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Editor: Alan Pottinger

Contact: 2 Webbs Barn Cottage, Witney Road Kingston Bagpuize, Abingdon, Oxfordshire OX13 5AN, UK

Tel: 00 44 (0)1865 820935

Email: cfa@cfa-international.org

Web: www.cfa-international.org

The views expressed are not necessarily those of the CFA.

Efforts to Reach Global Agreement Fail at UNFF-5



Wangari Maatbai at the tree planting ceremony in the UN grounds during UNFF-5

International dialogue on a global forest framework has reached a critical point. The time for exploring options is over, and decisions now need to be made. In an attempt to reach agreement, over 120 countries sent delegates to the fifth session of the United Nations Forum on Forests (UNFF5). This was held in New York on 16 - 27 May 2005, with fifty forestry Ministers attending a two-day high-level segment during the second week.

There were hopes that the discussions would lead to agreement on clear global goals for forests; recognition of how forests can help in achieving Millennium Development Goals (such as poverty eradication and environmental sustainability); better cross-sectoral coordination and closer links with regions; and, above all, tangible support for achieving action on the ground. There was also a general desire to strengthen the Collaborative Partnership on Forests (CPF), whose 14 members include FAO, the World Bank, international forest research organizations and the relevant Convention secretariats.

In the event, the gaps between the different positions remained too wide to achieve consensus at UNFF5. For example, many European countries, some Latin (particularly Central) American countries and others (including Canada and China) pressed for the development of a legally binding international framework on forests. But legally binding commitments were unacceptable to others, including most of the Amazon countries and the USA. The question of setting quantified, time-bound, targets led to similar differences of view. Meanwhile, African countries and others, such as India, were clear that they simply cannot sign up to new commitments without being sure that they will have adequate resources for effective implementation.

As always, discussions were influenced by a variety of undercurrents. Without agreement under the auspices of UNFF, the vacuum may be filled by the Convention on Biological Diversity – an outcome that would be welcomed by some, but would cause concern to others. In

addition, countries wanted to avoid any controversy that might have an impact on September's 60th anniversary of the UN, when world leaders will not only discuss progress towards achieving the Millennium Development Goals, but also peace, security, human rights and permanent membership of the Security Council.

Some progress was made at UNFF5. The wording of possible global goals was discussed at length, and there was initial discussion about a possible voluntary code or "international understanding" on sustainable forest management. But time was too short to complete negotiations on such a package. As might be expected, it was in the interests of individual countries to accept lack of progress (or even use filibustering techniques to prevent progress), rather than make concessions that would damage their own interests.

Discussions will continue in February 2006. Progress is likely to depend on striking a delicate balance between national rights of sovereignty and international global responsibilities. Another key to success will lie in resolving questions about the availability of financial resources and other means of implementation, for (as concluded in one of the Secretary-General's reports to UNFF5):

"... the countries that struggle most to secure adequate means of implementation are often those which face the severest challenges in pursuing sustainable forest management..."

UNFF5 was enlivened by a large number of excellent side-events, very good representation from civil society organizations, Ministerial round table discussions on forest landscape restoration and forest law and governance, and a panel discussion on forest issues in Asia and the Pacific. Another highlight was an inspiring address by Nobel Prize winner Wangari Maathai, who marked the occasion by planting a tree in the grounds of the UN.

More information is available on the following websites:

- www.un.org/esa/forests/ – the official UNFF website;
- www.iisd.ca/forestry/unff/unff5/ - the Earth Negotiations Bulletin, with daily summaries of UNFF5;
- www.fao.org/forestry/site/2082/en - the CPF website.

David Henderson-Howat

Association News

Can you help train tomorrow's foresters?

"I am really grateful for the opportunity you gave me. I learned a lot". That was a message I received from a young funded participant at the recent Commonwealth Forestry Conference, but it is something we have all said at some point. We have all benefited from the experience of others, but getting hold of such valuable experience is easier said than done. That's where the CFA can help. Amongst our members we have a unique store of experience from around the world and across forestry disciplines and we need to help how our younger members benefit from it.

This is the idea behind the CFA *Young Forester Award*. This award, which was established in 2004, is designed to give outstanding foresters below the age of 30 hands-on experience for periods of between three- and six-months with a forestry organisation in a country other than their own. Through the placement they will be able to strengthen their skills, learn new ones, and gain a greater understanding of how forests are managed in other countries.

The call for applications in the Award's first year led to

over 30 responses from young foresters in 15 countries, and the first two Awards were made earlier this year (see Commonwealth Forestry News 27, and this issue).

