WCWC defends the biological bottom line

by Joe Foy

When Paul George, Adrian Carr and I walked into B.C. Environment Minister Moe Sihota's Legislature office on June 30, we had an agenda. First we would commend him for Cabinet's decisions to create parks in the Upper Carmanah, Lower Tatsiika, Lower Walbran, Lower Tashish and Naskapi Valleys, Chilko Lake, Tatshnaitini and elsewhere. Then we would...

But before we had a chance to say, “thank you,” the lecture began. “We are the best government that B.C. has ever seen for the environment!” thundered Sihota... “Now I hear you want to preserve even more Vancouver Island valleys... You'll be sorry if you help a Liberal government get elected!”

We were dumbfounded! Each of us in our own words responded to Minister Sihota admonishments explaining why the Wilderness Committee must continue to fight valley by valley to save Vancouver Island's last six large unprotected wild watersheds. 

“Half an ark will not protect species diversity... We can't compromise the ecological bottom line... We must campaign strongly until you ban clearcutting and preserve sufficient wilderness to protect fisheries, tourism and biodiversity... forever.”

Less than a week later the three of us met with Liberal Opposition Leader Gordon Campbell in his Vancouver office boardroom. He entered with a smile and a handshake. The meeting began on a relaxed and friendly note but soon became tense. He said he didn't think big-city environment groups should be telling the small local communities what to do with their forests.

Campbell's vision for B.C.'s future—its forests and parks—was vague. He said he supported 12 percent preservation. He told us while he was mayor, he voted for continued logging in Vancouver's watersheds because “experts” said it would cause no harm.

So, which political party should WCWC support? None of them! It's against the law for a charitable society to choose sides. Our job is to hold fast to our vision and build even more massive public support for an end to clearcut logging and for adequate wilderness protection so that, no matter who is in power, they must listen and act. With your continued support we will hand over to future generations a beautiful and healthy Earth—richly filled with diversity of life.
WCWC Celebrates Wilderness Win

On January 13, 1994, the provincial government established a 233,000 hectare park surrounding Chilko Lake. Named Ts’yi-luts (pronounced Sigh-less) after a local sacred mountain, the Park, nearly half the size of Prince Edward Island, will be co-managed by the Nenahah First Nation.

For years WCWC had been working with the Nenahah to help protect this spectacular region of the Chilcotin Plateau. We provided $17,000 for lawyers to investigate the aboriginal rights to traditional trapping areas. This information was used to keep logging out of the area. (Rather than going to court, the company signed a letter of agreement saying it would not log in the contentious area.) We also assisted in publishing the Nenahah’s Aboriginal Wilderness Reserve Declaration. And we commissioned the writing for and co-published the Nenahah - the unconquered country by Terry Glavin.

It was an unusual set of campaign tactics, lacking WCWC’s familiar posters and papers. But who can argue with success? Congratulations to all who have given general donations. This is where some of your money went.

Tat’s a great success

Winning protection for the nearly one million hectare Tashenkinin, the wildlife-rich river in the far northwest corner of B.C. was hailed by conservationists across North America last year.

In celebration, WCWC republished Tashenkinin Wild’s poster titled Tashenkinin - Protect North America’s Wildest River changing only the word “Protect” to “Protected” and giving credit and thanks to the B.C. Government for the decision.

Estimate of insect biodiversity in Canada doubles as Carmanah research results roll in

Four years ago, WCWC, with the help of an incredibly talented and devoted volunteer team, built the world’s first temperate rainforest upper canopy research station in five old growth Sitka spruce trees in the Upper Carmanah Valley. It has four platforms strung into a main tree at intervals between 31 and 67 meters high. These are connected to the adjacent trees by burlap rope bridges.

When it was first constructed, the Forest Minister of the day said it was nothing more than a “fancy tree fort,” an obvious publicity stunt. It wasn’t. The facilities built and maintained by thousands of WCWC supporters who donated more than $250,000 over the years, have revolutionized thoughts about biodiversity in Canada. Through the studies done primarily by University of Victoria researchers, WCWC’s Carmanah research station has become “a world class research facility.”

Last summer WCWC reported on some of the scientific findings from the Carmanah station in Educational Report Vol. 12 No. 6 titled, SAVE Upper Carmanah Valley - Home of the world’s first temperate rainforest canopy research station. At that time, 60 new species had been identified and it was estimated that eventually at least 200 would be classified.

This estimate was way too conservative. Now Dr. Neville Winchester, the entomologist who conducted the research there, estimates that between 600 to 500 new species will be discovered from this region. This estimate is on a stream of reports from taxonomists around the world who are classifying the “bugs” collected.

Winchester expects that eventually between 15,000 and 17,000 different species will be identified from the collections he made from our research station. (Note: he collected samples on the ground, in nearby clearcuts and in second growth forests as well as in the canopy.)

The Biological Survey of Canada currently estimates that there are 33,000 species of insects (arthropods) in Canada. Winchester’s work is expected to double this figure to 66,000.

WCWC Fights For Federal Endangered Species Legislation

In December of 1992, Canada ratified the International Biodiversity Convention and, shortly thereafter, began work on a strategy to implement the Convention country-wide. For the last year and a half, WCWC’s Adriane Carr has contributed to the development of this strategy as part of the official government advisory group. Her main criticism of the draft, now out for public review, is that it lacks the specific hard-line recommendations needed to truly protect biodiversity over the long term. She is continuing to fight for:

- A specific government commitment to develop and enact powerful Federal Endangered Species and Habitats protection legislation.
- Expansion of Canada’s park system to include at least one large protected area for each ecological unit, including marine areas.
- Interim protection measures for park candidates so that they are not destroyed while being studied.
Pinecone Lake, Boise Valley, Burke Mountain
Vancouver’s Backyard Wilderness

In order to protect from clearcut logging the 50,000 hectare Pinecone/Boise/Burke wilderness area adjoining Greater Vancouver’s northern boundary, WCCW activists hacked new trails through blueberry tangles and red tape thickets and faced everything from marauding black bears to roving packs of government bureaucrats.

WCCW’s 93/94 Pinecone/Boise/Burke activities included:

- Upgrading two kilometres of the Boise Valley Trail to the Cedar Spirit Grove with permission of the Ktzie Indian Band. The entire area is part of their traditional territory.
- Producing 3,000 copies of the Savé Boise Valley - Vancouver’s Last Big Tree Rainforest full colour poster. Every local and provincial politician received a complementary copy!
- Producing 3,000 copies of the Boise Valley Road Access and Recreation Guide. (Yes! Our map is finally out!)
- Producing and distributing 100,000 copies of an eight page colour information report entitled Save Vancouver’s Wilderness Backyard. Thanks to our volunteers and supporters and partner environment and outdoors groups, all 100,000 copies were distributed in a record 4 weeks to coincide with government public meetings in February.
- Producing 1,000 Boise Valley - Park it! bumperstickers.
- Participating in the BC government sponsored Pinecone/Boise/Burke Study Team.
- Attending the Pinecone/Boise/Burke public meetings called by the BC government to gauge popular opinion. You, our members came out in droves! You filled in survey questionnaires and flooded government offices with a strong pro-pro-pro-park response.

Thanks to WCCW’s Lower Mainland volunteers, members and supporters the BC government has got the message loud and clear that popular opinion is weighted heavily in favour of full protection for Pinecone/Boise/Burke. Results gathered from the government survey handed out at the February public meetings showed over 80% in favour of protection of the entire study area or an area even larger! The final report of the Pinecone/Boise/Burke Study Team will be in the hands of the BC Cabinet by September 1, 1994. The BC Cabinet is expected to decide shortly thereafter. Will Cabinet opt for full protection? If democracy rules the province, then the answer must be yes. But we all know that the timber industry speaks with a powerful voice! If you live in the Coquitlam, Port Coquitlam, Port Moody, Pitt Meadows, or Maple Ridge areas please phone your local MLA’s office right away! Tell them how you feel about your Backyard Wilderness and ask them to forward your concerns to the BC Cabinet.

- Coquitlam-Mailardville - John Cashore MLA 937-3516
- Maple Ridge-Pitt Meadows - Bill Hartley MLA 467-6793
- Port Coquitlam - Michael Farnworth MLA 941-4001
- Port Moody-Burnaby Mountain - Dr. Barbara Copping MLA - 935-4855

If you want copies of WCCW’s Backyard Wilderness Information Report, Boise Recreation Guide, Boise Park it! Bumperstickers phone us toll free at 1-800-661-9453.

TRAIL BUILDING
An Endangered Tactic!

