only two years, 1979 (3,849 wildfires) and 1970 (4,002 wildfires), exceed 1992 in terms of the total number of fires recorded.

Preliminary figures indicate that the province has had 42 per cent of the nation's wildfires but with only three per cent of the total hectares burned.

The Kamloops region recorded 953 wildfires, with a total of 2 165 hectares burned -- an average of less than two hectares per fire. This tremendous success ratio is attributed to a great team effort by protection staff.

In the Cariboo, the region's air tankers see action approximately 85 times during an average season. This year they were called out for more than 180 wildfires.

"The Rapattack program has also had a record-breaking

year," said base manager, **Mark Dahlie**. "This summer we actioned 200 fires. Our previous record, in 1985, was 175 fires," said Dahlie. "It has been a very challenging summer."

The Quesnel forest district had more than 200 fires over a two-day period during the summer. To their credit, none of these fires escaped initial attack to become project fires.

"This has been one of the busiest fire seasons I can remember in my 35 years with the Forest Service," said **Jim Dunlop**, director, protection branch. "Our fire suppression staff have performed admirably and I would like to congratulate them on a job well done."

*submitted by Sylvia Pang,
communications manager, protection branch*

Benskin new director for silviculture

Henry Benskin assumed the directorship of the silviculture branch at the end of September.

Born in England, Benskin received a bachelor's degree in forestry from the University College of North Wales. In 1973, he moved to Canada and earned a Masters in forestry from the University of British Columbia.

Benskin then started with the research branch as a contract researcher, tackling a variety of subjects in forest land management and silviculture.

In 1980, he became manager of silviculture at the research branch, and in 1987 manager of forest renewal research.

The following are excerpts from a recent interview.

When did you become interested in forestry?

My whole family was involved in forestry. My English grandfather was a forester in India in the early 1900s and my great uncle was a forester in Burma. And on my German mother's side of the family, two uncles went to forestry school -- one became a 'forstmeister', the other a tropical timber importer. So, you can see that the family's expectation was that I would go into forestry as well -- which I did!

Why did you decide to come to Canada?

I was very interested in practicing forestry in a country where it really meant something, where it was an important part of the economy.

One of my professors in Wales was John Hetherington, who used to work for

the B.C. Forest Service research division; through him, I became interested in continuing my studies in British Columbia.

What are some of your immediate priorities as director?

First and foremost, to get up to speed with the large and complex silviculture operations business! To this point, I've seen things from the research side -- now I'm asking my staff to force-feed me on the finer points of "operations."

Besides finding out about branch activities and the people behind them, I am also travelling as soon as possible to each regional office to get the operations division perspective as well. A priority for me will be to work hard to achieve a good working relationship between branch, regional and district staff involved in silviculture.

I would like to get people to think seriously about defining a long-term vision for silviculture. We need this to guide program planning, priority setting and for deciding on appropriate field treatments. I see opportunities for more creativity and flexibility at the field level, that reflects our diverse forest conditions and multiple forest uses. We also need a better handle on the wood products markets of the future and to decide how we can fit into those markets.

Finally, I really would like to get more research findings applied.

What are some of the challenges facing the silviculture branch?

There are tremendous societal changes taking place and there is a much greater global attention to what happens in British Columbia. This will require us (branch, program, Forest Service) to respond both positively and creatively.

The Forest Service's credibility has been questioned and I think everybody is working very hard to rectify that situation. Silviculture personnel must do their share, and I think our job is facilitated by the very nature of our work.

I think there may have been the view in the past that silviculture has been out for silviculture's sake and I would like to change that. We have benefitted a great deal from the forest renewal program in terms of dollars and FTEs but other parts of the organization have been less fortunate. There may be opportunities to

formally broaden the definition of silviculture, to reflect accepted inter-relationships with other programs, and in so doing to balance resources in a planned and structured way.

The success of the silviculture branch/program depends on the success of the other Ministry programs and how well we all work together. We need the research, inventory information, and integrated resources management approaches to name a few, to be successful.

I look forward to working with my staff and others to continue the successes of the silviculture program.