In order to develop this programme we need two things. Firstly, CFA members who will be willing to offer training opportunities to young foresters, and secondly, you guessed it, money. The winners of the Award will receive funds to support their travel to and from the host, plus a small amount to help with day-to-day expenses, but the hosts will be expected to provide low-cost (or no-cost) accommodation, and offer a training experience which will assist the winner's career development.

The *Young Forester Award* is funded completely by donations from members, not membership fees. Is this something you can help with? We realise that this is a big commitment to ask, but we also know that many of you will want to support the training of tomorrow's foresters. Because if you don't, who will?

Next stop Sri Lanka

Courtney Johnson hopes that the skills she has learned contributing to the sustainable management of natural resources in Victoria and the wider community will be put to good use when she begins working with Rainforest Rescue International in Sri Lanka. Courtney is the most recent recipient of the CFA's Young Forester Award and will be heading out to the island for three months later this year. She says "Whilst my professional training is in forest science my interests extend to most spheres of the natural environment. I believe that the multiple benefits derived from forests in



Sri Lanka can be realised through recognition of indigenous knowledge, increased community participation and appropriate long-term planning". Courtney has been involved in conservation efforts previously, but is looking forward to seeing this project through the planning and consultation stages to implementation.

Courtney is currently working as a Research and Development Forester within the Nurseries and Research group of Hancock Victorian Plantations in Australia. Her focus is currently on data collection for the development of volume

and taper equations for the radiata pine estate. Sites are selected throughout Gippsland according to soil type, silviculture, prior land use and elevation. This information will be used to improve yield and growth modelling and

allow more accurate business reporting. She is also involved in trial establishment and maintenance, improving access to past research data and reports, and analysis of previous experimental results.

News from the Secretariat

Advertising

In order to cover some of the production costs a small amount of space will be made available in the Commonwealth

Forestry News to for advertisements. If you would like to place an advertisement please contact cfa@cfa-international.org

CFA Accounts 2004 show improved performance

The accounts for 2004 were presented at the AGM* in February and reported an improved financial status of the Association. *Net incoming* resources were £7 114, which compared to net outgoing resources of £6 331 the previous year. Net current assets were recorded at £14 750, up from £3 927 in 2003.

The full accounts are available for members to view on the

CFA website, in the Members Only section. Those of you without internet access who wish to see the full accounts should contact the Technical Director, Alan Pottinger on 00 44 (0)1865 820935.

* Minutes of the AGM are also available on the website.

It's never too early to think about Christmas

The Association will produce a set of Christmas cards this year and we want you to design them. If you think you have any photos that might be suitable (in digital format only please) then please send them to cfa@cfa-international.org.

Full credit to the photographers will be given on the card and while it might not make you famous you will have the satisfaction of your pictures being seen around the world.

Membership payments for developing country members

We recognise that many developing country members face high transaction costs when making their annual membership payment. In order to reduce these costs the Association is willing to receive membership payments for three years

in advance for any developing country members with a guarantee from the Secretariat that no additional money will be requested even if the subscription increases in the interim.

Death of member

We regret to announce the death of Dr. John Aluma, the former Director of the National Agricultural Research Organization

Uganda who passed away in April. An obituary for Dr Aluma will appear in a future issue of the IFR.

News from National Branches

CFA Strategy presented to Australian foresters

As part of the biennial conference of the Institute of Foresters of Australia held at Mount Gambier between 10th and 14th April the CFA Australian Branch was invited to present its strategy. Bob Newman, CFA Vice President and Regional Coordinator, gave the presentation which was warmly received by the audience of about 70.

Other speakers at the event included Chris Harwood who presented the successes and plans for international research

of CSIRO, and Jerry Vanclay of the University of the Southern Cross at Lismore, N.S.W. and the Chairman of the Australian CFA Branch spoke on experiences with social forestry on an international level.

Rachel Murray, a recent winner of the CFA Young Forester Award, assisted with the presentations by reading the biographies.



A field day at the IFA conference looking at Euc Glob 13/4/05 Mt Gambier area.



Rachel Murray, YFA winner, and Bob Newman, CFA VP take a break from the meeting.

North American CFA Regional Award goes to wood scientist

At a dinner in Vancouver on 27th May sponsored by the Council of Forest Industries and the Coast Forest Products Association, Dr. Phil Evans of the Centre for Advanced Wood Processing was awarded the North American CFA Regional Award. This is the first time that this Award has been made, and is the second major CFA award received by UBC in the last 12 months, with Dr. Gordon Hickey last year receiving the Young Scientist Publication Award for a paper in the International Forestry Review.

The citation for Dr. Evans read:

Professor Philip Evans of the University of British Columbia is being awarded the first-ever North American medal of the Commonwealth Forestry Association. The award is made in recognition of his fundamental and influential contributions to the surface science of wood, as well as his wider contributions to the global advancement of wood science, particularly through training and education.

