



Forest Service

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A newsletter for Ministry of Forests' employees

February 1993

First Nations Forestry Council formed

On January 21, Forests Minister **Dan Miller** and Aboriginal Affairs Minister **Andrew Petter** announced the formation of the First Nations Forestry Council.

The forestry council will work with industry and government to expand Aboriginal involvement in all aspects of forestry in the province.

"We expect that the outcome of the council's work will be in developing some very practical on-the-ground strategies to increase economic opportunities for Aboriginal people that will make a real difference in real lives at the community level," says **Christie Brown**, manager of interim measures, corporate policy and planning branch.

Establishing the council was the key recommendation among 20 outlined in the November 1991 report of the Task Force on Native Forestry, which examined ways to enhance First Nations participation in the forest sector.

The forestry council will explore ways to implement the specific strategies suggested by the task force. These would see increased Aboriginal involvement through:

- tenure where the opportunity exists;
- silviculture;
- education and training;
- forestry employment in companies and government;

- planning and participation;
- protection of cultural sites; and
- creation of a capital pool.

The council is made up of 20 people with two-year order-in-council appointments and will report to government through the Forests and Aboriginal Affairs Ministers. The Forest Service will provide administrative support.

First Nations representatives include: **George Watts** (Nuu-chah-nulth), **Collier Azak** (Nisga'a), **Gary Merkel** (Ktunaxa/Kinbasket), **Gary Page** (Carrier-Sekani), **Geraldine Shirley** (South Island), **Chief John Smith** (Musgamagw Tsawataineuk), **Garry Russ** (Haida Nation), **Tom Wycotte** (Williams Lake Band), **David Walkem** (Cook's Ferry Band), **Harold Derickson** (Inter-Tribal Forestry Association of B.C.), **Yvonne Moon** (Tahltan), and **Jean Gleason** (Kaska Dena).

The forest industries are represented by: **Rick Jeffrey** (Truck Loggers' Association), **Warren Ulley** (IWA), **Fred Lowenberger** (Council of Forest Industries), **Jim Gosline** (Northern Interior Lumber Sector), **Marlie Beets** (Cariboo Lumber Manufacturer's Association), **Gord Sluggett** (Interior Lumber Manufacturer's Association), **Dirk Brinkman** (Western Silvicultural Contractors' Association), and **Linda Coady** (MacMillan Bloedel).

First Nation's forestry council member **Gary Merkel** says there are a lot of fairly serious and hard issues to deal with. "I see the council as providing us with a model to work with in terms of how the government, third parties, and the First Nations can resolve some of these things. The people I have talked to on the council are committed to making this thing work and to make it do the things it is supposed to do."

Nursery employees earn suggestion awards



Two Surrey Nursery employees received suggestion awards on January 28. From left to right are Suggestion Awards Co-ordinator **Marilyn Seifert**, Silviculture Branch Director **Henry Benskin**, award winners **Peter Beck** and **Bill Sprangers**, and Chief Forester **John Cuthbert**. See page three for more suggestion awards news.

Please distribute to all employees at their work stations

Still to produce innovative report

Gerry Still was seconded in September 1992 to develop and write a 'State of the Forest' report over the next two years. Still, a professional forester and agrologist, has worked with the Forest Service for about 15 years, recently as manager of the research branch's integrated resource management section and, before that, as regional research soil scientist in Nelson.

The proposed State of the Forest report will provide a fresh look and an innovative direction to the Ministry's required 10-year forest and range analysis.

In a recent interview, he outlined some of his ideas about the compilation and production of the State of the Forest report.

What kinds of information will you present in the State of the Forest report?

In previous years, the content of the 10-year forest and range resource analysis has been dictated by the *Ministry of Forests Act*. The first three subsections of Section 7 require inventory information about forest, range and recreation resources, a discussion of a number of silvicultural and harvesting issues, and also a discussion of ministry programs.

It seems to me that those three components constitute what is typically known as 'state of the environment,' or in this case, 'state of the forest' reporting. This type of reporting is relatively new so you can't say there is a tradition associated with it. In Canada, it has only been a going concern for about five years. But as I understand the concept, 'state of' reporting addresses four basic issues about resources: what is happening, why it is happening, why it is important, and what we are doing about it.

So the 1994 State of the Forest report will be designed to provide this kind of 'snapshot' of B.C.'s forests and its various chapters will draw together information to answer each of these questions.

