

**The FREP Vision:**

Sustainability of forest and range resources through science and stewardship.

**The FREP Mission:**

To be a world leader in Resource Stewardship Monitoring and effectiveness evaluations; providing the science-based information needed for decision-making and continuous improvement of British Columbia's forest and range practices, policies and legislation.

<http://www.for.gov.bc.ca/hfp/frep/index.htm>

## 2008/2009 Year In Review

### INTRODUCTION

By the fall of 2008, the Forest and Range Evaluation Program (FREP) achieved its fourth year of province-wide implementation. Resource Stewardship Monitoring for stand-level biodiversity and fish/riparian resource values now takes place in all 29 forest districts. Preliminary monitoring results from Forest Practices Code cutblocks are becoming available for these and other resource values. Water quality, visual quality, cultural heritage, and soils resource values were piloted and are now implemented in a number of districts. For the remaining resource values, protocols and monitoring checklists are still undergoing development and piloting.

Analyses of monitoring results are allowing program staff to identify resource value trends, issues, and approaches to improve resource management practices on the ground. Sharing information on initial findings is vital to support resource professionals in developing forest stewardship plans and to realize continuous improvement of forest and range practices. For detailed information about FREP, the status of each resource value, and to view the protocols and reports, go to: <http://www.for.gov.bc.ca/hfp/frep/>



photo credit: Ed Nedokus, Cascades Forest District

### Contents

<b>Key Accomplishments . . . . .</b>	<b>2</b>
RSM Mandatory Implementation – Stand-level Biodiversity and Fish/Riparian . . . . .	2
RSM Voluntary Implementation – Water Quality, Visual Quality and Soils. . . . .	3
RSM Values in Development or Pilot . . . . .	3
Intensive Evaluations and Special Projects . . . . .	3
RSM Continuous Improvement Workshop . . . . .	5
People-Focus: Program and District Recognition . . . . .	5
Quality Management and Data Quality . . . . .	5
Information Management System . . . . .	5
Training . . . . .	5
Communications . . . . .	6
FREP Program Development . . . . .	7
<b>FREP Funding and Expenditures for 2008/2009 . . . . .</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>Key FREP Initiatives for 2009/2010. . . . .</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>Acknowledgements . . . . .</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>More Information . . . . .</b>	<b>8</b>

Highlights for 2008/2009 include:

- conducting mandatory resource stewardship monitoring (RSM) for stand-level biodiversity and fish/riparian resource values in all 29 forest districts (411 riparian checklists and 409 stand-level biodiversity checklists)
- implementing voluntary RSM for soils and visual quality (104 visual evaluations in 12 districts and 47 soils evaluations in 12 districts)
- piloting cultural heritage resources (in four districts), forage and karst (in two districts), and several wildlife species including badger, mountain goat, northern goshawk and tailed frog
- piloting the stand development monitoring and the partial cutting protocols for the timber resource value

In addition, FREP initiated, continued, or completed several intensive evaluations and special projects, including:

- an assessment of peak flow index for watersheds in areas affected by the mountain pine beetle;
- the development of identification guides for invasive plants and stumps;
- a project to determine potential applications of remote sensing and geographic information systems for FREP monitoring; and
- an integrated project to involve the application of multiple FREP protocols in a concentrated geographic area.

In 2008/2009 FREP succeeded in achieving Level 3 organizational certification through the National Quality Institute's Progressive Excellence Program. FREP achieved the Silver Award in the Canada Awards for Excellence.

In October, the FREP Working Group reviewed the *FREP 5-year Strategic Plan*. The plan's six strategic themes were reviewed to ensure that these will appropriately guide future program activities and that FREP achieves its objectives over the coming years.

## KEY ACCOMPLISHMENTS IN 2008/2009

FREP's role is to answer evaluative questions about the sustainability of the 11 forest and range resource values identified under the *Forest and Range Practices Act (FRPA)*. These questions serve as the starting point for the development of appropriate resource stewardship monitoring indicators and protocols. Used together, the indicators and protocols provide direct or indirect information on the state of resource values and help to quantify baselines and trends. The following section provides a description FREP's resource value monitoring and evaluation initiatives and some of the results obtained to date.