Professor Evans is one of the world's foremost wood scientists. His research has produced important, original and impressive results in diverse areas including: wood microstructure, novel bio-based composites, wood protection and wood surface photodegradation and stabilization. His identification of the remarkably rapid photodegradation of lignin and cellulose at wood surfaces under natural exposure conditions overturned conventional wisdom that the weathering of wood is a 'slow process', has profound implications for the performance of coating systems on wood, and has been highly influential in stimulating research world-wide into wood surface protection. His own work in this area has



Phil Evans and wife Katrina at the Award dinner

used novel approaches in a wide range of directions including grafting of ultra-violet absorbers to wood surfaces and development of new colourless photostabilisers for wood. Very recently, together with Schmalzl and Forsyth he has uncovered surprising connections between the remarkable ability of chromium to photostabilise wood and the natural diphenquinone photoprotection systems used by plants. His research continues at full pace and promises a solution to the seemingly intractable problem of developing durable clear coating systems for wood.

In his current position of Director of Centre for Advanced Wood Processing at the University of British Columbia and formerly as Reader at The Australian National University he has played a significant role in ensuring the healthy development of wood science world-wide. Under his direction and leadership the Centre for Advanced

Wood Processing at University of British Columbia in Canada has become a model for educational-industry partnerships that institutions in many countries are seeking to emulate, and he is currently assisting several countries to develop educational programs in advanced wood products processing. Very recently he was instrumental in obtaining significant Canadian Government support to assist in the development of new degree programs in South Africa. In collaboration with colleagues at Forest Products Research and Development Institute in Los Bãnos he has given significant technical support to the development of wood-cement composites industry in the Philippines. Evans is a Fellow of the International Academy of Wood Science and a Fellow of the Institute of Wood Science.

Gordon Weetman

Special Feature: Canada

The Canadian Forest Service: facing the new economic reality

By Brian Emmett, Assistant Deputy Minister, Canadian Forest Service, Natural Resources Canada

The Canadian Forest Service, (CFS) is a sector within one of Canada's federal departments - Natural Resources Canada. The CFS has been in existence since the end of the 19th Century providing the science base for sound policy decisions for Canadian citizens, firms and governments.

Under Canada's Constitution, different levels of government have different responsibilities when it comes to the care and governance of the forests. The responsibility for managing forests - and all of Canada's natural resources - rests with the 10 provinces and three territories. They own and manage forests on their crown lands; develop legislation, regulations and policies; allocate timber licences; collect stumpage fees and collect data.

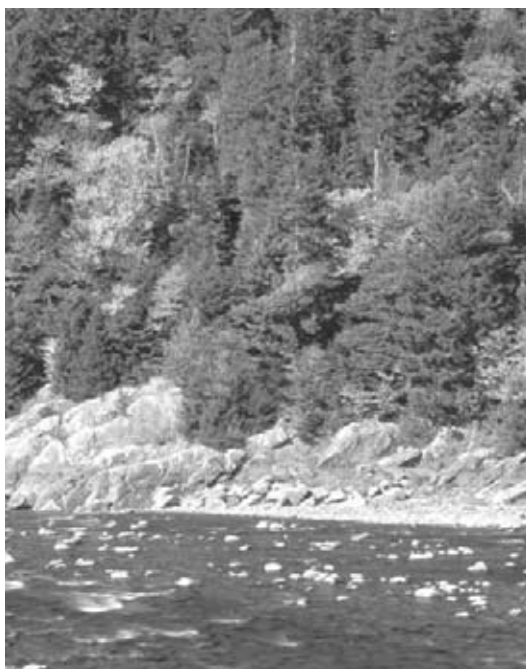
The federal government has responsibility for international trade and relations; building national consensus; Aboriginal affairs; management of federal lands; and national reporting.

Responsibilities shared by the two levels of government include environmental regulations and science and technology. The relationship between the federal government and the provinces and territories is one of coordination, cooperation and partnership.

Traditionally, the CFS has worked diligently to promote and enhance the sustainable development of Canada's forests and the competitiveness of the Canadian forest sector. The CFS has met these responsibilities by developing policy based on leading edge science and technology (S&T), by playing a leadership role in bringing stakeholders together in a common purpose and by representing Canada internationally in bilateral and multilateral discussions and negotiations affecting the forest sector.

But traditional roles can be effective only if they serve as building blocks to the future. That's why the CFS has begun taking steps to harness the many talents of forest sector participants to meet, in a focused, positive way, the challenges of a new economic reality - one in which only those capable of making radical adjustments to their *modus operandi* in order to find new ways to attract today's increasingly volatile and highly mobile capital investment and market share - will survive.

