

Learn Forestry News

January 2009



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Forest Educational Liaison, Okanagan-Columbia Zone

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Letter from the Publisher

Jennifer Stewart, Forest Educator
Okanagan-Columbia Zone

Happy New Year and welcome to the 9th issue of the Learn Forestry News online newsletter!! Now that the New Year has begun, Southern Interior forest educators are all back and more eager than ever to get into the swing of things once again.

Numerous forest education events are in the planning stages around the Southern Interior and are sure to be a great success in the coming months.

In the Okanagan/Columbia zone, we will be focusing on events such as Forestry Week presentations, the ILA Trade Show & Convention's post-secondary Education Fair, teacher kit resource workshops, ILA forest education van tours, and much more.

A big congratulation goes out to West Kootenay forest educator, Darcee O'Hearn, who had a baby boy this past August, a brother for Alexander and Jill. While Darcee is on maternity leave, her replacement, Toni Appleby, will continue to build forest education in the West Kootenays. Welcome, Toni!!

On behalf of all the educators, we are all so grateful that BC Interior forest education programs were funded once again this year, largely through a Forest Investment Council grant, allowing forest educators to continue forest education promotion through programs, resources and events to K-12 students and to the general public across BC's Northern and Southern Interiors.

Cheers!!
Jennifer Stewart



Okanagan-Columbia Forest Education Highlights

Jennifer Stewart & Kalon Nahachewsky (Forest Educators)

With the start of the 2008/2009 school year, Okanagan-Columbia forest educators have been hard at work organizing forestry camps, ILA van tours, teacher workshops, classroom presentations, professional development days, and recruiter road trips.

Intro to Forestry Camp

Our 4th annual "Intro to Forestry Camp" was held at Silver Lake Forestry Camp in October. This year, seventeen grade 10-12 students from high schools in Penticton, Kelowna, Vernon, and Salmon Arm attended. Our lead instructor, Kelly Hatfull (BCIT) was assisted by Mike Thomas (Tolko), Mike Closs Logging Ltd., Buddy (Equipment Operator), MOFR Fire Protection Initial Attack Crew, Robert Bazett (Tolko), Jennifer Stewart, and Kalon Nahachewsky. The program provided students with a 'hands-on' opportunity to learn some of the skills required within different parts of the forest sector, as they worked with tools such as maps and stereoscopes, compasses, GPS units, tree measurement tools and firefighting equipment. They also had the opportunity to view active harvesting and to participate in a 'Search and Rescue' exercise.



A special thank you goes out to Debbie Bazett, Forest Education Coordinator (COFI South) for all her assistance in preparing student packages and to Bryan Darroch (Gorman Brothers) for helping out with equipment and air photo packages.

Provincial Intermediate Teachers' Association Conference

For this year's fall teacher Professional Development Day, Forest Education Coordinators Jennifer Stewart and Kalon Nahachewsky, assisted by Debbie Bazett (COFI), participated in the Provincial Intermediate Teachers' Association Conference by organizing a forest education display at the conference tradeshow. Approximately 400 teachers attended the conference, many of whom visited the Forest Education display and picked up free intermediate forest education resources for use in their classrooms around the province.



ILA Forest Education Van School Visit

In October, 109 Grade 1, 3 and 5 students from St. Joseph's Elementary in Kelowna toured the forest education van. Some topics of interest included the history of logging, forest health, tree parts and tree ID, wildlife and tree products. Many thanks to Ann Polson and Betty-Ann McDonald (Canadian Women in Timber) for assisting with these presentations.

Annual Fall Recruiter Road Trip

The annual Recruiter Road Trip is an opportunity for forestry instructors and recruiters to visit local high schools in the Okanagan- Columbia. Because students study about forestry in their Social Studies, Sciences and Career Prep programs, a variety of classes attend the presentation, which contains a mini-forestry lesson. This year, sustainable resource instructor, Kelly Hatfull, (BCIT) spoke with 440 Grade 10 to 12 students in North, Central and South Okanagan high schools about the vast array of career opportunities in the forest industry. Students gained overall knowledge about forest management, in addition to learning about job opportunities and programs of study.



Okanagan College Carer Fair

A forestry career display was set up by Okanagan Columbia forest education at Okanagan College's Career Fair, held in November in Kelowna. Approximately 120 individuals, consisting of high school and post-secondary students, parents, and members of the community, were provided with forestry career and post-secondary program information at the annual Career Fair. Thanks to Wesley Wolf (Tolko) for his assistance in manning the booth at this event.



West Kootenay Forest Education Highlights

Toni Appleby (Forest Educator)

West Kootenay Forest Educator, Darcee O'Hearn, is currently on leave for the current school year. Replacing her in the WK Forest Education program is wildlife expert and back country guide, Toni Appleby, who has been busy delivering forest education around the region over the fall.

In September, the Interior Logging Association's forest education van was hosted by West Kootenay Forest Education, attending the Pass Creek Fall Fair along with a tour to several elementary and high schools. This is always a success with hundreds of people enjoying the tour as they learn about the history of logging and other aspects of forest education.



During the fall, Toni spent her time liaising with school principals, career counsellors and key educators as well as distributing resource packages to the 53 schools in the West Kootenay forest education zone school districts, including the newly-reprinted "History of Logging" kit for Grade 3 classes, developed as a teacher resource by Okanagan-Columbia forest educators.

Aside from school presentations, Toni's strengths are definitely in the woods and her experience as a wildlife technician and tracker have been valuable with fall and winter field trips up to the Salmo-Creston summit, where she has conducted tours of various silviculture systems and discussed responsible harvesting in Caribou habitat. She has also educated group tours on topics

such as MPB, tree ID and active logging sites in alpine zones, and has hosted mill tours and presentations on the history of logging, sustainability and practical harvesting.