Most of the land in B.C. is publicly owned and under “Crown” and “aboriginal” title and jurisdiction. There are many remote places where timeless natural processes still prevail. Most of these places will be opened up with roads and logged or mined if First Nations people and environment groups such as WCCW do not succeed in rallying the public to defend them.

Trailbuilding has become one of WCCW’s most successful campaign tactics to protect endangered wilderness. Where a irreplaceable wilderness area is targeted for clearcutting, a team of intrepid Wilderness Committee volunteers and staff begin outlining their loggers, checking out the topo maps and standing on their hiking boots. We bring in our own chainsaws (only to cut windfalls and make stairs and bridges) and snipers (only to cut thick underbrush) and build a foot path so that people can get in to see the precious area whose future is at stake.

Our trails enable professional photographers, video crews, scientists, media, politicians, and many of you, our members and supporters, to experience wild places—places like Meares Island, Stein Valley, Carmanah, Boise and the Clayoquot River! We’ve cleared and built the trails carefully, with lots of volunteer labour, using boardwalks where required, to protect soils, tree roots and forest floor plant from people who come to experience the majesty of wilderness.

WCCW’s volunteer trail building crews are our front line troops in the defense of wilderness. People who experience a threatened ancient forest while building or hiking along a boardwalk trail—in a cathedral of ancient trees springing to the heavens—sparehead the public pressure for old trails) whose work has not had prior approval by a District Forest Manager are subject to a maximum $100,000 fine and up to one year in jail! Whose support is the NDP government seriously wooing?

Anyone who thinks that this new law, supposed to come into effect in the fall of 1994, will make little difference to environmentalists’ tactics, or that District Forest Managers will readily give approval to trail building into forests which are about to be logged, is living in a dream world. Most District Forest Managers act as if their job is to advance the interests of the timber industry. Most have only grudgingly provided information to WCCW that is supposed to be readily available to the public. The Forest Practices Code provides no recourse for appeal if a trail project is thwarted. A "no" from the District Forest Manager is final.

Trail building to save wilderness will have been dealt a severe blow if this draconian NDP law is allowed to stand.

NDF Forest Minister Andrew Petter needs to hear from you now. Tell him what you think of the provision in the new Forest Practices Act that prohibits trail building and maintenance without the permission of the Forest Service District Manager. Mr. Petter’s Victoria office tel. is (604) 387-240, fax (604) 387-1040. His Saanich South constituency office tel. is (604) 479-6148 fax (604) 356-6258. You can write him at: Honourable Andrew Petter, BC Forest Minister, Legislative Buildings, Victoria, BC V8V 1X4

This is the most serious government attack ever against the public’s right to peacefully protect nature.


 protección that almost always grows to unstoppable proportions.

The forest industry clearly understands the power of public opinion we build with our trails. In 1988 MacMillan Bloedel (MB) took us to court to try to stop us from building a trail into Carmanah Valley. They lost!

We thought we’d won forever our legal right to trailbuild, but in June of 1994, the B.C. government passed a new Forest Practices Code which specifies that trailbuilders (and even those who do trail maintenance and repair to centuries-old trails) whose work has not had prior approval by a District Forest Manager are subject to a maximum $100,000 fine and up to one year in jail! Whose support is the NDP government seriously wooing?

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Wilderness Committee Family Tree - Chapter and Branch Reports

Victoria Chapter

Alien Spragge, Canvass Director and Office Manager for the Victoria Chapter, would like to thank Yvonne, the minutes secretary, for her support, campaign staff and canvassers who have made our campaigns to the Upper Carnarvon, Robin Hood and Vietnam War veterans a success this year. "Thanks for believing that your letters, adoped trees and donations make a difference. They did!"

WCCV-Victoria recently moved their store and office... vertically, from the 2nd to the 3rd floor in a better designed suite at 19 Bastion Square. Highlights of the chapter's activities are:

- Volunteers and staff helped hundreds of people with maps and information to make their trips to Carnarvon Valley enjoyable and memorable.
- WCCV-Victoria staff and volunteers led many school and university groups into the Upper Carnarvon Valley, explaining the ecology of the ancient forest and the scope of the research projects being conducted by scientists from around the world at the Committee's research station.
- The chapter won a very significant legal case! On March 28, 1994, B.C. Supreme Court Justice Hogarth ruled that the GreenMountain Water District does... "must have the authority to carry on commercial logging of its lands." The Sierra Legal Defense Fund argued the case for WCCV, the Sierra Club of Western Canada etc. This decision came as a result of four years of hard work by WCCV campaigners who literally put in thousands of hours of effort to protect the watershed. Special thanks go to WCCV Campaigner Mary MacMullen, volunteer Campaigner John Douk, and Sierra Club volunteer campaigner Medi Najar.
- The second phase of the Victoria Watershed campaign has already begun as WCCV's same winning issues work to get the Province to act on the claim against VW (Victoria’s Backyard Wilderness) established as a park.

Surrey-White Rock Chapter

The Surrey and White Rock Chapter of WCCV was formed in 1994. It has an informal organized steering committee with a main focus: the recognition and protection of the Boundary Bay ecosystem—a natural treasure in the Chapter's backyard. Along with groups such as the Boundary Bay Conservation Committee, the Chapter is pushing for the establishment of a U.N. Biosphere Reserve for Boundary Bay. A large part of Surrey-White Rock's efforts are directed towards public education. Monthly information meetings have included intertidal workshops, slide shows about the birds of Boundary Bay and lectures on wide-ranging topics.

The big fundraiser and educational event of the year, the Boundary Bay Birdathon, is pulled off with the enthusiastic help of the White Rock and Surrey Naturalists Club. The event involves over 300 elementary school children and their parents and teachers. Students are introduced to bird identification in a workshop session. Then they join over thirty naturalists who help them identify different bird species in the field, at several different Bay locations. All in all, the children grow in their appreciation of local wildlife and begin to feel that, by caring for the environment, they are a part of the solution.

To increase local appreciation of the value of wildlife habitats, WCCV's Surrey-White Rock Chapter also offers a free public Natural Watch program from 1:00 to 3:00 pm the last Sunday of each month on Blackie's Spit in Boundary Bay's Crescent Beach. If you are in the area, come out and enjoy the Bay with a fine group of WCCV activists.

Cariboo Mountains Wilderness Champions Awarded Prestigious Eugene Rogers Award

On the evening of June 28, 1994, two hundred concerned environmentalists came to the Vancouver Planetarium to learn more about the Cariboo Mountains wilderness. The moving slideshows and speeches by Doug Radliff and oat Helman—full time champions for the preservation of this region—inspired people to increase their help, now, to save this critically threatened area.

The Cariboo Mountains region is the largest tract of roadless wilderness remaining in the southern half of the province. It includes the unprotected old-growth forests in between Walker Bay and Bowron Lake Provincial Parks. It has only very marginal commercial forests, but extremely valuable wildlife habitat. The low elevation pass between the Niagara and Penfold Valleys is especially rich with wildlife corridor for grizzlies and woodland caribou. The wetlands are crucial for sockeye salmon survival.

At the time of our June event it was suspected that the B.C. government's CORE Commissioner, Stephen Owen, might not recommend protection for the Niagara and Penfold watersheds, opting, instead, for a high elevation corridor that would preserve areas with absolutely no commercial timber. That, of course, is not what wildlife needs. The evidence of continued wildlife survival has determined that we must have large protected wilderness areas if we are to conserve biodiversity over geological time.

About two weeks after our event the Chilcotin-Cariboo CORE report was released and these two key watersheds were scheduled for logging. Another Cariboo-Cache wilderness preservation fight now will move into high gear.

If the elected provincial leaders were present at the event that night, there is no question but that the Cariboo Mountains Wilderness Area would be preserved in its entirety. Words cannot describe the passionate supporters who wrote, presented by Ralf Currie, a local photographer who has spent years exploring and documenting the Cariboo Mountains' wildlife and beauty.

