



The British Columbia

Forest Service

Newsletter

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A newsletter for Ministry of Forests employees

May 1994

Chief Forester presented with historic book, documents

A piece of Forest Service history is back where it belongs. On May 3, during National Forest Week, former Research Director **Ralph Schmidt** presented Chief Forester **John Cuthbert** with a signed, first edition copy of **Martin Allerdale Grainger's** *Woodsmen of the West*.

Grainger had originally presented the book to the **Honourable William Ross**, minister of lands, as a Christmas gift in 1909. The book later came into the hands of **H.R. MacMillan**, the province's first chief forester – possibly by way of a second-hand bookstore. In 1952, MacMillan decided that this book really should be part of the chief forester's library, and passed it to **Dick Orchard**. In turn, Orchard gave the book to Chief Forester **Fin McKinnon**.

While recently working on a history of the research branch, Schmidt was preparing biographical sketches of the 1930 research branch staff, one of whom was McKinnon. On meeting with McKinnon's widow Beatrice, Schmidt discovered that the original copy of *Woodsmen of the West* was still in her possession. It had apparently retired from the Forest Service along with McKinnon. Mrs. McKinnon surprised Schmidt by giving him the book, saying, "I think you can figure out where this book ought to belong."

The book and associated documents will be housed in a custom-built display case in the executive branch reception area.

Grainger was born in England in 1873. He attended Cambridge University and graduated in mathematics in 1897. Shortly thereafter, he left for the Klondike to seek his fortune in the gold rush.

Two years later, having met with no success and suffering permanent damage to his feet from frostbite, Grainger returned to Vancouver where he attempted to enlist for service in the Boer War. His application was rejected because of his disability, although he did eventually serve for two years in South Africa and was decorated on several occasions.

After the war, Grainger again returned to B.C. to try his hand at gold mining, this time in the northern part of the province. Failing to make his fortune, he returned to England. However, the pioneering spirit was deeply engrained in Grainger's blood and he made his way back to B.C. in 1907, this time to work as a logger on the coast.

He married in 1908 and returned with his wife to England. Unable to support himself and his family and wanting to raise



Former Research Director **Ralph Schmidt** presented Chief Forester **John Cuthbert** with a signed, first edition copy of **Martin Grainger's** *Woodsmen of the West* on May 3, 1994. The book and associated documents will be housed in a custom-built display case in the executive branch reception area.

funds to return to Canada, he wrote *Woodsmen of the West*, describing forestry and life in the logging camps at beginning of the century. The book was a success and Grainger took up residence in Victoria where he got a job teaching at St. Margaret's School.

The 1909 Royal Commission of Inquiry on Timber and Forestry gave Grainger the opportunity to work in government when he was hired as secretary to the commission. The commission sat in 15 communities in B.C., made several trips to the United States and Eastern Canada, and consulted with the most renowned North American foresters of the day. In his work with the commission, Grainger travelled extensively and learned a great deal about forestry.

When the commission completed its work, Grainger was hired to put all the findings and recommendations in writing. He wrote the 1911 *Forest Act* and became the first Forest Service employee. MacMillan became the first chief forester in 1912 with Grainger as his right-hand man. When MacMillan left the Forest Service in 1915, Grainger took over the job – without ever having taken a single course in forestry.

Also on hand for the presentation were: **John Stokes**, deputy minister 1968–1970; **Lorne Swannell**, chief forester 1965–1972; **Ralph Robbins**, former assistant deputy minister, operations and former chief forester; **Edo Nyland**, who joined the research branch in 1955; and, **Lois Dellert**, former deputy chief forester.

Please distribute to all employees at their work stations

Forest worker training is a success in 100 Mile House

Government incentive funds are well spent on programs such as the Forest Worker Development Program (FWDP) when unemployed community members are trained to become valuable forestry workers, and are themselves able to create employment for others.