Another current project for (Boundary) teachers to develop an outdoor forestry component for Grand Forks Secondary as part of their outdoor education curriculum. This program will also be utilized for career development with students.

Toni includes working with SD 51

National Forestry Week Event Held at Kokanee Creek Provincial Park
Kootenay Lake Forest District, Southern Interior Region;
Protection Branch; BCTS;
Ministry of the Environment

Learning about Forest Resources is an element of the Grade 5 school curriculum and so, as part of National Forestry Week, the local Forest Service office once again organized a day of learning and fun for these students. On September 24, 2008 staff from the Kootenay Lake District, Southern Interior Region, Protection Branch, BCTS, Ministry of Environment, and one FS retiree hosted 249 Grade 5 students from SD 8 in the Nelson area. The event took place at Kokanee Creek Provincial Park, where the creek was full of Kokanee salmon traveling up the spawning channel.



The students were circulated through eight activities, organized in four different stations. Station 1 was the Environment station where the local habitat biologist, situated right next to the spawning channel, explained how wildlife values are protected throughout resource development planning and operations. The students were also guided through the ILA forest education van (Interior Logging Association), which helped them visually relate to the products that are extracted from forest lands and the values that are



considered throughout the process. At the last stop on this station, the students learned about wildlife use of the forest.



At Station 2, the fun kicked into high gear. This was the Protection/C&E station, where the students had been warned that they might get wet! The first activity involved small teams conducting a “mock” initial attack exercise, where hand tank pumps were used to put out a real fire and “check-ins” were radioed into the local fire centre. The second activity involved a review of the vehicles, tools and equipment used by compliance and enforcement staff in conducting their field reviews. Lots of future inspectors will be checking up on Mom and Dad’s Christmas tree permit this winter! The students were very engaged in both of these activities.

Station 3 was called Bugs, Bark and Art and is this where kids could warm up, and dry out a little, while they learned about forest health. One of the activities at this station had kids use felt pens to colour a small tree cookie, which was subsequently spray lacquered, and the cookies were sent home at the end of the day as a personal souvenir. At the second activity, the students used screwdrivers to work over sections of beetle infested lodgepole pine tree boles, looking for live beetles and observing the various galleries under the bark.

At Station 4, the students completed a scavenger hunt where they discovered various forest attributes set up in a circular route through the park. Plants were identified, tree quality features were reviewed and the kids had a great time looking for all the items on their list. This station helped the students become more aware of the function and interrelationships of forest stand attributes and structure.

At the end of the day, each student received a spruce seedling from PRT (Pacific Regeneration Technologies) to take home with them, where they could watch it grow. The weather co-operated and both the kids and the staff involved left with some very fond memories.



Kootenay Lake Forestry Centre staff would like to thank all the school kids, teachers, teaching assistants, the Interior Logging Association and Pacific Regeneration Technologies for making Forestry Day 2008 a success!

East Kootenay Forest Education Highlights

Jim Jenkinson (Forest Educator)

Through the fall, Jim Jenkinson, East Kootenay Forest Education Coordinator, has been busy distributing classroom resources to teachers, librarians, and school district resource centres in the East Kootenay. “BC Forest Products for the World”, a new binder designed by FII and COFI, has been well received by secondary school teachers. The binder contains lesson



Jim Jenkinson presents a copy of the new secondary resource to SD6 District Resource Centre Coordinator, Raydene Good-May.

plans, teacher background notes, classroom activities, posters, a DVD, and a narrated PDF slide presentation to complement the curriculum for a new senior course: "Sustainable Resources 11 & 12". (For more info, see **COFI North Forest Education- New Secondary Teaching Resource**)



Planning is well underway for another YES2IT event in the East Kootenay for late May. Youth Exploring Skills to Industry Training (YES2IT) is a joint initiative of the Industry Training Authority (ITA) and the Ministry of Education (MOE). The program was designed to increase awareness of trades amongst younger students. The benefits and opportunities of a career in the trades are explored by students and parents in pre- and post- event activities. Last year, 42 grade 9 students from three schools participated in interactive, hands-on activities with trades people at the two Cranbrook campuses of the College of the Rockies (COTR). This spring, the event will be expanded to two days, with 95 students from ten schools participating. Each full-day event will also include a tour of a local manufacturing plant, and then conclude with a barbeque and a skills competition. The event

partners include Tembec, Elk Valley Coal, COTR, the ITA, the Resource Training Authority (RTO), as well as the three school districts: SD5 Southeast Kootenay, SD6 Rocky Mountain, and SD8 Kootenay Lake.

Thompson Forest Education Highlights

Susan Bondar (Forest Educator)

100 Mile House Outdoor Workshops

The Thompson Region celebrated National Forest Week with several activities. One event saw the Thompson forest educator acting as a guest speaker to Grade 4 and 5 students from School District 27 (Cariboo), who attended a day of outdoor workshops at the Demonstration Forest, just south of 100 Mile House. At one of the stations, they learned about the Mountain Pine Beetle that has impacted their area from Susan Bondar, Thompson Forest Educator.



Shadow Day for High School Students

On BC highways, we often see logging trucks travelling along the road, and some may wonder where the logs are going and where they have come from. Such was the experience for some high school students who had requested a shadow tour with forestry personnel for a day. Participants travelled to Lodge Pole Lake to learn about such topics as forest assessments, harvesting and forest health and then visited Tolko's Heffley operations for a tour of the log sort yard and plywood plant.



Raft River Salmon Enhancement Site

The Interior Logging Association's Forest Education Van was used as a teaching station at the Raft River Salmon Enhancement Site for students of the North Thompson Valley. High school leadership students assisted with the tours of the van by elementary students.



