



Chief Forester and ADM of Operations
Award for Excellence in
Resource Stewardship Monitoring

Nadina Forest District Receives Excellence in Resource Stewardship Monitoring Award

The Forest Service has a long history of dedication to the management of British Columbia's public forest lands. By evaluating forest practices through resource stewardship monitoring (RSM) and effectiveness evaluations, the Forest and Range Evaluation Program (FREP) continues this rewarding tradition. Broad participation is one of FREP's important accomplishments. To collect monitoring data on the state of the province's forest resources, FREP relies on the expertise and support of district, regional and branch staff, as well as personnel from the Ministry of Environment and other partners. So far, over 200 personnel have received data-collection training. Correctly collecting and accurately reporting this field data is essential to FREP's credibility. In 2006, executive sponsor, Chief Forester Jim Snetsinger, along with ADM Operations Division, Tim Sheldan, instigated the Chief Forester and ADM of Operations Award for Excellence in Resource Stewardship Monitoring. This annual award is presented to the district that demonstrates the highest level of contribution and excellence in RSM associated with FREP. Nadina Forest District won the 2006 field season award for their commitment to innovation, quality of work and cross-program involvement.

On October 25, Nadina staff celebrated the recognition by treating Victoria visitors Jim Snetsinger, Peter Fuglem (Executive Director Operations), Diane Medves (Director Forest Practices Branch), and Frank Barber (Effectiveness Evaluations Coordinator, FREP) to a cowboy-themed lunch at the district office. Presenting the award, the Chief Forester remarked, *"I believe that FREP is a very important component of our stewardship mandate. It is extremely gratifying to see district staff so engaged in this important field-based work. The efforts of all staff involved in FREP around the province are integral to ensuring the successful implementation of a results-based regime."*

"The award attests to the quality of FREP and its commitment to recognize involvement, competency and innovation," said Nadina Stewardship Officer, Agathe Bernard. *"My colleagues and I believe that we must be part of the change we want to see in the world. Being part of FREP allows us to enable this change. This recognition of our work tells us we are indeed working to change the world."* FREP's accomplishments to date include: implementing province-wide monitoring for stand-level biodiversity, riparian, water quality, soils and visual quality resource values; completing multiple intensive evaluations; publishing reports; and developing an information management system (FREP IMS) that currently tracks the data collected for stand-level biodiversity and riparian resource values. For more information on FREP see: <http://www.for.gov.bc.ca/hfp/frep/>