

Vancouver Island Meeting

April 14 is the date of the next meeting of FMCBC clubs on Vancouver Island.

The topic of this meeting is "Strathcona Park". The Island club reps identified this area as one for which they had many concerns. With boundary changes, the encroachment of logging, and expansion of mining, the Island clubs wanted this situation addressed effectively.

This resulted in the FMCBC organizing the major meeting for club delegates, to be held at Malaspina College on April 14. During the morning session the club delegates will outline their questions, and discuss their mutual concerns. Mel Turner, Regional Planner for Parks, is expected to attend.

During the afternoon, representatives for Western Resources, Ministry of Forests, Parks & Outdoor Recreation and Mount Washington Ski Resort are expected.

The FMCBC hopes that the problems and solutions of Strathcona Parks will be effectively addressed through this meeting.

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Deadline for Material for Next Newsletter

15 MAY 84

I'd be grateful if each member club could try and organize a correspondent who is responsible to communicating with me once every three months on issues concerning their area. This is not a Lower Mainland newsletter, it's B.C. NEWSLETTER; but please, we desperately need input from member clubs remote from Vancouver.

Please send literary contributions to the Federation office.

Editor

\* \* \*

Cloudburst needs a cover photograph

If you have any amazing mountain shots you'd like to see on the front of cloudburst send them this way. We are looking for a black and white print with plenty of contrast.

Individual Memberships

At the Delegates Meeting of March 28 it was approved that members of the public could take out individual memberships for an annual fee of \$5.

This would not include voting privileges or attendance at delegates meetings, but they would receive the newsletter and be given priority over the non-FMCBC members for courses.

Many people visit the FMCBC office or write in to be on our mailing list. The individual memberships will allow us to maintain this contact.

Thank You for Not Smoking in the Wilderness?

Complete the following story finishing with the line "thank you for not smoking in the wilderness". Your additions may be as long or as short as you like. A small prize will be awarded to the most humorous effort.

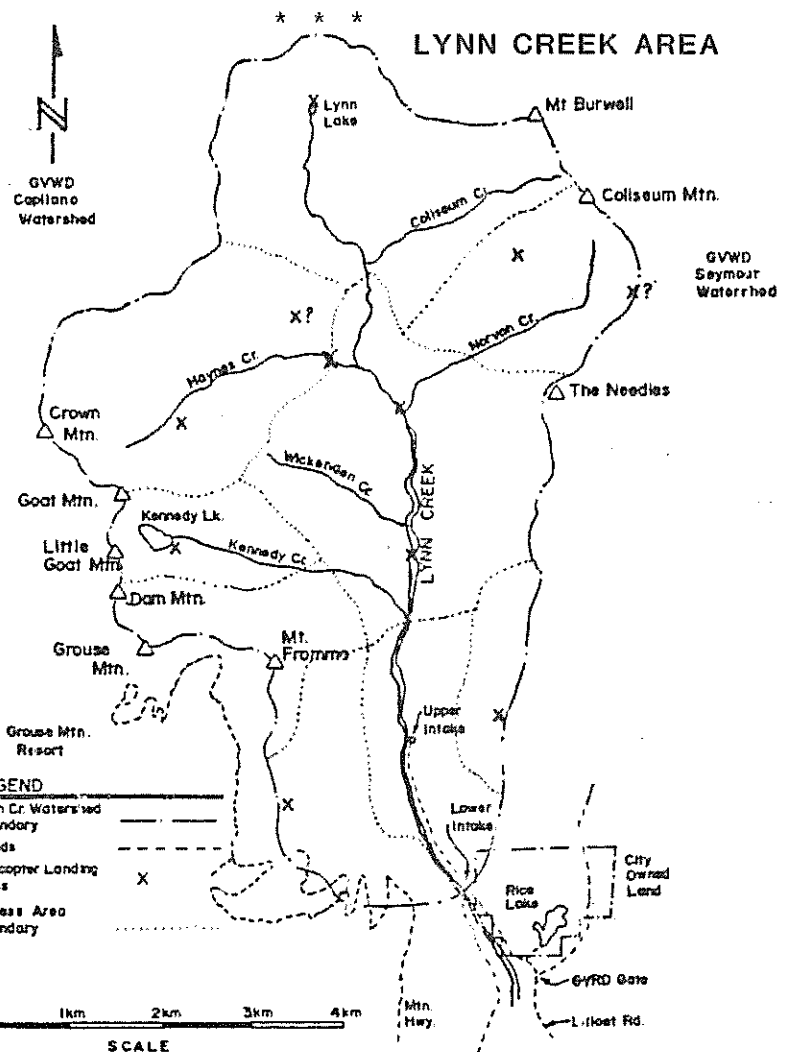
"It is a clear warm sunny day in B.C.'s beautiful wilderness. You have hiked hard all day and rest just below the summit of your favourite peak. As you approach to savour the vista of valleys, snow-capped peaks and lakes, your nostrils twitch in aggravation. The repulsive odour of cigarette smoke pervades the air. Your escape to the great outdoors from the stale office air has been thwarted by some inconsiderate fellow mountain traveller who has arrived, by either foot or machine, and lies back soaking up the rays and emitting great puffs of obnoxious tobacco fumes, and, of course, has nabbed the best lunch spot on the summit.