McQueen Lake Environmental Education Camp

The 3rd Annual "Introduction to Forestry and Environmental Studies" camp was held at the School District #73 McQueen Lake Environmental Education Centre for secondary students from the region. One of the more popular activities held over the three days was Fire Management, where the students tested their hose handling techniques through a mini target practice competition.

Grasslands Tour- Lac du Bois

Federation of BC Woodlot Associations AGM

Driving along the highway that traverses the city of Kamloops, you glance up at the golden grassland hills. The Federation of BC Woodlot Associations offered a tour of the Lac du Bois grasslands as part of their AGM in October, 2008, where delegates learned about the diverse ecosystems of that area.



Cariboo Forest Education Highlights

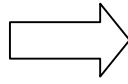
Al Menduk (Forest Educator)

Cariboo forest educator, Al Menduk, was kept busy with forest education events and activities and resource development in the fall, including teaching and Professional Development for the Grade 5 forestry program at Glendale Elementary in Williams Lake and delivering a special Forestry program at Eliza Archie Elementary School at Canim Lake, covering Grades 3 to 7.



A young student proudly shows off her finished mobile after hearing the Native legend telling why geese fly in a V, during a visit by local Cariboo forest educator, Al Menduk, to Eliza Archie Memorial School.

The class at Eliza Archie Memorial School display their mobiles.



A field tour event saw three Grade 10 science classes and their teachers from PSO Secondary visit the Peter Skene Ogden Woodlot to as part of their research on various types of ecosystems, a topic covered in their science curriculum. In these photos, they investigate plants found in a wet, swampy environment.



COFI South Forest Education

Debbie Bazett (Forest Educator)

COFI South's Forest Educator recently commissioned a new **6 Billionth Seedling poster** to be designed, commemorating the past year's significant milestone in BC's reforestation history. This poster was distributed to Northern and Southern Interior elementary schools and includes reforestation facts on the back. It can be viewed or downloaded from the Learn Forestry forest education website at www.learnforestry.com. If you are a BC resident and would like a copy of the poster, go to the "Contacts" section on the website and make a request to one of the forest educators listed there.





Throughout the fall, COFI South Forest Education has been involved in supporting all of the Southern Interior zone forest education programs by providing resources, career materials, display and promotional items and teacher handouts. Another project for the COFI South Forest Educator included updating **forestry study packages** at the Elementary, Middle and Secondary levels for the **2009 Environmental Mind Grind** competitions, an event which sees numerous school teams from around the Southern Interior compete in a game show format to test their knowledge about the environment. Forestry question packages will be again

be provided by the COFI South Forest Educator for this spring competition, with the communities of Penticton, Kelowna and Vernon hosting teams for local playoffs in April, along with Kamloops, Quesnel and Nanaimo. Successful teams in the local competitions will attend BC Playoffs in Vernon in May to compete in the finals and determine overall winners.

COFI North Forest Education

Chris Lear- Forest Education Manager

High School Students Inspired by Trades in the Forest Industry

Twenty-seven students from five high schools in School District No. 57 (Prince George) recently spent two days learning from the experts as they participated in COFI's Northern Operations' forest education programs '**Trades and Technologies in the Forest Industry Career Awareness Program**'. The students spent two intense days of on-the-job learning about forest product manufacturing and the many trades and technology careers available. On tour at Canfor's PG Sawmill, Canfor Pulp Limited Partnership's Northwood Pulp Mill and the College of New Caledonia's Trades Department, the students gained invaluable insight and personal advice from the many trades people who took time to show and explain to the students what their trades entail. As encouraging as the all trades people were about getting into the trades, what resonated most was their advice to the students to stay in school, make sure they get their math, sciences and computer skills, and be prepared for a career of continuous learning.

"This is a great program", noted Bruce Northrop, Career Coordinator for the Prince George school district. "We cannot duplicate this program anywhere in our schools. It provides an extension to what we try to teach students in school, but there is no substitute for real on-the-job learning. Our schools need to continue to partner with COFI so that our best trades students get a chance to participate in this fabulous program. A big thank you to all the companies and trades people who participated in the program."



Paul Bergeron, Head Filer at Canfor's PG Sawmill describes how band saw teeth are filed to exacting specifications.



Students visit the metal fabrication shop at Canfor's PG Sawmill with Gordon Burgess, Maintenance Supervisor (center).

The Prince George Trades and Technologies in the Forest Industry Career Awareness Program is one of five similar programs offered in school districts across north central BC by COFI Northern Operations Forest Education Program.

New Secondary Teaching Resource: BC Forest Products for the World

A new teacher resource kit designed to help educate secondary school students about the economic importance and international reach of British Columbia's forest sector has been distributed throughout the fall to 400 secondary schools around the province.

Produced by Chris Lear with the Council of Forest Industries Forest Education Program in partnership with Forestry Innovation Investment Ltd., a B.C. Crown agency, the kits help students:

- describe what happens to harvested timber;
- demonstrate the importance of the forest industry to the provincial economy;
- demonstrate the importance to the provincial economy of marketing wood products around the world;
- identify and evaluate international markets for B.C.'s wood products; and
- assess the opportunities and challenges in marketing of B.C.'s wood products internationally.

On hand to launch the new resource, Forests and Range Minister Pat Bell said, "More than anything, the kits highlight the international opportunities and global reach of B.C.'s forest sector," said Bell. "Whether it's developing new markets in China or promoting the use of wood to fight climate change, the issues that students will explore in the classroom today are the real world opportunities that promise to transform the industry in the years ahead."



"Students can take pride in B.C.'s international reputation for producing world-class products from sustainably managed forests," said Chris Lear, manager, Forest Education, Council of Forest Industries, Northern Operations. "Many are unaware of the forest sector's size and economic importance. Not only do these kits help demystify the sector, we hope they'll inspire the next generation to pursue careers in our industry and shape the future of forestry."