## RSM Mandatory Implementation – Stand-level Biodiversity and Fish/Riparian

### Stand-level Biodiversity

The goal of stand-level biodiversity monitoring is to determine whether the present policy of retaining wildlife trees and coarse woody debris is achieving the desired levels and types of structures understood as necessary to maintain species diversity.

Stand-level biodiversity monitoring during the 2008 field season took place on over 400 cutblocks. These blocks were harvested between 2002 and 2006 and largely under the legislative requirements set out in the *Forest Practices Code of British Columbia Act*. Communication of results and recommendations was the focus of stand-level biodiversity this year. A provincial report shares the stand-level biodiversity results by biogeoclimatic zone.

For details of the report, please go to: <http://www.for.gov.bc.ca/hfp/frep/publications/reports.htm#rep17>

### Fish/Riparian

The goal of monitoring the health of stream channels and their adjacent riparian management areas is to determine whether FRPA standards and practices governed by regulation are achieving the desired result of protecting fish values by maintaining channel and riparian functions. Specifically, *are riparian forestry and range practices effective in maintaining the structural integrity and functions of stream ecosystems and other aquatic resource features over both short and long terms?* Streams are evaluated and classified with respect to the level of functioning.

To assess functioning condition, questions are asked about the characteristics of healthy streams and their riparian habitats. The relative health or "functioning condition" of the stream and its riparian habitat is based on the total number of "No" answers to the questions. The categories are: properly functioning, properly functioning – limited impacts, properly functioning – moderate impacts, and not properly functioning.

In the first 3 years of operational riparian assessments, RSM was completed on close to 1000 streams province-wide. All stream classes (S1–S6)<sup>1</sup> were randomly sampled from cutblocks harvested under the legislative requirements set out in the *Forest Practices Code of British Columbia Act*. The majority of those sampled fell into the smaller classes (S4–S6), which is consistent with the proportional abundance of these streams found in nature.

<sup>1</sup> For a description of the stream classes, see the Riparian Management Monitoring Protocol: [http://www.for.gov.bc.ca/hfp/frep/site\\_files/indicators/Indicators-Riparian-Protocol-2009.pdf](http://www.for.gov.bc.ca/hfp/frep/site_files/indicators/Indicators-Riparian-Protocol-2009.pdf)

## RSM Voluntary Implementation – Water Quality, Visual Quality and Soils

### Water Quality

The goal of monitoring for water quality is to determine whether forest and range practices are protecting water quality for drinking water and fish habitat. Forest management impacts are determined by estimating the amount of fine sediment generated from roads, riparian areas, and cutblocks. A range component involves assessing signs of livestock activity that occurs in conjunction with forest management. These assessments evaluate the outcomes of forest and range management practices to sustain good water quality.

The water quality effectiveness evaluation was piloted on a voluntary basis in 2006/2007 (537 crossings assessed) and 2007/2008 (665 crossings assessed). Crossings that identified potential range issues were identified to range specialists for more detailed assessment. Water quality effectiveness evaluations will become mandatory in all forest districts in 2009/2010.

### Visual Quality

Fifteen participating forest districts have collected a total of 227 samples to date. Only cutblocks within scenic areas with Recommended Visual Quality or Visual Quality Objectives were sampled. Although an interim report will be released sooner, the final report is planned for release in 2010.

### Soils

Implementation of soils resource monitoring began in 2008 using aerial photos taken during 2007. Sampling involves using both high-quality aerial photographs and ground-truthing. To date, 97 cutblocks have been assessed. A report of the 2007–2008 results is planned for January 2010.

## RSM Values in Development or Pilot

The following table (page 4) describes the status, results to date, and publications of some other resource values that are in development or completing the piloting phase. For more information on any of the resource values, go to the FREP website (<http://www.for.gov.bc.ca/hfp/frep/values/index.htm>).

## Intensive Evaluations and Special Projects

Three intensive evaluation projects were conducted in 2008.