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Thank you for not smoking in the wilderness."

Send your entry to the Federation Office. Contest closes 31 July 1984.

Try out your pent-up literary skills. Enter the FMCBC Essay Contest.





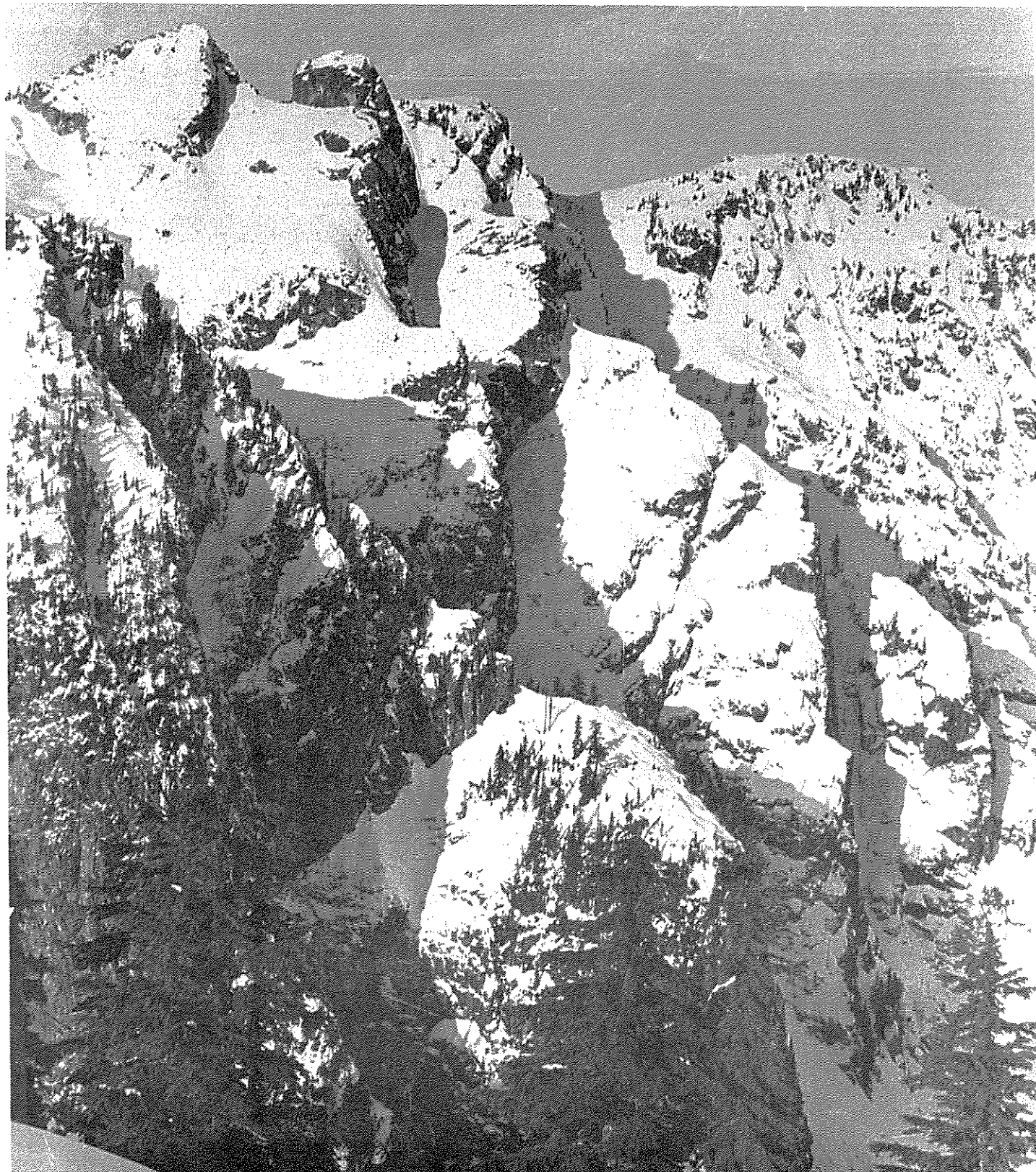
# CLouDBURST

the newsletter of the

**FEDERATION OF MOUNTAIN CLUBS OF BRITISH COLUMBIA**

P.O. BOX 33768 · STATION D · VANCOUVER, B.C. · V6J 4L6

representing hiking, climbing and conservation groups





NEWS FROM THE  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

This February I drove 1700 miles in order to speak with our Okanagan and Kootenay clubs, and also to meet with potential new member clubs in these regions.

The basis of the talk which I gave was the role of the FMCBC as a provincial organization addressing provincial concerns. In order for the FMCBC to be as effective as possible in lobbying government and industry, it needs not only a large membership, but also a good provincial distribution. The effectiveness of the Federation's role also depends on the input from member clubs.

There is some inherent difficulty in working from the Vancouver Region in that clubs elsewhere in the province are not so easily represented at meetings, and it can appear that the Vancouver issues are the only ones addressed. Not so; written or phoned in concerns will be discussed at Delegate and Executive meetings.

Most of the concerns discussed with me were indeed provincial and can affect all members. The proliferation of heli-ski permits, the growing trend to heli-hiking (a pseudonym for a fly-in picnic on a mountain top which others climb for) and difficulties of access to recreation areas due to locked gates, grazing rights or private property were the major issues discussed.

The excuse that, "our club doesn't have that problem" avoids the concern we should all share for how our Province is developing.

Most clubs were able to understand this, and were enthusiastic about the need to support the organization which represents the non-mechanized recreation interests in B.C.

The clubs addressed were:

- Kamloops Outdoors Club
- Shuswap Outdoors Club
- Vernon Outdoors Club
- Kelowna Mountaineering Club
- Penticton Outdoor Club \*