CAMPAIGN SHORTS

- Cascade International Park - We have focused our recent efforts on protecting the upper Chilliwack Valley, a popular Lower Mainland wildlife recreation area. In the spring of '94 we produced and distributed in Canada and the USA, 80,000 copies of the Cascade International Park Information Report. Our efforts led to the Chilliwack Valley granted protected area status in '95. Over the longer term we aim to see a million hectare international protected area straddling the international border from Chilliwack to the Okanagan.
- Stein Valley - We are collecting photos, and information for a "final push" for official BC government protection for the entire Stein Valley by the end of '94. Expect to see trail repair projects, an information report and art show feature in Toronto before the year is out. Conservationists and First Nations have been working to protect the Stein for over two decades!
- Kilope Valley - Expect to see the Kilope granted protected area status very very very soon. This area is the largest undeveloped coastal watershed remaining in Earth's temperate zone. WCCV has produced several information reports on the area and has included it in our endangered wilderness calendars for the past four years.
- Vancouver's Watersheds - We produced 2,500 of the Vancouver Giants - purify water... naturally full colour posters. For a half a decade we have been working together with local environment groups to end the logging of Vancouver's drinking water supply areas. So far we have succeeded in slowing the rate of destruction, but not stopping it. The stunning poster of towering oldgrowth trees was hand delivered to all local politicians and media as a reminder that the ancient forest produces clear, cold and free drinking water in great amounts. Look for the fight to heat up in '95.
- Forest Practices - In the Spring of '94 we sent a vanguard crew to Mackenzie Bloedel's Farm License 444 near Bankfield on the southwest coast of Vancouver Island. We documented huge clearcuts (well over the 40 hectare size the government claims the companies are currently limited to on the coast), logging right down to salmon bearing streams, soil erosion, and the cutting of thousand year old trees. These images were aired on local TV and sent abroad. Look for more of the same in '95.

From left to right: Doug Radliff, Ocean Helman, Ramona deGraff and Joe Foy. J.P. Lefrank photo.

The Wilderness Committee and the Vancouver United Nations Association co-sponsored the evening. Doug and his wife Ocean, who have devoted the last three years of their lives and all their savings, to the effort, were honoured as the third winners of the prestigious Eugene Rogers award, given out annually to the environmental activist of the year. Previous winners include Terry Jacks, for his work in fighting against pulp mill pollution, especially in Howe Sound and Joe Martin for his work to protect Clayquot Sound.

At the show Doug and Ocean previewed the Cariboo Mountains Wilderness Coalition's new poster, Niagara - Save the Cariboo Mountains Wilderness, which is being distributed by WCCV. WCCV participated in a blitz distribution of the poster to MLA's and the media prior to the CORE announcement. When the report came down the fact that the Niagara River was not recommended for park protection was widely reported... a good launch for our upcoming massive public education campaign.

WCVC's 1994-95 B.C. Campaign Goals

- To demand that government develop a real sustainability plan that sets aside enough of our natural heritage to protect salmon, ancient rainforests and biodiversity.
- To legislate an end to clearingcutting.
- To switch to sustainable, selection forest practices and greater value-added wood manufacturing that provides more jobs for B.C. forest workers.
- To revise the tenure system and turn control of the forests over to local communities, including First Nations.
- To protect water catchment areas for communities drinking water from logging and other developments.
- To reduce the power of cut to a truly sustainable level, estimated at a 50 percent level.
- To carry out comprehensive inventories of all forest values so that all development conforms to the biological "bottom line".
- To work with First Nations to preserve all the remaining large undeveloped watersheds on Vancouver Island.
- To protect B.C.'s last remaining large intact wilderness areas, including the Cariboo Mountains, the northern Rocky Mountains, the last large pristine watersheds and the remaining big tracts of intact old-growth forests.

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**WCWC’s Vancouver Island Conservation Vision**

When, in 1992, the newly elected B.C. NDP government initiated its Commission on Resources and Environment (CORE) process to rationally and regionally decide land use and end valley-by-valley decision-making, we were sceptical but willing to participate. In fact, WCWC, Victoria and Mid-Island played lead roles in bringing environment groups from throughout the Island into the process.

Then, on April 13, 1993, Premier Mike Harcourt’s government decided to allow clear-cut logging in two-thirds of Clayoquot Sound, removing from CORE’s mandate the ability to decide what should happen with the largest chunk of big-barked ancient forest on not just the Island but in all of North America! WCWC left the Vancouver Island CORE table, and withdrew from CORE processes elsewhere in the province. We concluded that we would be more effective in bringing the government from the outside than working on the inside, lending our credibility to a process bereft of ecological principles.

Consequently, we decided to create and publicize our own conservation vision, rooted in the principles of conservation biology and ecosystem-based forest management, for Vancouver Island. In October of 1993 we published 300,000 copies of a Conservation Vision for Vancouver Island newspaper, distributing it to every household on the Island.

Our Conservation Vision calls for the complete reform of forest practices and the forest tenure system, an end to clearcut logging and the institution of community-based, selective-method eco-forestry. It also calls for preservation of 40 percent of the Island’s land base, as the minimum needed to truly keep biodiversity intact. Our Vision was endorsed by VINE—the Vancouver Island Nature Endowment—some media as a radical, but legitimate, alternative against which other options were measured.

We believe our efforts helped move Commissioner Stephen Owen into recommending that: 13 percent rather than 12 percent of the land base be protected; that an additional eight percent of the land base be classified as Regionally Significant Lands (RSLAs) where conservation needs are to be prioritized over logging; that all forest land, including private forest land, be placed in Community Forest Land Reserves; and that a broader forest industry jobs strategy for the Island be developed at the same time as withdrawing land from forestry to create new parks.

We think we also prompted an overall shift in the conservation debate towards increased preservation. It was actually gratifying to stand in the midst of the 15,000-person “Share” rally in April and hear loggers chant, “12% and no more”—something which would have been unheard of two years ago.

As soon as Stephen Owen, head of CORE, presented his “13 percent solution” in February of 1994, WCWC produced a follow-up paper, *Vancouver Island: Forest Policy—Lost or Saved?*. We distributed 150,000 copies of this paper to key Vancouver Island communities, including inserting it into the Victoria Times-Colonist newspaper on March 21, the day of the Quebec “loggers” rally to the legislature. The paper explains why Owen’s vision and the B.C. government’s Vancouver Island land use plan, announced June 22, are just the first step, not the end, of a conservation process.

Only 14 percent of Canadians surveyed nationwide feel that the B.C. Government’s decision to allow clearcut logging on approximately two-thirds of the land area in Clayoquot Sound was a good one.

*Angus Reid poll, January, 1994*

**CORE Fails to Fully Protect Island’s Biodiversity**

Although happy with the creation of 23 new parks (especially the Upper CanaManah, Wabani, Tashish-Kwass, Nasapti and Lower Tzitka Valleys), we know that the government’s plan will not protect the Island’s wildlife, ancient rainforests and natural biodiversity over the long run. Our key concerns are:

- New park areas comprise only 100,000 ha - about one-third the size of Clayoquot Sound. All parks on the Island now total 13 percent of the land base. With only 13 percent protection, an estimated 50 percent of Vancouver Island’s species will go extinct.
- Less than 6 percent of the Island’s original ancient rainforest is protected in the plan (an increase of 2.7% over previous protection). This is a far cry from the government’s original commitment of 12 percent representative protection for each ecosystem. In contrast, 90 percent of the Island’s alpine rock and ice is protected.
- Of about 170 large (over 5000 ha) primary and secondary watersheds on Vancouver Island, only 10 are still undeveloped, and six of these are still unprotected. These six ancient rainforest valleys (Clayoquot, Uchis and Sydney Rivers in Clayoquot Sound and Klashash, Power and East in the Greater Brooks Peninsula) are all slated for clearcut logging. That’s why, on the day of the government’s Vancouver Island CORE announcement, we launched our “Six-Pack” campaign to save the last unprotected wilderness watersheds on the Island. Clayoquot Sound will continue to be our flagship campaign.

**Forest Practices Code: A Blueprint for No Change**

The new B.C. Forest Practices Code was rammed through the B.C. legislature by the NDP in a marathon session which lasted until 5:00 am on Tuesday, July 5. The Code, despite opposition parties claiming it was too strong, fails miserably in its promised attempt to legislate “world class forest practices.”

- The Code is not a set of rules. It is primarily a set of criteria for administrative plans. For almost every “rule” (eg., reduced cut-block sizes, green-up requirements, riparian zone protection, harvesting restrictions) there are provisions for exceptions. In virtually every section, the Code allows the timber-oriented District Forest Managers to override the rules and allow clearcutting and roadbuilding anywhere. This means that companies’ practices, as long as they’re part of an approved plan, cannot be challenged, even if they are ecologically damaging.
- The public has no right of appeal regarding any specific logging activity or any discretionary decision on the part of a District Manager. Conversely, forest companies have a direct right of appeal to a Forest Appeals Commission and the courts regarding any penalty or order imposed on them. The public is limited to a “complaint” about non-compliance with a plan to a Forest Practices Board which has no power to alter decisions and is limited to making recommendations. A report.
- The Code verifies clearcutting as the harvesting method of choice. Restrictions of clearcuts to 40 ha on the coast and 60 ha in the interior are greenwash (the average on the coast is currently 37 ha), because a bunch of 40 hectare clearcuts eventually become one giant clearcut and there is no biological evidence to suggest that 40 ha clearcuts are ecologically better than larger ones. Selection harvesting is restricted to very limited, high-risk areas, and even then only at the discretion of the District Manager.