For example, under 'what is happening'

the condition of our forest, range, and recreation resources will be outlined. 'Why it is happening' will be addressed in terms of demands for resources, and management practices. 'What we are doing about it' will describe our ministry programs. It will also address some of the special initiatives we are focusing on such as the forest practices code, timber supply review, and silvicultural systems work. These have potential to significantly change forest management in the province over the next few years, and are therefore of great importance to the public, and the people who work in the forest.

A section on socioeconomic trends and forecasts will look at some of the changes that might occur over the next five to 10 years, and the resulting implications and opportunities.

What you are describing is quite a departure from the previous forest and range resource analyses. In what other ways will this report be different?

It will differ in a couple of important ways that I think reflect how forest management is changing both provincially and globally.

First, forest management in B.C. no longer focuses on just the timber; it is evolving to address ecological and integrated resource management concerns, and the public is playing a more active role in deciding how their resources are handled. I hope to be able to reflect this evolution by establishing biodiversity, soil, and water parameters as components of the report, even though we may not have as much information about them as we might like right now.

Also, in the past, forest and range resource analyses have been produced for a technical audience, that is, primarily for people within the forestry sector. The State of the Forest report will be based on sound technical information but specifically designed to be more comprehensible to the public. After approval by the legislature, which is scheduled to take place in 1995, it would

be widely distributed to give the public much of the information they may want to make intelligent decisions about their resources. The fact that the public is the intended audience reflects an awareness of the increasingly active and informed role that they will likely play in forest resource management in the future.

Second, the recent United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED) in Brazil demonstrated the extent to which the world community is becoming aware of the environment as something we have to manage globally.

There are now a number of global 'policy' statements that address the management of forests, including UNCED's Guiding Principles for Forestry, the Biodiversity Convention, and a large document called Agenda 21. Our federal government is promoting the National Forest Sector Strategy — a document that outlines a national strategy for achieving sustainable forest management. It has been endorsed by provincial and territorial governments, and contains a number of commitments that each government must honor. It covers many of the areas outlined in UNCED's Guiding Principles for Forestry.

What I propose to do in the State of the Forest report is to discuss our ministry's programs and activities in terms of the commitments in the National Forest Sector Strategy, and the related Guiding Principles for Forestry.

We participated with a cross-Canada committee recently in the development of an implementation plan for the national strategy. A preliminary analysis of the 94 commitments outlined in the strategy suggested that B.C. is responsible for addressing about 80 of them.

The first step towards implementation will be to evaluate each of these and to then determine where we are in relation to them. This process should show us what we need to do to honor our commitments to the National Forest Strategy, and to achieve its vision of sustainable forest management.

Suggestions earn employees awards, dollars

Six Forest Service employees earned awards recently through the Recognition of Employees Efforts and Suggestions (TREES) program.

Two Surrey Nursery employees received cheques and award certificates during a January 28 presentation ceremony held at the silviculture branch.

Peter Beck, a machine operator, suggested using a 15 foot cultivator instead of a 12 foot one to reduce labor, equipment and fuel costs with the potential for reduced weeding costs and soil erosion, and improved disease control.

Tony Willingdon, Surrey Nursery manager, evaluated Beck's idea and recommended adoption.

Chief Forester **John Cuthbert**, together with branch director **Henry Benskin**, presented Beck with a cheque for \$1,410.

Also receiving an award on January 28 and a cheque for \$500 was forest technician **Bill Sprangers**. He submitted an idea for using a 24 block movable bench system for seedlings. This allows for easier thinning and weeding of seedlings, less back strain for workers, and it also reduces a machine operator's time, and frees up a forklift.

Skimikin Nursery manager **Jim Kusisto**, together with Tony Willingdon and **Nils Sjoberg**, silviculture development officer (retired) evaluated and recommended adoption of Sprangers' idea.

At the presentation, Benskin explained how the suggestion awards program fit in with the Forest Service Guiding Principles in recognizing and encouraging initiative. **Thelma Fayle**, administrator, government employees suggestion program joined **Marilyn Seifert**, Forest Service suggestion awards co-ordinator, in congratulating both Beck and Sprangers.



Steve Grimaldi receives a cheque and a handshake from Philip Halkett.

On January 22, **Steve Grimaldi**, the protection branch's fire equipment superintendent, received a certificate and cheque for \$1,000 from Deputy Minister **Philip Halkett**.

Grimaldi modified a supplies requisition form (FS677). This has improved the efficiency of operations by reducing paperwork and saving staff time. Evaluators of Grimaldi's idea were **Nick Downs**, assets co-ordinator, and **Bill Dexter**, manager of equipment and asset management, both of the technical and administrative services branch.