- Kootenay Mountaineering Club \*
- Kootenay Nordic Outdoor Club

\* Members

I feel that this promotional tour was extremely valuable, and I am hopeful that the new clubs will agree to become members of the FMCBC. The new clubs addressed have a total of almost 1,000 members.

Jim Rutter



RECREATION &  
CONSERVATION

Conflict : Government tends not to listen to  
ski tourers.

The Ministry of Lands, Parks and Housing has a policy on "Commercial Mechanized Ski Guiding" under which it has to approve permit applications for commercial heli-ski or snow-cat operations. The government must take into account land use conflicts such as ski touring before approving applications.

The Federation of Mountain Clubs of British Columbia is concerned about this policy because the Ministry of Lands, Parks and Housing has no real authority to enforce the policy and the government tends to not listen to ski tourers as well as it listens to commercial operators. We would like to know of any conflicts that actually take place. If you are bothered by heli-skiers while ski-touring please let us know so that we can show the Ministry of Lands, Parks and Housing where conflicts are occurring.

\* \* \*

B.C. Lotteries Fund

The FMCBC applied to this fund for assistance with equipment needed for the Avalanche Courses.

A sum of \$1,100 has been granted for the purchase of Pieps Avalanche Transceivers. We wish to thank the Minister of Provincial Secretary and Government Services Mr. James R. Chabot.

\* \* \*

Cascade Advisory Committee Announces  
Recommendations

INTRODUCTION

In August of 1982, the Environment and Land Use Committee gave Provincial Forest Designation to an area north of Manning Park known as the Cascade Wilderness. This area is noted for its prime recreation and scenic values.

Due to the ongoing public interest and high profile of the area E.L.U.C., in designating the Cascade Wilderness as Provincial Forest, also requested that an advisory committee be formed to work with the Ministry of Forests in providing for integrated resource in the area, with a mandate to make recommendations with a strong emphasis on identifying, protecting and managing the historic trails and other recreational values of the area.