- The Code’s standards are weak. The no-harvest buffer zones for salmon and other fish stream will be a maximum of 30 metres and only 10 metres on most streams, roughly 10 percent of the riparian zone protection afforded in U.S. national forests.
- The Code does not reduce the annual allowable cut, currently estimated in government studies as 30 percent above sustainable levels. This is despite the fact that Premier Harcourt promised a 20 percent reduction in cut when he visited Europe in the spring of 1994.
- No protection of biodiversity is mandated. There is no binding protection of endangered species’ habitats unless essential habitat is designated by government (but there is no Endangered Species and Habitats legislation in B.C. or Canada which requires this designation)
- Old-growth protection is completely optional. “Million-dollar fines” only apply to three sections of the Code—not acting in accordance with an operational plan, trespass logging and deliberately starting a fire.
- One of the toughest sections deals with trail-building such as done by WCWC as a campaign tactic to build public support for wilderness protection. Trail-builders whose trailbuilding is not authorized by a District Manager are subject to a $100,000 fine and up to one year in jail, with no avenue for appeal! Unless we get the regulations changed, this will come into effect immediately upon the Forest Practices Code being proclaimed, expected in November of 1994. Meanwhile...
- It could be as much as three to five years before the Code will apply to all logging. There is an initial 6 month holiday (after proclamation) during which even new logging plans “need not comply”. For two years, only “substantial compliance” (undefined) is required.
Clayoquot Campaign
Huge Strides Forward and Miles To Go

For more than ten years the Wilderness Committee has been fighting to protect Clayoquot Sound, the largest extent of original lowland temperate rainforest left in North America. We've published and distributed over one-half million copies in total of five different newspapers, five posters and two books. We've attended countless meetings, held hundreds of public slide show events, built trails, and maintained a "front line" information kiosk, taken a big stump on tour, mounted demonstrations and talked to media, the general public and our elected officials. Our work has helped stave off logging so far in most of Clayoquot Sound.

On April 13, 1993 the B.C. Government decided to allow clearcut logging in two-thirds of Clayoquot Sound—including the Clayoquot, Urrus and Sydney River valleys, three of Vancouver Island's last ten large, ancient-forested watersheds. The public cry of dismay reverberated world-wide.

Preserving the large tracts of intact ancient rainforest in Clayoquot Sound has been WCWC's number one goal since January, 1993—a flagship campaign in our larger effort to gain truly sustainable forest practices in B.C. while preserving sufficient wilderness to safeguard biodiversity.

From January 1, 1993 to July, 1994 individual WCWC members and supporters contributed $263,317 towards our Clayoquot campaign. What have we accomplished with these donations? • Flaggered and cleared the 29 km Clayoquot Valley Witness Trail. Donations supported volunteers who collectively worked more than 10,000 hours last year on the trail. By July of 1994, 10 km of the trail had been boardwalked to protect sensitive ground conditions.
• Provided funds in the summer of 1993 to the Ha'ah-Quait First Nations who completed a Meares Big Cedar Boardwalk trail to the "Hanging Garden" cedar, the world's second largest redcedar tree.
• From July to September of 1993, and through the summer of 1994, maintained a Clayoquot Public Information Kiosk at Sutton Pass, one-half hour west of Port Alberni on the highway to Tofino.
• Mounted dozens of photo and film expeditions into Clayoquot Sound to document the beauty and the destruction.


• In the summer of 1993 published and distributed two posters (Clayoquot - Save It Now! and Clayoquot - Wild Beaches, Wild Forests, Wild Forever!), 100,000 copies of a four-page educational newspaper, Save Clayoquot Valley, 30,000 three-part opinion poll mailers (responses directed to Premier Harcourt and 40,000 Official Clayoquot Petitions. This involved sending out 86,000 pieces of Clayoquot mail from March to September of 1993.
• Delivered over 130,000 signatures on the Clayoquot Petitions to Deputy Prime Minister, Sheila Copps. You, our members, came through!
• Hauled a 4,000 kg redcedar stump from Clayoquot Sound (where, under salvage permit, we excavated it from a clearcut next to our Witness Trail) to Ottawa in time for the federal election in October of 1993, extracting a promise from the soon-to-become Prime Minister, Jean Chrétien, to help save Clayoquot Sound. In February of 1994 we sent "Stumpy" to Europe for a four-month "holiday", in the care of Greenpeace. There, Stumpy generated support for an end to clearcut logging in B.C. and for protection of Clayoquot's ancient forests. Stumpy's WCWC North American tour re-commenced in July of 1994.

In 1994 we produced 150,000 copies of another educational newspaper, Clayoquot - a heritage worth protecting, two posters of the threatened Clayoquot River Valley, and 106,000 three-part opinion poll mailers (this time with the responses directed to Prime Minister Chrétien).

• Played a leadership role in bringing together an alliance of environment groups to work on Clayoquot. We coordinated numerous meetings between the environment groups and First Nations.
• Issued over 50 press releases about Clayoquot, sending each one to over 300 media outlets and other contacts. Hosted dozens of media, politicians and dignitaries on our Clayoquot Witness Trail.

We are proud of WCWC's Clayoquot Campaign and our choice to work for wilderness protection within the law, without involvement in blockades or other non-violent civil disobedience. We believe our work is vitally important. We are the lead group focused on mass production and distribution of publications to educate the public and prompt politicians to increase preservation of ancient forests and institute truly sustainable logging practices. We are working closely with First Nations, other environment groups and federal politicians towards a "Clayoquot solution".

WCWC Stand With Loggers at Victoria Rally

On March 21, 1994, anti-preservationists held a massive rally on the lawns of the B.C. Legislature in Victoria to protest CORE Commissioner Stephen Owen's recommendations to preserve 13 percent of Vancouver Island and earmark another 8 percent as "regionally significant areas" where logging would play second fiddle to environmental protection.

The Wilderness Committee attended, conspicuous as a tight group of ten with huge colour cartoon placards in the center of the crowd of 15,000 forest industry supporters. We were protesting CORE like those around us, but for the opposite reason - we felt it did not recommend the preservation of nearly enough ancient forest. How far we have come in B.C.'s conservation debate dawned on us when the loggers there began chanting "12 percent and no more". A few loggers and millworkers even congratulated us on our signs saying "Save Jobs. Stop Raw Log Exports Off-Island".

Opinion Polls On Our Side

67 percent of Canadians oppose the practice of clearcut logging.
- Angus Reid poll, January, 1994

62.3 percent of British Columbians think that the government's new Forest Practices Code should allow only selective logging and ban all clearcut logging in British Columbia.
- B.C. Ministry of Forests poll, March 31, 1994

Russ Forrester and Adriane Carr at logger's rally in Victoria. Ian Parfitt photo.

PAGE 6
WCWC Info Kiosk at pass to Clayoquot Sound gets cheers and harassment

For the second summer in a row, visitors travelling Highway 4 from Port Alberni to Pacific Rim Park National Park Reserve and Tofino know when they enter the Clayoquot Sound watershed. Huge banners at WCWC’s information kiosk along the road at Sutton Pass saying Welcome to Clayoquot Sound - Naik-chah-muck First Nations Territory and Save Clayoquot Sound - Project BC’s Ancient Rainforest let them know they are entering a very special place.

Every day, from about 10 am to 8 pm, a WCWC staff member and volunteers are on hand to answer questions and to give out free Clayoquot Sound newspapers and mail-in postcards. They explain why we are so determined to save more of the ancient forests in Clayoquot Sound and to bring an end to the destructive practice of clearcut logging. Of course, they are also selling posters, books, t-shirts, bumperstickers and accepting donations to help support the nearby volunteer crews building the Clayoquot Valley Witness Trail boardwalk.

According to WCWC’s Clayoquot Kiosk crew, visitors’ responses this year indicate that people are much better informed about the issues compared to last year. The vast majority of tourists are appalled by the horrendous damage already caused by clearcut logging visible from the highway.

But all is not rosy. Harassment at WCWC’s Clayoquot Kiosk last year included stealing signs and threatening staff. This year the kiosk site has been stoned with rotten fish guts and slime several times. A large rock was thrown at kiosk staff from a speeding pickup truck. Vandals also cut down some of the small trees used to tie up the big banners. Signs giving directions to the Witness Trail have been repeatedly taken down. One sign was replaced with another saying ‘Witness Trail’.

