

integrity and innovation

PUBLIC SERVICE WEEK | JUNE 10 -16, 2018



Advisory Group Vision:

"True to our proud histories, informing ministry staff through balanced and timely communication"

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Issues of “*The Dirt*” will be posted online quarterly. The newsletter and facebook group are for all employees and former employees and is intended to provide up-to-date information on the organization. Add your story to *The Dirt* facebook account. “Participating in social media means contributing content or comment. When doing so, we trust you to be professional, personable, and relevant.” Social media guidelines.



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The Dirt Contents, June 2018

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Mega thunderstorms and volcanos: remembering the 2017 Wildfire Season

Submitted by: Michael Oomen, Internal Communications Coordinator, Claire Allen, Information Officer (interviewed)

On August 12, 2017, in the middle of an already unprecedented wildfire season, scientists witnessed what has been called one of the biggest meteorological events in recorded history. Huge thunderstorms, triggered by the combined heat of four large fires sent smoke shooting into the earth's atmosphere and spread to cover the entire Northern Hemisphere.

"The most significant fire-driven thunderstorm event in history." – meteorologist David Peterson

This unique weather pattern is known as a pyrocumulonimbus event, and this was by far the largest one ever observed. CBC News interviewed David Peterson, a meteorologist at the U.S. Naval Research Laboratory in Monterey, California for comment.

"This was the most significant fire-driven thunderstorm event in history. Nothing else even comes close," said Peterson. "The total amount of smoke that was released into the lower stratosphere was comparable to a moderate volcanic eruption."



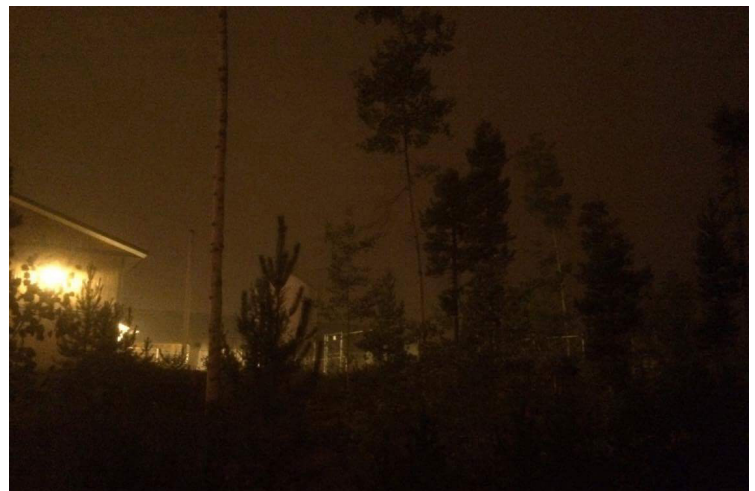
These storms, called pyroCB for short, only form under certain conditions and on August 12th with large thunderstorms looming, the conditions were perfect. The fires in the Chilcotin were growing and Rank 6 behaviour (the most extreme rating used by BCWS) was being reported. At the end of operations that afternoon, as the crews drove back to base they were unaware that things were getting worse—much worse.

The updraft created by the heat from massive forest fires was rising quickly and produced a thunderhead that sparked lightning, rain and wind. "You end up with these really dirty thunderstorms that act as a large chimney that takes smoke directly from the ground to high altitude—at least to the altitude of aircraft cruising," Peterson said.

Claire Allen, an Information officer at the Provincial Wildfire Coordination Centre in Kamloops recalls watching the effects of the pyroCB event first hand.

"It was crazy stuff, I remember Quesnel was dark by 15:00 that day, and before that the Blackwater unit crew had to pack up their tents with flashlights and headlamps as Nazko went completely black."

Altogether the event lasted about five hours. Claire Allen contacted Rick McRae, a Fire Behaviour Analyst, for his perspective. "After it happened, I asked our Australian FBAN to write up the science aspect of what occurred, as he had recognized the event due to his previous experience with pyroCB research in Australia for the ACT Rural Fire Service."



continued...