Cover Photograph: *Crown Mountain and Camel*

Cascade Advisory Report continued

The following extracts are from the Cascade Wilderness Advisory Committee Report.

PURPOSE

The purpose of the Committee was to provide advice to the Ministry of Forests on matters concerning aesthetic, recreation and historic values within and immediately adjacent to the Cascade Wilderness Area. The committee's objectives were as follows:

- (1) To identify the aesthetic, recreational and historic values of the area.

The Cascade Wilderness is a highly scenic area and the forest itself forms an integral part of the aesthetic values.

The Cascade Wilderness provides an opportunity for a wide variety of recreation activities. Hiking, backpacking, horseriding, hunting, wildlife viewing, nature study, snowmobiling, cross-country skiing, snowshoeing, fishing and camping are all offered.

There is a network of historic trails in the area, representing some of the best preserved sections of historic routes in the province. Through these, a network of high elevation horse trails exists. In addition, the Cascades support a wide range of flora and fauna for nature study, wildlife viewing and hunting.

Road access to the area is limited. Within the area access is primarily along the historic trails. The roadless nature of the area invites recreationists seeking a wilderness experience and more forms of activity.

There are sections of five provincially significant routes within the area:

- Hudson's Bay Company Brigade Trail (1849)
- Dewdney Trail (1860)
- Whatcom Trail (1846)
- Blackeye's Trail (1846)
- Hope Pass Trail (1861)

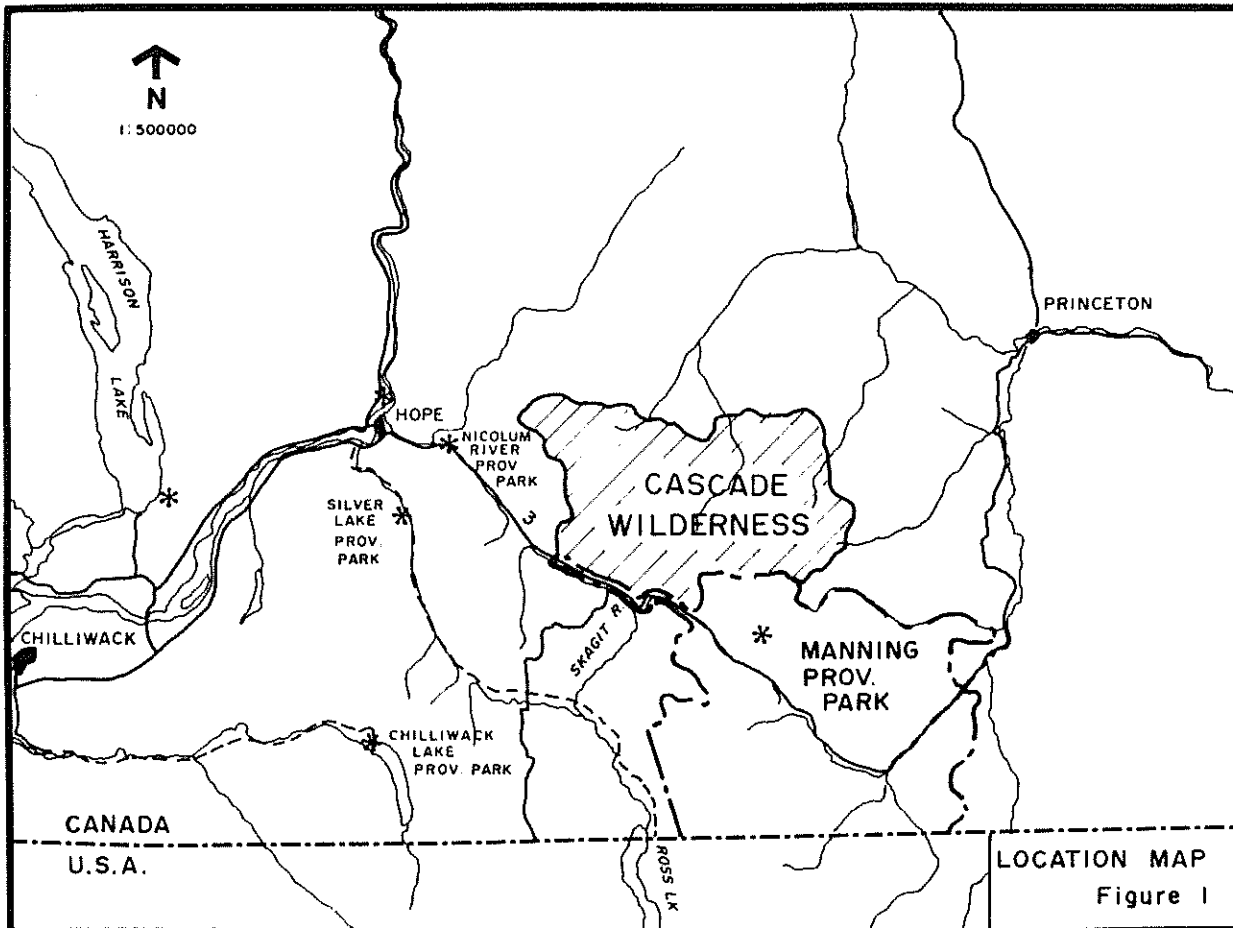
Historic campsites are associated with the HBC Brigade Trail at Manson Camp, Campement de Chevreuil, and Horseguard Camp.