“Some irate people, we think they might be loggers returning from work, curse at us, give us the finger and sometimes verbally threaten us, but we just smile and wave back,” says James Jamieson, WCWC Clayoquot Kiosk on-site coordinator.

’apparently it is just a few people who are causing the problems. He said that most people, even those who disagree with WCWC’s Clayoquot stand, treat those at the kiosk well. Some locals even bring fresh caught salmon (“a darn sight better than fish guts”) and homemade meals!”

Clayoquot Valley Witness Trail

With the permission of the Tla-o-qui-aht First Nations, WCWC volunteers worked over 10,000 hours last year to clear and partially boardwalk a 29 kilometre trail (just measured with an odometer wheel!) through the heart of the 7,679 ha Clayoquot River valley. The Clayoquot Valley Witness Trail begins in the Upper Kennedy valley, 8 km up the first logging road on the Clayoquot side of Sutton Pass. During this summer, our public information kiosk marks the turn-off.

The trail skirts along “Spire Lake” (created by a natural landslide several decades ago), climbs over the pass into Clayoquot Valley, meanders past subalpine lakes and down waterfall-covered ramps into the lush, big-treed valley bottom, and finally turns up Deslano (we’ve named it “No Road”) Creek to end in another clearcut, at the Kenquot Main logging road. Here, the fresh cleared logging damage is overwhelming, with massive blowdowns, poor regeneration, and erosion into fish streams.

In the summer of 1994, a WCWC boardwalk crew began work as the “No Road” Creek end of the trail, where MacMillan Bloedel (MB) is pressuring to extend Kenquot Main so that they can begin logging in the heart of this beautiful watershed which has, today, the best sockeye spawning run left in the whole of Clayoquot Sound. MB has also flagged our Upper Kennedy trailhead for road building scheduled to start in 1995.

At the request of First Nations, we’re boardwalking sensitive parts of the Clayoquot Valley Witness Trail (especially the boggy and steeper sections) to protect soils, tree roots and forest floor fauna. Carved into the boardwalk treads and resting benches along the trail are the names of over 700 WCWC Witness Trail donors who have helped make this defense of Clayoquot Valley possible.

WCWC Honoured with First Nations’ Gifts

Both at the official interim Measures Agreement ratification ceremonies, hosted by the First Nations and provincial government in Ahousah in April, 1994 and at the opening ceremonies for the Tla-o-qui-aht First Nations’ Tin-Wis Resort Lodge in Tofino in July, WCWC was honored with presents from the First Nations. In Ahousah, the Tla-o-qui-aht First Nations presented WCWC with a framed print of a great of Chief Wickannish, in recognition of our conservation efforts and cooperative work with them in Clayoquot Sound. At the Tin-Wis Resort Lodge opening in July, WCWC was presented with a photo collage of the Tin-Wis Resort Lodge project, in recognition of our donation of 120 posters which the Tla-o-qui-aht First Nations framed and placed in all the hotel rooms.
WCWC's International Campaign

Sue Fox, Ian Parfitt and Adriane Carr have maintained WCWC's international WILD (Wilderness is the Last Dream) campaign to map and protect Earth's endangered ecosystems. They were joiners of the WILD corner of WCWC's offices this past year by Richard McDermott, on contract to administer a project grant received from CIDA's Environment and Development Support Programme (EDSP). This grant links WCWC's Clayoquot campaign with campaigns to preserve the temperate rainforests of southern Chile.

Based on the success of WILD's national scale mapping work in Latin America, published in the spring of 1993, WCWC and a partner group, Fundación Peruana para la Conservación de la Naturaleza (FPCN), received major funding from the International Development Research Centre (IDRC) in October of 1993 to continue more detailed mapping work in the Andean ecosystem.

Lowland Coastal Temperate Rainforest, Southern Chile. Photograph by Adriane Carr

WILD Goes to Chile

In early March 1994, Adriane Carr and Ian Parfitt spent two weeks in Chile. During this time they met with WILD's partners from Fundación Lahuen and the Comité Nacional pro Defensa de la Fauna y Flora (CODEFF), and visited the forests of southern Chile. Highlights of the visit included:

Cani - The Araucaria and Fundación Lahuen

The Cani is a ridge which stretches westwards from the Andes into Chile's central plain. The plains and valley bottom forests near the Cani have been cleared for settlements and cattle pasture. But the steepest mountainsides and the high level of precipitation, including several metres of snow in the austral winter, have so far left much of the softwood Araucaria montane forest on the Cani relatively intact. Lahuen spearheaded a campaign to purchase 400 ha of forest here, and have begun an ambitious programme of environmental education and research in this reserve. They are currently raising funds to purchase an adjoining piece of ancient forest property, to expand and buffer the reserve and to protect more mid-elevation hardwood Coihue forest. Ian and Adriane were lead on an over-night environmental education trip into the Cani reserve by Lahuen field staff.

Valdivia - CODEFF

In the region of Curitano, near Valdivia, a dry temperate Oliviier wood forest once blanketed the Pacific shore of the low coastal ranges. Most of the original forest has been removed: cut down for firewood or burnt and cleared for pasture. All that remains are small fragments, and even these have been impacted by grazing and fire. Staff from CODEFF's Valdivia office took us on a tour of an 80 hectare property they are raising funds to purchase. This property contains a 4 hectare patch of coastal forest which is the largest known remnant of this ecosystem. It also adjoins a significant sea otter rookery.

The next day the WILD team toured CODEFF's forestry and environmental education project which encourages the sustainable use of native forest resources among small land-holders south of Valdivia. This project integrates forest harvesting techniques, a portable sawmill, and silvicultural management of native forest species, proving that viable alternatives exist in cooforesy.

Chilean Coastal Temperate Rainforest

The largest expanse of threatened lowland temperate rainforest in Chile, and probably the world, extends from Puerto Montt southwards along the Pacific coast. This large ecoregion contains forest ecosystems dominated by Lenga and forests of southern beech species such as Lenga and Coihue. The remoteness and access problems which have protected this wilderness also make it difficult to visit.

The WILD team was flown over this region by Lighthawk, a USA-based environment group, which maintains a plane and pilot in Puerto Montt to help environmental activists, media, and researchers monitor the forests. In the harbour of Puerto Montt are huge piles of native and plantation eucalyptus woodchips which attest to two of the biggest threats facing the Chile's temperate rainforest: the exploitation of original forest for low value products and the extensive replacement of natural ecosystems with exotic species plantations.

The Penan

Wade Davis, co-author of Penan: Voice for the Borneo Rainforest, published by WILD in 1991, returned from a visit to Sarawak, Malaysia in early 1993. On his return he reported to us the heart-wrenching extent to which the tropical rainforests there had been destroyed since his visit in 1990. Large areas that the indigenous Penan had been fighting to protect for traditional use within a UN Biosphere Reserve are now logged. This logging takes place in the face of Malaysia's commitment to the ITC in 1992 to reduce logging to a sustainable level.

WILD continues to handle inquiries and to provide information and images about the Penan campaign.

The Andes Project

On September 17, 1993 WILD, together with its Peruvian partner Fundación Peruana para la Conservación de la Naturaleza (FPCN), received final approval from the International Development Research Centre (IDRC) to begin a more detailed mapping project in the Andes mountains of South America. This project, building upon the partnerships and experiences of previous WILD mapping in Latin America, has the goal of planning a system of Biosphere Reserves which, if established, will safeguard both the natural resources and the traditional communities of the Andes.

The Andes stretch the entire length of the South American continent from Colombia and Venezuela to Chile and Argentina. They are in a precarious state: the few natural areas that remain both inside and outside of the national park systems are threatened by colonization and development. This is a region of important genetic resources, including the wild relatives of the tomato and potato. It is the home of many indigenous cultures such as the Aymaras of the grassland plateau and the Palqueches of the Araucaria forests. Unsustainable developments in the Andes also impact neighbouring regions such as the Amazon basin, where water carries both pollution and settlers down-stream from the highly populated uplands into the rainforests below.

By participating in this project, WILD hopes to increase its mapping skills and its abilities to plan and implement ecosystem conservation strategies.

After visiting Chile in early March 1994, WILD director Adriane Carr and WILD research programmer director Ian Parfitt travelled to Peru. In a three day visit to Lima, Adriane and Ian met with FPCN project coordinating Francisco Estranadoyo and with researchers and technical coordinators from La Molina University who are involved in the Andes mapping project. WILD's Andean maps will be used to design a regional conservation strategy for the Andes by a working group comprised of Latin American members of the International Union for the Conservation of Nature. For more information contact WILD or FPCN, Los Rosales, #255, Lima 27, Peru.
Earth's temperate rainforests reach their greatest majesty and extent in coastal British Columbia and southern Chile. Until just a few centuries ago, millions of hectares of pristine broad-leaved evergreen temperate rainforest extended about 1,500 km along a narrow strip of South America’s fjord-lined, south-west coast. An estimated 60 percent of this rainforest has been destroyed by logging and agriculture, mostly in the last 100 years.