Richard Turgeon, a service technician in the Fort St. James forest district received a \$250 award for devising a loading assembly that enables one person to do the work of three, in half the time. Evaluators included Bill Dexter and **Mr. J.L. Thornton**, manager of equipment and bridge resurfacing, Ministry of Transportation and Highways.

Forest technician **George Neagele** of the Chetwynd field office received a \$200 cheque for his idea of using a closed ballot-type box for holding bids in the tendering process to ensure competitive bidding. **Diana Lucas**, contract administration co-ordinator with the technical and administrative services branch, and retired Dawson Creek district manager **Bob Gibbs** evaluated Neagele's suggestion.

Don Wilson, an auxiliary office assistant in Quesnel proposed customized contract envelopes for the ministry. **Pat Megson**, forms management analyst, and Diana Lucas, contract administration analyst, both of technical and administrative services branch, evaluated and supported Wilson's idea. Wilson was awarded \$400 for his suggestion.

Further information about the TREES program can be obtained from your office contact or from **Marilyn Seifert** at 387-3212 or OV MSEIFERT.

submitted by Marilyn Seifert, TREES program co-ordinator, technical and administrative services branch

News in brief

Recent news releases

- Canwood Furniture Factory of Penticton awarded two-year timber sale licence - #001
- First Nations Forestry Council announced - #003
- Formation of forest sector economic strategy advisory group announced - #004
- Forest service road inspections result in action in Mackenzie forest district - #005
- Evans-Westshore proposal to include Revelstoke - #006

Kamloops trip a real 'eye-opener'

The Kamloops forest district is one of the busiest in the province, but staff took time out from their regular routines February 10 to "give the brass a tour."

Deputy Minister **Philip Halkett** and **Wes Cheston**, assistant deputy minister, operations, were in Kamloops for an Operations Division Management Team meeting, but arrived early at District Manager **Bob Miller's** invitation so they could tour the district office and see what's happening. Nearly all 64 regular staff members were on hand to meet them and **Fred Baxter**, Kamloops forest region manager, and give a highly informative briefing on current district operations, highlights, and concerns.

Miller said he was pleased by the visit because it gave staff and members of the executive a real chance to interact. "We have a people philosophy here," he said, explaining the visit was a great opportunity to reinforce that philosophy.

"The benefit of a visit like this goes both ways. It gives executive a better appreciation of some of operational activities and initiatives, and they get a better feel for the things taking place in an interior district," he explained.

On the other hand it gives staff the "opportunity to know the deputy and ADM Ops and to identify with them and their philosophy of the Forest Service. And I think it's motivating for staff when members of the executive shows an interest in what's happening in the district," Miller said.

Miller went on to say the visit also gave the district a chance to show off a bit. "We're proud of what we're doing in the Kamloops district. I think we've shown some innovation and leadership in a lot of areas."

For example, Miller cited Resource Officer, Protection, **Rick Swift's** work on wildland/urban interface program. Through extensive community outreach, Swift has raised awareness about the program throughout the district.

On April 21, the program will be tested during a major simulation and exercise in which residents of one Kamloops neighborhood will be evacuated because of a 'serious fire.' The simulation will be run with the full co-operation of the Kamloops Fire



Kamloops forest district's 'PHSP Central.' Standing are (from left to right) Deputy Minister Philip Halkett, Kamloops Operations Manager Martin Lindberg, and Assistant Deputy Minister, Operations, Wes Cheston. Seated are Reuben Irvine (left) and Steve Schell, both timber resource assistants.

Department and other municipal agencies.

The fire control room is also the busiest in the province, dealing with an average of 145 fires a year. But Swift says the cost to the district per fire is about \$5,700, while the provincial average is approximately \$14,000.

Equally proud of his staff's work on the pre-harvest silvicultural prescription (PHSP) review, Miller said the job has been a real team effort. "We have three teams doing it, involving people from virtually all the programs. There's even a friendly competition between teams to see how many each can pump out."

In "PHSP Central," **Trudy Goold**, silviculture audit forester, told Halkett and Cheston the nine-person teams had plowed through more than 1,200 files in the last week and a half, "so we're about two-thirds done."

On the tour Halkett, Cheston and Baxter saw displays and heard presentations about district planning activities, lakeshore harvesting guidelines, initiatives with First Nations peoples, recreation and range activities, silviculture, and harvesting.

