



# Annual Report

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 APRIL 2004



WESTERN CANADA  
**WILDERNESS  
COMMITTEE**



# Our Volunteers

Volunteers are an essential part of the Wilderness Committee and this past year was no exception. Our offices continued to involve greater numbers of people through volunteer and intern programs. A few of the many tasks that were performed by our dedicated volunteers and interns included: Victoria's *Stop the Working Forest* campaign which relied heavily on volunteer efforts, as did Vancouver's research program. Both our BC and Manitoba *Save our Parks* campaigns were conducted with countless hours of volunteer energy. Volunteers also play a vital role in administration, field work, public outreach and fundraising. To find out more about Wilderness Committee volunteer opportunities in your community please visit [www.wildernesscommittee.org](http://www.wildernesscommittee.org). A big *Thank You* goes out to everyone who donated their valuable time.



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## BOARD of DIRECTORS

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### Chair

Mike Gildersleeve

### Treasurer

Alice Eaton

### Directors at Large

Kevin Bell

Bob Broughton

Jennifer Campagnolo

Ian Mackenzie

Paul Morgan

Annette Tanner

### Executive Appointees

Joe Foy

Matt Jong, CMA

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# Executive Team Message

Long time members will know that the first few years of the new millenium have not been easy for those working to protect the environment. Like many groups, we've been struggling with rising inflationary costs, stagnant funding and, worse, public policy agendas where the environment has slipped near the bottom. But this past year we hit a winning formula by going back to where we started 24 years ago — citizen engagement in defence of wild places and wild life.

Public outreach and media coverage peaked this year as our flagship campaigns captured national attention. Our door to door educational canvasses in Vancouver, Victoria, Edmonton, Winnipeg, Toronto and many smaller towns and cities were highly successful, increasing our membership by 8 per cent and providing financial stability not seen since the early 1990s. Our Grassroots Distribution Team hand-delivered a record number of our educational newspapers to restaurants, doctor's offices and other public spaces right across Canada. And, we were able to get our parks and wilderness preservation message out in new ways including radio and TV ad campaigns focused on particular issues.

We were inspired by the many people who joined us on photo expeditions, trail surveying trips, marches and information rallies in defence of Canada's wild places. In addition to increasing the scope of our work with First Nations' communities across Western Canada, we were also able to use our retail sales capacity to help bring record amounts of non-timber forest products to market from First Nations. These items, ranging from smoked salmon to teas, jams and soaps, all provide jobs from the harvest and manufacture of materials from intact wild forests, helping to build an economic case for preservation.

There has been simply too much good work to list in this short letter. To learn more you'll need to read the rest of the report. On behalf of all our board, staff and volunteers its been exciting to be at the crest of a much-needed movement to re-ignite citizen action on behalf of Canada's wilderness heritage.

Joe Foy  
Campaign Director

Gwen Barlee  
Policy Director

Andrea Reimer  
Executive Director

Matt Jong  
Comptroller

## OUR KEY WORK

Temperate Rainforests .....	4
Boreal Forests .....	6
Canada's Species at Risk .....	8
Pacific Marine .....	10
Raising the Bar on Public Policy ...	11
Public Education .....	12
Research .....	13
Financial Statements .....	14



# Temperate Rainforests

## CAMPAIGNS

Blue Mountain  
Bugaboo Rainforest  
Cathedral Grove  
Cedar is Sacred  
Clayoquot Sound  
East Creek  
East Vancouver Island  
Elk Creek  
Goat River  
Inland Rainforest  
Lost Valley  
Manning/Skagit Parks  
South Chilcotin Mountains Park  
Stoltmann Wilderness  
Upper Walbran Valley

Every campaign year has its unique flavour — this year's has certainly been the number and diversity of allies we've worked with on key campaigns. These new and strengthened relationships with both traditional and non-traditional allies have made our efforts stronger. One such example is in the **Elk Creek Rainforest** where we are working with community groups and First Nations who are determined to protect one of the last remnants of old growth rainforest — and key spotted owl habitat — in BC's Fraser Valley. We continued to support the efforts of local environmental groups in nearby Maple Ridge who have worked tirelessly since 2001 to have **Blue Mountain** protected from commercial logging and added to Golden Ears Provincial Park.