The opportunity still remains in Chile to preserve significant remnants of ancient forest, including the last pristine, lowland expanses of temperate rainforest in the southern hemisphere. But clear-cut logging on a vast scale is rapidly foreclosing this opportunity. Chile’s remaining old-growth native forests are as much coveted by trans-national forest companies as are BC’s. They are being destroyed at the rate of 122,000 hectares per year, or about 10 soccer fields every half-hour. Of Chile’s estimated original 30 million ha of native forest, just 770,000 ha, or 2.6%, is fully protected from logging in parks and reserves.

While the temperate rainforests of BC and southern Chile share similar climatic and physiographic conditions, they are very different at the species level. Each has their own unique flora and fauna. Ninety-five percent of the 50 tree species found in Chile’s temperate rainforests are endemic.

Problems Facing Chilean Forests

Substitution of native forests with exotic species plantations. In Chile the state subsidizes the substitution of native forests with monoculture plantations of radiata pine and eucalyptus by paying 75 to 90 percent of replanting costs.

Squandering economic potential. Similarly to BC, Chile exports minimally-processed forest products, adding little value to create jobs in the community. Chemical pulp, wood chips and raw logs accounted for 58 percent of Chile’s $11.3 billion (US) in forest exports in 1992. It is no surprise that despite tremendous growth in the value of forest exports over the last few decades, forestry employment in Chile has been stagnant at the equivalent of about 60,000 full time workers.

Poor ecosystems protection. While Chile appears to have an impressive system of protected areas—seven largest by proportion of land mass in the world—very little of this (1.4 million ha) is forest land. Most is rock, ice, moorland, tundra and desert. Also, in nearly half of the “protected” forest lands logging is allowed.

Lack of local control over the land and its resources. The forestry industry is dominated by two consortia, Angellini and Matte, which in 1988 owned 40 percent of the country’s forest plantations, controlled 83 percent of forestry production and accounted for 69 percent of forest exports. Currently, foreign capital is pouring into Chile, especially in the Valdivian rainforest and the far south, where ancient forests are being converted into cheap wood chips, mostly for export to Japan. Foreign forestry giants are investing in pulp mills, cellulose plants, forest land, shipping plants, sawmills and port facilities.

Forest industry crimes. Just as in BC, where transgression of environmental regulations and laws are commonplace and often go unpunished, in Chile only 7 percent of 1991-92 fines for illegal cutting of native forest were paid.

Forest degradation. Social inequities in land ownership forces campesinos to over-use their lands, leading to erosion and degradation of soils and, in turn, encroachment on adjacent forest lands. In many cases, forest lands are burned and new forest growth is tramplished by livestock.

What you can do

1. Offer your financial support. Fifty dollars will permanently protect an entire hectare of Chilean temperate rainforest, through purchase of land by a Chilean environment group (see tear-off in this paper).

2. Write a letter stating how you feel about the need to protect Chile’s ancient forests to:

   Señor Presidente Eduardo Frei
   República de Chile, Casa de la Moneda, Santiago, Chile
   Fax 011-562-3326

   Please send a copy to us (WCWC-WILD Team) — it helps us in our campaign.

3. Purchase our Cathedrals of Life poster, featuring a spectacular stand of ancient Chilean alerce trees ($8 for WCWC members) Profits from the sales of this poster support the joint efforts of WCWC and its Chilean partners to protect Chile’s ancient forests.

Solutions Nielding Public Support

Legislative and policy change. CODEFF is leading a call for policy changes:

- Modification of Chilean forest law to stop the proposed legalization of the substitution of native forests with exotic-species plantations.
- Promotion of a locally-controlled, ecologically sustainable forest industry which rejects clearcut logging and transforms the wealth of the forest into valuable forest products, not wood-chips.
- An intensive native species silviculture program on deforested land to reduce pressure on old-growth native forests.
- A moratorium on logging of native forests while an adequate inventory is conducted.
- Increased protection of native forests by creating more national parks.

Land purchases. Since most forested land in Chile is privately owned, an important element of both Fundacion Lahuen’s and CODEFF’s plans is the creation of a fund for the purchase and protection of key examples of underprotected ecosystems, especially ancient forests.

Working Together to Protect Earth’s Temperate Rainforests

The goals of WILD’s CIDA-funded project with Fundación Lahuen and CODEFF of Chile, initiated in July of last year, are to build community commitment for the ecologically sustainable use of forests, and to mobilize public and political support toward greater legislated protection for ancient forest ecosystems in BC and Chile. Please support our partners.

Fundación Lahuen, Orrego Lazo 054, Providencia, Santiago, Chile. Tel (562) 234-2617, Fax (562) 233-9768.
Fundación Lahuen is Chile’s first non-governmental organization focused exclusively on conserving Chile’s native forests.

Comité Nacional pro Defensa de la Fauna y Flora (CODEFF), Casilla 3675, Sazie 1855, Santiago, Chile. Tel (562) 696-1268, Fax (562) 696-8562.
CODEFF, founded in 1968, is Chile’s oldest non-profit, non-governmental environmental organization.

THANK YOU!

A big thanks to the WILD staff to the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) for providing the funds for our Cuni Claroquoip Project and giving us the opportunity to work with our Chilean partners towards protecting the magnificent temperate rainforests of Chile and B.C.

An equally big thanks go from WILD to Canada’s International Development Research Centre (IDRC), for supporting our collaborative project with the Peruvian Foundation for the Conservation of Nature: Research and Map Production of Natural Areas and Indigenous Use of the Andes.
Albernbach

The Boreal Forest Research Station

Last summer WCWC Alberta set up a Boreal Research station on the banks of the Peace River. Under the guidance of Dr. Jock MacUdrum, this summer's research activities were conducted on 137 hectares of land located in the middle of the river, where it meets with the Pembina and the Peace.

One of the primary purposes of this research is to study the effects of logging on the wildlife of the area.

Alberta News Briefs

- The set show, featuring 25 works by famous Alberta artists who visited the Boreal Forest Research Camp last fall, continues on until February 13.
- Another artist's camp was held in the Nodderbrace, the 20 paintings which will remain on display in Provincial Park interpretive centres.
- For ten days in the spring of 1984 WCWC Alberta's Extension Forestry Unit and the Peace River Conservation District visited the interior of Alberta. Their trip was sponsored by the Boreal Forest Council of Alberta which was opposed to Senator Smith's 310 - a dredging project to replace expensive dam sources of power by opening up the entire interior of Alberta to big forest management licences and clearance logging.

Okanagan Chapter

WCWC's Okanagan Chapter has a strong core of active individuals—about 16, according to Bruce Summer, one of the most active in the chapter.

A key accomplishment of the Chapter over the last two years is the completion of the Okanagan High Trail, which runs 59 kilometers from Kelowna to Vernon. Completed in May 1984, the trip is a local event and sets a precedent for other trails in the region.

On other fronts, WCWC-Okanagan has initiated a Firewatch program to monitor and notify residents and local government about the presence of potential fire hazards.

The Chapter submitted detailed proposals for study areas under the provincial government's Protected Areas Strategy program. Only three were accepted. Among them was the Granby, located about 450 kilometers from the coast and 20 kilometers from the coast. The Granby area is about 600 square kilometers in size.

The Okanagan Chapter is gearing up for the government to announce a CORE process for their region in the near future. They have been working on creating a "Conservation Vision" for the region. They have also encouraged the provincial government to consider a CORE process for the entire region, both in the Okanagan and in the rest of the province.

Mid Island Chapter

In June, 1984 the Mid Island Chapter moved into a new store in Port Alberni. This move has allowed the chapter to expand its operations and become more accessible to the public.

The Mid Island Chapter is currently working on a number of projects, including the development of a new radio station and the creation of a new chapter newsletter. They are also planning a number of events and activities for the coming year.

Ottawa/Outaouais Chapter

WCWC's Ottawa/Outaouais Chapter continues to focus on its work on building opposition to the James Bay mega-project.

Last October WCWC-Ottawa organized a rally on Parliament Hill to protest against the construction of the James Bay project. The rally, called "Stumpy," the 4,000 kilometer road train we staked all the way from a crane in Claygate Sound. The goal of the rally was to pressure federal officials to declare where they stood on the Claygate issue. The Liberal Party and its leader, Jean Cretien, said they would extend Pacific Rim National Park Reserve to protect Claygate Sound.