News in brief

Recent news releases

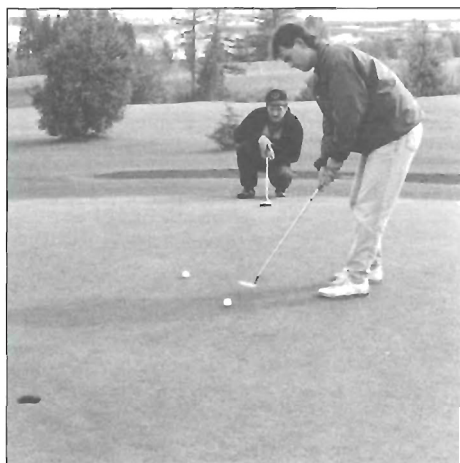
- Forest Resources Commission's report *Providing the Framework: A Forest Practices Code* released - #89
- New forest road and trail standards to help reduce environmental impacts - #90
- Limited export of yew needles and boughs (used to produce Taxol, the promising cancer-fighting drug) approved - #91
- Southern Interior harvest increased to battle pine beetle - #93
- Forest Service roads opened to all-terrain vehicles - #98
- Strategic range plan sets management objectives for more than 8.3 million hectares of Crown range - #99
- Charbonneau leads forestry mission to Europe to promote trade in forest products and explain government forestry policy and practices - #100
- A Supreme Court of B.C. appeal is launched on an appeal board's ruling over MacMillan Bloedel's allowable cut for tree farm licence #44 on Vancouver Island - #101
- Provincial old-growth strategy released - #102
- An inventory identifying more than 500 undeveloped watersheds in the province is completed - #104



Henry Benskin, new director of silviculture branch.

Golfers survive elements for 20th annual tourney

Wind, rain, hail, a little sun, not too much heat, and a dusting of snow failed to deter 136 golfers at the Cariboo forest region's 20th annual tournament, September 12 and 13, in Williams Lake.



Alex Norquay, Williams Lake forest district, watches as former staffer Ed Coombes attempts to sink a putt.

Course conditions were ideal as both current and former Forest Service staff, industry representatives, spouses, and friends travelled from around the province to play the picturesque Williams Lake course.

In the hunt for honours, **Steve Doubinin** of the Chilliwack forest district carded a tournament record, five-over-par 147 to repeat as men's low gross winner in only his second year at the event. Doubinin was awarded the Wood Hamblin trophy for his record showing.

On the ladies side, retired Cariboo forest region staffer **Irene Levesque** had her male playing partners mumbling on several holes as she worked her way to a 187 for low gross honours and the Monsanto ladies trophy.

Irene, who says she never watches a putt, only listens to hear if it drops, provided much-needed antifreeze for several golfers battling the cold and the final holes Saturday afternoon.

Rounding out low gross honours for the Cariboo region was former staffer **Denny McDonald**, who took the retiree category with a 158.

In the low net competition, **Stan Carter** from Fireflex managed to stave off charging opposition on Sunday to hang on and win the Conair low net championship with an impressive 131. **Carol Venus**, from the Prince George region, shot her way to a 149 and the Chemonics low net ladies honours.

In team competition, the Victoria foursome of **Rob Bowden**, **Tony Willingdon**, and **Jenji Konishi**, all from silviculture branch, and **Rick Clevette**, protection, edged out the Vancouver region entry by one stroke to take the team honours with a 588.

Vancouver's 589 was eight strokes better than Cariboo at 597, followed by the Kamloops team at 603, Nelson at 607, Prince Rupert at 609, and Prince George at 614.

In the low gross first flight, Williams Lake forest district manager and event co-organizer **Brian McNaughton** carded a 155 for a nine-stroke lead and top honours over **Kevin Therrien**, husband of **Margaret**, a Williams Lake forest district staffer.

Alan Kohlen of the Quesnel forest district took third spot in the first flight with a low gross of 166.

On the low net side of the score sheet, **Rob Bowden** from silviculture headquarters topped the field with a 138 followed by **Greg Hemphill** from Chilliwack forest district at 143 and **Ken Shaw** from Salmon Arm forest district who was three shots back at 146.