These efforts are aimed at finding solutions to issues that range, to name just a few, from new competitors and an increasingly accessible global wood supply to an increasingly



Big Salmon River, Acadian Region

complex regulatory environment for the industry. As it looks to the future, the CFS is committed to doing what it can to ensure a healthy forest and a strong forest sector for Canada.

Among these initiatives is the Canadian Forest Innovation Council (CFIC). This group constitutes a federal / provincial / territorial partnership with industry, and was established in the fall of 2003 to maximize the innovative capacity of the Canadian forest sector in order to promote industry profitability, environmental quality and community sustainability.

To fulfill this mandate, CFIC works towards influencing the R&D policy of its member organizations by developing a consensus around a national innovation vision and sector goals, mobilizing and aligning capacities to deliver the vision, and championing innovation to increase levels of investment in the sector.

The establishment of a Canadian forest fibre research centre is currently under discussion and has been met with strong support in principle by all members of the CFIC partnership. In general terms such a centre would deal with issues around the quality and availability of wood fibre and, in terms of CFS contributions, would most likely revolve around fibre quality, forest productivity in terms of fibre and forest management decision support systems.

The CFS is also pursuing the development of forest sector clusters to facilitate networking and partnerships among firms, customers, suppliers, and research and training institutions to promote improved R&D performance and to bring innovation to the marketplace. Clustering of like-minded firms, research institutes, academia and other stakeholders is an example of a determination on the part of the forest sector to build on current strengths and avoid duplication of effort.

Internally, to meet existing challenges and to anticipate long-range concerns, the CFS is restructuring along business lines that will remain on the leading edge in addressing the needs of Canada's forest sector.

But that is not to say that all of our endeavours are contained within Canada. The Canadian Fire Danger Rating System, which has been exported and adapted for use in several other countries, is one success that leaps immediately to mind. Each year, many of our researchers work in other parts of the world, transferring technology, sharing their

All photos by J. David Andrews from The Forests of Canada collection by Ken Farr, Natural Resources Canada, Canadian Forest Service/Fitzhenry & Whiteside, 2003

Toutes photos par J. David Andrews, tiré des Forêts du Canada de Ken Farr, Ressources Naturelles Canada, Service Canadien des Forêts /Fitzhenry & Whiteside, 2003

expertise in various aspects of forest management and, most certainly, learning from the experiences of others.

Another current area of interest for the CFS, in partnership with the provinces and territories and with industry and other stakeholders, revolves around the boreal forest and, for this organization, focuses on two key points - the communities within the boreal and the global nature of the issue.

While Canada has only 30 % of the boreal forest that encircles the northern part of the globe, the boreal does comprise about 70% of Canada's forest cover. And, our industry tells us that about half of the harvest comes from there.

It should be noted that about 93% of Canada's forest - 71% provincial; 22% federal - is publicly owned, with about 80% of our harvest coming from public lands. Unquestionably, public ownership has had an important impact on the development of our forest policies. We believe that Canada is a world leader in sustainable forest management - not perfect, of course - but our processes are transparent and open and we stand behind our practices and policies.

In Canada, public ownership means public participation. Canadians have stated clearly that they want maximum environmental, social, and economic benefits from, and for, their forest heritage - and they want to be consulted about forest management decisions.

So public input is extremely important in the decisions that are made for that forest.

But what must be remembered - and seems often to get lost - is that public input on the issue cannot only be limited to cities such as Toronto, Vancouver, New York, Berlin or

London. It must also include the voices of the thousands of people who live in communities within the boreal.

Current discussions that focus on setting aside large areas of the boreal often ignore the opinions and needs of the people who live there.

There are hundreds of long-standing communities in Canada's boreal. The people in these communities - the Aboriginal people who have lived there for thousands of years and the more recent settlers from Europe and other parts of the world who have arrived over the past 500 years - make them what they are.

People live and work in those communities for a variety of reasons, but their aspirations and concerns are as valid as those of people living in other parts of the world, especially in regard to issues that affect their communities.

One of our commitments is to ensure that those people will be heard and we are currently developing options that will assist in this.

The second aspect about the boreal is its global nature. Russia, with its huge boreal endowment, the Scandinavian countries, Alaska and northern Japan all have boreal forests within their boundaries. It is our belief that discussions on the stewardship of the boreal forest should involve all boreal nations. To that end, we have already begun a dialogue with our Russian colleagues to develop areas of cooperation in which we can mutually benefit in terms of managing the boreal forest in a sustainable fashion and we anticipate opening discussions with the other boreal nations in the near future.