- The Hydrological Impacts of Mountain Pine Beetle and Accelerated Harvest in the Interior of British Columbia – This project describes the potential peak flow impacts

for watersheds affected by mountain pine beetle. A final report on this project is expected in 2009.

- Stand Development Monitoring: Headwaters Timber Supply Area; Stand Development Monitoring: Kootenay Lake Timber Supply Area – These projects are a continuation of the post-free-growing assessments reported in FREP Report No. 13 (May 2008).
- Are Free-growing Stands Meeting Timber Productivity Expectations in the Lakes Supply Area?

Special projects included:

- Development of an Invasive Plants Identification Field Guide and complementary Invasive Plants Resource Stewardship Monitoring Field Cards – This guide and the field cards will be used by staff when conducting routine monitoring activities.
- Development of A Dichotomous Key for Identifying Stumps of BC Softwoods – This guide will be used by staff to identify stump species when conducting post-harvest monitoring where accurate identification of pre-harvest species is important (e.g., assessment of post-harvest stand value as compared to pre-harvest stand value).
- Exploration of potential monitoring and assessment applications of remote sensing and geographic information systems for FREP – This project, conducted by the University of British Columbia, looked at ways remote sensing could enhance overall program effectiveness and efficiency. A report on this initiative will be published in 2009/2010.
- Initial analysis of the potential to apply multiple FREP protocols in a concentrated geographic area – This resource value integration project is exploring ways to enhance the efficiency of monitoring implementation. A pilot is planned for the fall of 2009.
- Development of opportunities for licensees to access Forest Investment Account (FIA) funds to enable the use of FREP protocols in monitoring conducted as part of their Sustainable Forest Management (SFM) certification process. Licensees can now apply for FIA funding to use the FREP water quality protocol for SFM monitoring, and work continues to develop opportunities to fund the use of other FREP protocols.
- An analysis comparing the requirements of FREP protocols to the criteria, indicators, and monitoring requirements contained in SFM certification standards (i.e., Canadian Standards Association, Sustainable Forestry Initiative, and the Forest Stewardship Council). This analysis will be released as a FREP report in 2009/10.
- Exploration of the need to assess the effectiveness of FRPA in achieving social and economic goals, such as: reducing transactional and operational costs to industry; reducing administrative complexity; providing

Resource Value	Update
<b>Timber (Stand Development Monitoring)</b>	<p>Second year piloting completed</p> <p>The Stand Development Monitoring protocol was piloted in October 2008 in the Okanagan Shuswap District. Attendees at a pilot workshop included staff from across the province. Feedback from this session was incorporated into the revised protocol that will be piloted again in seven districts (Fort St. James, Vanderhoof, Rocky Mountain, Arrow Boundary, Columbia, Chilliwack, and Squamish) in 2009. This protocol looks at forest stands that were declared free-growing 10–15 years ago in order to determine their structure and health and whether they remain free growing.</p> <p>A monitoring strategy for the timber value is planned for 2009/2010 to help focus future work under this diverse value. Several publications are currently available including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• FREP Report 13 – Are free-growing stands meeting timber productivity expectations in the Lakes Timber Supply Area? (May 2008)</li> <li>• FREP Report 14 – Tree species composition and diversity in British Columbia (August 2008)</li> </ul>
<b>Timber (Partial Cutting)</b>	<p>The partial cutting timber protocol pilot assessed the health, vigour, and productivity of partially harvested (partial cut) stands to determine whether a commercially viable stand remained after harvest and what such a stand would produce under a final harvest in 30–40 years time. This protocol was piloted over the past 2 years in several districts and is ready for implementation in 2009.</p>
<b>Wildlife</b>	<p>Protocol development and pilot testing for several species of wildlife including American badger, northern caribou, mountain goat, Williamson’s Sapsucker, Northern Goshawk, Rocky Mountain tailed frog, and several snake species.</p> <p>Resource value framework and supporting program guidance documents prepared for web posting.</p> <p>Strategic efforts to link the Ministry of Environment’s monitoring activities with relevant FREP monitoring.</p>
<b>Resource Features</b>	<p>The karst (e.g., soluble bedrock such as limestone) protocol and checklists were piloted in 2008 and monitoring will be expanding to a voluntary basis in 2009. A report is planned for 2010.</p>
<b>Cultural Heritage</b>	<p>Piloting of the cultural heritage resources (CHR) monitoring protocol will continue in 2009 in at least 12 districts. In 2008, 18 cutblocks were assessed in the first piloting phase. CHR sites looked included: spiritual sites, cremation sites, culturally modified trees, cultural trails, archaeological sites, bear dens, and cultural plants. Several publications are available including:</p> <p>FREP Report 18: A review of forest stewardship plan results and strategies for the cultural heritage resource value (November 2008)</p> <p>Cultural heritage resource field monitoring protocol (April 2009)</p> <p>Interview results for process evaluations: Key challenges and innovations related to forest management planning and implementation for the CHR value (April 2009)</p>