Remembering the 2017 Wildfire Season continued...

Quick facts McRae reported about the August 12th event:

- Because of conditions, the fire began burning in an unstable atmosphere and coupled with the air above it—creating a feedback loop— and formed a “blow-up fire event”.
- The plume rose past the cloud and rapidly formed a fire thunderstorm—a pyroCB for short.
- This punched into the stratosphere—over 13.5 km above the ground.
- The cloud in the top 31km of this was “glaciated”—made of ice particles. That is ice in a fire plume!
- The aerosol injection was measured as the highest recorded globally, since 1978 when satellite monitoring began.

- Based on the aerosol injection it seems that we had the most intense wildfire activity on record (since 1978).

McRae noted that there will be a lot of science done on the effects of the 2017 BC Wildfire Season and key lessons may contribute to new predictive models being developed in Australia.

“Are the forces of nature being revved up by climate change?” asks McCrae, “This is a challenging question to ponder as scientist track the passage of the smoke and soot from the BC fires over the Arctic and the Greenland Ice Shelf.”



Have a Story idea?

Send *The Dirt* Advisory Group your ideas!

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Haida Gwaii Bear Cubs Get a Second Chance

Submitted by: Teresa Russ, Xuuya K'aadjuu Giis, Junior Stewardship Technician, Erica Reid, BC Timber Sales Practices Forester and Berry Wijdeven, SAR Biologist, Marine Planning Specialist

Photo Credit: Jags Brown, Skidegate, Haida Gwaii

In November of 2017, the local Natural Resource Officer in Queen Charlotte received concerned calls from Skidegate residents about two bear cubs spotted in the community. These bears came in after an adult female bear had been removed from the village around the same time, leading us to believe that it had been the sow to these two cubs. With the help of local volunteers, one bear cub was captured in a live trap near the ferry landing and a week later a second cub was tranquilized and captured near Skidegate. The Council of the Haida Nation (CHN), Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development, Conservation Officer Services, Northern Lights Wildlife Society, as well as many volunteers worked together to ensure these cubs made it safely to the Northern Lights Wildlife facility in Smithers.

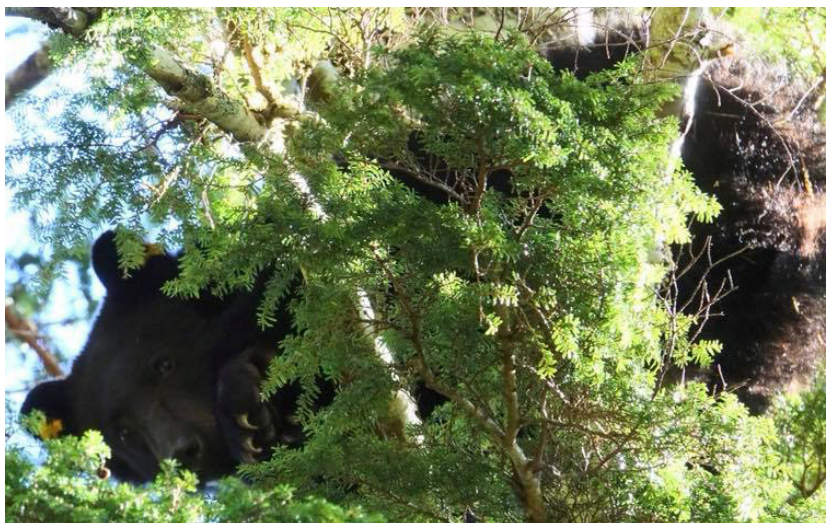


While the bears were in the wildlife facility, the Skidegate Haida Immersion Program (SHIP) gave them the names Gwaii Taan (Island Bear), and Taan Sqwaana (Other Bear). The bears were well cared for with the Northern Lights Wildlife Society for close to a year. During their time there, Angelika Langen, of the Northern Lights Wildlife Society indicated, “both cubs were very shy and chose not to interact with us. They loved to climb and preferred to spend their time at the high spots in the enclosure. They stayed close together and the male was very protective of his sister in regards to the other bears.”