Chris Lear presents a copy of the new teaching kit at a Northern Interior school.

The kits build on the success of the mountain pine beetle educational kits distributed in 2006 and 2007. The resource kit, one year in the making, was developed in accordance with identified Ministry of Education learning outcomes and has been endorsed by the Ministry of Education.

For more information, contact Chris Lear, Manager, Forest Education, Council of Forest Industries, 250.614.4352 or e-mail lear@cofi.org , or go to <http://www.forest-education.info>.

PROJECT FOREST MANAGEMENT 2008 Lake District #91 Career and Trades Programs

From May 12th to 15th, 2008, the Lakes District Secondary School Career Centre in Burns Lake (School District No. 91 Nechako



Lakes) hosted the eighth annual Project Forest Management. Twenty students experienced hands-on instruction in GPS, timber cruising, brush saws, ecology, tree planting and fire protection. The students also had classroom instruction covering wilderness survival, workers' rights and responsibilities, bear awareness as well as post-secondary education in forestry before taking the Babine/Auger Forestry Circle Tour with Burns Lake Community Forest Ltd. CEO Alistair Schroff.



With the forestry sector being the number one employer in Northern BC, this project was organized for students that are considering careers in forestry. Hundreds of workers plan the logging to maximize production and minimize the ecological impact; control the diseases



and fires that threaten healthy forests; and replant and reclaim the logged areas to ensure forests for the future. Our theme this year was: "*Green, Red, Grey – A New Forest Starts Today*".

We would like to thank everyone who assisted in making this project such a success: Babine Forest Products, Burns Lake Ambulance, Burns Lake Community Forest Ltd., Burns Lake Fire Base, College of New Caledonia, Council of Forest Industries, Free Growing Forestry, Lakes District Stationery and Gifts, Lakewood Forest Ltd., Ministry of Forests, Panhandle Restaurant, Redfern's Coffee House, School District No. 91, Tree to Tree Contracting and The Workers' Compensation Board of BC. Thank you to Gavin Edwards, Curtis Lobermayer and Melissa Rema, LDSS FoodSafe students, for serving lunch at the woodlot. Thank you to Mrs. Dubé, Mrs. Ferguson, Ms. Havens and Mr. Hofer for all their hard work organizing Project Forest Management.



For more information please contact our Career Programs Centre at (250) 692-7347 or at padube@mail.sd91.bc.ca

Project Natural Resource Management 2008 Lake District #91 Career and Trades Programs

On October 7th, 8th and 9th, 2008, twenty-five students from secondary schools in School District No. 91 (Nechako Lakes) participated in the fifth annual Project Natural Resource Management. The project is hosted by the Council of Forest Industries (Northern Operations) and School District No. 91.

The students attended sessions on topics such as: Bear Aware/Safety Orientation, Ecology, Forest Health, Wilderness Survival/Orienteering, Fisheries Management and Habitat, Archaeology, Block Layout and Engineering, Wildlife Management, Timber Cruising, Silviculture, Careers in Resource Management and Integrated Resource Management at the camp located north of Vanderhoof.

We would like to thank everyone who assisted in making this project such a success – Council of Forest Industries (Northern Operations), Canfor (Plateau Division), West Fraser (Fraser Lake), Nechako Lumber Co. Ltd., L & M Lumber Ltd., Ministry of Forests and Range and School District No. 91 (Nechako Lakes).



Expanding Our Roots

New Secondary Sustainable Resources 11/12 Program Now Complete

The final version of the new Integrated Resource Package (IRP) for **Sustainable Resources 11/12** is now an official Ministry of Education program as of September 2008.

Sustainable Resources 11/12 has been designed to enable students:

- to understand the importance of sustainability and conservation,
- to develop environmental responsibility and stewardship,
- to appreciate the importance of BC resources and their uses in our society,
- to investigate career opportunities in resource industries and related services,
- to become aware of Aboriginal perspectives,
- to understand resource industries roles and responsibilities,
- to research resource related technologies and innovations, and
- to recognize economic and political influences and impacts on resource sectors.

The **Grade 11 course** is a survey course combining Forestry, Agriculture, Fisheries, Mining, and Energy components. At the **Grade 12 level**, there are four resource- specific courses: Forestry, Agriculture, Fisheries, and Mining. Any one of these five components will satisfy the grade 11-12 Graduation Program Science requirement.

To view the curriculum summary for **Sustainable Resources 11/12**, scroll to the bottom of the Science IRP listing at the following link: http://www.bced.gov.bc.ca/irp/irp_sci.htm

The Role of Forests & Their Products in Fighting Climate Change

Reprinted with permission from the *Council of Forest Industries* September 2008 Newsletter

A new booklet titled, "**Tackle Climate Change, Use Wood**" is now available to inform global markets and consumers about B.C. forests and how they produce renewable, climate-friendly products that sequester carbon.

The booklet highlights forest industry accomplishments with respect to climate change. It examines the environmental attributes of Canadian forest products – wood, pulp and paper, and residues – and was produced by B.C.'s Forestry Innovation Investment Ltd., the Forest Products Association of Canada and the B.C. Forestry Climate Change Working Group.



"People want to do the right thing and are interested in reducing their impact on the planet," said Ric Slaco, chair of the B.C. Forestry Climate Change Working Group. "They want products that have a lighter carbon footprint and come from responsible and sustainable sources. When we point out the benefits of using B.C. wood products, we're making it easier for them to make the climate-friendly choice."