The trio also learned about the district's high-profile issues and concerns.

With more than 1,200 lakes, lakeshore management, landscaping and visual quality objectives are big issues. But Miller said because the issues are high profile, the district's guidelines for harvesting near water are the "best in the province."

He points to Roche Lake, site of the 1993 World Fly Fishing Championships, as an example. "Harvesting has taken place very close to the lake, but it's been done in such a way that it looks like a park. There are going to be outdoor writers from around the world here and they will get a first-hand look at sensitive harvesting practices."

Planning has also been a challenge in the district because of its nine biogeoclimatic zones. Several areas may be designated as protected, there are a large number of recreation sites, and the district has the heaviest range workload in the province. But staff have taken on these challenges and managed to fully involve the public in the planning process.

After the tour Halkett had an informal discussion with the staff. The deputy gave his views on the Forest Service and the directions in which he would like to see it go.

He also fielded some tough questions. The main concern expressed was budget constraints, but the staff also questioned Halkett on the ministry's organization, freedom to manage, the forest practices code, land claims, the protected areas strategy, and the timber supply review.

Halkett said he was very impressed with the tour and the staff.

"The people here are articulate, energetic, excited by what they're doing, and proud of their work. They're not afraid to try new things." The deputy

added that the complexity of issues staff faced because of the district's geographical diversity was a real eye-opener.

Cheston said the visit was a great opportunity to meet staff, hear their concerns and see the complex problems they deal with on a day-to-day basis.

"Everyone here should be proud of what they're doing," Cheston said, "They have a proud past and I know they're going to have a proud future."

Proud and busy.

Miller explained 1993 will be one of the district's busiest years. Kamloops is the provincial forestry capital and activities are planned to run throughout the year.

April sees the wildland/urban interface simulation and May has the opening of the new Kamloops district office in conjunction with National Forestry Week.

June is even busier with an integrated resource management symposium, the planting of the three billionth tree seedling, the World Fly Fishing Championship, forestry tours, plus the district is hosting the Inter-Provincial/International Fire Suppression Olympics.

Cattle Drive '93 goes in July and district staff will be involved with the Canada Summer Games, August 8-21.

submitted by Paul Lackhoff, public information officer, public affairs branch

Mackenzie district targets truck safety in second annual enforcement blitz

Logging truck safety was the focus in Mackenzie last month during the district's second annual enforcement blitz.

More than 200 loads of logs a day are trucked over forest roads in the area during peak season—roads which the public also use.

"We've got more than 11 000 kilometres of forest roads in the district, serving rural communities, native villages and tourists who travel the roads at various times of the year, so we're concerned for their safety," says **Rod Deboice**, Mackenzie district manager.

"We're also concerned for the safety of the workers and drivers who are running some of these trucks that shouldn't be on the road."

During the three-day blitz, Forest Service staff worked side-by-side with inspectors from the Motor Vehicle Branch, the RCMP and the Workers Compensation Board, checking for oversize loads, mechanical problems and safety violations.

To ensure complete coverage at the road check, Forest Service district staff worked shifts measuring load sizes and recording the data on-site using a lap-top computer. Regional revenue inspectors were also on hand to check timber marks.

This was the first check using the new load standards for maximum width, height, and overhang introduced in the district last fall. Only two trucks exceeded the maximum width, which is a big improvement over last year. However height and overhang remain problem areas. Of 281 trucks checked, 124 were overheight and 118 had excess overhang.

The Forest Service hopes to continue working with local agencies to hold the inspections again, said district operations manager **Dave Francis**. After all, as he wrote in a release to local media, if the safety program prevents even one injury, it will have been worthwhile.

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



Lorne Wood, resource assistant, silviculture, measures logging truck load for Mackenzie's truck safety blitz.

New policy on sexual and workplace harassment

The much publicized U.S. Supreme Court nomination hearing of Clarence Thomas raised society's awareness of harassment in the workplace.

It also increased the determination of individuals to eliminate it.

The B.C. government introduced a new sexual and workplace harassment policy and procedures recently and many people are wondering what may be considered harassment and what they can do to stop it.

Harassment takes many forms and can be expressed in a number of different ways. Harassment may include the following behavior:

- unwelcome remarks, gestures, jokes, innuendo or negative, offensive comments about a person's body, sex, sexual orientation, clothing, age, marital status, ethnic or religious background;
- practical jokes that cause embarrassment or awkwardness;
- offensive, disrespectful pictures including calendars, pinups and cartoons;
- verbal abuse or threats;
- unwelcome invitations or requests;
- leering or other gestures;
- suggestions that favors may be exchanged for work-related benefits such as promotion and favorable job assessments;
- condescending behavior that erodes a person's self-respect; and
- unwanted physical contact including physically aggressive touching such as pinching, patting, grabbing, kissing, and fondling.