Influence of Certification on Forest Activities

By David Tuck, Senior Communications Advisor Canadian Forest Service, Natural Resources Canada

Concern over the health of the world's ecological systems and the responsible development of natural resources has never been more focused. There is no question that the world's forests are critical to our environmental, economic and social well-being. More and more, people are taking a greater interest in knowing that forests are being regenerated, and that biodiversity and wildlife habitats are being maintained and protected. Those who sell forest products want to demonstrate to their customers and the public at large that they are making responsible decisions that are consistent with the principle of sustainable development. At the same time, wholesale buyers around the world are increasingly demanding forest products that are produced in a sustainable manner. Consequently, the use of independent, third party certification for the purpose of demonstrating sustainable forest management (SFM) has increased dramatically in Canada in recent years.

Forest certification, the voluntary process by which planning, procedures, systems and performance of on-the-ground forestry operations are audited by a qualified and independent third party against a predetermined standard, is similar to a financial audit under which a third-party verifies that a company's performance and practices are measured against a set of objective standards. Certification emerged as a



Taxus propagation

response to concerns about forest management practices and calls for select boycotts in the late 1980s.

Forest companies operating in Canada have clearly recognized the shift in market demand towards certification. It's worth noting that this shift is much more noticeable in the European market as compared to North American consumers, however this is changing.

The Forest Products Association of Canada (FPAC) announced in January of 2002 that certification would be a mandatory condition of membership in the organization by the end of 2006. As the representative of companies responsible for about 70 per cent of Canada's managed forests, FPAC's decision has been a significant step forward. Using one of three internationally recognized standards (Forest Stewardship Council, Sustainable Forestry Initiative, and the Canadian Standards Association International), the area of forest certified in Canada tripled from December 2002 to Dec 2004.

As of April 2005, member companies of FPAC have had 104.6 million hectares of forest certified by one of the three systems recognized in Canada. This is an area slightly less than the landmass of Sweden, Norway and Finland combined.

Canada can now boast that it has by far the world's largest area of certified forests and produces more fiber originating from certified forests than any other country. According to

the Canadian Sustainable Forest Management Certification Coalition, this area represents an annual allowable cut of over 91 million m³ and puts Canada in good position to compete for the growing demand for certified forest products.

Well before FPAC took this important step, the Canadian Council of Forest Ministers (CCFM) had started to acknowledge the importance of certification in the marketplace. The Council, made of the provincial, territorial and federal ministers responsible for forests, issued a statement in September of 1998 that committed the Council to working together "to ensure certification systems work within the Canadian context, fit within fair international standards and are not used in foreign markets as discriminatory trade barriers."

Given that 93 per cent of Canada's forest is publicly owned, the significant contribution Canada's forest economy makes to its gross domestic product, and the fact that about one of every 17 jobs in Canada is directly dependent on the forest sector, it's not surprising that governments, like forest companies, are sensitive to shifts in consumer preferences.

Attaching greater importance to certification following their annual meeting two years later, the Council called for accelerated development and implementation of standards in light of the growing market demand. More recently, the provinces of Ontario and New Brunswick have undertaken specific measures to facilitate and promote expanded use of certification in their provinces.

Third-party certification is visibly altering the way forestlands are being managed. The net effect is that variable retention harvesting is replacing more simplified clear cuts, and companies and on-the-ground foresters are making more effort to apply real creativity into harvesting practices. As well, companies are finding that forest certification brings greater consistency and sharing of best practices across jurisdictions in many areas. Certification has also changed the way companies build and maintain relationships with local people and environmental groups, through a better understanding of common interests.

With certification, consumers are assured that the forests' biodiversity, productivity, and ecological processes are respected and maintained. Certification can also act as a tool

to help forest-based communities and society at large enjoy the long term benefits of a healthy forest, and can provide incentives for local populations to sustain the forest resources and commit to long-term management plans.

What are more difficult to pin down are the economic costs and benefits of certification. There is a direct fee for any company applying for certification to cover the cost of the audit and evaluation. For large forest companies this fee is not regarded as prohibitive. So far, the key difference is that while buyers are stepping up their demand for certified forest products, they have not shown a willingness to pay a premium as they have with other environmentally or socially preferred products such as organic foods. Companies have yet to see a direct incremental financial benefit to certification. However, given the potential loss of market access, and by extension revenue and market share, the costs of certification to the industry are outweighed by the potential costs of not being certified.

"Weyerhaeuser has its forests certified not only because some of our customers demand certification of forests and forest products, but because it is the right thing to do," said Sandy McDade, President for Weyerhaeuser in Canada. "Certification ensures that wood and paper products come from well managed forests. And well-managed forests ensure that there will be wood available for future generations. Practicing sustainable forestry is the number one thing we can do to help the forest products industry survive and prosper."