The program was a definite success in the 100 Mile House forest district where the FWDP provided a training program to educate and provide on-the-job skills to social assistance and unemployment insurance recipients. The training was especially focused on silviculture treatments such as spacing and brushing and provided participants with the possibility of employment in silviculture, an area that often suffers from a shortage of skilled and motivated workers.

The program had three target levels into which 22 trainees were divided, depending on each individual's experience and demonstrated field proficiency. A unique feature of the program is the bridging level. These positions provide more intensive training to workers who have some forestry experience, including those who have participated in earlier training programs. The local contracting level funds work for qualified people who can contract with the Forest Service directly and hire crews themselves.

The FWDP was implemented by invitation to tender, and was awarded to the contractor who showed the best combination of qualifications, training and experience, and could provide the necessary equipment to operate the crews. In this case, Rocky Forest Management of 100 Mile House was the successful bidder.

Their program supervisor, **David Van Pelt**, kept all participating parties informed on crew development and made sure the training courses were provided for the crew members and foremen. Together with Resource Officer **Mark Seilis** and Silviculture Planner **Ray Raatz**, Van Pelt managed the work

order of blocks to be spaced and much of the paperwork that comes with this type of program. "I have a tendency to get involved," Van Pelt commented. "Seeing these crews rally to the challenges was a real inspiration for me. It was a genuine cooperative effort, and credit needs to be given to everyone, from the people in the initial planning stages to those who hung in there to make this project successful."

George Ostoforoff was the administering resource assistant for the program. "I found that the program was useful and definitely fulfilled a need," Ostoforoff says. "The program should continue since it provides an opportunity for some people to become contractors. We had a worker graduate to the local contracting level. He was given a direct award, which he completed with 96 per cent quality, reaching full payment. The only problem we saw was finding enough suitable candidates for the entry level crews to get the program up to speed."

The ten-person bridging level crew was able to continue on to the local contracting level. They completed a contract on a 20-hectare uneven age Douglas-fir winter spacing block and are now looking forward to bidding on other silviculture contracts.

Canim Lake Band member **Andy Christopher** was one of the foremen on the program and is now the proprietor of A.T.C. Contracting. "The crew made it happen," Christopher says. "Without them I could not have started this company. We are all in this together. We went ahead and took the fallers and buckers course on our own, which we all completed. Now that I have a loan approved for our own equipment we're ready to work."

Operations Manager **Terry Wardrop** also agrees that the program was extremely successful. "Compared to previous employment initiatives," Wardrop says, "the FWDP has had the most positive result in seeing people move from social assistance to full employment. The drive and effort people put in has produced very positive results."

Several Forest Service staff members were involved in the administration of the program. Seilis, who had the responsibility for financial management says, "This program had the best incentives in the last ten years for workers and was well received by the participants. It's a successful program. To continue these kinds of programs with this type of incentive is the way to go. I'm pleased that the participants went on to do a direct contract under their own initiative."

Retiring 100 Mile House District Manager **Ray Ostby** was also pleased with the results of FWDP, saying, "It's remarkable that a crew has been able to work through all three levels – from entry to bridging to handling a local contract on their own – in just one season."

Ostby hopes that the FWDP program will continue to provide opportunities for community members who are willing to make a difference.



Bridging Crew '93: Back row (left to right): Isodore Billy, Treasa De Bungie, Andy Christopher, Doug Martin, Jim Nichol, Daryl Theodore. Front row: Brian Bob, Elmer Rususki, Blair Hodgson. Missing: John Dixon.

Article and photo contributed by Jasmin Buelow, forest technician, silviculture, 100 Mile House forest district.

Research branch starts genetic diversity study in response to Forest Practices Code

The proposed Forest Practices Code (FPC) requires that artificial reforestation not decrease the levels of genetic diversity across the landscape, and that biological diversity be maintained in natural regeneration in alternative silvicultural systems such as the seed-tree and shelterwood systems.

To ensure silviculture programs are meeting this requirement, research branch is investigating the effects of genetic selection and partial cutting on genetic diversity.

