

The Robson Valley legacy for sustainability

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Robson Valley Enhanced Forest Management Pilot Project (EFMPP):

A co-operative effort between the B.C. Ministry of Forests; B.C. Ministry of Water, Land and Air Protection, B.C. Ministry of Sustainable Resource Management; Forest Renewal BC; the forest industry; and the academic community.

In our effort to keep you informed about the latest innovative initiatives in British Columbia, FORREX is pleased to present this special issue of *JEM*, which is dedicated to extending results of research carried out under the first 5 years of the Robson Valley Enhanced Forest Management Pilot Project (EFMPP).

Publishing this information is one important step in achieving the vision of a group of project partners who, led by the B.C. Ministry of Forests and supported by Michèle MacNeil, the Robson Valley Special Projects Co-ordinator, sought ways to capture, extend, and build upon the growing body of knowledge. During a visioning session led by FORREX in 2003, the partners created a plan that involves:

- Working with the scientific community to publish and share information from research projects;
- Working with local loggers, industry, government, and citizens to share the results of scenario planning and to develop knowledge-based solutions;
- Developing research and educational partnerships with the community, government, universities, industry, and foundations; and
- Establishing a Centre for Learning and Sustainable Forest Management.

The publication of this special issue of *JEM* demonstrates a strong joint commitment to archiving EFMPP project data, making it more likely that EFMPP processes and results will be reflected in future sustainable forest management policy, plans, and practices. FORREX will also be releasing, in the near future, the following two File Report publications:

- *Robson Valley Enhanced Forest Management Pilot Project: Implementation and Monitoring Plan.* URL: www.forrex.org/publications/filereports/fr04-01.pdf
- *Robson Valley Enhanced Forest Management Pilot Project: Project Review (1999–2003) and Performance Measure Development (2003–2008).* URL: www.forrex.org/publications/filereports/fr04-02.pdf

We are excited to report that the work of the Robson Valley EFMPP goes on. Since June 2003, the McBride Community Forest, the University of Northern BC, TRC Cedar Limited, McBride Forest Industries Ltd., the Sustainable Forest Management Network, FORREX, the Province of British Columbia's Forest Investment Account, and Firth Hollin Resource Science Corporation have developed a multi-faceted program of operationally oriented research to answer questions in and around the interior wetbelt forests of the Robson Valley. Twelve projects are currently under way, and support is being expressed for their continuation into the next fiscal year. To maintain access to resources developed through the EFMPP, Firth Hollin has taken over hosting of the EFMPP Web site, which is available at: www.for.gov.bc.ca/hcp/enhanced/robson/efmpp/index.htm

We hope our readers find the results and information presented in this special issue useful, and will be encouraged to follow the progress of a project in which extending research results is a critical part of the participants' vision—and an active part of the Robson Valley EFMPP's legacy.