The booklet provides science-based facts, such as:

- Carbon storage: A typical 2,400-square-foot wood-framed house contains 29 metric tonnes of carbon. This is the equivalent of offsetting the greenhouse gas emissions from driving a car over five years (about 12,500 litres of gasoline).
- Lighter footprint: Substituting a cubic metre of wood for concrete blocks or bricks can save 0.75 to 1 tonne of carbon dioxide.
- Lighter footprint: Production of a steel-framed home consumes 17 per cent more embodied energy and releases 14 per cent more air pollutants than a wood-framed home.
- Lighter footprint: Production of a concrete-framed home consumes 16 per cent more embodied energy and releases 23 per cent more air pollutants than a wood-framed home.
- Energy efficiency: With lots of tiny air pockets, the cellular structure of wood improves its natural thermal efficiency, making it 400 times better than steel and 10 times better than concrete in resisting the flow of heat. Steel and concrete structures need more insulation to achieve the same thermal performance as wood framing.

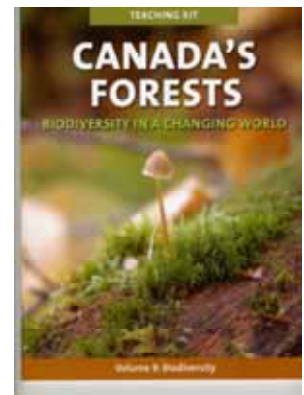
A copy of **Tackle Climate Change, Use Wood** is available for download from:

<http://www.bcforestinformation.com/building-green/climate-change/>

Canada's Forests: Biodiversity in a Changing World (Volume 9)

Canadian Forestry Association

Canada's National Forest Week theme for 2009 is "**Canada's Forests: Biodiversity in a Changing World**". Biodiversity has at its root the words bio - 'life' in Latin - and 'diverse,' which means 'consisting of different things' or 'differing in some way from one another.' Biodiversity can therefore be defined as the variety of life on Earth - from invisible microbes to giant whales.



The importance of biodiversity cannot be underestimated. A myriad of species on our planet contribute to life-sustaining processes, are used as foods and sources of medicines, play an important role in cultural practices and recreational pursuits, may help us mitigate the effects of climate change and much more.

In honour of this theme, the newest volume in the **Canada's Forests Teaching Kit series** explores the importance of biodiversity in Canada's forest and wetland areas - the critical significance of Canada's habitat to all living things, and the vital connections between biodiversity, natural resources and our modern lifestyles.

Teaching Kit 9, Canada's Forests: Biodiversity in a Changing World focuses attention on the varied and wondrous species that inhabit Canada's forests in terms of their inherent natural value and their relation to people's health, income, traditions, cultures, recreational pursuits and more.

For more information about other Canadian Forestry Association Teaching Kits or to obtain a copy or download lesson materials, see:
http://www.canadianforestry.com/html/home/home_e.html

Wood WORKS! 2009 BC Catapult Competition (Linda Shauer - *Wood Works!!*)

The third annual **Wood Catapult Competition** will take place at the **UBC** Campus in Vancouver on March 28, 2008, at the Whit-Matthews sports field.

The purpose of the Wood Catapult Competition is to challenge registered college & university students to design and build a wood siege engine capable of accurately hitting targets at 20, 30 and 50 meters using a cement ball. Teams consisting of students and one faculty member submit a short report prior to the competition about their design. On the morning of the competition, each team will be required to give a fifteen-minute presentation to the judges, after their weigh-in and set up. In the afternoon, timed performance trials and distance trials will determine the winners and prizes will be awarded to the top three teams (\$1500, \$1000 and \$500 respectively) as well as prizes for Best Presentation, Maximum Distance and Aesthetics/Spirit.

Last March, ten university and college teams from BC competed in the event. For some of the teams, the competition was integrated into their classroom curriculum, but for others, it was a labour of love done in their spare time. The competition attracted the attention of print and TV media as well as the general public. The competition's growing popularity has also brought forward sponsors willing to fund the cash prizes for the top three teams overall. We invite all interested parties to bring their lawn chairs (and umbrellas), as well as enthusiasm, to



cheer on their favourite teams during the performance trials this year at UBC on March 28.

Thank you to our continuing prize sponsors- ASTTBC and APEGBC. For further details about this event, visit www.wood-works.ca.

A Day in the Life of a Silvicultural Supervisor **Brent Rangen- Tolko Industries- Lumby, BC**

5:46am: My alarm rings and after hitting snooze a couple times (and an irate comment from my wife) it's time to get up. It's my busiest time of year...mid-June and tree planting is getting close to wrapping up, site prep is underway.

6:25am: Time to hit the road, after a quick stop by the office to download the previous day's planting quality plots and grab an extra planting access overview map for the contractor, it's off to Abbott Road to meet with the crew for a safety meeting and talk about planting quality.

7:35am: After another quick stop for fuel (gas and coffee), I arrive at the block. The crew of 25 planters is there and keen to get some trees in the ground...but first the weekly safety meeting. Of course bears are discussed as well as overhead hazards, bush driving and emergency escape procedures. Next is planting quality... I emphasize density, rooting medium, and proximity to stumps and obstacles...all issues I have been finding that can use some improvement. Oh yeah, can't forget stock handling, there is always room for improvement. Questions are answered and now the crew can go to work!

8:22am: A quick discussion with the planting foreman about overflow seedlings and the work plan for the week, then I have a walk behind some of the planters to check their trees and make sure they are on track.

9:05am: I move down the road a few kms to a completed block and throw 5 quality plots to see how things are looking. I enter the plot data in the PDA and it comes out at 94.9% quality...good news for the contractor...93% and above means full payment. The next block is not as good, I'll remember to have a talk with the planting foreman about this one... the density is a bit low and hit those obstacles! Now it's off to check on site prep, I'll have a bite on the way and remember to call the office to check in for noon and change my location.