Harassment makes people feel uncomfortable and sometimes threatened. The intent of the harasser does not determine whether behavior is harassment — it is the perception of the person being harassed that is

important. The determining factor is the impact of the harasser's behavior on a "reasonable person." If you are unsure whether your behavior may be considered harassment by a "reasonable person," chances are that it might be.

Harassment of any kind will not be tolerated in the Forest Service. If you feel that you are being harassed, there are a number of responses or steps that can be taken to ensure that it stops.

1. Tell the harasser clearly and firmly that his/her behavior is objectionable and/or offensive. For example, you might say:

"I am uncomfortable when," or "I do not appreciate it when . . ." (you put your hands on my waist, brush past me so closely, tell sexist/racist jokes) . . . "I would like you to stop . . ."

If you are not able to confront your harasser or if you are uncomfortable doing so, you could send a letter to the harasser asking for the behavior to stop. Keep a copy of the letter and any other correspondence that you send or receive about the issue.

2. Start to document all instances of harassment. This record should include the offender's name, the date, time and place of harassment, and a detailed description of their behavior. The name of any witnesses should also be recorded.

You might also seek the support of individuals you work with. It is likely that some of them may be harassed by the same individual.

3. Remember that there are people in the ministry who can support and assist you. You can contact a member of the employment equity section, a human resource officer, your union steward, or your supervisor to discuss your situation

What is sexual harassment?

Sexual harassment as defined in the Sexual Harassment Policy and Procedures of the Government of British Columbia:

Sexual harassment is any unwelcome comment or conduct of a sexual nature that may detrimentally affect the work environment or lead to adverse job-related consequences for the victim of the harassment.

Sexual harassment includes, but is not limited to, unwanted physical contact, sexual advances, requests for sexual favors, suggestive or offensive comments or gestures emphasizing sexuality, sexual identity, or sexual orientation.

and explore the options available to ensure the behavior stops.

Inquiries and requests for help with respect to harassment can be made in confidence and will not become part of your personnel record. More importantly, at no point will you be forced to take action against your harasser.

4. If harassment continues despite your request that it end, there are other formal options that you can explore to deal with it. One of these options is the new sexual harassment policy and procedures which applies to all government employees. Copies of the policy can be obtained from the employment equity section or your human resource officer.

If you would like more information on workplace and sexual harassment, contact your human resource officer, union steward, supervisor, or a member of the employment equity section. The employment equity section can be reached at 387-3231.

submitted by Claire Handley, acting equity advisor, employment equity section, human resources branch

Forest Service joins forces with KIDZONE

The Forest Service has joined forces with the Knowledge Network's award-winning KIDZONE television program, to help bring home information about forest ecology to children.

This season, the popular pre-teen show, which targets an eight- to 12-year-old audience, features a series of eco-lessons.

Alison Nicholson, manager of research extension, research branch, and **Sandra Thomson**, research ecologist with the Prince Rupert forest region provided the technical information for the 13-part series.

"In each installment, one of the eight KIDZONE kids travels from the television studio to a forest setting through a 'mystery door' to investigate a riddle about the eco-lesson topic," says Nicholson. "When they solve the riddle they in turn find a piece of a puzzle that they build on each week."

The lessons cover biodiversity, ecosystems, climate, soils, water, plants, habitat, tree tops, old growth, succession, disturbance, the food web, and humans in the forest environment.

Ecological information will also be a part of the KIDZONE newspaper, a weekly page that appears in the Sunday color comics section of the *Province*.

KIDZONE is designed to fill a void in quality children's programming by offering strong role models and issues relevant to kids. The program airs on Sundays at 8:30 a.m. and repeats Thursdays at 6:30 p.m.



The KIDZONE kids tackle a forest ecology puzzle this season. Clockwise from top left: Kendall Saunders, Kea Wong, Sarah Chalke, Todd Shymko, Andrea Nemeth, David Schumann, Jai West, and Aly Jiwani.

Northern Interior Lumber Sector AGM in April

The Council of Forest Industries Northern Interior Lumber Sector will hold its Annual General Meeting on April 1-3 at the Inn of the North in Prince George.