The study will be done in the Shuswap-Adams low elevation breeding zone of interior spruce. Genetic diversity will be measured through an analysis of isoenzymes – biochemical markers that are unaffected by the growing environment of a tree and are, as such, a reflection of its genetic make-up. In this investigation a 'landscape' is equivalent to a watershed or drainage.

Three watersheds in the breeding zone will be sampled to obtain estimates of genetic diversity in mature natural stands as baseline information. Seed orchard trees at the Shuswap-Adams Low Seed Orchard, located at Kalamalka near Vernon, will be sampled to estimate the genetic diversity in the 'parent generation' of orchard seed. A plantation established from this orchard in the Clearwater forest district will also be sampled and compared to the baseline genetic diversity in the natural stands. Finally, seed trees in partial cut stands will be sampled to compare their genetic diversity to wild stands.

Research Scientist **Michael Stoehr** says that this type of study is a first in North America and will provide information on how genetic diversity is affected by genetic selection and some partial cutting practices. "For example," Stoehr says, "comparing the levels of genetic diversity in natural stands and the seed orchard trees will show whether the orchard trees represent the genetic diversity of this species in this breeding zone."

"By comparing the seed orchard trees with the plantation, we can determine if genetic diversity is lost through nursery culling or early mortality in the field. Furthermore, by comparing the genetic diversity between the plantation and the natural stands, we will see if the use of selected material will conform to the FPC rules. Finally, when we sample the regeneration arising from seed trees or a shelterwood system, we will be able to see if this natural regeneration under partial cuts will have similar levels of diversity compared to mature natural stands."

The study is being carried out by Stoehr and **Clint Hollefreund** of the Glyn Road Research Station in Victoria, with assistance from **Clare Hewson** and

Chris Walsh of the Kalamalka Forestry Centre. The samples will be analyzed under contract by the Pacific Forest Products laboratory in Saanichton. Funding for this project comes from silviculture branch under the Silvicultural Systems Program. The project is expected to be completed in the spring of 1995.

*For more information, please contact **Michael Stoehr**, Glyn Road Research Station, Victoria, telephone: 356-9049.*

Happy 50th Smokey Bear!

During the Second World War, forest fires consumed an average of 13 million hectares per year in the United States. At a time when manpower to fight fires was scarce – members of the Civilian Conservation Corps, established under President Roosevelt's New Deal, had all been drafted – the War Advertising Council launched a national forest fire prevention campaign. Forests were viewed as an essential source of war material as well as a potential target for enemy attack.

The advertisers initially appealed to patriotism with phrases like, "Careless Matches Aid the Axis" and, "Our Carelessness, Their Secret Weapon." The first posters with an animal spokesperson appeared in 1944 – not Smokey Bear but Walt Disney's Bambi! The Office of War Information and the U.S. Forest Service had planned a whole series of animal posters but after various trials, a bear was chosen and a character designed with the official costume much as we see it today.

The slogan, "Only You Can Prevent Forest Fires," first came about in a series of radio ads in 1947. Smokey's broadcast voice was that of a popular disk jockey who spoke into an empty wastepaper basket to achieve the proper authoritative effect.

There is also the often-told story of the abandoned bear cub found after a fire near Santa Fe, New Mexico. This event actually happened in 1950. The cub was nursed back to health and became part of a popular display at the National Zoo in Washington, D.C.

Smokey came to Canada in 1956, courtesy of the Canadian Forestry Association. An operating agreement with the U.S. Forest Service gives the association exclusive control of the Smokey Bear image. He can also be found in Mexico (where he is known as Simon) reminding residents and visitors alike of their common responsibilities to use care with campfires when travelling in or through forest land.

Smokey Bear has probably become the most widely recognizable and successful public service image of our time. In fact, many foresters would say Smokey has been too successful. In his recent book, *The Dying of The Trees*, author **Charles Little** suggests that Smokey is responsible for such support for fire suppression and opposition to prescribed burning that the fire risk has actually increased in western U.S. forests.

So, is Smokey Bear due for a new image – a kinder, gentler Smokey? Perhaps more tolerant of fire in the cause of good forest management? How do we explain this to a six-year-old? One thing is for certain, and that is that Smokey Bear will probably be around for at least another 50 years.