Second flight low gross honours went to **Tracy Cooper**, ex-Quesnel forest district staff member and now with the Ministry of Transportation and Highways. His 168 was eight better than **Bernie Pescke** from the Nelson forest district who carded at 176.

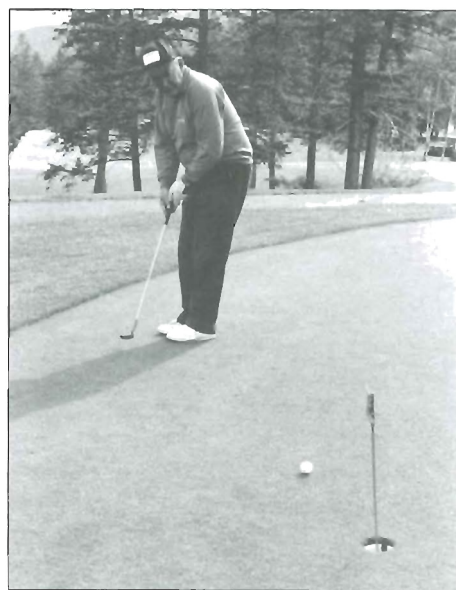
Bruce Fraser from the Nelson forest region and **Gary Rawluk** from the Williams Lake district tied with 180s.

On the low net side, **Dan Berard** from the Duncan forest district managed a four-stroke lead over **Scott Dunn** of the Campbell River forest district to take the second flight with a 134. Headquarters protection player **Rick Clevette** had a 143 for third while **Bruce McKerricher** of the Campbell River district rounded out the weekend with a 145.

Third flight low gross honours went to **Ron Cruickshank** with a 185 followed by **Dave Dunsdon**, Prince George region, at 189, **George Malfair**, Horsefly district at 195, **Ian Morrison**, Victoria protection at 196, and **Rai Thomas**, Bella Coola district retiree at 199.

On the net side, **Hugh Freeman** of Cariboo region topped the third flight with 135, well ahead of **Russ Trenamen**, Prince George region retiree, at 146, followed by **Rachelle Satrum**, spouse of a Cariboo region staffer, at 150, **Ross Noble** of the Prince George region at 151, and **Larry Coles**, a retiree, at 152.

In the Toppers division, where form wasn't pretty but fun was high, Prince Rupert regional manager **Larry Pederson** managed to hang in to take



Retired Prince George district manager Russ Trenamen shows his putting style.



Wes Cheston, assistant deputy minister, operations, presents Cariboo regional manager Mike Carlson with a "token of appreciation" at Saturday night's banquet.

the Cariboo Air Charters trophy while **Hazel Carr**, wife of a retired Forest Service staff member, took the Sharp Wings ladies honours.

Other winning Toppers included **Doug Flintoft**, Quesnel forest district, **Fred May**, Prince George region, and **Brian Smith**, Cariboo region.

In ladies nine-hole play, **Phyllis Taylor**, wife of retired Victoria staff member **Howard Taylor**, pulled in a two-day 113 to edge out **Kathy Bradley**, wife of a Chemonics rep, by one stroke to win top spot.

Evelyn Hernandez, wife of former district manager **Vince Hernandez**, played two steady days for a 122.

In other honours, **Ron Reeves** from the Chilcotin district was dubbed the most honest mens golfer while **Mervyn Lyons** from the Mackenzie district and **Caroline Fleiger** from Prince George region were the most honest women.

On the fun side, Saturday night's banquet featured a number of coveted prizes and dubious honours as tournament organizers distributed an array of gag gifts and goodies.

Irene Levesque was honoured for her long driving abilities while **Don Courson** was congratulated for most

whiffs at the tee. **Neil Campbell** blasted out the longest drive to take mens' honours.

The shortest drive for the men was the work of **Ron Bradley** while **Caroline Fleiger** took the ladies' honours.

Rich Hodgson and **George Malfair** were closest to the hole after two shots for all the players while **Tracy Cooper** and **Greg Hemphill** were closest to the pin after two in the men's competition. **Hazel Carr** took the ladies award.