The **Manning-Skagit park system** is of critical importance to the survival of the northern spotted owl. In the heart of this park system is the Silverdaisy area also known as the "doughnut hole", which is not part of the park complex in a legal sense but certainly in an ecological sense. This area was promised as future parkland by a previous government. However, when the BC Liberals were elected in 2001 they walked away from this agreement and they are now logging it under their own BC Timber Sales program. We did several photo expeditions into the area to document these habitat-

destructive activities and then mounted a public education campaign that included a public campout, media work and public outreach. Other parks continued to need our attention too. In response to ongoing threats from the BC government to roll back the boundaries of the **South Chilcotin Mountains Park** we continued a vigorous public outreach campaign and met with key elected officials on the issue. Thousands now care deeply about this park and we remain determined to prevail in its protection.

**B**ig wilderness areas on the mainland coast remained a top priority. In the **Stoltmann Wilderness** we supported the **Squamish Nation's land use plan** by assisting with their efforts to develop sustainable economic activities, including the production of a recreation access guide for their traditional territories and ongoing support for the innovative work of the Sims Guardians Youth Program. We began work with the **St'at'imc Nation**, surveying points of cultural significance in **Lost Valley**.

Our multi-year research project with the David Suzuki Foundation investigating the extent of logging of **ancient western redcedars** on BC's coast, found that this tree species is rapidly disappearing. Oldgrowth



redcedar has both immense cultural and ecological impacts. The research showed that in some areas it appears redcedar is being targeted for its high commercial value through a process known as high-grading.

**G**iant cedars don't just live on BC's coast. Canada is home to the only **inland temperate rainforest** in the world, an ecological marvel which stretches from south of Prince George down to Idaho. We produced and widely distributed an educational report, which highlighted the importance of protecting this area, including the Upper Goat River and the Bugaboo Rainforest, from industrial logging and development. We also produced a beautiful poster of one of the Bugaboo region's ancient redcedars.

**O**n Vancouver Island, our Victoria Office continued its campaign to protect ancient forests on Vancouver Island, in particular, the **Upper Walbran Valley** and the little-known **East Creek** rainforest on Northern Vancouver Island. Our public outreach efforts included slideshows, garnering media attention regarding record-sized giant trees discovered in the Upper Walbran Valley, taking media and other interested parties into the valley, and co-producing a documentary

on our first expedition into the threatened East Creek rainforest. We also partnered with the Francophone Society of Victoria, where francophone Wilderness Society of Victoria, where francophone Wilderness Committee volunteers offered guided tours through the endangered Walbran Valley and gave slideshows to Victoria's francophone community. The Victoria Office helped raise public awareness on parks issues and the need to complete the **Sea-to-Sea Green-Blue Belt**; a network of interconnected terrestrial and marine parks stretching from the Sooke Basin to the Saanich Inlet and north to Saltspring Island.

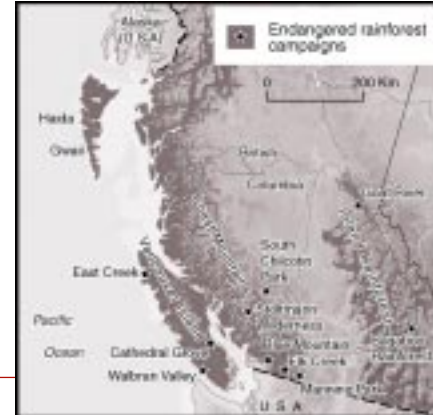
The main focus for our Mid-Island Chapter has been **Cathedral Grove**. Although tiny, the Grove is the most famous and well-visited ancient rainforest in BC. For the past four years, we've been working hard to challenge a decision by the BC government to plow a two-hectare parking lot into the Grove. The proposed parking lot would remove trees that provide a critical wind buffer for the area's famous Douglas-fir giants. It would also destroy the habitat of an endangered species, the Roosevelt elk. Cathedral Grove is the front line of the Mid-Island Chapter's ongoing campaign to protect the remaining pocket wilderness areas of public forest lands on the **East Coast of Vancouver Island**.