National Forest Week 1994

*National Forest Week 1994 was bigger and better than ever thanks to all the Forest Service staff who worked so hard to make it a success. To all the people who volunteered their time and effort to lead tours, organize events and meet the public, and especially to **Smokey Bear** and all his helpers, a big vote of thanks from all of us. You did a great job!*

In Duncan:

The Duncan forest district office's open house on May 5 gave staff a chance to tell their story. Visitors met the staff and saw scaling and fire equipment demonstrations. Many people also took the opportunity for tours of the Messachie Lake Forest Research Station.

Duncan forest district Operations Manager **Doug Eastman**, reports positive feedback from visitors.



Smokey Bear is a popular guest at any event. During National Forest Week he's the star.



In Victoria:

Victoria's National Forest Week events drew more than 1,400 students to the Tillicum shopping centre and the interpretive trails at Beaver Lake Park. Staff from several branches worked hard to keep everything running smoothly.

A real treat at the May 7 Family Fun Day event was a display of native dancing by the Salish Dancers of the Songhees band. Above, the dancers perform a friendship dance with members of the audience.

In Williams Lake:

The main National Forest Week event was organized in conjunction with a May 6 – 8 forestry trade fair. Staff took the theme 'Growing With Our Forests' one step beyond with a forest discovery trail.

Constructed indoors in a local ice arena, and complete with trees, the discovery trail included displays from the Williams Lake forest district and Cariboo forest region along with other federal and provincial resource ministries; forest companies and local businesses; and, the University of British Columbia and the UBC Alex Fraser Research Forest.

Visitors were provided with a forest passport (limit one per family) and could have their passport stamped at each location along the trail if they answered a skill-testing question. Finding the answers to the questions encouraged interaction between visitors and the people working in the different display areas.

Williams Lake forest district Silviculture Planner **Eric Johansen** said, "Kids really enjoyed the passport idea and so did the adults. We hope to have something similar next year."

In the Mid-coast District:

"It was a huge success. Everything went really well. International Forest Products co-sponsored our National Forest Week activities and took 20 school classes on tours through the Saloompt forest trail."

"More than 300 people came to our family forestry day on May 7. The logger sports for kids were a big hit. We had a tug-of-war; a planting relay; a fire hose relay; a nail driving contest; and, the pulma horse - a contest for adults where two people sitting on a padded beam hit each other with burlap sacks stuffed with pillows until one falls off. The whole thing finished off with a big water fight using everything from water balloons to fire hoses."

"We had a tough time at first getting volunteers to be Smokey Bear, now I know why. I wore the costume for about 20 minutes and it was a hot day. I thought, 'Smokey Bear is going to pass out and smother all these kids if he doesn't get out of the costume!' He was a really big hit."

"This is the first time we've tried to do something like this and we were very pleased with the number of people who showed up."

– **Nancy Colpitts**, district planner,
Mid-coast forest district.

You made it Happen!

In Prince George:

In Prince George, the week began with the third annual Tree Planters' Picnic on May 1. The two to three thousand planters who pass through Prince George each year are important to the local economy and the picnic is the community's way of showing its appreciation. As part of the event, tree planters, Forest Service staff and members of the public planted 5,000 trees in a city park.

Other activities for the week centered on the new 600-square-metre Resource Awareness Centre, which officially opened during National Forest Week. Prince George district staff also led school tours of the Willow River demonstration forest.



Premier Mike Harcourt was on hand in Prince George for the official opening of the new Resource Awareness Centre.

Photo by Jeff Elder, Prince George forest region.

In Merritt:

Merritt forest district staff took 300 grade 4 and 5 students tree planting. The students also entered a poster contest with five winners chosen for a stay at Silver Lake Camp. For high school students there was a Reach For the Tree-tops quiz with questions about forestry and environment.