On May 7, 2018, the bears were brought back to Haida Gwaii to be released back in to the forest at the Dawson inlet estuary, with the assistance of local Conservation Officers, the District Species at Risk biologist, Northern Lights Wildlife society members, the Highlander Marine Services boat crew, a camera crew for the Wild Bear Rescue TV series, and myself as the CHN Junior Stewardship Tech. We were all there to see them return home to the forest on Haida Gwaii, now at 60lbs (male, Gwaii Taan) and 58lbs (female, Taan Sqwaana), to give them a good habitat with lots of food sources well away from the community, for the best chance at a new life away from humans.

**Teresa Russ, Xuuya K'aadjuu Giis
Junior Stewardship Tech (& District of
Haida Gwaii WildSafeBC Coordinator)**

Teresa was born and raised on Haida Gwaii and has recently taken on a role as a Junior Stewardship Tech for the Council of the Haida Nation. She is based out of the Provincial District office, working on stewardship initiatives for both governments. She is also the District coordinator for WildSafeBC (<https://wildsafebc.com>), a program that seeks to reduce human-wildlife conflict in communities that interface wildland habitat.



Victoria Space Moves – Space the final Frontier!

Submitted by: Wendy Robinson, Director Facility Projects

We have just launched an epic space project here in Victoria! No we are not jetting into outer space; however, we are starting a journey that includes over 600 FLNR staff moving from 6 locations into 2. The project will take two years to complete and in the end will see the consolidation of several divisions for the first time.

Like any journey, there are many components to consider. What should I pack? What will it look like when I get there? Who will I be sharing things with? This is not a simple move as it requires quite a bit of planning, change management and of course getting use to the idea of working in Leading Workplace Strategy (LWS) environment.

It is early days in the process with staff now aware of which building they will be moving to; either Capital

Park or Jutland. Soon we will be discussing “where” in the building staff will reside, and finding out who their new neighbours will be.

As the Director responsible for this project, I do know there is a lot of work ahead and encourage you to stay connected through our Intranet site: [Victoria Space Moves](#) where you can get the latest information.

We want you to be as ready as you can so one really helpful hint is to start looking around your cubicle or office and really think about what you really use and how you might be ready to let some things go—using the correct Information Management (records) processes of course! This is a great opportunity to do some clean up like you would do at home before you move.

Here are some pictures of a recent office clean up conducted by our colleagues from CSNR:



The countdown has begun. This is really happening. I look forward to working with everyone and encourage you to get involved! Hang on folks—fasten your seat belt and its okay to say “are we there yet, are we there yet”?

If you are a former employee and want to keep up with the latest Dirt, please contact Sheila Tucnik and she will add you to the retiree's email distribution list. Provide email, home phone and home mailing address. You can contact Sheila directly at Sheila.Tucnik@gov.bc.ca. Don't forget our [Facebook](#) page!

NROs: Dressed for Success

Submitted by: Rachel Witt, Internal Communications Coordinator



“What are you?”—a question of which most Natural Resource Officers (NROs) are familiar. For years, the esoteric pale green uniform led the public to wonder who stood before them. As the main enforcement arm for FLNRORD, NROs not only want to be professionally identifiable by partners and internal and external clients, but also by the general public, who help identify non-compliance through the Natural Resource Violation Reporting (NRVR) line.

On May 15th, the Natural Resource Officers retired the light green ensemble and rolled out a new look. “The new uniform provides NROs with a strong identity and a professional image that reflects our dedication to protecting natural resources in BC,” explains Kootenay Boundary NRO Supervisor, Aaron Gervais. “Our pride in our mandate is now apparent through the new uniform, and this has provided officers with confidence and a sense of belonging that is so important to our organization’s culture.”

For many, this confidence and sense of belonging had immediate public impact. “Most of my NROs have taken more time to speak and interact with general public members, stakeholders, Indigenous communities, BC government and federal government agencies than they have in years,” explains Skeena Regional Manager, Rebecca Misener, “and we are directly seeing the outcomes in the increase of complaints submitted to the NRVR.”