Guy Newsome managed to put it closest to the hole after one shot while **Betty Trenamen** took closest to the hole ladies' honours.

Charlie Willson was cheered loudly when he was presented with a mask and fins for sinking the most balls on the lone water hazard on the course.

In the low-score honours, Saturday night presentations went to **Rai Thomas**, **Gary Rawluk**, **Pat Dowling**, and **George Dorian** for the men and **Betty Trenamen** for the women.

Caroline Fleiger proved to be a double winner as she was awarded the highest score for the ladies after one day while **Gord Down** was awarded a hockey stick for the same honour on the mens' side.

Wrapping up the golf honours after the opening day were presentations for **Ross Tozer** and **Joanne Bowden** for their long drives.

In other presentations, assistant deputy minister, operations, **Wes Cheston** had Cariboo regional manager **Mike Carlson** feeling proud as Cheston paid tribute to the Cariboo region for the 20 years of tournaments.

Cheston praised the organizers and the region for the success of the event and the good spirit it fosters among Forest Service employees.

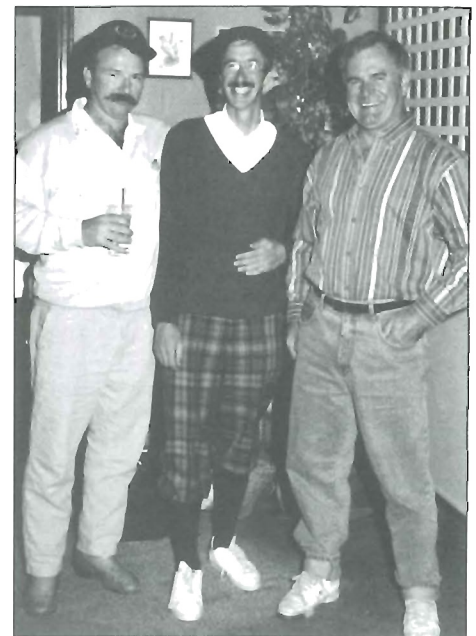
In appreciation, Cheston presented Carlson with a large painting, which, when opened, revealed a felt rendition of a galleon on the high seas.

The more than 100 golfers and guests attending the banquet broke into a rousing applause as the painting was unveiled.

Organizer **Brian McNaughton** said following the successful event that attendance was well up this year, easily surpassing the 90 or so golfers who usually attend.

He said the anniversary celebrations and the camaraderie of the event helped attract more golfers this year.

submitted by Wendy Stewart, public information officer, public affairs branch



*Three amigos at Saturday's banquet. From left to right Nelson's air operations coordinator **Don** ("most whiffs at the tee") **Courson**, Victoria protection's **John** ("Mr. Plus Fours") **Flanagan**, with assistant deputy minister, operations, **Wes Cheston**.*

Employment equity: What you told us

As part of the Employment Equity information sessions held between February and July, Forest Service staff were asked to identify employment barriers -- practices, policies, facilities, or procedures that, in some way, prevent or hinder employment or advancement.

The barriers that you named most often were:

- **Training:** a lack of training opportunities, knowledge about opportunities, and funding for training; workloads that hinder ability to take training;
- **Recruitment:** inequitable recruitment practices such as in-service postings, competition panels that are not gender or ethnically balanced, lack of information about jobs, and the government competition process;
- **Job requirements:** qualifications/requirements that do not accurately reflect required skills, overuse of the registered professional forester requirement, professionalization of the Forest Service, and credentialism or education requirements stressed more than ability;
- **Accessibility:** inaccessible buildings and facilities;
- **Intolerance:** specifically sexism, racism and discrimination against designated group members;
- **Rigidity:** lack of flexibility with respect to alternative work arrangements, job sharing, part-time work, and educational leave;
- **Career pathing:** limited career paths and lack of career planning/counselling;
- **Communication:** lack of cross-gender or cross-cultural understanding;
- **Lack of daycare;**
- **Stereotyping;**
- **Union:** union requirements such as seniority, tenure, and recall rights;
- **"Old boys' network";** and
- **Harassment:** particularly sexual harassment.