## 2003-2004 STAFF

Gwen Barlee  
Nik Cuff  
Joe Foy  
Andy Miller  
Louise Pedersen  
Chris Player  
Andrea Reimer  
Ken Wu

## SPECIAL THANKS

Annette Tanner  
Paul Morgan





# Boreal Forests

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## CAMPAIGNS

Bow Valley Corridor  
Clean Energy Coalition  
East Shore Wilderness Area  
Kananaskis Country  
Manitogan River  
Poplar/Nanowin Rivers  
South Atikaki  
Stop Logging in  
Manitoba's Parks  
Stop the Grizzly Hunt

**D**efending the Canadian boreal forest, one of the largest intact ecosystems in the world, has led the Wilderness Committee in the past years to expand east of British Columbia to Alberta, Manitoba and Ontario. The boreal forest covers roughly 35 percent of Canada's land mass and is recognized as a globally important carbon sink, helping to regulate and moderate the planet's climate. The boreal forest is subject to destructive, large scale commercial logging, mining, and hydro-electric generation activities which compromise the ecological integrity of this extraordinary ecosystem, where less than 10 percent is currently protected.

In Manitoba, we continued this past year to work towards creating a large, interconnected protected areas network in Manitoba's **East Shore Wilderness Area** on the east side of Lake Winnipeg. Part of the largest unbroken section of boreal forest on the planet, the 150,000 square kilometre East Shore Wilderness Area presents an incredible opportunity for protecting the threatened woodland caribou and for supporting sustainable livelihoods through community-driven economic activities. We also contin-

ued our active involvement in the **East Side Planning Initiative**, where we advocated for a process that is based on sound scientific principles, which takes an ecology-first approach and which prohibits any new land allocations for industrial resource extraction before the planning process, including scientific studies and public consultations, is complete. We are working to ensure that a majority of the East Shore Wilderness Area is fully protected from industrial exploitation.

As part of our public education efforts, we produced 50,000 educational reports with focus on the woodland caribou and the East Shore Wilderness Area, as well as 20,000 postcard mailers to the Manitoba government asking Manitobans to voice their support for conservation, sustainable development and meaningful community consultations in the land use planning process that is currently taking place for the region. From our office in Winnipeg we continue to **push for more protected areas within the boreal forest** as well as urge the Manitoba government to put an end to resource extraction within Manitoba's provincial parks (see page 11). We also persevere in our fight to **protect the endangered woodland caribou** by making sure that critical woodland caribou habitat is safeguarded from industrial development (see page 9).





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In Alberta, the year got off to a rocky start with a surprise announcement from the Alberta government in relation to a court case brought forward by Sierra Legal Defence Fund on behalf of the **Clean Energy Coalition** (member groups include the Wilderness Committee, Environmental Resource Centre, Toxics Watch Society and Pembina Institute). The government used its power to pass new legislation to retroactively shield two coal-fired power plant expansions, owned by EPCOR and TransAlta, from scrutiny by the Alberta Court of Appeal by taking away the need for power companies in Alberta to prove domestic demand before ap-

proval is given to new power projects by the Energy and Utilities Board. It was an extremely rare move for a government anywhere in Canada and spells trouble for Albertans and air quality in the province.

Our Edmonton door-to-door canvass continued its tireless efforts to talk to local residents about the many challenges facing the province's wilderness and wildlife. Issues people are concerned about this year included the **grizzly hunt**, the proposed **Cheviot Mine** in the Mountain Wilderness area and development in the **Big Horn Wilderness**, a campaign we helped launch in the mid-1990s.

We were on the ground in southern Alberta too, helping the Kananaskis Trail Users Association publish and distribute an educational report about the impact of funding cuts on **Kananaskis Country**, a recreation mecca near Calgary. In Canmore we continued to monitor and provide input on proposed developments in the **Bow Valley Corridor**, a wildlife "highway" in the Rocky Mountains.

This year we were pleased to re-launch our **Toronto office**, which has been dormant since 1999. Door-to-door outreach allowed us to talk to people about wilderness and wildlife issues across the country.

## 2003-2004 STAFF

Nick Chamchuk  
William Granger  
Gray Jones  
Andrea Reimer  
Ron Thiessen





# Canada's Species at Risk

## CAMPAIGNS

Grizzly Bear  
Mountain Caribou  
Northern Spotted Owl  
Orca  
Species at Risk Act  
Woodland Caribou

Despite being more than ten years in the works, the recently introduced federal *Species at Risk Act* (SARA) is a paper tiger, largely reliant on political will, discretionary wording and weak habitat provisions. Because of its inadequacies our work continues to ensure that Canadian wildlife and their habitat are adequately protected.