Beyond the colour scheme, one of the impactful factors in sourcing and supplying the new uniform was finding clothing that accommodates the female body type. When asked about the sex-specific uniform sizing, Thompson Okanagan NRO, Tammy Jones commented “at least now women could wear the male alternative if their body type prefers this, but for me, I now don’t have to take alterations into consideration when given the opportunity to purchase a woman’s shirt and pants.”

The updated materials and improved fit bring the organization to current enforcement industry standard—a welcome upgrade which contributes to being relevant and competitive in the job market for highly qualified natural resource investigators. NROs have already received positive feedback from other provincial and federal agencies increasing the branch’s awareness as a credible law enforcement agency.

This updated enforcement agency branding is a physical manifestation of upgrades and changes within Natural Resource Officers’ operational policies, business planning and overall evolution. “It has really provided a gateway to garner support from our partner agencies,” observes Misener, “which will hopefully enable us to move our program forward in the future.” When asked how the new uniform made them feel, every single NRO answered with the same three sentiments: professional, proud and respected.



Stone's Sheep finds a home in Fort St. John airport

Submitted by: Michelle Larstone, Community Engagement Specialist

Photo credit: Michel Lavallee, Fish and Wildlife Section Head

Airports have become popular venues for displaying art and other symbols of a region's natural landscape. Think of the Indigenous art at YVR, or the Kermode bear in Terrace's airport. It's a great way to showcase a sense of place to those arriving for a stay or people just passing through.

North Peace Regional airport, located in Fort St. John, has recently joined the ranks of northern airports proudly hosting a wildlife display. Stone's Sheep are an iconic species in the Northern Rocky Mountains, and the story of how YXJ acquired their Stone's Sheep display is an interesting one.

The Stone's Sheep horns were found by an individual hiking in the North Rockies near the Toad River. The hiker carried them down and contacted the local Conservation Office Service with the find, which was readily accepted. After some consideration, ministry staff approached the North Peace Regional airport manager with the idea of a prominent display in the airport.

Not surprisingly, the airport manager was enthusiastic about the concept, and so ministry staff set about generating additional support. Many groups came on board to make the display a reality: Inukshuk Wildlife Studios took on the project under Lino Griffoni's supervision, and taxidermy was paid for by Northern Guides Association, North Peace Rod and Gun Club and a local business. Peace Glass donated the glass for the display case and the cape was donated by Riverjet Adventures. Behind the scenes, ministry staff in the northeast Resource Management group coordinated the whole project and paid for the background decal.

Thanks to all these efforts, travellers that come to the northeast via Fort St. John are greeted by this beautiful Stone's Sheep display and message: "The Peace Region is home to the majority of the world's Stone's Sheep population, and attracts hunters and sightseers from far and wide hoping to catch a glimpse of the mountain monarch."



Welcome Michael Oomen as New Advisory Group Member



I began my journey west from Ontario a little over twenty years ago. I spent about ten years working in Alberta for a number of advertising and marketing firms as well as a five year stint with Adobe Systems in their Calgary office. I've always enjoyed working in fast paced, creative environments and adapting my communication skills to new technologies. Since moving to Victoria I've worked primarily as a communications and marketing freelancer, helping organizations adapt their customer and community engagement strategies to an online world. I was lucky enough to join BC Wildfire Services in October of 2017, and truly enjoy being a part of such a hard-working and dynamic organization. I look forward to representing BC Wildfire Service as The Dirt Advisory Group member.

Too Good to be True?

The old saying “this sounds too good to be true?” Well, it most likely is.

Have you had your identity stolen or been scammed online, could be from a phishing email, greeting card or rental property?

Some things you can do before this happens to you.

- Only deal with familiar entities.
- Be careful of unsolicited emails.
- Understand the offer; make sure the seller knows all the details (although some scammers are well versed in the product and or vacation rentals).
- Guard your personal information. Do not give your SIN or other identification to an unknown source.
- Don't believe promises of easy money. Although it would be nice to make a quick buck!
- Pay the safest way – credit cards are the safest. Never wire-transfer.
- Think twice about entering contests operated by unfamiliar companies.
- Never give your personal banking information to someone over the phone – even if they say it is Revenue Canada or your bank.