- (2) To determine the needs and activity preference of recreation visitors to the area.

A Visitor Survey, conducted August 1 to October 31, 1983, reinforces the types of recreational activities preferred by visitors to the Cascade area (Cascade Wilderness Study - Status Report, 1983).

Of the activities listed in the Visitor Survey, the most popular or common was hiking with 86% participating, followed by camping - 61%; horseback riding - 13%; history - 11%; climbing - 8% and ski touring - 5%.

The Survey also supported that both the Dewdney and Hope Pass trails received by far the most direct active use accessing Paradise Valley. The



Cascade Advisory Report continued

Dewdney-Whatcom trails were used 37% by those surveyed; Hope Pass - 31%; and the HBC Brigade - 3%.

The main mode of transportation to the Cascade area is by foot (86%), while the other 14% surveyed travel by horse. It is also interesting to note that 65% of those visiting this area are repeat visitors.

(3) To assist Ministry of Forests to identify potential conflict situations between recreationists and other resource users.

Potential conflicts that could arise in the Cascade area will be of two types, those between incompatible competing recreationists and those between recreationists and other resource users.

Firstly, we should comment on conflicts between recreationists. As was mentioned earlier the area has high potential for cross-country skiing and snowmobiling. When you have these two activities there can be conflict. This will have to be addressed.

There is the potential for hunting, hiking and horseriding in this area. These activities may also result in conflict.

If timber harvesting is permitted in certain areas, then there will be the additional conflict that may arise from improved access for motorized recreationists who would then conflict with non-motorized recreationists.

**COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS**

1. The five Provincially significant historic trails traversing the Cascade Wilderness mentioned earlier be declared Provincial Heritage Sites under Section 4 of the Heritage Conservation Act. It is recommended that the width of the trails be set at 200 metres minimum, with the provision that no roads or harvesting be allowed.

2. The three other major trails in the Cascade Wilderness be declared Recreation Trails under Section 104 of the Forest Act. It is suggested that the width of these trails be set at 200 metres minimum. The harvesting in these areas should be by a selective method not by clearcutting. These trails are:

- (a) Outram Trail from the Manning Park boundary to the summit of Mt. Outram.
- (b) Ghost Pass Trail from the Manning Park boundary to its junction with the Brigade Trail in Sowaqua Creek.
- (c) Vuich Trail from its junction with the Ghost Pass Trail to the road access near the mouth of Amberty Creek.

3. Additional trails that have been identified in the study area should be given protection by the Ministry of Forests and should be identified on all inventory maps. Specifically these trails are:

- (a) Governors Trail
- (b) Rice Lake to Mt. Outram
- (c) Captain Grants
- (d) Hope Pass - Nicomen Ridge
- (e) Tulameen River between HBC and Blackeye's

4. The areas recognized by the Ministry of Forests as having high visual and/or recreational values be declared Recreation Sites under Section 104 of the Forest Act, with the provision that no roads or harvesting be allowed. These would include:

- (a) Paradise Valley - Snass Mountain - Punch Bowl
- (b) Campement du Chevreuil - Mt. Davis
- (c) Manson Ridge - Fools Pass - Mt. Outram
- (d) The existing U.R.E.P. status at Jacobson Lake, and Wells Lake and the Manson Ridge section of the HBC trail should be designated as recreation sites under the Ministry of Forests.