There is no greater case for the need to strengthen the *Species at Risk Act* (SARA) than the plight of the **northern spotted owl** — Canada's most endangered species. As such it has been the primary focus of our ongoing species at risk campaigns. Highlights in 2003-2004 included:

- Launching the **first test case of SARA** in March with key allies (David Suzuki Foundation, Sierra Legal Defence Fund, Forest Ethics and Sierra Club of Canada). The Sierra Legal Defence Fund, who brought the legal petition forward on our behalf, requested that the federal Environment Minister make an emergency intervention to prevent the northern spotted owl from going extinct in Canada.
- Receiving **extensive media coverage** and public support from our SARA challenge,

brought much-needed attention to the precarious state of the owl and the weakness of Canada's endangered species' legislation. This helped familiarize the public not only with the imminent threat to the owl but also the broader issue of Canada's 441 species at risk.

- Producing a report, entitled *An Alternate Recovery Strategy for the Northern Spotted Owl in British Columbia* written by wildlife biologist Andy Miller, a former representative on the government's Spotted Owl Recovery Team.
- Continuing to do **on-the-ground work** within critical spotted owl habitat. We went on numerous expeditions, documenting and photographing destructive logging practices.
- Making a **submission to BC's Chief Forester** advocating that the level of logging within spotted owl habitat range in BC be reduced. We also provided formal critiques on individual logging proposals that would, if approved, have a negative impact on the survival of this oldgrowth dependent bird.
- Publishing an **educational report** which focused on the need to protect all of Canada's species at risk. 90,000 copies were distributed.







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**M**any other species are also not faring well in Canada due to our weak endangered species legislation. Another species at risk that we fought for is the **southern orca resident population**, which inhabits the international waters between BC and Washington State. The southern resident population is listed in Canada under SARA but is not protected under the US *Endangered Species Act* (see page 10).

Another transboundary species' habitat we have worked to protect is the southern population of the **mountain caribou**, most recently through publishing and distributing educational reports on its inland rainforest home in BC's Columbia Mountains. These highly endangered mountain caribou forage on lichens found only in the region's shrinking oldgrowth forests.



**F**rom our Manitoba Office, the Wilderness Committee has been at the forefront in launching efforts to protect the **East Shore Wilderness Area**, which offers the opportunity to preserve one of the largest unspoiled wilderness areas in the entire boreal forest region. The East Shore Wilderness Area, which is found on the east side of Lake Winnipeg, provides critical habitat for the province's threatened **woodland caribou** populations. Although the majority of herds in the East Shore Wilderness Area are presently stable, because of habitat loss to logging and hydro development the caribou population is only half of what it was 50 years ago. The threats are imminent as neither the federal *Species at Risk Act* nor Manitoba's *Endangered Species Act* protects woodland caribou or its habitats. Over the past year, the Wilderness Committee has successfully worked with the logging corporation Tembec to achieve cutting deferrals and harvest block removals in core woodland caribou habitat. Based on our research and public outreach, our supporters have been vocal in encouraging the Manitoba government to make woodland caribou protection a key objective in all land use planning in the East Shore Wilderness Area.

In BC and Alberta our efforts to **stop the grizzly hunt** are ongoing.

## 2003-2004 STAFF

Gwen Barlee  
Nick Chamchuk  
Nick Cuff  
Joe Foy  
William Granger  
Gray Jones  
Andy Miller  
Louise Pedersen  
Andrea Reimer  
Ron Thiessen



## SPECIAL THANKS

Sierra Legal Defence Fund

# Pacific Marine Ecosystem



Canada's Pacific Coast is home to an extraordinary coastline and a vast array of life — Pacific salmon, peregrine falcons, orcas and horned puffins. A rich aboriginal culture has been sustained by plentiful resources from land and sea in the North Pacific for thousands of years. However, the Pacific coastal ecosystems are fragile and under increasing pressure from industrial development and global warming.

**Wild salmon** have left an indelible mark on the culture and economy of the North Pacific. Unfortunately wild salmon are now threatened throughout BC. Some of the primary threats are impacts from fish farms, streamside habitat destruction, climate change and over-fishing. The Wilderness Committee continued its efforts to educate the public on the adverse impacts of fish farms, by participating in a series of informational

rallies and producing and distributing thousands of *Born to be Wild* Pacific salmon cards.