1:15pm: I arrive at Beattie Rd. Two excavators are working just down the road, but first I'll stop and see what they accomplished since my last visit. Two blocks have been stumped due to root rot concerns. My post treatment inspection reveals that we did the right thing, about 15% of the stumps are infected with Armillaria. Good thing the root rot was identified and factored into the appraisal. That's enough root rot to severely infect our upcoming plantation if the block hadn't been treated. The stumping treatment looks good, a few stumps were missed by the operators, but only because they were too small to see from the cab of the excavators.



2:25pm: I move down the road to the block where the two excavators are spot piling logging slash. As discussed in the pre-work, they are careful to only treat the areas that have a thick slash matt and could not be planted without site prep. They are leaving the large logs scattered out on the block and building some small piles that will be left on the block for wildlife habitat...excellent, Rob will be happy that we are meeting our CSA indicators. After walking some of the ground they have treated, I discuss the results, work plan and answer questions. The equipment will be moving on to the next group of blocks soon, so I make arrangements to meet later in the week and go through the pre-works with the crew.



3:50pm: Time to head for home, I have to remember to check-in again with the office or Lori will send out the search party!!

6:45pm: After dinner, I have a quick look at the seed transfer spreadsheet to see where the planting contractor can put the overflow trees from today, then a couple of phone calls and I can call it a day...It'll be nice when planting wraps up and I can take a breather!!

VIU & European Students Tour Okanagan **Wolfgang Beck- Forest Health Technician, Okanagan Shuswap Forest District**

On October 1, 2008, second year forestry students from Vancouver Island University (formerly Malaspina University College) , along with instructors Michel Vallee and Jim Wilkinson, five students from Europe and a municipal forester from Beijing, spent a day in the Okanagan Shuswap forest district as part of their field trip to the BC Interior. Visiting four sites in the Hidden Lake, Trinity Valley area, the focus of the day was forest health issues in the district.

Leading the tour were Heather Rice R.F.T, Forest Health Officer and Wolfgang Beck, Forest Health Technician, both with the Okanagan Shuswap Forest District.



At Baird Lake, shown above, the group visited a trial site for white pine and discussed the selection and breeding of white pine resistant to white pine blister rust.

Woodlots Add Value to BC

Lisa Marak-Federation of BC Woodlot Associations

There is a small but well organized group of Crown forest managers who have consistently demonstrated their ability to adjust their forestry practices to meet many challenges. These are the more than 800 woodlot licensees in the province who manage a small but significant piece of the provincial harvest.

Compared to other forest tenures, woodlot licenses are a unique tenure. Many woodlots are in the interface between forests and urban or industrial areas. Woodlots often have recreational uses such as hiking, biking, and horseback riding. There are usually many eyes watching the operations on woodlots, yet there are few complaints to the Forest Practices Board.

The diversity found in the many forest ecosystems in this diverse province is reflected in the woodlot licensees. Many are ranchers or farmers whose woodlots are adjacent to or near their private lands, their family homes and communities. Numerous woodlots are purposely intergenerational. This alone ensures excellent stewardship.

These intensively managed, family operated tenures provide several valuable contributions to the BC: forest and ecosystem diversity and resilience, communities and social benefits, a light footprint on the landscape, and a sizeable and positive involvement in the province's economy — approximately \$200 million annually.

Woodlots licences are often located close to communities and schools and offer forestry learning opportunities nearby. The Federation of BC Woodlot Associations has developed an educational program for BC students, including a DVD, lesson plan, curricular connections and contact list for woodlot tours in local forest districts.



Students on a field trip to a woodlot in the Three Valley Gap area.

To find out more about woodlots in British Columbia or to access educational materials, see:
www.woodlot.bc.ca

Blue Lake & COTR Partner on New Entry Level Forestry Course

Jody McInnes- Blue Lake Forest Education Society



Blue Lake Forest Education Society is working in partnership with the College of the Rockies on a project that will help address the need for skilled workers in the forestry sector. Under the leadership of a recently formed Forestry Training Advisory Committee, representing a diverse cross-section within the sector, the planning team has undergone a 10



month planning process to help address this shortage. The newly developed plan is to develop a 7-10 day curriculum that will cover basic principles and skills necessary for an entry level field position in forestry.

“Over the past few years I have been in contact with many forestry contractors and consultants and it evident that everyone seems to be facing similar challenges in finding skilled workers and then also retaining these workers after they have been initially employed and trained. The days of having a large pool of post-secondary forestry students all competing for these jobs is long gone and now it seems that many companies are doing everything that they can to find able bodied candidates who they can then train to fit the position. The program that we are proposing should help to alleviate some of these frustrations by reducing the time spent recruiting and training and provide a pool of skilled workers from which they can be hired.”

Jody McInnes (General Manager, BLFES)

Successful participants in this course will have the skills and understanding to move directly into a position with one of the many forestry consultants or contractors in the area. Once employed, the participants will gain further knowledge and experience in the forest sector and receive encouragement and direction on how to increase their skills and training by attending post secondary institutions or other training programs. This program is designed to encourage young people to take a closer look at forestry and showcase some of the opportunities in this sector. Not only will this program help to increase the number of skilled workers in the field but it will also help to alleviate some of the time and money that various contractors and consultants spend training entry level employees.

The next step in this process is finalizing the curriculum for the course. Since this course is being developed in response to a common need within the sector it is crucial that a collaborative planning process be undertaken for the final development of the curriculum. The Advisory Committee has developed a survey that has been sent out to all forestry employers in the southern interior of BC that asks which skills and certifications they feel would be necessary for an entry level forestry worker with their organization. The results of these surveys are being analyzed and will be included in the development of the final curriculum. After all of the planning and logistical coordination is complete, a pilot program for 15-20 students will be unveiled in the spring of 2009!