During the weeks before Christmas, 1983, WCWC-Ottawa operated a temporary store in a prime downtown location, offering the space to the Sierra Club of Canada. Sales were brisk. The store raised over $100,000 for the Claygate issue, as well as much needed funds for the chapter.

In July, 1984 WCWC's main office in Vancouver set up a door-to-door canvass in Ottawa. It proved to be an instant success. Both the Ottawa canvass and the Toronto canvass (which has successfully been in operation building WCWC's membership and support for more than a year) are based on asking for support for protection for the ancient, undisturbed rainforests in Claygate Sound. After paying expenses, all the money raised by these canvasses goes directly into the Claygate campaign.

WCWC is building a large membership base in Canada's most populous province and looks forward to the formation of a self-supporting Ontario Branch which will operate like the Albernbach, paid staff and active local wilderness-saving campaigns.

West Kootenays Chapter

The West Kootenays Chapter is centered in Nelson. Park Protection of the West Arm Wilderness (WAW) is a top priority. The 550 square mile WAW includes Lake Creek (included in WCWC's Summer 1992 Wilderness Report Vol. 11 No. 2). The WAW area received the go ahead in the hundreds of wilderness area being raised as candidates for protection by the B.C. government's Protected Area Strategy (PAS) team. Only three areas of British Columbia are Mountainous Ecotone, which this area represents, is protected.

In November and December of 1993 WCWC - West Kootenays launched an advertising campaign in support of the preservation of the West Arm Wilderness Area (WAW). The campaign included several TV spots, radio ads and newspaper ads and a household mailout to 6,000 homes in the region. This greatly increased public support.

The WAW area is being considered for protection by the Commission on the Conservation of Forest Ecosystems (CCOE). The CCOE recommendation and B.C. cabinet decision are expected sometime this fall. While the fate of the WAW was being considered by CORE (CORE failed to place ecotrons in areas being considered as park units), a 45 kilometre road was being built into the pristine Kootenay Creek, at the heart of the WAW. While not as high profile as Lassen Creek, Kootenay Creek is a crucial part of this vast wilderness area. Logging in the lower Kootenay is scheduled to start by the end of the summer.

WCWC's West Kootenays Chapter asks that all WCWC members write to Premier Harcourt, Legislative Billings, Victoria, B.C. V8W 1A4 and tell him how important they believe park protection for the West Arm Wilderness Area is.

In February of 1994 the Nelson Ecotourism opened. WCWC shares office space there with several other groups. The Chapter works to keep it open on a regular basis and staff with volunteers or local residents, with the goal of increasing the number of informed and active members. The Nelson Ecotourism is located in downtown Nelson at 577 Ward Street.
Proposed Bylaw Change

For the first year in more than half a decade, there are no proposed bylaw changes regarding the improvement of the internal structure of WCWC. The current Board, E-Team, Branch and Chapter structure have all been working well this year!

But there are proposed changes to the types of memberships offered in WCWC. In Spring of 1994, the Board of Directors struck a sub-committee comprised of board members Bob Broughton and Alice Eaton, WCWC canvas director John Mitty, and volunteer Nicholas Spreis, to examine the existing WCWC membership categories and recommend changes.

Changes to Part 2. Sec. 5 are as follows:

Change (a) There shall be eight types of memberships, namely, to read: There shall be five:

Explanation: To make changes consistent.

Change (a)(ii) Family memberships - sustaining voting membership ($50 - one person entitled to vote) to read ... ($50 - two people entitled to vote).

Explanation: This gives families members attending our AGM more say. All family members continue to be entitled to membership discounts on WCWC products. Family membership holders get one copy of both the Westerner and the Canada Endangered Wildlife Calendar.

Change (a)(ii) Youth memberships - sustaining voting memberships ($15 not entitled to a calendar) to read: Youth/Student/Senior/Limited Income memberships - sustaining voting memberships ($15 - not entitled to calendar).
**WESTERN CANADA WILDERNESS COMMITTEE**

**COMBINED SUMMARY INCOME STATEMENT**

**YEAR ENDED APRIL 30, 1994 - UNAUDITED**

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**SURPLUS (DEFICIT)**

| | 91591 | 60192 |

* Certain revenue and expense categories which were combined in the 1992/93 Income Statement have been separated in this 1993/94 report.

**WESTERN CANADA WILDERNESS COMMITTEE**

**SUMMARY COMBINED BALANCE SHEET**

**APRIL 30, 1994 - UNAUDITED**

**ASSETS**

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<td>319415</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**FIXED ASSETS**

| | 82930 | 51165 |

**TOTAL ASSETS**

| | 478216 | 370880 |

**LIABILITIES & MEMBERS' EQUITY**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>LIABILITIES</th>
<th>CURRENT LIABILITIES</th>
<th>LONG TERM LIABILITIES</th>
<th>TOTAL LIABILITIES</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ACCOUNTS PAYABLE AND ACCRUED LIABILITIES</td>
<td>273412</td>
<td>289729</td>
<td>563141</td>
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<tr>
<td>LOANS PAYABLE</td>
<td>17321</td>
<td>14000</td>
<td>31321</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES</strong></td>
<td>290876</td>
<td>317729</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LONG TERM LIABILITIES</td>
<td>31882</td>
<td>126587</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RESTRICTED FUNDS</td>
<td>21925</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL LIABILITIES</strong></td>
<td>344683</td>
<td>444316</td>
<td></td>
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</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MEMBERS EQUITY</th>
<th>SURPLUS (DEFICIT) FROM PREVIOUS PERIODS</th>
<th>THIS YEAR'S SURPLUS (DEFICIT)</th>
<th>TOTAL LIABILITIES &amp; MEMBERS' EQUITY</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>41841</td>
<td>-73736</td>
<td>478216</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>91592</td>
<td></td>
<td>570580</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Wilderness Committee's revenues increased in the 1994 fiscal year after two years of decline. The increase in revenues generated a surplus for the year of about $90,000 (unaudited). This surplus was enabled us to continue to pay down outstanding liabilities which were reduced by over $100,000 by year end.

By the end of the current calendar year, it is foreseeable that all but $50,000 of the old debts will be fully paid off. For example, the last payment on an old debt of $200,000 to Hamplow Printing was made on July 22.

Our store, wholesale and mail order sales, slide and new established Ottawa canvas are continuing to contribute to the recovery financial health of the Committee.

In addition, cost-saving measures have been implemented this calendar year:
- We moved the canvas and volunteer office to premises that are $1500 per month cheaper;
- Two accounting jobs were combined into one;
- All staff agreed to a salary reduction of 20%;
- A number of positions were reduced through attrition.

As you might appreciate, these changes have not been easy but we have taken them so that the Wilderness Committee is able to make the most effective use of both past and present contributors dollars.

Audited statements for 1994 should be available by AGM date, along with 1993 reviewed financial statements.

Brian Conner, Comptroller - August 4, 1994

---

**LOW ATTENDANCE AT LEGISLATURE RALLY EXPLAINED**

We expected thousands to show up at our Stop Clearcutting and Save Vancouver Island Wilderness rally held on the legislature lawns on the opening day of the B.C. Legislature last March. But only about 400 showed up. A lot of familiar faces were absent.

Could it have been the lingering memory of the rally that had gone awry a year earlier? WCWC organizers (a special thanks to the Victoria Chapter staff and volunteers) took every precaution to prevent a repeat of "the storming of legislature", including training 'peace keepers' to help keep the crowd respectful and quiet during the official opening ceremonies.

(Ed. note: Several youths were recently convicted of wilfully causing the damage done in 1993. None of them were connected with WCWC. Immediately after, 1992/93 WCWC's Fundraising Team offered to pay for the repair of the stained glass windows broken during the incident. Upon receiving a bill for $5,500 from the B.C. Minister of Supply and Services, WCWC paid it.)

The speeches at this year's rally were excellent. The crowd was respectful. The rally was a success...except for the small turnout.

A couple of weeks after the rally, letters started to pour in to our office, telling us that our letter announcing the rally had just arrived—almost two weeks late! Yet we had mailed it out to all our members and friends on Vancouver Island - 7,000 in all - ten days before the rally.

Canada Post admitted its error and refunded our postage and half of the cost of printing the announcement letter and envelopes. But we kept wondering, "Would there have been thousands at the rally if the post office had delivered our notice as it should have?"

Watch for WCWC's next Legislature opening day rally. Please attend and bring a friend if you can. We are going to continue to keep clarification before the B.C. lawmakers until selection logging becomes the norm and the remaining large unprotected wilderness watersheds on Vancouver Island are saved.