Everything looks legit, contracts, bookings, email addresses you name it, but when the money is in their account – see ya later – you've been scammed.

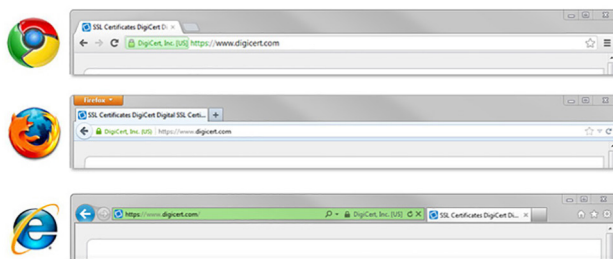
Hopefully you find out soon enough to retrieve any losses, but if not, you need to:

- Gather all the information about the fraud. Keep all your emails and other communication documentation.
- Keep a log of who, when and what happened throughout your investigation. Please understand that you are your own advocate and that you are about to go down a rabbit hole. It might get frustrating and overwhelming, so take some breaks and try to remember to keep your real life going.
- Call your credit card company or bank. Never call the number noted in a phishing email.
- File a police report (locally and where the thief lives/ activity took place, if known).
- Contact Equifax and TransUnion and place flags on your accounts.
 - o If there are banks and other creditors fraudulently listed on your accounts, you need to follow up with them. Note, this might mean

asking your phone company for a better rate as these calls need to happen during the day and can be costly.

- Contact the Canadian Anti-Fraud Centre.
- Consider hiring a lawyer.
- Ask for support from your friends and family! This can be a wearisome time, and it helps to let people in.

Check for signs in the email address domain.



If the URL of the website begins with “https” instead of “http,” it means the site is secured.

Look at the domain. If you get an email from your bank or other online vendor, don't click on the email link. Type the domain into your browser to make sure you are connecting to the website you intend to be.

If you are dealing with a rental through VRBO, Airbnb or other organizations, stay on the secured website, do not deal with the owner or property manager through a different email whether they suggest it or not—most likely the property manager or owners email got hacked and the hacker is just waiting on the rental site for the next travel goer. If fraud happens through a rental website, such as VRBO, Facebook, eBay, report the incident directly to the website.

Don't be caught a first or second time, take actions to prevent it now.

However, sometimes information does get corrupted or leaked from big institutions and trusted companies, and there's nothing you could have done to prevent fraud or identity theft from happening. If you see anything suspicious, then follow up on it. It could be the tiniest thing, like a company's postcard that tips you off, but it's important that you do all you can to stand up for yourself.

Remember, your life must be pretty great if they're working so hard to snipe it.

A Day of Learning at the Invisible Migration

Submitted by: Michelle Larstone, Community Engagement Specialist, Skeena Region

“Five at 25, up” Karen says confidently into the truck’s radio. We are 25 kilometres up FSR 4000, the lead truck in a convoy of five government vehicles, heading to Lake Babine Nation’s annual Invisible Migration event. Using the radio properly is the first in a series of lessons that day.

The Invisible Migration refers to the journey that salmon smolts make as they travel from their birthplace out to the Skeena estuary and eventually the ocean. All species of salmonids are present in the Babine River, with sockeye being the most numerous. Since up to 90% of Skeena River sockeye are produced in Lake Babine Nation’s territory, it makes good sense that the Invisible Migration event takes place there.

The radio crackles more and more as our group gets closer to the Babine River counting fence, the logging road dusty with other vehicles heading there and calling their location. We aren’t sure if trucks are hauling yet but hey, better safe than sorry.

The Babine River salmon counting fence was established in 1946. It is used to provide an accurate escape-count of sockeye and other species of salmon entering Babine Lake. For today’s event, it serves as a bridge to the jet boat tours that people are lined up for, despite the chilly air. Smoke from the cooking fire hangs over the river.