There is little doubt that certification has had, and continues to have a significant impact on the forest sector in Canada. The area of certified managed forest is increasing by the week. Like industry, governments in Canada that manage the forest resources on behalf of citizens, understand that certification is an effective way to enhance the long-term health of the forest. They also understand that certification is quickly becoming a necessary condition of ensuring market access for Canada's forest products. Fortunately, Canada is not dragging its feet. There is broad participation and co-operation across the country for advancing the understanding and practice of sustainable forest management and asserting Canada's place as a progressive forest nation.

Canada's Sustainable Forest Management Network

by Marvin Abugov, SFM Network

"There is nothing in Canada quite like the SFM Network," says Dr. Jim Fyles, the SFM Network's Scientific Director. "The Network is a partnership that works across the country to bring the research and teaching capacity of universities together with the knowledge, expertise, and research needs of forestry companies, provincial, territorial and federal departments, Aboriginal groups, and non-governmental organizations."

The Network's objective is to have all the partners with a significant interest in the Canadian forest around the table to contribute to creating the knowledge required to manage



Flemming Island, Vancouver BC

those forests sustainably. While there are other forest research organizations in Canada, the Network's partnership approach, along with its goal of integrating the ecological, social, and economic dimensions of the country's forest sector, is unique.

The Sustainable Forest Management Network, hosted by the University of Alberta, is one of Canada's 20 Networks of Centres of Excellence. The goal of this federally sponsored program is to connect multidisciplinary teams of university-based researchers

with private and public sector partners in key areas of Canada's economy. The view is to engage these interested parties to

address research issues that will allow advancement of the country toward sustainable long-term development.

“At the national level, SFM Network research is about engaging organizations and developing partnerships with forest companies, provincial, territorial and federal governments, Aboriginal communities, and others to develop research questions and find answers that meet partner needs and address their priorities,” says Fyles. The Network’s goals are to generate new knowledge that is peer-reviewed and published in recognized scientific journals, and through the conduct of scholarly research, to find answers to management questions of mutual concern to the user community. Presently, the Network is conducting research in nine research areas:

- Natural Disturbance Management
- Innovative Zoning
- Integrated Resource Management
- Policy and Institutional Analysis
- Value Added/Alternative Products
- Ecological Criteria and Indicators
- Water and Wetlands
- Sustainable Aboriginal Communities
- Social and Economic Criteria and Indicators

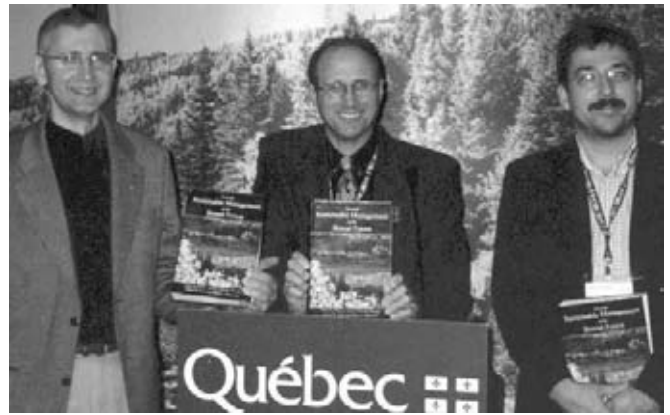
“The public needs to be aware of new developments in forest research because they have a significant influence on forest management policy. We have created web-based audio programming discussing key topics about sustainable forest management. These programs are accessible to anyone with a computer audio player, making it very easy for the public to learn about what we are doing,” says Fyles.

Presently, there are more than 40 audio interviews with Network researchers and partners as originally broadcast on CKUA radio throughout the Province of Alberta, Canada. These broadcasts also include transcripts. (See end of article web link.)

Essentially, the SFM Network leverages research success on two fronts at the same time. Depending on the needs of each project, the partners receive:

- Access to a team of 379 researchers and highly qualified personnel located at 35 universities and public sector facilities across the country.
- Access to new knowledge in a variety of accessible formats including specialized publications and workshops through the Network’s Knowledge Exchange and Technology Extension (KETE) initiative.

“At the moment, we are beginning to publish a series of papers that synthesize over 300 research reports, previously



(l to r) Dr. Vic Adamowicz, Dr. Phil Burton, Dr. Christian Messier celebrate the launch of *Towards Sustainable Forest Management of the Boreal Forest* at the 12th World Forestry Congress, Québec City, Québec, Canada. (Sept. 2003) (The fourth author, Dr. Daniel Smith was not able to attend the launch.)

completed by the SFM Network, in approximately 16 topic areas,” says Fyles. From these synthesis documents, shorter research notes are also being created to help busy forest managers access the research results that can influence the decisions they have to make on a daily basis.