industry “freedom to manage” in delivery of defined results; and maintaining and enhancing the level of public acceptance of forest and range management.

## RSM Continuous Improvement Workshop

FREP’s Continuous Improvement (CI) Workshop is an annual sharing of best practices and of the collective program experience. The 2008/2009 workshop faced significant budget challenges, making it necessary to change the meeting format. The team met via video conferencing from seven pods across the province. This is one of the first large-scale provincial meetings implemented by the Ministry of Forests and Range using video-conferencing technology. Lessons learned from this workshop were relayed back to the Information Management Branch to help improve future video-conferencing initiatives.

## People-Focus: Program and District Recognition

FREP owes much of its success to its dedicated staff. In 2008, executive sponsor, Chief Forester Jim Snetsinger, along with the Assistant Deputy Minister of the Operations Division Tim Sheldan, awarded the *Chief Forester and ADM of Operations Award for Excellence in Resource Stewardship Monitoring* to the Haida Gwaii Forest District. This annual honour is awarded to the forest district that demonstrates the highest level of contribution and excellence during FREP’s RSM field season. Both Jim and Tim joined a field session in August where on-the-ground knowledge and experience with FREP was shared with staff, managers, and the Haida Forest Guardians.

For more information on this award, and to download nomination forms, go to: <http://www.for.gov.bc.ca/hfp/frep/recognition/chief.htm>

The winners of the RSM Photography Contest were announced at the CI Workshop in February 2009. Recognition for best overall photo went to the Chilcotin Forest District’s Jason Kerley, with a photo entitled “Mount Tsylos.” View all the photo entries for 2008 at: <http://www.for.gov.bc.ca/hfp/frep/recognition/gallery-landscape.htm>

## Quality Management and Data Quality

Quality management is an integrative management practice that reinforces program goals and objectives, and is therefore essential to FREP’s overall success. Key quality management activities during 2008/2009 included the National Quality Institute (NQI) certification process, quality assurance visits, and several program-level improvements.

On October 20, 2008, FREP attained Level Three organizational certification and the Silver Award of Canada Awards for Excellence, through NQI’s Progressive Excellence Program. FREP was the first British Columbia

government program to receive Level One certification in September 2006 and Level Two certification in October 2007. Certification through NQI emphasizes that the program is managed at an internationally recognized level. FREP achieved certification for its demonstrated excellence in: leadership, planning, citizen/client focus, people focus, process management, and supplier/partner focus. FREP intends to pursue all four levels of the Progressive Excellence Program, as well as the Gold Award of the Canada Award for Excellence.

For more information on FREP’s quality management activities, go to: <http://www.for.gov.bc.ca/hfp/frep/qmgmt/index.htm>

## Information Management System

The multi-phased development of FREP’s province-wide information management system (IMS) continued during the 2008/2009 fiscal year. This computer application supports the activities of the Ministry of Forests and Range, Ministry of Environment, and other government staff conducting field evaluations. The FREP IMS currently hosts the biodiversity, fish/riparian, and water quality resource values, making data and information accessible to decision makers.