5. The forested slope between the Brigade Trail, Manson Ridge and O'Reilly Creek be included in recommendation 4(c) because of its visual, recreational and aesthetic value.

6. Special recognition be given to the protection of water quality in the Sowaqua and Tulameen watersheds because of existing and potential fishery value.

7. An ongoing consultative role for the Cascade Advisory Committee be recognized to provide for continuing input regarding new development, monitoring of conflict situations, marking of trails, recreational development in the area and crossing of trails by logging roads, with the right to refer unresolved conflicts to the Chief Forester.

\* \* \*

Public to be Consulted on Park Planning

Mount Revelstoke and Glacier National Parks planning program continues with the first in a series of public consultation meetings. With these meetings Parks Canada will provide a forum for discussing major areas of concern in planning for these two parks.

The public meetings are scheduled for Golden and Revelstoke during late March and early April. Details on meeting places and times will be published in the local newspapers. Further information is available from Mr. W.D. Gallacher, Superintendent, Mt. Revelstoke and Glacier National Parks, Box 350, Revelstoke, B.C. V0E 2S0. Phone (604) 837-5155.



## F O C U S

### NO POEM'S LOVELY AS A STUMP!

Reprinted courtesy of Tony Eberts,

(Outdoors) Province Newspaper

Is my face red! It has taken only one brief argument by loggers' spokesman R.L. Smith, of Sandspit, (Jan. 27 Outdoors Page) to make me realize how much time and effort I've wasted in promoting multiple use and sustained yield for B.C.'s timberlands.

How foolish I have been to suppose that impractical nonsense such as the peace and beauty of an unlogged valley can be compared with the money-making delights of shiplap and toilet paper. Never again, let me tell you.

Mr. Smith has shown me the light; I'm a veritable Born Again Choke Setter (in my youth I participated in the holy crusade against trees, but I strayed from The Way).

He tells me, for example, that because I live in a wooden house I must accept logging of the Stein River Valley. And since my basement is made of concrete (sand, gravel and rock), I suppose I must accept the quarrying of Queen Elizabeth Park and the mining of Capilano gravel.

"We have an over-abundance of parkland in B.C.," Mr. Smith says, and adds that it is not as fully used as it could be. Excellent points, R.L.! A recent parks branch survey indicates that in 1982 there were only 16 million provincial-park visitors.

Mr. Smith has put his finger on the big problem: Our parks simply don't have enough roads, campsites, hamburger stands, beer parlors and bowling alleys.

Luckily, he provides the solutions. With appropriate development (logging), there will be a network of roads and no vertical trees to interfere with views of the slash or to obstruct construction of campsites, hamburger stands, beer parlors and bowling alleys.

There is no question that something practical must be done with that abundance of parkland (at least two percent of B.C.'s timberlands are locked up in parks). It's shameful that there are enough woolly-minded people in government to limit logging operations to only 95 percent of our forests.

"Like it or not," says Mr. Smith, "those wilderness areas our environmentalists are asking for, in all parts of B.C., are too costly, too expensive, for us to give up for a frivolous purpose."

Well, Mr. Smith's wise words sure put silly folk like Henry David Thoreau and John Muir in their places. Wouldn't Americans be much better off today if Muir and other meddling environmentalists hadn't kept loggers and developers out of such places as Yellowstone and the Yosemite Valley?

Enough of this frivolity! Let's get rid of Jeremiahs like that forestry chap who's been saying our reforestation program is so poor that the whole industry is declining.

Once B.C. has been clearcut, people will have fewer distractions to interfere with hard work, deep thoughts or emigration while they wait 60 years or so for some of their forests to regenerate.

Mr. Smith assures us logged-over lands are "abundant with deer, elk and moose." I couldn't agree more. Rip up the spawning gravel for logging roads; who needs fish when we can live on venison produced on the world's biggest stump farm?

As a poet might have said, "I think that I shall never see / A poem lovely as a stump."

Access for the general public will not be permitted until the recreation resource is complete and the trail system in place.