The Wilderness Committee also played an important role in building public awareness about the threats of

offshore oil and gas development in coastal BC. We garnered media attention, organized a public forum with the Living Oceans Society, and participated in another forum with Dr. David Suzuki.

In Canada, the **southern resident orca population**, which lives in the international waters between BC and Washington State, is listed as endangered under the Canadian *Species at Risk Act*. However, the US National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) denied these same whales protection under the powerful US *Endangered Species Act* claiming that although the southern resident orca population was endangered, it was not “significant” enough to receive legal protection. The Wilderness Committee and the Georgia Strait Alliance, represented by Sierra Legal Defence Fund, joined forces with a coalition of US environmental groups to give the orcas their day in court. In December 2003 the court ruled in the orca's favour and as a result the US government was forced to revisit its decision to deny this endangered orca population listing under the US *Endangered Species Act*. This important decision gives the southern resident orca population a fighting chance of survival.

## CAMPAIGNS

Fish Farm Moratorium  
Orca  
Offshore Oil and Gas  
Wild Pacific Salmon

## 2003-2004 STAFF

Gwen Barlee  
Joe Foy  
Andrea Reimer  
Teresa Rooney  
Ken Wu



# Raising *the Bar* on Public Policy—



**A**t the foundation of the Wilderness Committee is a belief that the public has the right, the ability and the duty to seek positive public policy changes. We also work to stop regressive policy directions to ensure that the interests of wilderness and wildlife are protected. Most of our work this year fell into the latter category, with the exception of the publication of a ground-breaking report on the plight of **oldgrowth redcedar** in Canada (see page 4) and our joint work on the **BC Facts** project with other BC environmental organizations.

The Wilderness Committee's Victoria Office spearheaded a major outreach effort through rallies, slideshows, media work and publications to educate the public about the BC government's **Working Forest Ini-**

ated and facilitate the privatization of public land in the province. As a result of this intense public awareness campaign, nearly all of the 2,700 respondents who provided input to the government's public consultation process opposed the Working Forest Initiative.

In response to a federal decision to review the current moratorium on **offshore oil and gas development**, we helped raise public awareness, particularly amongst our thousands of BC supporters (see page 9).

**Defending BC's world famous park system** against privatization and industrial development was sadly a major part of our work this year. We took the lead on fighting user fees, funding cut backs and proposed logging, commercial developments and mining in parks. We also had to respond to no less than three park-attacking legislative initiatives by the BC government. The public response was overwhelming and media interest in this issue remains high. In Manitoba, our campaign efforts also proved fruitful when in April 2004 the extensive 8,000 square kilometre **Poplar/Nanowin Rivers Park Reserve** located in the East Shore Wilderness had interim protection extended until 2009. We also continued our hard-fought campaign to ensure that **Manitoba's provincial parks** become off limits to logging and mining.

## CAMPAIGNS

BC Facts  
Offshore Oil and Gas  
Provincial Parks Defence  
Proposed Working Forest Initiative

## 2003-2004 STAFF

Gwen Barlee  
Joe Foy  
Gray Jones  
Andy Miller  
Andrea Reimer  
Teresa Rooney  
Ron Thiessen  
Ken Wu  
and countless volunteers





# Public Education

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## 2003-2004 STAFF

Gwen Barlee  
Nick Chamchuk  
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Joe Foy  
William Granger  
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Emily Millard  
Dennis McCrossan  
Greg McIntyre  
Louise Pedersen  
Chris Player  
Andrea Reimer  
Teresa Rooney  
Ian Russell  
Heidi Sherwood  
Ron Thiessen  
Steve Tindley  
Alexandra Woodsworth  
Anton van Walraven  
Diana Vander Veen  
Ken Wu  
Nathan Zahn  
...and countless volunteers

**W**hen the Wilderness Committee was founded in 1980 there was little information available to the public on Canadian wilderness and wildlife issues. We focused on our mission to research, publish, and distribute information about threatened Canadian wilderness and wildlife in order to build broad public support for preservation. We dreamed we would become a leader in public education campaigns and, through mobilizing citizen support, play a pivotal role in preserving our country's remarkable wilderness and wildlife heritage. 24 years later we have achieved that dream, reaching out to five million people every year through door-to-door canvassing, printing and distributing educational materials such as newspapers, three-part mailers, calendars and videos, holding rallies and events, conducting school talks, maintaining outreach centres in five Canadian cities, and through our web sites and local, national and international media coverage. Together, these actions have helped to save millions of hectares of wilderness. Projects in 2003-04 included:

## EDUCATIONAL REPORTS

Beautiful British Columbia —  
For Sale?  
Caribou at the Crossroads  
BC's Inland Rainforest  
Proposed Working Forest  
Canada's Endangered Species!  
Mining in Parks: Can you dig it?