For more information on the FREP IMS, go to: <http://www.for.gov.bc.ca/hfp/frep/ims/index.htm>

## Training

Training is a critical component of FREP’s quality assurance framework. In 2008, field staff received training on the RSM protocols for the fish/riparian, stand-level biodiversity, water quality, visual quality, soils, karst, and range resource values, and also for invasive plants and the IMS. FREP training involves three components: formal training, mentor training, and quality assurance visits. In addition, ongoing support is provided to field staff via phone and email, as well as through the question and answer (Q&A) tool on the FREP website. Answers to questions are posted on the FREP website so that all staff and interested parties have access to the answers.

Staff who conduct evaluations, including MFR stewardship personnel and MOE personnel, are the primary audience for FREP training. Staff from other MFR business areas (e.g., tenures, and compliance and enforcement), as well as forest licensees and First Nations, also participate. Before the field season starts, qualified trainers deliver formal full training for staff new to the protocols. Experienced staff receive refresher training that highlights changes to the protocols.

In spring 2008, formal training was delivered at three regional training venues—Campbell River (one session), Williams Lake (two sessions), and Vanderhoof (one session). These sessions provided training on fish/riparian (120 attendees), stand-level biodiversity (107 attendees), and

water quality (41 attendees). Forty-two staff members participated in soils training during 10 sessions held throughout the province at district offices. In the fall, eight staff members attended a karst training session on Quadra Island. Twenty staff members attended visual quality training during one session in Kamloops and one in Chilliwack. In addition to the field training for resource values, 45 staff members participated in IMS training sessions that introduced new releases to the system.

To provide feedback on completed samples and to ensure that staff are trained and calibrated in “their own backyard,” mentor training is also offered in districts during the field season. During the 2008 field season, 25 mentor visits were conducted for the stand-level biodiversity and fish/riparian resource values, with a total of 75 participants.

The final stage in the RSM process involves quality assurance reviews (office reviews and [or] field visits) to evaluate the accuracy of field assessments and to provide feedback. Review results help to refine future training activities and to update resource value protocols, checklists, and field guides, all of which helps drive FREP’s cycle of continuous improvement. In 2008, trainers revisited cutblocks sampled by district staff for stand-level biodiversity and fish/riparian resource values in 15 districts. These visits assessed the accuracy and precision of effectiveness evaluations conducted on 27 openings and 21 riparian area samples.

For more information on FREP’s training activities, go to: <http://www.for.gov.bc.ca/hfp/frep/rsm/training.htm>

## Communications

Effective communications both within the FREP program and with key partners and stakeholders is important for obtaining support and commitment, facilitating and sharing new ideas, increasing efficiencies, and developing communities of practice for monitoring. In 2008/2009, FREP initiated a formal client-based Communications Team, a diverse group that includes both government and non-government representatives. The objectives of FREP communications are to:

- communicate the purpose, goals, and objectives of FREP to all partners and stakeholders including the public;
- encourage a wide range of internal and external partners to support and participate in FREP;
- communicate FREP projects and accomplishments; and
- facilitate continuous improvement of forest practices, policies, and legislation at the local, regional, and provincial levels by communicating the results of FREP monitoring and evaluation, and recommendations for forest and range managers and practitioners.

The Communications Team produced an overall FREP Communications Strategy and five implementation strategies for key target audiences. The team produced

a FREP Communications Toolkit that contains useful information and templates to assist staff in their communications efforts and a SharePoint site to post documents and share lessons learned with others. New performance measures for communications were developed and will be discussed in FREP’s next annual report.

In 2008/2009, FREP published five reports and a report summary.