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### G.V.R.D. UPPER LYNN/LOWER SEYMOUR PARK

By now it is common knowledge that the Lynn Creek watershed and the Seymour River valley (below the dam) are planned for future public use, administered as a park by the G.V.R.D.

The Upper Lynn area appears to lend itself to a "walk-in wilderness" concept, probably suitable for the experienced backpacker equipped for a strenuous outing and able to look after him/herself whatever happens. The Seymour River area is more family oriented, with possible future drive in access to the Rice Lake area, and use of the blacktop road which follows the river to the dam.

Whatever the final decisions are on the optimal recreation use of this area, the concerns of the members of the FMCBC will be well represented by Jim Rutter on the Park Recreation Advisory Committee, Roger Freeman (Chairman of Recreation and Conservation Committee of FMCBC) and Gabriel Mazoret (North Shore Hikers).

Since October, the Federation has been meeting with the GVRD, and has been a major organizing force on behalf of its member clubs. Although there are other recreation groups represented, e.g. Horse riders and Canoe Sport B.C., the area is one more directly related to hiking and mountain travel.

This area, which has been closed to the public for about 90 years, is an opportunity for a fully integrated recreation development plan which will benefit the non-mechanized recreationist. It is a unique opportunity for the hikers, climbers and conservation groups of the lower mainland area to enjoy a wild, unspoiled and challenging back country area on the very doorstep of their urban centre.

The Federation has applied for an Environmental 2000 work project, through the Federal Government, for the construction of an initial access trail to facilitate the research for the resource plan.



## TRAILS

### Lions Bay Update: Closure of a Traditional Hiking Area?

Closing of the watersheds which have traditionally been used for recreation is currently an issue of major concern to the FMCBC.

Lions Bay Village, a few miles north of Vancouver, has been pressing for closure as a result of fecal coliform pollution being recorded in the water supply.

#### OUR POSITION

The FMCBC has opposed this on the grounds that the evidence for human responsibility for the pollution is inconclusive. Also, the Village of Lions Bay has been consuming untreated water because they have not yet installed a chlorination plant to ensure a healthy domestic water supply.

The attempted closure would be an alarming precedent affecting many other such situations in the Province.

#### MINISTRY POSITION

The following is an extract from a letter received from the Ministry of Forests:

"The Ministry of Forests has sought an independent review of the data collected and presented to date by the North Shore Health Department. This review confirms our earlier feeling that the evidence presented to our Ministry is inconclusive and incomplete.

Your suggestion to institute a formal Public Advisory Committee to discuss various points of contention and to seek management solutions prior to any formal Ministry decision is very commendable but not considered necessary in this situation. Rather your offer of assistance can better be served through the positive aspects of educating the recreation public as you suggest.

Thank you for your interest in this controversy and for your offer of assistance. We look forward to your continuing cooperation in this regard."

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### Has access along your favourite trail been blocked?

Can you no longer reach your prime fishing hole because of locked gates? Have logging roads obliterated your path? Do "Private Road" signs adorn those roads you once thought were public?

If your answer is "yes" to any of these questions, the Outdoor Recreation Council of British Columbia would like to know. They are compiling information on issues relating to recreational access in this province and would like to hear from anyone who has experienced problems with blocked access or is aware of any routes which are threatened by closure, whether or not these problems have been resolved.

This information will be used as an input to the Council's current investigations on recreational access in B.C., and will enable the Council to possibly offer assistance to groups and individuals who are working to keep access routes open for public use.

The Outdoor Recreation Council of B.C. is a non-profit society. It was established in 1976 to coordinate the activities and address the concerns of organized groups in B.C. interested in outdoor recreation and conservation.

For further information, contact: Judith Cullington, the Outdoor Recreation Council of B.C., 1200 Hornby Street, Vancouver, B.C., V6Z 2E2, (604) 687-1600 or 687-3333.

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### National Trail Association

The first meeting of regional representatives of hiking organizations was held in Ottawa, March 4 & 5 by invitation of the National Trail Association.

Doug Campbell of Calgary has tried for twelve years to get this project of a cross Canada walking trail, off the ground, so to speak. Finally, he received some Federal funding from Fitness Canada to hold this first meeting and bring in regional delegates.

Jim Rutter, Executive Director of the FMCBC, and Bruce Blackwell, Chairman of the Trails Committee, were invited from the FMCBC.

