



Please find the Crowsnest Forest Stewardship Society's Newsletter for the past year. The Annual Ed Gregor Memorial Stewardship Day is rapidly approaching and despite the late snow melt and recent rain, the 17th Annual Stewardship Day is looking to be very active. We hope to see a lot of smiling faces out on Saturday June 4, 2011.

Spring of 2011 www.crowsnestforest.com

Crowsnest Forest Stewardship Society

A Helping Hand Partnership Caring For Our Environment

The Crowsnest Forest Stewardship Society's 17th Annual Ed Gregor Memorial Stewardship Day is scheduled for Saturday June 4th

Where: Blairmore Forestry Office

When: 7:30 A.M. to 5:00 P.M.

Who: All Backcountry Users

The day starts with a free pancake breakfast at 7:30 A.M. at the Blairmore Land and Forest Service yard. Volunteers choose their "projects" and head out to their work site. At the end of the day there is a free supper and draws for terrific prizes like a Husqvarna H240E Chain Saw donated by CFSS & Highway 3 Services Centre, a day of Cat Skiing on the Powder Stagecoach at Castle Mountain Resort and many other great donated prizes. Awards are also made for a variety of other unique reasons. All of the food and prizes are donated by local businesses and cooked & served by the Coleman & Blairmore Lions Clubs.

Everyone, young and old, are welcome to participate. Remember to bring your work clothes including gloves, hat and boots, as well as drinking water, lunch, cameras and suntan lotion for the day. Keep your fingers crossed that the usual great weather is back this year. Go to : www.crowsnestforest.com

President's Message

Andrew Rusnyk

It is well into May and the winter of big snow has not quite left us yet. Some of the projects for this year's Ed Gregor Memorial Stewardship Day may be modified a little due to too much snow on the ground or extremely wet and muddy trails. That does not mean that we do not expect everyone to come out and help on Canada's longest standing Stewardship Day. CFSS has been active in the area through various clubs and societies this past year like Crowsnest Quad Squad, Crowsnest Cross-country Ski Assoc., Crow Snow Riders, Lethbridge Coulee Cruisers, various equestrian & hiking clubs and SWAT. It

makes me proud to say that I am part of the Crowsnest Forest Stewardship Society and proud to be associated with a day where real Albertans take care of their own backyard. I'll see everyone on June 4, 2011.

Thank you to all of our many Sponsors over the past 16 years - all of the work accomplished could not have happened without your support! See the attached listing of 2010 Sponsors. Please support them and add your name to this year's list!

Shell Canada Ltd.

Devon Canada

Kawneer Co. Canada Ltd.

Bill Kinnear Carvings

Rocky Mountain Yamaha YMC

Castle Mountain Resort

Coleman Lions

Blairmore Lions

S.R.D. Land & Forest

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CNP Quad Squad

B&P Johnson Welding Ltd.

Crow Snow Riders

Burnell Family - Lethbridge

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Beaver Mines General Store

Fountain Tire -P.C.

Hwy 3 Services Centre - CNP

Headlines Hair Design - CNP

Crowsnest Angler - Vic Bergman

Logomotives Group Ltd. CNP

Sobey's - Blairmore& Pincher Creek

ISL Engineering - Lethbridge

Three Rivers Social Club

Land Use Framework

Darryl Johnson

Water, economic development, conservation key areas of advice for South Saskatchewan Regional land-use plan.

On March 25, 2011 the Government of Alberta released the South Saskatchewan Regional Advisory Council's advice package. The South Saskatchewan Regional Advisory Council recommends that a regional plan for southern Alberta should focus on water supply, economic development and conservation needs.

The Alberta government will seek public input on the recommendations in the fall, before developing the draft regional plan. An online workbook will also be available at www.landuse.alberta.ca by the end of April. The province will consult again with Albertans before the final plan is developed.

"The South Saskatchewan area's economy is strong and diverse, but water supply may be a determining factor on future growth. Responsible, coordinated, long-term planning will help us manage the multiple pressures on the landscape," said Sustainable Resource Development Minister Mel Knight.

Government-supplied terms of reference asked the Regional Advisory Council to explore the relationship between population growth, water supply, economic growth and land conservation. There are four components to the recommendations:

- a regional vision statement;
- strategic land-use principles;
- regional outcomes, objectives and recommendations with associated resource maps; and,
- a regional land-use map and its associated management intents.

In its vision statement, the advisory council said, "The region prizes its natural and economic capital, and uses an integrated approach to effectively manage social, economic and environmental interaction. The principles of personal freedom, responsibility and property rights are respected"

Advice to the Government of Alberta for the South Saskatchewan Regional Plan addresses the following areas:

- water - develop options for improving source water protection and other means to protect watershed integrity;
- economic development - examine how the region should develop, aiming for the long-term success of the agriculture, energy, forestry, tourism industries and other economic opportunities;
- conservation - identify, conserve and restore landscapes valued for their water security, ecological function and biodiversity, considering development implications;
- recreation and tourism management - improve management of recreation use on public lands, identify locations of lands with high value for recreation and tourism; and,
- human development - examine development needs and healthy community objectives and consider the impacts to aboriginal communities.

To meet the unique needs of the South Saskatchewan area landscape, the advisory council proposed a land-use classification system that includes proposed management intents for each land-use type - agriculture (cultivated lands and native rangeland), conservation, mixed use (forest), population centres and recreation and tourism.

AGM Approaches

The Crowsnest Forest Stewardship Society's **Annual General Meeting** will take place on **Wednesday May 25, 2011 at 7:00 PM** in the downstairs meeting room in the Blairmore Forestry Office. Primary on the agenda will be election of officers and finalizing plans for Stewardship Day.