The Forest Service executive has endorsed a set of 17 recommendations designed, in part, to address these barriers.

If you would like a copy of the recommendations or more information on employment equity and the barriers identified by staff, please call **Charlene Levis**, manager, employment equity, or **Claire Handley**, employment equity research officer at 387-3231.

New faces at B.C. Forestry Continuing Studies Network

Dwight Yochim joined the B.C. Forestry Continuing Studies Network September 8 as Provincial Coordinator at the UBC office.

Yochim comes from the Greater Vancouver Water District with a wealth of experience in road engineering and timber harvesting. He was recently involved with the Seymour Demonstration Forest, where he realized his interest in forestry education.

He is responsible for maintaining course information databases, producing the biannual catalogue, and creating new databases of resource people and resource materials for forestry education.

Yochim can be reached at 822-9282 for information on these projects.

The Coastal Delivery Centre becomes active in October with **Tom Molfenter** as Coordinator.

Molfenter has 15 years of experience as a forest engineer with Fletcher Challenge. His involvement in integrated resource planning and public involvement activities provides a natural bridge to this new position.

You are encouraged to call Molfenter at 741-2597 to share your ideas about

forestry education needs in coastal British Columbia.

The FCS Network's second calendar with a catalogue describing activities is now available. Contact **Shirley Sato** at 822-5874 (Fax 822-3106) to obtain a copy.

Also watch your mail and office bulletin boards for brochures about new

courses coming this fall and winter such as wildlife/danger tree assessment, introduction to silvicultural systems, and the Road Engineering Technology Program.

submitted by Cindy Pearce, director, B.C. Forestry Continuing Studies Network

Invermere women assist in field

The clerical and support staff of the Invermere forest district are demonstrating "the full participation of women in the Forest Service and all aspects of it!"

On their own initiatives, and supported by management, these women employees are now accompanying district field staff at least once per month to assist in various field duties in all programs.

The women involved with field days include: **Nancy Wilfley, Debbie Kary, Julie Parent, Iris Dube, Mavis Messerschmidt, Ann Houghton, April La Rose, and Betty Lazette-Bergen.** These women normally are involved

with reception, clerical, accounting, payroll, and resource clerk roles.

Some of the activities they have assisted the field staff with include cruising, weather station set-up, silviculture planting projects, recreation site inspections, engineering assessments, Christmas tree pruning, and even a stint at fire suppression boot camp!

The assistance is appreciated -- and the women are gaining further insight into the roles and daily functions of their co-staff.

submitted by Sue Crowley, resource assistant, Invermere forest district

New and improved trees

Some of the best lodgepole pine anywhere grow on the west bank of the Fraser River, 15 kilometres south of Prince George.

That's the site of the Prince George Tree Improvement Station, a 2 170 hectare reserve of seed orchards and experimental plantations.

The station was established in 1969, along with the Red Rock Research Station, as part of the provincial commitment to long-term intensive forest management.

Eight Forest Service staff work at the tree improvement station. One of them, **Terry Carter**, lives in a trailer on the site to deter vandalism. His dog **Ralph**, an aging terrier-poodle cross, greets visitors from his perch on the front porch of the station headquarters, an olive-green building that looks more like a house than an office.

The staff think of the place as home too.

Most of them, including **Carole Lee**, the manager, have been there six years or more. Her staff are responsible for the maintenance of 7,200 trees in seven orchards, and 350 hectares of experimental plantations. That includes moving, fertilizing, watering, planting, and monitoring flower development and other things that the trees are doing, or supposed to be doing.

The whole idea is to breed better trees -- trees that grow faster, make better lumber and are more resistant to insects and disease.

But tree improvement is not as simple as it may sound.

"We have to learn as we go," said Lee. "There are successes, but there are failures too."

She describes one project, a hybrid poplar plantation, that was watered using overhead irrigation. As it turned out, the

irrigation spread bacteria that eventually killed all the trees.

The big success story at the station is the genetically improved lodgepole pine seed.

"We pride ourselves on high germination -- 98 per cent," said Lee. And the improved seed can be individually sown, a saving of time and effort.