## MAILERS

East Shore Wilderness Area  
Poplar/Nanowin Rivers  
Born to be Wild: Pacific Salmon

## MULTI-MEDIA

### Radio Ads

Sea to Sky Corridor (various)

### Videos

Save the East Creek Rainforest  
Anderson Creek  
Save Lost Valley  
Save the Spotted Owl

## INFORMATION KIOSKS

South Chilcotin Mountains Park  
Manning Provincial Park  
Blue Mountain

## EVENTS & RALLIES

British Columbia (198)  
Alberta, Manitoba, Ontario (29)

## DOOR TO DOOR CANVASS

### Year Round

Edmonton, Toronto,  
Winnipeg, Victoria  
Vancouver/Lower Mainland,

### Seasonal

Bird's Hill, Orillia, Jasper,  
Whistler, Bowen Island, Sunshine  
Coast, Salt Spring Island,  
Southern Gulf Islands, Comox,  
Courtenay and Kelowna



# Research

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**R**esearch is the backbone of the Wilderness Committee's work and we are proud of our ongoing achievements in this area. One highlight over the years was establishing the world's first upper-canopy, temperate rainforest research station. Research at our station led scientists to double the number of known insect species existing in Canada from approximately 33,000 to 66,000. We also use mapping extensively as part of our Conservation Vision project aimed at mapping all of the remaining tracts of wilderness in Western Canada. Over the past few years we have intensified our research on the effects of logging activities in endangered species habitat, and have continued our on-the-ground presence in key areas. These efforts combined with our mapping projects provide critical support for our many successful campaigns. We also conduct scientific research in conjunction with other groups and institutions. Our research in the 2003-04 project year included:

## MAPS

### Area Projects

Blue Mountain  
Bugaboo Inland Rainforest  
Caribou Range Mapping  
East Shore Wilderness  
Elk Creek Rainforest  
Grizzly Bear Management Area  
Manitogagan River Park  
North Coast Vision Mapping  
Poplar/Nanowin Rivers Park  
Squamish Nation Recreation Guide  
Northern Spotted Owl Habitat  
Vancouver Island —  
Conservation Vision

## EXPEDITIONS

### Temperate Rainforest

East Creek  
Elk Creek Rainforest  
Lost Valley  
Manning Park  
Marbled Murrelet Survey  
Stoltmann Wilderness Expedition with Squamish Nation Youth  
Various Spotted Owl Surveys  
Walbran Valley

### Boreal Forest

Various Parks in Manitoba  
Wanipigow River

## RESEARCH REPORTS

Alternate Recovery Strategy for the Northern Spotted Owl  
Manitoba Species at Risk

## RESEARCH PROJECTS

Bugaboo  
Coastal Cedar  
Elk Creek  
Boreal Non-timber Products  
Working Forest - Tourism Industry

## SPECIAL PROJECTS

Manitoba Parks Database  
Canadian Parks Database

## 2003-2004 STAFF

Gwen Barlee  
Nik Cuff  
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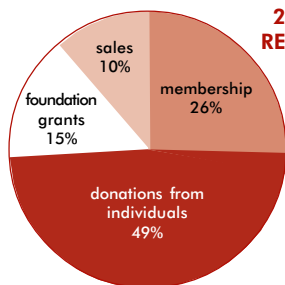
## SPECIAL THANKS

Paul Morgan  
Annette Tanner

# Financial Statement *for the year ending April 30, 2004*

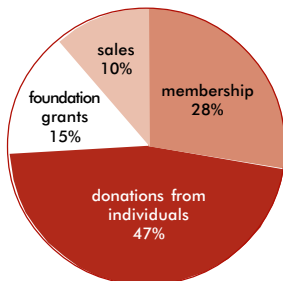
## 2003-2004 STAFF

Mona Lisa Amirsetia  
Deb Drouin  
Matt Jong, CMA



In 2003-2004 our revenues stabilized with strong performance in all areas. Income was up by \$100,000 and additional revenue funded campaigns and public outreach—administration costs dropped from 10 per cent to 9 per cent of total expenditures. Cost awards against our 2002 spotted owl court case hurt our bottom line but as we are not running an operating deficit, we are on a strong financial footing for next year.