## Reports

Woods, A. and W. Bergerud. 2008. Are Free-Growing Stands Meeting Timber Productivity Expectations in the Lakes Supply Area? B.C. Ministry of Forests and Range, Forest Practices Branch, Victoria, B.C. FREP Report No. 13. [http://www.for.gov.bc.ca/ftp/hfp/external!/publish/frep/reports/FREP\\_Report\\_13.pdf](http://www.for.gov.bc.ca/ftp/hfp/external!/publish/frep/reports/FREP_Report_13.pdf)

Timberline Forest Inventory Consultants. 2008. Tree Species Composition and Diversity in British Columbia. B.C. Ministry of Forests and Range, Forest Practices Branch, Victoria, B.C. FREP Report No. 14. [http://www.for.gov.bc.ca/ftp/hfp/external!/publish/frep/reports/FREP\\_Report\\_14.pdf](http://www.for.gov.bc.ca/ftp/hfp/external!/publish/frep/reports/FREP_Report_14.pdf)

Densmore, N. and A. Linnell Nemec. 2008. Sampling Intensity for Stand-level Biodiversity Surveys. B.C. Ministry of Forests and Range, Forest Practices Branch, Victoria, B.C. FREP Report No. 15. [http://www.for.gov.bc.ca/ftp/hfp/external!/publish/frep/reports/FREP\\_Report\\_15.pdf](http://www.for.gov.bc.ca/ftp/hfp/external!/publish/frep/reports/FREP_Report_15.pdf)

Densmore, N. and A. Linnell Nemec. 2008. Resource Stewardship Monitoring: Stand-level Biodiversity Analysis of 2005/2006 Field Season Data by Biogeoclimatic Zone. B.C. Ministry of Forests and Range, Forest Practices Branch, Victoria, B.C. FREP Report No. 17. [http://www.for.gov.bc.ca/ftp/hfp/external!/publish/frep/reports/FREP\\_Report\\_17.pdf](http://www.for.gov.bc.ca/ftp/hfp/external!/publish/frep/reports/FREP_Report_17.pdf)

Levesque, L. 2008. A Review of Forest Stewardship Plan Results and Strategies for the Cultural Heritage Resource Value. B.C. Ministry of Forests and Range, Forest Practices Branch, Victoria, B.C. FREP Report No. 18. [http://www.for.gov.bc.ca/ftp/hfp/external!/publish/frep/reports/FREP\\_Report\\_18.pdf](http://www.for.gov.bc.ca/ftp/hfp/external!/publish/frep/reports/FREP_Report_18.pdf)

## Report Summaries

Woods, A. and W. Bergerud. 2008. Are Free-Growing Stands Meeting Timber Productivity Expectations in the Lakes Supply Area? B.C. Ministry of Forests and Range, Forest Practices Branch, Victoria, B.C. FREP Report Summary No. 16. [http://www.for.gov.bc.ca/ftp/hfp/external!/publish/frep/extension/FRPA\\_Evaluator\\_Extension\\_Note\\_16.pdf](http://www.for.gov.bc.ca/ftp/hfp/external!/publish/frep/extension/FRPA_Evaluator_Extension_Note_16.pdf)

FREP staff also made several presentations to external partners and stakeholders such as the Association of British Columbia Forest Professionals, licensees, and the Minister’s Practices Advisory Council. Many presentations were made internally to government including the Deputy Minister of Forests, the Integrated Land Management Bureau, and district offices.

For more information on FREP communications, go to <http://www.for.gov.bc.ca/hfp/frep/pmgmt/index.htm> or contact Alanya Smith (Alanya.C.Smith@gov.bc.ca).

## FREP Program Development

The *FREP 5-year Strategic Plan (2007–2011)* continues to guide program development and implementation. The priorities and performance measures outlined in this document are helping FREP achieve its mission of being a world leader in resource stewardship monitoring and effectiveness evaluations, and of promoting the continuous improvement of British Columbia's forest and range practices, policies, and legislation. Six strategic themes are identified:

1. Clarity of Priorities
2. Leadership
3. People Focus
4. Program Development and Implementation
5. Continuous Improvement and Critical Reflection
6. Communication – Influencing Change through Collaboration and Information Sharing

These strategic themes will continue to guide future program activities and ensure that FREP achieves its objectives over the coming years. Detailed tasks for each strategic area are outlined in annual work and improvement plans (<http://www.for.gov.bc.ca/hfp/frep/pmgmt/index.htm>) and quality control protocols (<http://www.for.gov.bc.ca/hfp/frep/qmgmt/control.htm>).