The first day's program includes panel discussions on the global fibre supply outlook, the social and economic costs of environmentalism, and the environmental campaign in Europe.

Topics on the second day include a strategy for growth in Canada's forestry industry, the need for a B.C. forest sector strategy, and a Native perspective on land claims.

Program and registration information will be available in February and registration will be required by mid-March.

Upcoming seminars in First Nations forestry and riparian management

The B.C. Forestry Continuing Studies Network has announced dates for more sessions of Building Bridges for First Nations Forestry.

This one-day seminar introduces forestry specialists to issues surrounding First Nations forestry in B.C., and examples of First Nations forestry initiatives are highlighted.

Seminars will take place in Smithers April 20, in Kamloops June 1, and in Prince George October 27.

A Riparian Habitat Management and Research seminar/workshop will be held in Kamloops May 4-5.

Current research on riparian habitat ecology and management strategies will be discussed during a one-day seminar. This will be followed by a workshop to define riparian zone management problems and research priorities to address these issues.

Operational forestry personnel, biologists, naturalists, scientists, and forest managers are encouraged to attend.

Contact the local delivery centre of the B.C. Forestry Continuing Studies Network for further information or phone the provincial office at 822-5874.

Call for nominations: 1993 Environmental Awards

Each year the Minister of Environment, Lands and Parks recognizes individuals, groups, and organizations in British Columbia who devote their abilities to enhancing, preserving, and protecting the environment.

To be eligible to receive an award, a group, organization, or individual will have been instrumental in:

- identifying, reducing, solving or avoiding an environmental problem;
- demonstrating consistently responsible environmental management practices;
- promoting active concern for the enhancement and protection of the environment; or
- improving public awareness and understanding of an environmental problem or solution.

The awards will be presented during Environment Week at an awards ceremony held at Government House, June 10. Presentations will be made by the Honorable **David C. Lam**, Lieutenant Governor, and the Honorable **John Cashore**, Minister of Environment, Lands and Parks.

The deadline for nominations this year is April 2.

If you would like a nomination brochure contact the public affairs and communications branch of the Ministry of Environment, Lands and Parks at 387-9419.

For your information

Estimating the Abundance of Arboreal Forage Lichens, Land Management Handbook Field Guide Insert #7.

Arboreal lichens provide important winter forage for caribou in south-eastern B.C. Timber harvesting can remove this source of food, possibly for whole rotations. Forest and wildlife managers require lichen data to evaluate options and make decisions.

This field guide makes possible the simple collection of quantitative information on arboreal lichens.

The authors of this guide are preparing a short course that will describe how to gather, analyze, and use lichen abundance information. For further information about mountain caribou ecology or research on integrated management contact **Harold Armleder**, wildlife habitat ecologist, Cariboo forest region at

398-4407, or **Susan Stevenson**, wildlife biologist, Silviflora Research at 564-5695.

The Field Guide to Pests of the Managed Forest in British Columbia has been updated and is now available from the Queen's Printer.

This guide is designed for field personnel with limited knowledge or experience in pest identification. General pest groups, important insects, diseases and abiotic agents, and the damage these cause are highlighted. It is not intended to replace the specialized training required to become proficient in diagnosing all causes of damage to our forests.

The guide sells for \$18.00 and may be ordered using a Queen's Printer customer order form or a purchase order. For more information contact **Don Rosberg** at the Queen's Printer Publication Centre—387-4161.

Appointments

The recreation branch has some new faces:

Ron Rutledge started in mid-December filling the new position of wilderness area management specialist. Rutledge has done contract work for the Forest Service in the past. He is currently finishing a PhD in wilderness management for the University of British Columbia's Faculty of Forestry.

Ward Trotter became the branch's recreation analysis specialist January 28. Trotter was previously with Alberta Parks where he worked with visitors services.

Jacques Marc started as the senior landscape forester February 1. Marc was the Port Alberni forest district's recreation and landscape officer.

SISCO 1993 winter meeting

The Southern Interior Silviculture Committee (SISCO) will hold its winter meeting March 22-24 in Penticton at the Coast Lakeside Resort. This year's theme is 'Opportunities for shelterwood and selection in southern B.C. forests.' The goal of the session is to increase each participant's knowledge of how, when, and where partial cutting systems may be used.

More information can be obtained from **April Anderson** at 365-7292.

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Mailing Address:
1450 Government Street, Victoria, B.C.
V8W 3E7

Phone: 387-5255 FAX: 387-8485

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