Clad in life jackets, we pile into the boat five at a time, as our tour guide leans on the outboard and heads upriver. A veteran fish tech, he



explains that we are headed to the Babine River smolt station. As he talks, I look back at the tents on shore and hear the drumming start.

Our boat docks five minutes later at a floating station and we hop out. Several people holding a tank full of smolts are busy with a dip net, and we watch them until someone comes over to ask if we would like a tour of the buildings. We follow him and learn the interesting story of the smolt project.

The smolt project runs for about six weeks each spring to collect the data needed to predict future years’ salmon returns. Technicians catch a certain number of smolts each day, tag a portion, and release them upriver. A percentage of those marked fish then show up again in their nets in subsequent days, and using a formula the fisheries technicians can estimate the total number of smolts leaving the Babine system. This simple methodology, called “mark

recapture,” is repeatable and reliable.

In the spring of 2013, the Lake Babine Nation Fisheries program, along with the Skeena Fisheries Commission, re-initiated the Babine River smolt counting that had been discontinued in 2000. Declines in wild salmon stocks were one of the factors that propelled Lake Babine Nation to seek funding to restart the program.

The rain is really coming down as we get back in a jet boat for the return ride downriver. This time, our driver is Billy Labonte, a seasoned fish guide and the owner of Babine Norlakes Steelhead Camp. He skillfully maneuvers us back to shore and we make our way back across the weir. Chiefs in regalia are drumming and people are singing as kids carry roe on cedar to the river’s edge for a ceremonial send off. We chat with others as we take it all in, the rain turning to mist.

continued...

Learning at the Invisible Migration continued...



The smell of barbequed salmon piques our attention; it's coming off the fire at the same time bannock dough is starting to fry in enormous cast iron pans. The lineup of people waiting patiently for fresh fry bread grows as the smell wafts across the crowds. Some elders sit under tents staying dry and eating cake; others brave the drizzle and chat in small groups. Everyone is friendly and accepting.

The sun is out and the ground is steaming when it is time to go. Our goodbyes and thank yous are received with smiles and nods as we head back to the truck. The early morning convoy has broken up; the way back is just us. We're quiet on the drive home, sleepy and reflective. The day has left a nice impression on all of us. There is a lot to think about and to process: the value of relationships, community, ceremony, and ways of knowing. We play a driving game the last 50 kilometers, just to stay awake. My back-seat mate wins.



Have a Story idea?
Send *The Dirt* Advisory Group your ideas!

Don't forget about the Facebook page
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/flnrnews/>



BC Moose Tracker App

Play an important role in moose conservation and management with the **BC Moose Tracker** app. The app allows hunters to upload information about the moose they encounter directly to a province-wide database, helping wildlife staff monitor moose populations and respond to emerging issues.

The **BC Moose Tracker** app was developed with support from the Habitat Conservation Trust Fund and the BC Wildlife Federation.

For more information and to download the BC Moose Tracker on iTunes, please visit:

www.gov.bc.ca/wildlifehealth/moosetracker



Interested in reading past newsletters?

You can find archived ministry newsletters dating all the way back to 1922 at:

<https://gww.nrs.gov.bc.ca/flnrord/news/community/forestry-newsletters>

https://www.for.gov.bc.ca/ftp/HEX/external/publish/Web/News_Letters/

We hope you enjoy reading about the past!

2nd Generation Ministry Member?

Are you a 2nd generation ministry member, or maybe a 3rd?

If you are, or know of someone who is, we would like to feature your story in *The Dirt*.

Please submit your suggested story to

FLNRNews@gov.bc.ca.



Ensure you have the latest transformation buzz and subscribe to the NRTS newsletter by sending an email to nrpp@gov.bc.ca.

You can view previous NRTS newsletters [here](#).