The result of this meeting is an executive of:

Doug Campbell (Alberta)	President
Jim Rutter (B.C.)	Vice President
Doug Robertson (Ontario)	Fund Raising
John Saywell (Quebec)	Public Relations
Mike Fedac (Manitoba)	Secretary/Treasurer

The regional representatives will be meeting with clubs and other hiking organizations to discuss local route possibilities.

In B.C. there is no pre-selected route. The FMCBC member clubs will be asked for their input at future meetings. It is expected that existing trails and historic routes will be used, with new trail development where necessary. Youth hostels will be developed where the trail passes through communities. The potential is enormous for trail development and protection, development of service industries, and the growth of tourism.

The next meeting will be held in Calgary, October 13 & 14, 1984.

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## EDUCATION

### Upcoming FMCBC Courses

1. **Basic Mountaineering Course** \$125 Students \$110  
40 People (max.), 6 evening lectures and 6 weekends. April 26 - June 10.  
Instruction in rock climbing, snow travel, navigation, crevasse rescue and other aspects of basic mountain travel.  
Suitable for beginners Location: Vancouver  
MAY BE REPEATED IN SUMMER JULY 7-15
2. **Backpacking Instructors Courses 1+2** \$50  
16 people (max.). May 18 - 21 (long weekend).  
Designed for fit, experienced club members planning to lead an introductory backpacking course for their club. Only 1 or 2 from each club please. Emphasis on wilderness leadership and course planning. Food and equipment not supplied. Includes course manual.  
Location: 1. Vancouver  
2. Strathcona Park
3. **Map and Compass 1, 2, 3, 4, 5** \$15  
1 day course. Morning - theory. Afternoon - Practical. Compass supplied.  
Location: 1+2. Vancouver - May 12, June 9  
3. Victoria - May 26  
4. Parksville - June 2  
5. Clearbrook - May ?
4. **Advanced Backpacking Trips 1+2** \$75  
16 persons (max.). 7 days. An opportunity for the very fit club members to travel with a demanding group. Food and equipment not supplied.  
Location: 1. Vancouver Island - July 15 - 21  
Marble Meadows/Golden Hinde/  
Elk River  
2. Vancouver - July 1 - 7  
North Cascades - ?

APPLICATIONS SHOULD BE MADE EARLY AS THESE COURSES ARE EXPECTED TO FILL QUICKLY

APPLY TO: 1200 Hornby Street, Vancouver, B.C. V6Z 2E2 Phone: 687-3333

### FOOTNOTES

#### Hut Custodians Wanted

Wondering what to do with your summer vacation? Or how you could afford to spend some time in the mountains this year? Be a Hut Custodian for the Alpine Club of Canada.

We need custodians for these Alpine Club huts:

Elizabeth Parker	(Lake O'Hara)
Stanley Mitchell	(Little Yoho Valley)
Wates-Gibson	(Eremite-Tonquin)
Wheeler	(Rogers Pass)

The positions are open for July and August for all these huts and also June and September at the Elizabeth Parker hut.

The custodian duties include controlling reservations and collecting fees, organizing the hut housekeeping and arranging for any hut maintenance required. A small honorarium is available to hut custodians who stay at a hut for at least a week, although many of our custodians volunteer their services.

This could be the highlight of your summer. You can bring a friend or your family. Inquiries are invited for periods as short as one week or as long as the whole summer. If you are interested, contact the Club office in Banff. We plan to confirm all positions by early May.

#### Employment Opportunity: Hike Leaders Wanted

The Living Alternatives Society will be running an ecologically and culturally oriented outdoor school for native (and non-native) youth in the Stein Valley this summer. They are currently looking for two coordinators to run the program from May 1, 1984 to August 31, 1984, at a salary of up to \$1,500.00 a month. Duties include the arrangement of advertising, food, and transportation as well as the planning and leading of educational hikes. A knowledge of general outdoor skills, anthropology and natural ecology, along with experience in organizing and teaching these subjects in a wilderness setting, are assets. To apply, please phone or write to Michael Down at 4551 West 15th Avenue, Vancouver, B.C., V6R 3B3. Telephone 228-8339.

\* \* \*

#### FMCBC Contacts

Jim Rutter, Executive Director  
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Vancouver, B.C.  
V6Z 2E2 Phone 687-3333