The real show was in Princeton where the community organized a parade and logging demonstration that drew an estimated 1,000 spectators. Local logging contractors brought in mature trees and replanted them at the community fairgrounds. These trees were then harvested to demonstrate falling, harvesting, skidding and limbing.

In Kamloops:

A three-day mall display had plenty for both adults and kids – everything from consolidated development plans and a protection interface display to posters, activity sheets and tree growing kits. A small business display featured many of the products manufactured locally from wood made available under the small business program.

On Arbour Day, regional staff gave presentations to all the first grade classes in the district.

In Prince Rupert:

On April 30, North Coast forest district staff went tree planting with Scouts and Beavers. The Scouts planted 2,500 Sitka spruce seedlings. The Beavers planted 640.

In keeping with this year's National Forest Week theme, the district sponsored a cottonwood tree growing contest, which began in March. Runners-up received framed Smokey Bear posters but the grand prize was a helicopter tour of the city for the winning class courtesy of Vancouver Island Helicopters. The winners were announced during a mall event on May 7 and prizes were presented by the mayor.

In Invermere:

The Invermere forest district kicked off its National Forest Week celebration with a tree planting. A group of Scouts, Scout leaders and parents planted 1,000 seedlings on the site of the Luxor Fire.

A pancake breakfast on Friday, May 6 at the Invermere forest district office served 200 people. Nearly 400 people toured the offices during the day-long open house.

The 'Growing With Our Forests' kids' poster contest had more than 100 entries.

The Invermere district extended its National Forest Week activities over two weeks to include a trade show where 5-year plans were on display and poster contest winners were announced.



Photo courtesy of Pat Wadey, Revelstoke forest district.

In Revelstoke:

"We had good weather throughout the whole event. More than 300 grade 3, 4 and 5 kids visited the Mount McPherson demonstration forest over a three day period.

"There were displays from silviculture, protection, timber, recreation and engineering branches. The engineering branch display was a hit. The kids got to crawl all over the equipment on display and pull levers and learn how it worked."

"District staff served a hotdog lunch with chips and doughnuts and juices each day and our district manager and operations manager were tour guides."

– Pat Wadey, resource officer, Revelstoke forest district.

'Intangible benefits' earn suggestion award

Brian Atherton, resource officer, protection, Kispiox forest district, suggested replacing the current telephone service for fire hazard information with a taped telephone message to provide accurate information to all parties involved in fire fighting.

During the 1992 fire season, the fire control officer was swamped with telephone calls from the forest industry and the public regarding the fire hazard. The number of staff taking fire information calls and, sometimes, giving slightly different interpretations of the hazard level, further complicated the problem with the telephone method.

Atherton proposed a service that would program all calls to a single information line. Industrial operations could call at any time of the day and get current information from one source. Eliminating the need to handle routine telephone calls would

allow the fire control officer to concentrate on more important tasks.

Provincially, a system of this nature could significantly reduce the staff time required to advise clients of the fire hazard. Atherton suggests that the recorded message system would result in a reduction in industrial fire starts through better compliance with the Forest Fire Prevention Regulations, and allow the Forest Service to communicate with one voice.

Protection branch Director **Jim Dunlop** evaluated the suggestion and, although he did not agree with the feasibility of Atherton's idea that a provincial system could significantly impact staff time, he did recommend adoption of the idea at regional or district levels. Dunlop recommended an award of \$200 based in intangible benefits.

Contributed by Marilyn Seifert, suggestion awards program coordinator, technical and administrative services branch.

A win-win for the Forest Service and Whistler Mountain

If you've ever been skiing at Whistler Mountain and enjoyed its scenic beauty, you may be interested to know that the Forest Service has played a role in creating a more productive and scenic area.

Two years ago, **John Evdokimoff**, a timber resource assistant in the Squamish forest district, was skiing at Whistler and noticed dense monoculture stands in the forested areas

between the ski runs. These stands did not provide any scenic value for visitors to the mountain and presented potential fire hazards and blow down risks. Having lived in the Kootenays, where glade skiing is popular, Evdokimoff thought a selective harvesting program would increase recreational opportunities for the area.