The 47th Annual Trap Shoot

Submitted by: Brian Rosengren, Stewardship Forester

“The turnout was normal this year. Forty Five shooters comprised of nine, five-person shotgun trap and skeet teams, and also Wildlife Service Branch crews setup tents, tables, chairs and equipment. Barry Jenkins served as range master “

Alexis Creek and Williams Lake staff from the Cariboo-Chilcotin District organized the Trap Shoot, which was held at Alexis Creek’s

Chilcotin Rod and Gun Club Range on Saturday, May 26 under variable sun skies.



The Sam Davis All Stars team, from left to right was composed of Roman Chapman, (Brian Rosengren - presenter), Bill Chapman, Sam Davis, Steve Raymer and Chris Schmid (not in picture), 100 out of a possible 125 points.



Adam Veley was the top gun of the day, missing only once out of 25 attempts. Faith Menke brought home the female top gun with 13 out of 25. Adam was the last man standing on the first Annie Oakley trap shoot line, winning the Kevin Frittenburg Memorial Trophy.

George Ostoforoff, meanwhile, triumphed on the second Annie Oakley line.

The .22-calibre rifle shooting winners were Connie Haley in first, Patty Menning in second and Jo Fosberry in third in the women’s division.

Journey Carlson, Meakin Carlson and Rio Epps in the youth category, finished first, second and third, respectively.

The Murphy’s Law team of Horsefly prevailed in a hard-fought battle for the lowest score trophy, while Peggy Menning was the 179th-fastest gun.

“Everyone enjoyed fun in the sun, and the camaraderie of old and new friends



TO THE TUNE OF JINGLE BELLS

THE ACRONYM SONG – BY ALICIA (NE. SKLAPSKY) BORENHEIM

CHORUS

ACRONYMS, ACRONYMS, WHO NEEDS THEM ANYWAY?
FLNRORD-FCBC-HEY!

A DAY OR TWO AGO, I REVIEWED A **FSP**
I DIDN'T LIKE THE **VQO**, THEY CUT TOO MANY TREES, OH!

CHORUS

THE BIDS ARE ROLLING IN, ONLY ONE WILL GET A **TSL**
BCTS IS MANAGING THE **AAC**, MAKING MONEY SELL SELL SELL, HEY!

CHORUS

LET'S GO PLANT SOME TREES, DON'T FORGET YOUR POLASKY
THEN PUT ON YOUR **PPE** TO COMPLY WITH **SOP'S**, OH!

CHORUS

LOG INTO **NRSOS**, IF YOU WANT A SKOOKUM MAP
THERE'S **ILRR & KMZ – WTH** IS THAT? HEY!

CHORUS

THE **ABCFP** JUST CALLED, I FORGOT TO PAY MY DUES TODAY
MAYBE I'LL TRADE MY **RPF** FOR **NRS** OR **CSA**, OH!

CHORUS

IF YOU WANT TO MINE FOR GOLD, YOU NEED A **BCEID**
SUBMIT A **NOW** ON **MTO** AND PAY AT YOUR LOCAL **FCBC**, HEY!

CHORUS

THE CURRENT **ALP** IS HIGH, THE MARKET'S NEVER BEEN SO GOOD
YOU'D BETTER GET A **PTM & MSD** SO YOU CAN MOVE SOME WOOD, OH!

CHORUS

WHEN YOU'RE WORKING HARD IN **TRIM**, IT'S MORE LIKE LORD OF THE RINGS
WHAT'S WITH ALL THESE **ORCS** AND **ARCS**, I THOUGHT I WAS FILING, HEY!

CHORUS

COME GET YOUR **FUP**, TO CUT A CHRISTMAS TREE (NOT **CMT**)
MAKE SURE YOU'RE ON AN **FSR**, TAKE YOUR **ORV** NOT YOUR CAR, OH!

CHORUS

CALL THE **BCWF**, IF YOU LOST YOUR **CORE** CERTIFICATE
BEFORE YOU GET A **LEH** YOU HAVE TO GET A **FWID**, HEY!

CHORUS

YOUR TRUCK JUST GOT A FLAT AND YOU FORGOT TO SIGN IT OUT IN **SOSS**
CALL **ARI VAS** AND MAKE SURE YOUR **VIR** AIN'T LOST, OH!