If you would like more information about this course or if you are interested in joining the Advisory Committee, please contact Jody McInnes from the Blue Lake Forest Education Society at 250-426-3676 or by email at info@bluelakecentre.com

Forest Explorers 2008 Event Held in Northern Alberta

Submitted by Lisa Ladd- Research Extension Specialist

Boreal Forest Research Centre, NAIT (Department of Research & Development)

More than 300 high-school students experienced the “wow factor” of forestry at a hands-on science and research forum in northern Alberta in late November. The show was sponsored by the Boreal Forest Research Centre; a partnership of NAIT, industry, and government.

The two-day Forest Explorers exposition at Manning, north of Peace River, brought students face to face with diverse topics such as tree genetics, grizzly bear research, forestry schools, and amphibians.



"We had 325 students from grade 9 to 12 students from Peace River, High Level and Manning," said Hugh Seaton, manager of the Boreal Forest Research Centre in Peace River. "The theme was working together in the boreal forest, and the take-home message for the students was the importance of wildlife habitat, and how that ties in to all our activities on the land."



The science show was sponsored by Manning Forest Research Fund, Alberta Forestry Research Institute, and Alberta Sustainable Resource Development. One of the main goals of the event, held every two years, is to show students that the forest offers many fascinating, high-tech career paths that all lead to the social benefit of a productive and sustainable forest environment.

The show was followed by a community banquet, co-hosted by the Mackenzie Forest Education Society. The Society President, Berry Heinen, recognized the founding role and more than 20 years of service by Carl Leary in forest education. Manning Diversified Forest Products Ltd. kindly sponsored the banquet.

"We are very positive about the impact this event has on students' career choices," said Seaton. "It goes hand in hand with our overall educational program at the research centre, with our scholarships, with our work in the schools."

This is the sixth time Forest Explorers has been held, providing enough time for organizers to see a direct relationship between students showing an early interest in the forest and later going on to tech school or university programs.

"We know the event has had an impact on student decisions, especially with grade 10-12's," said Seaton. "By January 30 grade 12 students are starting to apply for post secondary programs, and we can see the results of what we've been doing."

Another funder of the event this year was the Alberta Forestry Research Institute. Managing Director Steve Price said the event supports AFRI's aims of building highly qualified personnel in the sector, and encouraging the exploration of innovative thinking and practices.



"A lot of these students live in or near the forest and have a strong interest in contributing to its long-term value to the community and to the environment," Price said. "They are potentially ideal candidates for the kind of science and innovation we want to see as part of Alberta's leadership role in sustainable forest management."

The show involved a multitude of displays and speakers, all of whom were encouraged to bring hands-on materials that would engage the interest of the students. Keynote speaker was Dr. Gordon Stenhouse, program lead of the grizzly bear program at Foothills Research Institute in Hinton.

"It's an ideal opportunity for students to see that forestry has gone way beyond the low-tech stereotype," said Seaton. "Today it's the domain of people who use GPS units, helicopters, satellites, microscopes . . . and people who care about a broad range of landscape values, not just timber."

The 2008 show was a return to its roots, as the Manning Research Trust Fund was originally created as part of the timber agreement when Manning Diversified Forest Products was opened.

"A key goal of the research fund and the Boreal Forest Research Centre is to maintain a link between what's happening in research and forest management at the field level, and the researchers and students," Seaton said.

The area is a research hub, with about \$250,000-worth of work going on each year under the trust fund's sponsorship alone. Industry and government research projects boost this many times over with a multitude of other projects in the area.

The trust fund research focuses on practical forest management issues, habitat, silviculture, harvesting techniques, ecological goods and services such as water, and value-added products. "It's all based on the wise use of forest products, value adding and community stability," Seaton said.

The Boreal Forest Research Centre has administered about \$155,000 in scholarships to post-secondary programs over the years, attracting almost as much in matching funding from provincial sources.

And while some parts of the forestry sector are in an economic tailspin at present, the demand for well-trained forestry professionals is relatively steady in forest management, and is increasing in the oil and gas sector where issues such as reclamation and timber salvage are on the rise.



For more information, see <http://www.borealcentre.com>

Council of Forest Industries Post-Secondary Education Legacy Scholarships

For the last two years, the Council of Forest Industries Annual AGM and Convention has funded post-secondary education scholarships intended to encourage the next generation of leaders to choose a professional, technical or trades career in the forest sector.



Ten \$1,000 scholarships are again available for 2009 to qualifying students planning to attend any one of the ten post-secondary educational institutions in BC's interior.

For more information, contact:

- **Chris Lear, Forest Education Manager**
COFI- Prince George Office
E-mail at: lear@cofi.org
Phone: (250) 564-5136
- **Debbie Bazett, Forest Educator**
COFI- Kelowna Office
E-mail at bazett@cofi.org
Phone: (250) 860-9663



Scholarship forms can be downloaded from the Council of Forest Industries website:
<http://forest-education.info/scholarships/legacy.html>

Federation of BC Woodlot Associations Student Scholarships

The FBCWA awards a \$1,000 scholarship each year to a student related to a woodlot licensee and/ or a private forest land owner and is attending post-secondary education in a forestry related area of study. This past year's recipient is Jordan Benner of Woodlot 1897, located on Quadra Island. He will be doing a Master's degree in resource management and environmental management (forest ecology) at Simon Fraser University, and has been involved in the family woodlot since childhood.

For more information about these scholarships, see the Federation of BC Woodlot Association site: <http://www.woodlot.bc.ca/membersadmin.html#scholarships>

Interior Logging Association Student Scholarships

Each year, four scholarships totaling \$5000 are offered through the Interior Logging Association's Scholarship Program. The scholarships are open to graduating secondary students, or students already enrolled in college or university in any discipline, who are immediate relatives of ILA members or employees of member companies. The Forestry Scholarship is open to any graduating student in the ILA's operating area. Candidates were to be enrolled in a full-time program at an accredited Canadian college, university or institute of technology.

