

In Memoriam

It is very important to many members to receive word of the passing of a colleague. Members have the opportunity to publish their memories by sending photos and obituaries to BC Forest Professional. The association sends condolences to the family and friends of the following members:

James A. (Jim) McIntosh D.F.C

RPF(RET) #376
1920 - 2009

Jim passed away peacefully at home, with family by his bedside, on September 13, 2009. He is survived by Gerry, his wife of 61 years, his daughter Sandra (Jan), his son Graeme, RPF (Cathy), and his 3 grandchildren Aislinn (Frank), Cameron, RPF (Melissa) and Andrew.

Jim was born in Revelstoke where his family worked a farm in the 'Big Eddy' area. In winters he helped run the family trapline up the Columbia River. It was during those years the seeds were planted for his two lifetime sporting passions, bird hunting and fishing.

After schooling, Jim worked on the CPR trains until Canada's involvement in WW II. He enlisted, took pilot training and was commissioned as a Pilot Officer in late 1943. He was awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross for piloting his heavily damaged bomber back to safety in England after being attacked by a German fighter. A few months later his plane was shot down over Berlin. Jim was captured and spent the remaining months of the war as a POW.

After the war Jim enrolled in forestry at UBC, lived in Fort Camp on the UBC site, married and graduated with the class of '50. He worked in logging camps on Vancouver Island and the Interior, before moving to a job in Alberta. In 1956, he returned to Vancouver to work for the federal Western Forest Products Lab (now Forintek), received his RPF in 1964 and retired in 1984.

Jim was a strong family man and member of his church community and was generous with both his time and good fortune. After retirement, he volunteered at the Seymour Demonstration Forest and he made a scholarship endowment to UBC Forestry. He enjoyed traveling with Gerry, vacationing on their Thetis Island summer home, duck hunting on Beechers Prairie west of Williams Lake, and a good single malt Scotch.

Forestry was in Jim's blood, often a subject of conversation or debate, and he took great pride knowing he was to be part of a three generation RPF family.



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scribed fire annually to help meet the Ministry's ER objectives.

By coupling First Nation's traditional knowledge of managed fire, with historic photography, tree ring analysis and stand reconstruction/ climate models we gain some understanding of the historic conditions that existed under that fire regime. Although the historical information offers insight into a previous resilient forest condition, ER treatment activities are also guided by landscape-level considerations (wildfire hazard, land conversion, fragmentation, species losses, invasive plants and cultural needs) and larger phenomena such as climate change.

In a changing climate, reducing forest vulnerability to future disturbances will be an important aspect of maintaining ecosystem resilience. Management actions that could help forest ecosystems build resilience includes introducing fire into ecosystems where historical fire cycles have been disrupted by past fire exclusion and therefore made more vulnerable to severe future fires (Campbell et al. 2009).

Ultimately, going forward in BC, a quote from the renowned University of California fire ecologist Dr. Harold Biswell (1989) provides some perspective, "Keep in mind that fire is a natural part of the environment, about as important as rain and sunshine...fire has always been here and everything good has evolved with it." 🍂

Greg Anderson, BSc, MSc, has 34 years of experience with Forest Service in BC and Alberta. The last 15 years he has lead ecosystem restoration activities in the district and now provincially since 2006.

Al Neal, BSc, RFT, is leading the provincial strategic planning for the Ministry of Forests and Range's Ecosystem Restoration initiative.

nature calls



Forestry Team in Action

Recreational Trail Upgrades

Cabin Forestry Services Ltd. has been working on a recreational trail upgrade since June 2009. The objective of this project is to improve the condition of the Highlands Trail, which is presently 110 km long and cuts through most of the ecological zones in the Okanagan Valley—from the grasslands at Cosens Bay (at the north end of Kalamalka Lake), through Lodgepole pine and spruce forests on the Aberdeen plateau, and to alpine meadows of Little White Mountain. It is categorized as a Class B trail and has the potential to become a world class trail; however, many sections of it were in very poor condition and not adequately marked before the upgrade.

The ultimate goal is to make this trail one of the premier trails in the BC interior, while promoting user safety, providing improved access and a sustainable tread, and revealing and protecting the unique ecosystems of the Okanagan Valley.

This project has allowed for the employment of 10 forest workers during difficult times in the forest industry. The team on this project includes RPFs, certified fallers and forest technicians with up to 25 years experience. They report taking a lot of pride in the work and feeling great about leaving a positive legacy in the community.

Organizations Involved

Cabin Forestry Services Ltd., Central Okanagan Naturalists' Club

Project Funding

Job Opportunities Program, Nation Trails Coalition

Contact

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The Atlantica Bioenergy Task Force Project

The Atlantica Bioenergy Task Force Project is a multi-stakeholder, multi-jurisdictional approach to charting a new course for future bioenergy production in the forestry and energy sectors in New Brunswick, Nova Scotia and Maine (the Atlantic region). The unique project involved collaborative stakeholder working groups working in areas of biomass inventory, energy and economics, technology and policy development and was comprised of experts from regional government, industry, federal and regional organizations and post-secondary institutions. The task force created a report which set forth key principles and recommendations regarding future bioenergy development, highlighted information gaps in key areas and put forward what they felt were the four best technological options for the current and emerging bioenergy sectors in the region. The report formed the basis of an initiative which culminated with a leaders' summit and a research and development forum that explored how to take the opportunities identified in the report and

turn them into tangible business opportunities in the region.

The project was coordinated by the Forest, Paper and Packaging Practice and Economics group at PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP (PwC) in Vancouver in conjunction with the PwC Halifax office. PwC staff involved in the project included RPFs as well as PwC economists, government and carbon policy experts and outside consultants in the bioenergy technology and biomass fields. The funding for the task force was provided by government and industry in the Atlantic region including electrical utilities companies.

More information and the Atlantica Bioenergy Task Force Project summary report can be found at: www.atlanticabioenergy.com

Project Team (Vancouver)

Bruce Eaket, RPF; Shawn Ellsworth, RPF; James Lucas, RPF; Bruce McIntyre, RPF

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