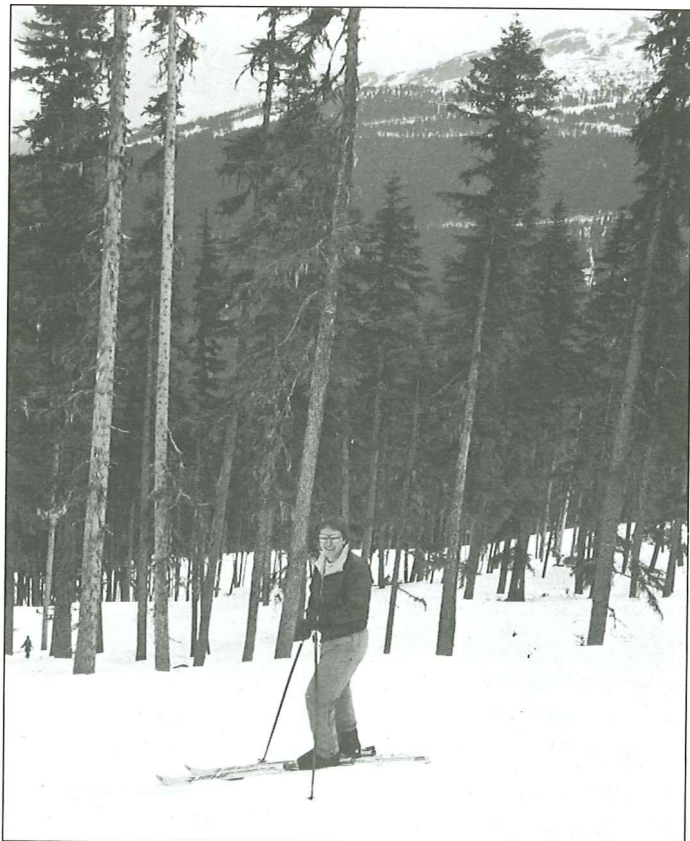
After working out a program with Whistler Mountain, about 14 hectares were selectively harvested last summer. Forty per cent of the trees were removed in the harvested areas, making them more open and accessible. By thinning out these forested areas, skiing opportunities increased, forest health improved and wildlife diversity multiplied.

According to **Dave Hennessey**, selective logging manager at Whistler Mountain, there have been great benefits to the area from the program. "We have been extremely impressed by the results of this program and have received positive feedback from our visitors," Hennessey says. "Last year 650,000 people visited Whistler Mountain during the winter season and 100,000 during the summer. The harvested areas have provided skiers with new trails among the trees and have provided us with a healthier and more visually appealing forest."

Clearly, this initiative has been a success story from the start. The Forest Service has shown how an alternate harvesting system can be introduced at a ski hill and how it creates many positive opportunities. Evdokimoff believes this is a prime example of corporate integrated resource management.

Plans are under way at the Squamish forest district to continue with the program. An additional 15 hectares will be harvested on Whistler Mountain this summer as well as 20 hectares on Blackcomb Mountain. Joint Forest Service and Whistler Mountain signs will be placed on the trails to promote international understanding of the management project.

Article and photo contributed by Charlotte Wardell, public information officer, public affairs branch.



Selective harvesting at Whistler Mountain increased recreational opportunities and visual appeal. Ably demonstrated by John Evdokimoff, resource assistant, timber, Squamish forest district.

Forest resource education network formed

Forest educators come from all walks of life and can be found in many different places. A new organization, the BC Forest Educators, wants to help forest resource educators exchange ideas; share information and resources; nurture contacts; and, raise awareness of the importance of forest resource education in British Columbia.

Dan Jepsen has been involved with forest education for more than ten years. "The public," Jepsen says, "has become much more concerned and environmentally conscious. And although they may not have the answers, they very much know the tough questions that need to be asked. With 95 per cent of the forest land in the province being publicly owned, we have to be prepared to make the commitment to educate people so that, when they do have to make difficult resource decisions, they make them in a balanced and knowledgeable way. That makes forest education very much a growth area."