The SFM Network in 2003 published a 1,000 page book in partnership with Canada’s NRC Research Press entitled: *Towards Sustainable Management of the Boreal Forest* edited by Dr. Philip J. Burton, Dr. Christian Messier, Dr. Daniel L. Smith and Dr. Wiktor L. Adamowicz. The book can be ordered from the NRC Research Press at this web address: http://pubs.nrc-cnrc.gc.ca/cgi-bin/rp/rp2_book_e?mlist1_556

SFM Network Links

Research website: <http://www.ualberta.ca/sfm/>

Web-based audio programmes:

<http://www.innovationalberta.com/theme.php?themeid=2>

Dr. Jim Fyles is the Scientific Director, Sustainable Forest Management Network, hosted by the University of Alberta, Edmonton, Alberta, Canada. He is also Professor, and the George and Frances Tomlinson Chair in Forest Ecology, McGill University, Montréal, Québec, Canada. He lives in Montréal.

Marvin Abugov is Communications Manager, SFM Network, Edmonton, Alberta, Canada. (E-mail: mabugov@ualberta.ca)

Science in the Canadian Forest Service

By Tom Douglas

Much soul-searching has been going on in the Science and Programs Branch of the Canadian Forest Service (CFS) over the last year, says Geoff Munro, SPB Director General.

“It’s part of the restructuring of the CFS business lines to remain on the leading edge in addressing the needs of today’s forest sector in Canada,” says Munro. “And, while the new business lines were being developed for the CFS as a whole, we, in the Science and Programs Branch took a long look at what we do to make sure we’re maintaining our three pillars

of success – quality, relevancy and impact.”

The DG suggests that quality is an area where the branch hasn’t much to worry about, other than maintaining it.

“The track record of CFS Science – and that science is carried out across the country in six regional laboratories -- is very impressive in terms of world-wide reputation,” he says. “We’re well-published in highly respected international journals and that’s the classic measure of scientific quality. So the other two are where you say: ‘Okay, how relevant is the



CFS National Tree Seed Centre, New Brunswick

work we're doing and what kind of an impact are we making?"

Munro adds that the timing of this introspection was ideal since the entire Canadian Forest Service was asking similar questions in line with a shift to the new agenda comprised of business lines focusing on **Industry Competitiveness, Forest Sustainability, Community, Climate Change** and the **International** scene.

"We've put all our work – policy, program and science – into a new construct," says Munro. "The hallmarks of this shift to the new business line structure from the science perspective are the three pillars I mentioned, but we also had to ensure that the forest service is truly integrated and that we're not operating in an S&T silo."

"This all sounds a bit bureaucratic and, of course, we are a bureaucracy," he adds. "But the goal is ruthlessly pragmatic: to be a more agile organization; more driven by priorities; more responsive to the needs of our clients and citizens. These are not cosmetic changes. They are basically how we link what we think with what we do."

He suggests there is a policy context for the science his branch is doing since "...we're helping to feed the policy agenda and ensure that policy decisions are based in part on world-class, sound science."

Munro says that the Sustainability business line is the one that most relates in an S&T context. "We've developed four strategic objective statements and there's a whole collection of S&T activities that feeds each of the four."

These strategic objectives are to:

- Define healthy forests and measure how Canada's forests rate;
- Identify the threats to healthy forests;
- Develop strategies to manage and/or mitigate these threats; and
- Raise the economic and social value of Canada's forests through enhanced forest resource productivity while maintaining healthy forests.

"Defining healthy forests and measuring how Canada's forests rate has a lot to do with the science that supports the Criteria and Indicators initiative," says Munro. "We're looking for the classic canary in the coal mine scenario. If you have an indicator of some kind that is going south on you, what does that mean? You need to have science that can tell you that Indicator 'X' truly does mean Ecosystem Threat 'Y'."

"So there's a whole range of science that goes on around

the basic ecosystem processes that allows us to be able to not only define healthy forests but then translate that into a measurement of how Canada's forests relate."

The DG points out that there is a side benefit in all this: "A lot of the science that supports indicators also supports the business of certification – which feeds the Industrial Competitiveness business line. Canada has the largest area of certified forests in the world and the Forest Products Association of Canada (FPAC) is making certification a membership criterion."

As for identifying threats to healthy forests, Munro says they come in two large categories: natural threats and anthropogenic (man-caused) threats.

"With natural threats, we have a bit of an oxymoron because some things that disturb the forest are the things that drive its evolution," he says. "We're talking here of such things as insects, disease and lightning fires."

As for man-caused threats to the forest, the most obvious one is carelessly lit fires – but what's receiving much attention these days in Canada is alien invasive species.

