

'A Festive Occasion'

Columbia Forest District wins 2009 Resource Stewardship Monitoring Award

The 2009 Chief Forester and ADM of Operations Award for Excellence in Resource Stewardship Monitoring was presented to the Columbia Forest District on September 15, 2010 by Jim Snetsinger in person and by Dave Peterson via video link from Williams Lake. The Revelstoke Timber Supply Area Timber Supply Review Determination Meetings with the Chief Forester were paused for a short time in order to get the two sponsors of the award in the room at the same time, so to speak, to recognize the staff consisting of Diane Millar, Barb Wadey, Robyn Begley, John Cruickshank, Cory Legebokow and Kevin Lavelle for their achievement.

Columbia Forest District joins Nadina, Haida Gwaii and Vanderhoof Districts as previous winners of the much coveted and uniquely carved yellow cedar award created by Ahousaht Nation carver George Williams.

It should be noted that at the award presentation, Jim Snetsinger promised to wear his very best footwear to the photo opportunity the next day at the barbeque. You can see by the photo that he kept his promise!

Some of the accomplishments that the Columbia Forest District staff achieved in 2009 included:

- Assisting with development of the Stand Development Monitoring (SDM) Protocol and involved with presentations that demonstrated how the data could be used in the Timber Supply Review process to evaluate how managed stands are growing,
- Continued participation at the Branch and regional levels involving data validation, working group meetings and IMS training, and
- Met or exceeded district monitoring targets for a fourth year in a row.

In recognition of the largest sockeye salmon run in nearly 100 years, the Stewardship staff hosted a 'salmon' barbeque where freshly caught and smoked sockeye salmon was served to eagerly awaiting district, regional and Victoria staff in the 'back 40' of the district compound. Hamburgers, chicken burgers, homemade salads and desserts rounded out the 'festive occasion'. The Victoria and Kamloops staff left with happy tummies and the district was left with a brand new trophy!

The Columbia Forest District Stewardship Team remains committed to carrying out the Forest and Range Evaluation Program at the local level including evaluating and reporting out on how well forest and range practices are meeting government objectives and incorporating new and improved ways of collecting this information for the benefit of British Columbians. For more information about the Forest and Range Evaluation Program, please go to: <http://www.for.gov.bc.ca/hfp/frep/index.htm>