Soon after joining the staff of the Association of British Columbia Professional Foresters (ABCPF), Jepsen began working to develop an organization that would support forest education. In the fall of 1992, working with a small group of forest educators, he began surveying people on what the common interests and issues were.

The result of this initiative was a forest educators seminar held March 10 and 11 in Vancouver. More than 50

participants, including teachers; staff in federal and provincial resource agencies; people working in the forest industry and at forestry centres; and, members of professional organizations attended the two-day conference.

The topics included: how to handle difficult audiences; how to run a public meeting; innovative ideas for woods tours; design and development of interpretive media; and, conducting elementary and secondary school presentations.

Over the next year, the B.C. Forest Educators' goal is to see the organization develop a mission statement and recruit people who will represent their areas of interest on a committee. "We want to have the committee formed and operational by the beginning of September, which coincides with the start of the school year. At the same time, we are looking closely at the idea of holding a short one-day workshop and coming up with an overview of where we think forest education should be going in the province over the next ten years. This forest education vision would be circulated to senior levels of industry and government," Jepsen adds.

Jepsen does not feel that it is the ABCPF's role to lead this process. Instead, he sees a partnership between areas of interest that will act as an umbrella group for forest educators.

*For more information, contact **Dan Jepsen**, chair, B.C. Forest Educators, telephone: 687-8027.*

Are you fit for duty? Protection has a new fitness test!

Fighting forest fires is hard work, and physical fitness is important to ensure fire fighters are able to do their job safely and effectively. New fitness standards developed after an extensive research project undertaken in cooperation with the University of Victoria have been put in place this year. If you've ever had a hankering to get out on a fire line, here is what it takes.

In the 20 metre shuttle run, participants start off at a slow run and gradually increase their speed. Each level consists of six passes up and down the 20-metre course. Approximately every 60 seconds, an audio signal increases the pace by .5 km/hr. Runners must cross the line at either end of the course in time with the signal. To pass, a runner has to reach level 10 (13 km/hr).

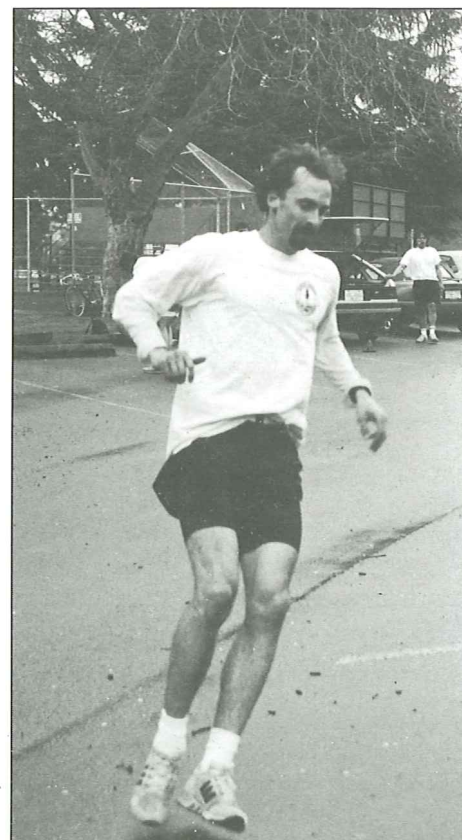
After 15 minutes rest, it's time to move on to the upright row – 25 repetitions lifting a 44-pound weight in time with a metronome.

Finally, just to even things out, there is a test on some real-life fire fighting equipment. After carrying a 65-pound fire pump the length of a football field (100 metres), the timer starts for participants to carry 400 feet of coiled fire hose a total of 300 metres.

The final section (with the clock still running) is to drag a charged (water-filled) 1.5-inch hose 50 metres out and back twice – a total of 200 metres. To pass, the hose carry and hose drag have to be completed in under four minutes and ten seconds.

This is a demanding test but it is a thorough measure of aerobic fitness, agility and muscular strength. It simulates as much as possible the kinds of activities fire fighters must be able to perform.