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**WCWC's Insurance Hassle**

It was a big misunderstanding, but it was no joke and it caused WCWC staff a lot of angst. Just prior to WCWC's insurance policy expiring in February, 1994, WCWC was informed that this policy would not be renewed.

WCWC's new controller, Brian Conner, went all the way to Lloyds of London looking for insurance. Not one company would insure us and all refused to say why. Not having liability insurance would have put WCWC in default on its photocopy, fax, phone and storefront office leases because all require the lessee to have third party liability insurance.

Upon request, Brian Stroh, President of the Insurance Bureau of Canada in B.C., interviewed on WCWC's behalf. He successfully resolved the matter. The Co-operators, who had insured WCWC at a profit for more than six years, changed its mind and offered WCWC a renewal policy with an increased deductible. We gratefully accepted.
WCWC's Membership Report

WCWC's membership has grown from 17,731 in December of 1993 (4,302 not in good standing) to 20,237 in July of 1994 (5,460 not in good standing). This falls a bit short of reaching our goal of quadrupling our membership last year...but it is a great achievement none-the-less.

Important note: If this paper has been mailed to you, check the month and year of your membership expired in the middle of the first line on the mailing label to be sure that your membership hasn't lapsed! If you're not in "good standing" please send in your $30 membership and renew now!

Some Interesting Statistics

- Half of our members have been members of WCWC for three or more years!
- Currently 71 percent of WCWC's members reside in B.C.
- 42 percent of all members live in the Vancouver-Lower Mainland region and 21 percent on Vancouver Island.
- The largest centre of membership outside of B.C. is in Toronto (12 percent of members), where a door-to-door canvas has been operating since the summer of 1993.

Recent Shift in WCWC Membership by Region

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Region</th>
<th>Dec'93</th>
<th>July'94</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Van-Lower Mainland</td>
<td>44%</td>
<td>37%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Greater Victoria</td>
<td>17%</td>
<td>18%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Toronto</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td>12%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alberta</td>
<td>7%</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>White Rock 1</td>
<td>3%</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mid-Island</td>
<td>4%</td>
<td>3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Okanagan</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ottawa</td>
<td>2%</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>West Kootenay</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td>1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Arctic 2</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1 White Rock is geographically part of the Vancouver-Lower Mainland region, but data is separated because of the location of a WCWC Chapter in White Rock.
2 In July, 1994 this included 5% in other parts of B.C., 3% in other parts of Canada and 2% in the U.S.A. and other countries.

WCWC's INFORMATION NIGHT!
EVERY FIRST TUESDAY OF THE MONTH
STARTING OCTOBER!
7:30pm at the Vancouver Planetarium in the Junior Workshop
Everyone Welcome!
Call our Volunteer Co-ordinator at 683-8220
for evening topics and more info.

WCWC 1994-1995 Wish List

We still need...

- Fax Machines - to communicate with writers and branches
- Photocopy machines - for our new office space and chapters
- Two laser printers - for our new office space
- A silent dot matrix printer - to keep our stuff sane while hundreds of thousands of labels are being printed.
- A case lot of envelopes - for communications with members!
- A 486 or Pentium computer - for e-mail and faxboard communications
- Two 1400 or more baud modems - for inter-office communication
- A faxboard - to ease our faxing of media releases
- A SVGA card - to save our comptroller's eyes
- A laptop computer - for out-of-town work
- Kodak slide projectors, screens and carousels - for school and community slide shows
- A sturdy stacking chairs - for our volunteers
- A bar fridge, plates, cutlery and food gadgets - for staff to save money on lunches and dinners
- A slide film - to capture wilderness, events, bad logging
- A BCAA membership - for the truck we got that was on our wish list last year!
- Mechanics (one above)
- Video cameras - to record events, wilderness hot spots and bad logging practices

Randy Stolzmann - 1962-1994
a great wilderness defender

In May of this year the wilderness preservation movement suffered a tragic loss of one of our most outstanding and promising champions: Randy Stolzmann, not yet 32, lost his life while on a three week mountaineering expedition into the remote wilderness adjoining BC's Kigloke Valley. Randy lost his footing on a snow slope and was swept over a cliff.

During his lifetime Randy Stolzmann was a whirlwind of wilderness saving activity. He worked with many groups and individuals including WCWC. He is a past director of this organization. He was responsible for alerting the world to the marvellous ancient forest in the Carmanah Valley. He was an explorer, mountaineer, researcher, map maker, artist, activist, photographer and writer. Some of Randy's books include Hiking guide to the Big Trees of Southwest BC and Written by the Wind.

The following is a quote from Written by the Wind: "I cannot expect of others any more than my own modest contribution. Simply leave time to get to know the land and its wonders for yourself. Care for it as you would a loved one."

WCWC Member Wins Trip to Clayquot

As part of WCWC's strategy to increase membership last year, we held a Membership Drive Raffle. The names of existing members who brought in a new WCWC member were placed in a big jar, the draw was made and Rosemary Coles, a long-standing WCWC supporter, won! In June of 1993, Rosemary and her son Matthew took their winners' trip—to Clayquot Sound. "Our two days were action packed, full of discovery, education, and fun. Thank you, WCWC," says Rosemary.

Thank you to all who participated in WCWC's membership drive, which added $10,000 in donations and several hundred new members to WCWC's membership base. Thanks, also, to the businesses, societies and individuals who donated their services to the Clayquot Trip raffle prize, including Tofino's Alley-Way Cafe, Carl Martin, Clayquot Biosphere Project/Ecotrust, Common Loaf Bake Shop, and Paddler's Inn Bed and Breakfast.

WCWC donated the $10,000 contributed by participating in the 1993 membership drive to the Tla-o-qui-aht First Nations to help them build the new Big Cedar Boardwalk Trail on Meares Island. We believe that carefully controlled eco-tourism can provide needed jobs for First Nations, and help inspire people to protect the ancient forests of Clayquot Sound.
In 1995 we celebrate our fifteenth year of publishing the Western Canada Endangered Wilderness calendar. We also celebrate the calendar's excellent track record—most of the areas featured over the years are now protected or are being studied for protection. Is it that we pick the winners? Or do our full-colour wall calendars, which highlight a different endangered area each month, place pressure on politicians to save these beautiful wild places? For sure they help save wilderness through profits on sales which fund campaigns.

In 1995 we also celebrate our fifth year of publishing the Canada Endangered Wilderness calendar. This year we've changed it to a vertical format so that we can feature Canada's tall trees and mountains in true graphic splendour. Both calendars will be out in mid-October. Remember—regular members only receive a free copy of the Western Canada Endangered Wilderness calendar. There are a lot of calendars, but only two that feature and directly help save endangered wilderness in Canada!

Federal Clearcut Hearings

In spring of 1994, the Federal Government's Standing Committee on Natural Resources undertook a study of forest practices in Canada. It concluded that "clearcutting is an ecologically appropriate silvicultural system for most forest types in Canada." This flies in the face of growing scientific evidence.

WCWC's Adriane Carr was a witness at the federal hearings. Disagreed with the process she notes: "The Standing Committee appeared to have made up its mind right from the start. One member actually said to Jack Munro of the B.C. Forest Alliance, 'Jack, what can we do to help you?'"

Carr believes that the international Biodiversity Convention, to which Canada is a party, gives the federal government the ability to require provincial governments to stop practices that are likely to have significant adverse impacts on the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity. "Clearcutting, which degrades soils, water, and wildlife habitats, should be banned in Canada under the terms of the Biodiversity Convention," says Carr.

67 percent of Canadians oppose the practice of clearcut logging.
- Angus Reid poll, January, 1994.

Help Save Wilderness - Order Calendars - Renew Membership - Give Now

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Number of Wilderness</th>
<th>Number of Canadian</th>
<th>Price</th>
<th>Amount enclosed</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Single calendar</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>$12</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Both calendars</td>
<td>one</td>
<td>one</td>
<td>$20</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>5 calendars</td>
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<td></td>
<td>$45</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>10 calendars</td>
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<tr>
<td>25 calendars</td>
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<td>$150</td>
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<tr>
<td>WCWC Annual Membership Fee</td>
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<td>$50</td>
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</table>

DONATION TO FUND WILDERNESS-SAVING CAMPAIGNS

Form of Payment
- Cheque
- Money Order
- Visa
- MasterCard

Card No.        
Expiry Date     
Name (please print)  
Signature

Please clip and send to:

Western Canada Wilderness Committee
20 Water St.,
Vancouver, British Columbia,
Canada V6B 1A4.
Phone 604-683-8220, Fax 604-683-8229

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