## 2002-03 REVENUES



REVENUES	2004	2003
Membership dues	401,479	408,262
Donations	714,181	635,132
Grant Revenue	230,205	215,973
Sales of ed. material	166,054	168,200
Unreceipted donations	49,344	54,647
	<u>1,561,263</u>	<u>1,482,214</u>

EXPENDITURES	2004	2003
Campaign, member & grant project costs	834,612	727,221
Sales costs	171,842	160,304
Canvass costs	237,526	270,612
Administration costs	144,675	143,479
Amortization	18,266	14,709
Interest to Finance Assets	6,369	6,295
	<u>1,581,197</u>	<u>1,493,104</u>

**Net Income (loss) for the year** (19,934) (10,890)

**Members' equity, beginning of year** 301,999 312,889

**Members' equity, end of year** 282,065 301,999

ASSETS	2004	2003
<b>Current</b>		
Cash and equivalent	166,270	137,138
Accounts receivable	7,165	23,357
Inventory	199,517	250,026
Prepaid expenses	11,037	5,903
	<u>383,989</u>	<u>416,424</u>
<b>Capital assets</b>	<u>161,715</u>	<u>177,971</u>
	<b>545,704</b>	<b>594,395</b>

## LIABILITIES AND MEMBERS' EQUITY

Current	2004	2003
Bank Indebtedness	9,820	32,818
Accounts payable & accrued liabilities	78,534	96,874
Notes payable to related parties	65,919	81,008
Current portion of long-term loans payable	17,818	1,054
Current portion of mortgage payable	4,391	3,565
	<u>176,482</u>	<u>215,319</u>
<b>Mortgage payable</b>	87,157	77,077
<b>Net Assets</b>	<u>282,065</u>	<u>301,999</u>
	<b>545,704</b>	<b>594,395</b>

# Auditor's Report *for the year ending April 30, 2004*

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*To the Members of  
Western Canada Wilderness Committee*

We have audited the statements of financial position of Western Canada Wilderness Committee (the "Committee") as at April 30, 2004 and 2003 and the statements of operations and changes in net assets and cash flows for the years that ended. These financial statements are the responsibility of the Committee's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audits.

Except as explained in the following paragraph, we conducted our audits in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards. Those standards require that we plan and perform an audit to obtain reasonable assurance whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation.

In common with many charitable organizations, the Committee derives revenue from unreceipted

donations, the completeness of which is not susceptible to satisfactory audit verification. Accordingly, our verification of these revenues was limited to the amounts recorded in the records of the Committee and we were not able to determine whether any adjustments might be necessary to unreceipted donation revenue, net revenue, assets and net assets. In our opinion, except for the effect of adjustments, if any, which we might have determined to be necessary had we been able to verify the completeness of the unreceipted donations referred to in the preceding paragraph, these financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Committee as at April 30, 2004 and 2003 and the results of its operations and its cash flows for the years then ended in accordance with Canadian generally accepted accounting principles. As required by the Society Act (British Columbia), we report that, in our opinion, these principles have been applied on a basis consistent with that of the preceding year.

Davidson & Company  
Chartered Accountants  
Vancouver, Canada August 5, 2004

## **2003-2004 AUDITOR**

Davidson & Company  
Chartered Accountants



W E S T E R N C A N A D A  
**WILDERNESS COMMITTEE**

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**[www.wildernesscommittee.org](http://www.wildernesscommittee.org)**

**NATIONAL OFFICE**

341 Water Street, Vancouver, BC  
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**VANCOUVER STORE & OUTREACH CENTRE**

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The Western Canada Wilderness Committee is a charitable society founded in British Columbia in 1980. With over 27,000 members, and 30,000 additional donors and volunteers, we are Canada's largest membership-based wilderness protection group.

We are united in our mission to protect Canada's biodiversity through strategic research projects and grassroots public education. We value wilderness as absolutely vital to the health of people and communities.

**Join us.** Your \$30 membership fee makes a world of difference.

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