For more information on FREP's 5-year strategic plan, go to: <http://www.for.gov.bc.ca/hfp/frep/pmgmt/index.htm>

An annual Program Improvement Plan was developed on the basis of the Strategic Plan, as well as on staff and stakeholder input. It details the major tasks and focus areas for program improvement. For a copy of these plans, go to: <http://www.for.gov.bc.ca/hfp/frep/pmgmt/index.htm>

## FREP FUNDING AND EXPENDITURES FOR 2008/2009

The Treasury Board approved long-term funding for FREP in 2005/2006. The budget is approximately \$4 million annually. District costs associated with implementing RSM (e.g., training, travel, remote access, seasonal employees) are covered through the FREP budget. For 2008/2009, 14.4 FTEs are allocated to fieldwork and 2.8 FTEs to headquarters.

The following table (below) shows an approximate breakdown of FREP expenditures for 2008/2009.

## KEY FREP INITIATIVES FOR 2009/2010

- Mandatory (province-wide) implementation of biodiversity, fish/riparian, water quality, soils, and visual quality
- Piloting of cultural heritage and stand development protocols

	Expenditure (\$)
RSM Checklist Development, Pilot Testing, and Implementation	530 000
Intensive Evaluation Projects	75 000
Training	240 000
Program Support, Planning, and Development	160 000
Quality Management including data validation and verification	55 000
Salaries, Benefits, Corporate Charges (trucks, facilities, etc.)	2 400 000
Field-based Operating Costs (e.g., helicopter, boat and other site access)	572 000
<b>Total</b>	<b>4 032 000</b>

- Voluntary implementation of partial cutting (stand structure) and karst (soluble bedrock)
- Quality assurance – training, mentoring, data validation, and verification
- Sampling of fewer Forest Practices Code cutblocks and more areas harvested under *FRPA*
- Reporting and communication of results to date

FREP will also continue to focus on quality management with the National Quality Institute. Implementing the Level Three program improvement plan will move FREP toward the Level Four Certification and the Gold Award of the Canada Awards for Excellence.

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The FREP Working Group sincerely appreciates the significant contributions of everyone involved in helping attain the achievements and successes of the program in its sixth year of operations.

Special thanks are extended to:

- Our field staff (as there are so many field staff names, please see FREP website for district contacts) for their hard work in achieving program implementation and innovations;
- The Chief Forester, Jim Snetsinger, Phil Zacharatos, Assistant Deputy Minister of Operations and former

Assistant Deputy Minister of Operations, Tim Sheldon, for their continued support and guidance of FREP;

- Lorne Bedford, Diane Medves, and Ian Miller for their leadership and guidance as the Forest Practices Branch Management Team;
- The resource value team leaders (Nancy Densmore, Richard Thompson, Lisa Levesque, Peter Tschaplinski, Perry Grilz, Francis Njenga, Kevin Kilpatrick, Sandy Currie, Frank Barber, Jacques Marc, Dave Maloney, Kathy Paige, and retired Wayne Erickson) for their dedication in developing and continually improving indicators, protocols, and training;
- Intensive evaluation, special project leads, subject experts, and project co-ordinators (Pat Martin, Alex Woods, Leslie McAuley, Thomas Chen, Wendy Bergerud, Peter Ott, Tom Fulton, John Gallimore, Alanya Smith, and Joan Cringan); and
- Our lead trainers and contractors (Derek Tripp, Dean McGeough, Bryce Bancroft, Brian Carson, Sue Elo, Jules Mullin, Susan Bannerman, Marla Weston, Duncan Richards, and Amanda Nemeč) for providing inspired in-house workshops, field training, mentoring, and advice.

## MORE INFORMATION

For additional information about FREP, please refer to our website at: <http://www.for.gov.bc.ca/hfp/frep/index.htm>

*The FREP Year in Review is a regular publication of the Forest and Range Evaluation Program designed to inform stakeholders on program development and implementation, and report on the results of evaluation projects.*



**FREP**  
Forest & Range  
Evaluation Program