Members or non-members of the Interior Logging Association with a family member or relative attending a college or university this year may apply. Applications close July 31, 2007.

The following scholarships are offered:

- **\$2,000.00 FORESTRY SCHOLARSHIP:** Open to any graduating student in the ILA's operating area enrolling in full time studies in a forestry related discipline at a Canadian College or University or Vocational School.
- **\$1,000.00 MEMBER SCHOLARSHIP:** Open to graduating secondary school students or students already enrolled in college or university in any discipline who are immediate relatives of ILA members and employees of member companies. Candidates must be enrolling in a full time program at an accredited Canadian College, University or Institute of Technology.
- **\$1,000.00 MEMBER TRADES SCHOOL SCHOLARSHIP:** Open to students of an ILA member enrolling in a full time course at a British Columbia Trades School in Heavy Duty Mechanics, Professional Truck Driving or Heavy Duty Machine Operators Course, Welding Course or similar training program that leads to employment within the logging industry.
- **\$1,000.00 ASSOCIATES SCHOLARSHIP:** Open to graduating secondary school students who are immediate relatives of an ILA member or member company employees. This scholarship is awarded to the ILA affiliated applicant with the highest academic standard enrolling in a Canadian College, University or Technical School as a full time student in a Business Administration discipline.

Applications postmarked later than July 31 will not be considered. Scholarships are awarded as soon as possible after the closing date of July 31 each year. Payment will be made upon confirmation of registration in a full-time program of studies. In the event that no candidate has reached an acceptable standard in any or all scholarship categories, the scholarship committee may elect not to make an award. They may also, at their discretion, make lesser awards to more than one candidate in a category.

For more information or to access a copy of the application form, go to the Interior Logging Association website: <http://www.interiorlogging.org/scholarship.php>

Silver Lake Forest Education 2009 Spring Camp Schedule

Silver Lake Forest Education will be hosting a Spring Camp for students ages 9-13 from March 16-20 during Spring Break. The cost of the camp is \$285.00 plus 5% GST (Canadian) for 5 nights. Please call Silver Lake Forest Education society for further information: (250) 717-0033 or visit the website: <http://www.silverlakekidscamp.com/>



Forest Education Resources

◆ Learn Forestry Website New Additions (www.learnforestry.com):

- **2008 Forestry Week Lesson** "The Fire Story, An Unpredictable Truth". Includes lesson, visuals, overheads and teacher resource materials on fire. (See Lesson plans → Forestry Week)
- **NEW Poster!! "6 Billionth Tree Planted in BC-2008"** with front visual and reforestation facts on the back. Distributed to all Interior elementary schools. To obtain a copy, contact your local forest educator, as listed under "Contact Us" on the website.



◆ Feature Books:

- **From Pinecone to Pine Tree**
Ellen Weiss
Scholastic- Children's Press (2008)
ISBN 0-531-18537-0

An early non-fiction reader with large print and lots of colour pictures, depicting the life cycle of conifers and how they develop new seedlings in the forest with their cones and seeds. Suitable for primary grades.

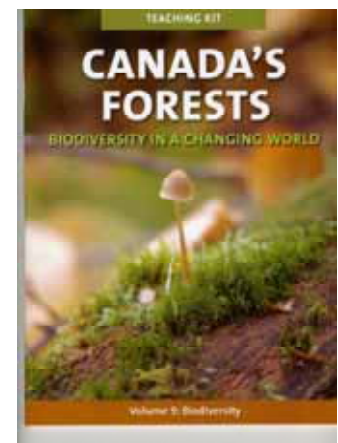


◆ Forestry Resources for Teachers:

2008 Teaching Kit-Canadian Forestry Association

The new kit, "Canada's Forests: Biodiversity in a Changing World", focuses attention on the varied species that inhabit Canada's forests in terms of their inherent natural value and their relation to people's health, income, traditions, cultures and recreational pursuits.

Past teaching kit booklets have included such topics as Climate Change, Water, Species at Risk, the Boreal Forest and Biodiversity and these are now available in a CD compilation format. See the CFA site to download individual lessons from the kits or to order a copy of the CD or the new teaching package: www.canadianforestry.com



◆ **Teacher & Student Web Links:**

- www.learnforestry.com **Learn Forestry Website** Forest Education lessons, links & resource materials, videos, bibliographies, teacher kits and more.
- www.forest-education.info **Council of Forest Industries Forest Education** This newly- updated forest education website provides info on forestry terms and facts, careers, virtual tours and resources, etc. Find out what presentations and materials are available from BC's Northern Interior forest educator, if you teach in that region!!
- <http://www.goforestry.ca/default.asp?mn=1.184.2> **Go Forestry** This New Brunswick career site has a wealth of information about forestry and possible career paths for secondary students. A good source of information for young people investigating the profession!!

Upcoming Events

◆ **Temperate Forest Foundation 2009 Pacific Northwest Forestry Teacher Tours**

July 14-17, 2009 Corvallis, Oregon

For details, see: <http://www.forestinfo.org/Teachers/2008/wctt.htm>

Odds and Ends

Questions or Comments

If you have any questions, comments or suggestions regarding the Learn Forestry News, please contact Jennifer Stewart (Publisher) or Debbie Bazett (Editor) at: newsletter@learnforestry.com

Submissions for Learn Forestry Website

If you are interested in submitting forest education lesson plans or activities to the Learn Forestry website or if you would like to recommend other forest education resources or links, please forward these to Jen Stewart at: jennifer@learnforestry.com

June '09 Newsletter

If you would like to submit one or more short articles and/or pictures highlighting events and programs occurring in your school or community for the next issue, please email the information in Word format with pictures in jpeg to: newsletter@learnforestry.com

Deadline for submissions: Friday, May 8, 2009