WE ARE A **BCFSC**, I'M TALKING CERTIFIED SAFETY
BCP, ERP, FA3, IC, MSDS, OHS, PPE, SCI, WHIMIS, WCB
THOSE WERE ALL ALPHABETICAL, I HAVE **OCD**, OHHHHHHHHHHHHHHH!

CHORUS

The Dirt Photographers!

Time to get out and snap some photos! *The Dirt* Advisory Group increasingly requires good quality digital photos for the quarterly newsletter. We acknowledge that there are skilled photographers among ministry staff and would like to showcase your photos in each quarterly edition.

Categories

Photos can consist of:

- Workplace images – individuals or groups/teams in office and field settings; health, wellness and social activities;
- Community involvement;
- Wildlife; or
- Scenic.

Submission Details

- Deadline for submissions is changed with each edition and will be noted on the previous edition.
- Images can be submitted to: FLNRNews@gov.bc.ca
- The contest is open to all ministry employees and retirees.
- Interested staff can make submissions to as many editions (season/category) as they want, but there is a limit of 5 images per category.
- We are looking for recent photos; please limit your entries to shots taken within the past 2 years.

Prize Inventory



Don't forget to try your hand at writing a limerick or poem. Send [The Dirt](#) Advisory Group your ideas!

Prizes and Judging

- There will be an overall “Best” image in each category;
- Judging will be done by the Advisory Group;
- Images will be judged on composition, clarity, exposure, creativity, relevance to the ministry and category fit;
- The winner of the “Best” image in each category will be sent a prize for their photo (see Prizes available);
- Individuals can win only one prize; and
- All winners will be announced with their photo in the edition of the newsletter.

Technical Specifications/Requirements

The following specifications and requirements have been established to ensure that images can be used in a variety of applications.

1. All images must have relevance to the ministry and be submitted in digital format.
2. All images must be in full colour or black and white.
3. Photo dimensions (image size) should be at 300 dpi and preferably in a JPG format and sent to FLNRNews@gov.bc.ca.
4. Images can be digitally enhanced (i.e., colour/exposure adjusted composite photos are okay), but not digitally altered (i.e. NO “Photo-Shop” images must portray subjects and/ or material in photo as they were captured).
5. When submitting images, some descriptive information is to be included – category or image and location.
6. All images submitted, whether or not selected as a winning image, may be published in future issues of the newsletter or potential other sources (The [Dirt Facebook](#) account)

For further information, contact:

FLNRNews@gov.bc.ca

DEADLINE IS SEPTEMBER 14, 2018.

June Edition Photo Contest Winners!

As we only had a few entries in the Wildlife category they are all winners.

Wildlife Category - Barred Owl, perched outside our office window.

Photos taken by: Christine Cameron and Sarah Hipkin, Senior Correspondence Analysts, Correspondence Services Section



Wildlife Category - Caught just outside Campbell River, Green Can.
It is a Chinook Salmon, otherwise known as a Spring.

Photo taken by: Alicia Borenheim, Customer Service Assistant, Front Counter BC



Photographers, please contact the [Advisory Group](#) to claim your prize or contact [Sonia Donison](#) directly.

Have a photo for the next “Photo Contest?” Review the contest guidelines and send your photo’s to [The Dirt Advisory Group](#)!



Sheila Tucnik

The Dirt is a quarterly newsletter for all employees and former employees.

Sonia Donison is providing management, coordination and production for the newsletter. Questions or comments about the newsletter should be directed to Sonia at 250 356-9638 or via [email](#).

Call for Stories/Ideas

The success of the newsletter depends upon the active engagement of staff throughout the organization. One way for people to support the newsletter is to share your ideas, news, stories, successes, experiences with revitalization and learning, celebrations and photos for use in future editions of the newsletter. People are asked to check with Sonia at 250 356-9638 or via [email](#) about their idea or ideas for an article prior to writing the story. Stories are to be submitted no later than 2 weeks prior to each quarterly edition (March, June, September, December). Article deadlines for the next edition is September 14, 2018.



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