Renewal Membership Info Required

To stay informed about your Stewardship Society, please renew your free membership today. Info required: all family names, address, postal code, phone, e-mail (please!)

e-mail to: Andrew Rusnyk (andrewr@skicastle.ca) or post to: Box 1607, Blairmore, AB., T0K 0E0

Executive - Directors 2010-2011

Andrew Rusnyk ...564-4242
 Neil Chalmers ...563-3215
 Susanna MacGarva ...628-2447
 Terry Aris... 628-3744
 Dennis Beasley ...563-5640
 Francis Boone...563-5053

Stephen Burnell... 394-7563
 Robert Johnson ...627-3794
 Bill Kinnear ... 563-5476
 John MacGarva...628-2447
 Gail Simmons... 627-2796
 Cameron Welsh ...628-3186

CFSS Mission

As Stewards, we are committed to active participation with land management agencies and other users, and to the promotion of public education regarding the responsible use of public lands within the C-5 Forest.

Mandate of the C.F.S.S.

1. To develop, produce, and distribute materials and programs focused on public education regarding proper stewardship of public lands within the Crowsnest Forest.
2. To participate with Land Management Agencies on enhancement, maintenance and reclamation projects within the Crowsnest Forest.
3. Promote the continuation and sustainability of multiple-use opportunities while maintaining environmental protection objectives within the C.F.

Door Prizes

***All Participants are automatically entered into the draw. Increase your chances by purchasing more tickets for \$1.**

All proceeds go towards CFSS projects.

Last year the big draw prizes were a Husqvarna H440 Chain Saw provided by the CFSS and Rocky Mountain Mechanical, Husqvarna, and an unique handcrafted walking staff donated by Bill Kinnear. Many other great-donated prizes were enjoyed by all the winners.

Donations gratefully accepted

All moneys are spent on sustainable projects in our Crowsnest Forest. Income tax receipts available for donations over \$25.00

Web Sites of Interest

CFSS at: www.crowsnestforest.com

Castle area and C-5 DFMP (CROWPAC) at: www3.gov.ab.ca/srd/regions/southwest

Land Use Framework or Land Stewardship Act - Bill 36 at: www.landuse.alberta.ca/

2011 Project List

- Bio-Engineering
- Tree Planting
- Repairs to Chinook Lake trail
- Random Campsite Clean-up
- Miner's Trail enhancement
- Crowsnest Community Trail Enhancement
- Beaver Mines Interpretive Trail Re-established
- Cross Country Trail Repairs

Other projects will be announced as the day approached.

Crowsnest Quad Squad

Dennis Beasley

Quad Squad has completed all the trail work under the 3 year \$800,000 Community Development Trust Grant for projects South of Highway 3 under the direction of the SWAT Advisory Council, a group of

multi Trail Users. With the heavy rains of June 2010 a remediation project had to be undertaken on the York Creek Plane Crash trail to secure unstable ground to prevent further siltation which was affecting on the University of Alberta Watershed study. With funds that were recovered from the Municipality of Crowsnest Pass 2008 Flood Disaster Recovery Fund, \$57,500.00 and \$20,000.00 from GST recovery for a total of \$77,500 is now being distributed to several groups in our area, Crow Snow Riders, Crowsnest X-Country Ski Society, Southern Alberta Trail Riders Assoc., and the Crowsnest Walking Trail, along with other projects.

The Club has undertaken a different style of Raffle this year spanning from June 2011 to August 2012 with two early bird draws, October 2011 and May 2012 consisting of rider safety gear, motorized power equipment, chainsaw, generator and the generous support of local Bed and Breakfast establishments. The final draw in August 2012 will consist of a Yamaha Rhino side x side a Grizzly Quad and a Polaris 170 children's side x side.

Crowsnest Cross-Country Ski Assoc.

Neil Chalmers

New Dynamic Directorship conducted the first Loppet Race, 'The Flight of the Crow', which saw racers from all over Alberta participate. The old Alpine snow machine was finally replaced with another Yamaha Professional. Membership was up 50% over last year. Much of the grooming equipment was replaced just in time for a season that was extended 45 days to the end of April. The revised website is now on-line. Newly designed T-Shirts are now for sale. Benches for rest stops along the trails were purchased. All the trail signs were improved and replaced. Overall it has been a busy and very successful season.

Crow Snow Riders

Francis Boone

The Club has had a great year. The snow was amazing and many people took advantage of record snowpack. A new groomer was purchased and it was put through its paces with all the snow this season. An Avalanche Skills Training course was well attended and could not have had better timing with the amount of snow this winter and potential avalanche hazards. People have been sledding well into May and may still be riding on the Stewardship Day. A new shelter is planned and the location will be announced soon.

Crowsnest Community Trails

Jenice Smith

The Municipality of Crowsnest Pass and community members have been busy developing and constructing the Crowsnest Community Trails. The 23 km, non-motorized trail connects the communities of Crowsnest Pass together. Trail development includes asphalt, gravel, and natural trail construction and amenity installation - such as benches, crosswalks, signage, bridges, dog poo bag dispensers, bike racks, and BearSmart garbage containers.

This year's project for Ed Gregor Stewardship Day includes trail maintenance on the section of trail north of Frank Slide that was constructed in 2010. The route begins at the Frank Slide Interpretive Centre and ends at Fireman's Park in Bellevue.

Join dignitaries and community members for the Crowsnest Community Trails Ribbon-Cutting Ceremony on Friday, July 29th from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m. The event will be held outside of the Blairmore Legion (2132-129 St.) and refreshments will be available. Everyone is invited to be part of this exciting event!