The cones are picked each September, placed in gunny sacks, and sent to the Tree Seed Centre in Surrey, where the seeds are coaxed out of the cones by using heat and humidity.

Seed production varies from year to year depending on temperature, rainfall and other factors. It takes three years for a lodgepole pine to produce cones, and a wet summer in the first year might mean a poor crop by the third year, when the cones are harvested.

In 1990 (a good year), the station produced about 17 kilograms of seed, enough to grow 2.7 million seedlings.

Lee sees a bright future ahead for the station. "We're always improving on what we do and coming up with new ways to manage orchards for cone production."

If you are in the Prince George area and would like to visit the station, getting there is a lot easier and quicker than it used to be, thanks to a new road completed last year. A sign and interpretive displays are also being constructed,

to help tell the station's story.

For more information, contact the station at 963-8416.

*submitted by Jeff Elder, communications officer,
Prince George forest region*



Rita Wagner, supervisor of seed orchard operations, collecting cones.

Forest Service campsites receive praise

The following letter of appreciation was received from Robin Luxmoore of Atlin.

Thank you for the excellent campgrounds you maintain across the province. They are a joy to use and I hope will never disappear. They provide just the right facilities for the true adventurer without pampering them.

I live in Atlin and drive up and down the Cassiar each year. This year I drove up with a friend from Toronto who felt more at ease in your campsites than in the provincial ones, which, besides being expensive, are not much different than camping in your own backyard.

We used one near Beaton in the Kootenays and another near Grassy Plains. But there are many others I've used over the years and they are always well cared for.

Congratulations!

Inventory reunion attracts branch "old growth" from around province

Nostalgia and fond reminiscences ruled the day on September 13 when 110 inventory branch retirees, current employees and people interested in Forest Service history gathered at the Cowichan Lake Research Station for the Forest Inventory Reunion.

The celebration also marked the 80th anniversary of forest inventory by the inventory branch and its predecessor, the Forest Service surveys and inventory division.

Chief Forester **John Cuthbert**, inventory branch director **Dave Gilbert**, and research station manager **Don Carson** were on hand to welcome everyone.

Cuthbert officially kicked off the reunion by praising the work of the early pioneers in the forest inventory.

Then the gathering got down to the enjoyable business of renewing old acquaintances and reminiscing over a sumptuous cookhouse barbecue prepared by the research station's legendary cook **Al Wilkinson**.

After lunch, against a backdrop display of timber cruising memorabilia, **Ralph Schmidt** told some tales of



Chief Forester **John Cuthbert** officially kicks off Forest Inventory Reunion celebrations.

the earlier days and of the project to preserve the history of the forest inventory program.

The group continued their trip down memory lane with a well-

received slide show depicting what they did and looked like in the field during "the good old days." Amid laughter and general merriment, **Tony Sayle** and **Jack McLellan** supplied the lively and interesting commentary and the audience responded by supplying the names of some unknown "old growth" in the pictures.

The day was rounded out by a tour of the Cowichan Research Station facilities.



Inventory branch director **Dave Gilbert** (left) with former branch members **Gerry Andrews** (middle) and **Ralph Schmidt**. Andrews was a pioneer in the interpretation of aerial photographs for forest inventory in the 1930s and '40s.

Emile Bouchard retires after 37-year service

Emile Bouchard, operations manager, Williams Lake forest district, retires this month after 37 years with the Forest Service.

Bouchard started as a compassman in 1956 with the Vancouver headquarters cruising crew. In 1959, he moved to Hope as an assistant ranger. From there he progressed through the ranks and worked in Alert Bay and Port McNeill, and in 1969 moved to

Alexis Creek as a ranger. Bouchard has been with the Williams Lake district since 1974.

About 125 well-wishers -- family, friends and fellow workers -- gathered at a retirement party on October 3 to bid him a fond farewell. They presented the avid Montreal Canadiens fan with a team jacket.

Bouchard starts his retirement with a trip to Hawaii, courtesy of his family.

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Submissions are encouraged. Please send your comments, suggestions and contributions to **Susan Bannerman**, at Public Affairs Branch.