More than 900 fire fighters will be taking the test this year.



*On the 20-metre shuttle run Native Unit Crews Coordinator **Steve Bachop** shows how it's done – just don't let your feet touch the ground!*

Forest Patrol assists in two rescues

In the tradition of Forest Service marine history, the ministry's new vessel, *Forest Patrol*, is performing numerous tasks. Although the vessel is primarily equipped for forestry roles, it recently assisted in two separate rescue missions.

After receiving a mayday call, the *Forest Patrol* retrieved the crew of a drifting American sailboat and towed their disabled vessel to repair facilities. The rescued sailors were provided with a meal and a hot shower. Shortly thereafter, *Forest Patrol* was called in to pick up two Forest Service staff who were stranded in an inlet when their aircraft could not return due to bad weather.

Forest Patrol is presently stationed in the Mid-coast forest district. It replaces the *Yellow Cedar*, which served from 1944 until 1992. The 53-foot ex-RCMP vessel was refitted at Canoe Cove Manufacturing in Victoria and now sports the Forest Service colors – green and white. With twin 435-horsepower Caterpillar engines, the *Forest Patrol* can reach a cruising speed of 17 knots.

Crew quarters located both forward and aft can sleep nine. Equipped with two showers, washer and dryer, TV/VCR and CD-player as well as complete kitchen facilities and deep freezer, the *Forest Patrol* allows staff to work for extended periods of time away from the district office.

The vessel is also capable of making its own fresh water supply with an on-board desalinization plant. A 35-kilowatt generator powers the radar, GPS, two echo-sounders, two UHF radios, one Forest Service radio, and faxcom. The vessel is also capable of electronic charting, three-station steering and carries a Zodiac inflatable boat.

Forest Patrol gained its name through a 'name-the-boat' contest that encouraged staff from across the province to submit name suggestions. With more than 150 entries received, the winning name was suggested by four staff from technical and administrative services branch in Victoria.

Don Brickwood, Glenn Ellis, Kevin Laton, and Rick Scharf will receive an enlarged photograph of the new vessel as thanks from the Forest Service.

*Contributed by Nancy Argyle, public affairs officer,
Vancouver forest region.*



The *Forest Patrol* is presently stationed in the Mid-coast forest district. The 53-foot ex-RCMP vessel replaces the *Yellow Cedar*, which served from 1944 until 1992.

Best Wishes!

Ron Edward, fire management coordinator, Kamloops forest region, is retiring this month after 36 years of service. Ron started with the Forest Service in 1958 in the Vancouver forest region as a dispatcher in the Squamish and Hope districts. From 1961 to 1970 he was assistant ranger in Harrison Hot Springs, Mission, Port Hardy and Chilliwack. He became a deputy ranger in 1971, and from 1971 to 1974 he worked in Port Hardy and Cultus Lake.

In 1974, Ron moved to the Nelson forest region as senior zone technician. In 1975 he moved to the Kamloops forest region where he spent a year in the Blue River forest district and then moved on to the regional office, working in timber and protection and eventually as fire management coordinator.

Jack Pearce, retired this April after 35 years with the Forest Service. Jack's first job with the Forest Service was in 1959 as a student scaler. He spent nine years working out of Vancouver as a 'transient' scaler before moving to Duncan in 1968 to become a resident scaler. When scaling functions were privatized in 1985, Jack was appointed checkscaler in the Duncan forest district, a position he held until his retirement this year.

Jack's retirement plans include a European vacation in the early summer and spending lots of time with his grandchildren as well as continuing his many charitable activities. He also intends to continue his scaling career as a scaler in the private sector.

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Contributions are welcome. Please send your comments, suggestions and contributions to: **Paul Lackhoff**, editor, (phone: 953-3142, E-Mail: PTLACKHO) at public affairs branch, or **Gordon Williams** (phone/fax: 380-9959).

The deadline for contributions to the next issue of the **Forest Service Newsletter** is **May 31, 1994.**