"Two things are going on here that are of concern and, again, part of the science is to understand the relationship," he says. "One is the globalization of trade – nowadays products literally go around the world and they pick up hitch-hikers. It might be nothing more than a wooden pallet supporting an incoming product but if there's something in that wood, you have a route to allow invasive species into this country."

"Marry that with a warmer climate and you may have insects coming from parts of the world where they would not normally survive in a Canadian winter and are now surviving."

Munro says this is a good example of how the business lines overlap or complement each other: "In this case, you're looking at the sustainability of the forest from the perspective of a threat as well as the question of International Trade and Climate Change. So a piece of science in fact can be driven by the policy context of more than one business line."

The DG points out that the obvious corollary to identifying threats is developing the strategies to manage or mitigate them.

"That runs the full gamut from helping the Canadian Border Services Agency with diagnostic tools so they know what they're looking for to having a top ten list of potential invaders – a most-wanted list but in this case it's most wanted elsewhere and least wanted here."

Munro says there is a great need to understand host/pest interaction: "If you do get an insect here – or a disease for that matter – that is able to survive in our climate, what's it going to do to our trees? You have to understand that and then what the spread rate would be as well as whether there's a weak point in the life cycle that we can interrupt somehow through a control technique or a control strategy, and so on."

He adds that the final objective under Forest Sustainability – raising the economic and social value of the forests through enhanced production while maintaining healthy forests – speaks to a societal shift over the last 20 years.

"Previously, the forest was just out there," says the DG, "These days there are very real values in that forest that people want whether they actually use them or not. They want to know that the forests are healthy, that there are natural areas set aside, that there are buffer zones around waterways, that our First Nations people have sufficient areas for traditional usage and their spiritual needs."

The upshot of all this, says Munro, is that there has been a gradual reduction in the amount of forest land available for commercial use.

“So what we’re looking at in terms of enhanced forest production are ways to get the same level of fibre available on a shrinking land base and determining what else we can get from the forest – such as Non-Timber Forest Products.”

One very important such product is derived from the yew tree. Called “taxol”, it’s a substance extracted from the tree and used in the fight against cancer.

“So what we have here is a pharmaceutical product being drawn from Canadian forests,” says Munro. “Obviously we want to be able to harvest the yew in a way that is sustainable for future generations to derive the same benefits.”

Under the Climate Change business line, the Science and Programs branch is trying to understand what a given level of change will mean to the forests and therefore what needs to be done about it – in other words, impacts and adaptation.

“Whether we have to plant different species, adopt different fire protection regimes or insect/disease management regimes or whether we have to come up with different silviculture techniques, these are things we have to take under consideration,” says Munro. “The other big one is honouring our international obligations as a Kyoto signatory. The question for Canada is whether our forests are in or out of the count when it comes to calculating the sources of carbon and other greenhouse gases. Are our forests a source or are they a sink – a repository of carbon?”

Under the International business line, in addition to the certification issue, science plays a role in positioning Canada as a socially and environmentally responsible forest nation, says Munro.

“If someone comes in and takes a look at Canada from an international view and says: ‘Okay, you’ve got a big forest – some 400 million hectares – and you’re using less than half of one percent a year commercially. It seems healthy. What kind of research and development (R&D) are you doing?’ If the answer is nothing or very little, you’re going to be looked at over the rim of their spectacles and faced with the question: ‘What kind of an operation are you running?’

“If you do say: ‘Yes, we have a solid R&D program that has high quality, is relevant to the agenda of the country and is definitely having an impact’ well that’s the minimally accepted criteria for having a sustainable forest program.”

Munro adds that a further component of the International business line is using science to support Canada’s international agenda.

“It might be helping a Third World country develop its economy and society by sustainable use of its resources or helping them solve a specific problem such as the fire hazards faced by Russia or China’s forest renewal,” he says. “We have a component of that built into our program as well – a lot of which has to do with using the existing science that we have ongoing for our own use that is relevant to that country.”

As for the Industrial Competitiveness business line, Munro refers back to the overlap involving Criteria and Indicators and Certification, adding that S&T in this area is more in the form of financial assistance and co-operative expertise involving Canada’s three large forest institutes: The Forest Engineering Research Institute of Canada (FERIC), Canada’s national wood products research institute, (Forintek) and the Pulp & Paper Research Institute of Canada (PAPRICAN).

Munro points out that the Communities business line makes use of all three sciences – social, economic and ecological – to help communities either maintain the status

quo or go through a transition as the forest industry itself changes.

“If a one-mill town is going to lose its mill because of industrial consolidation or other changes taking place in the industry, the social and economic sciences become critical when you look at such things as the level of dependence on that industry and what will happen to the town. Can you replace the mill with something like a pharmaceutical plant or remote tourism or the harvesting of non-timber forest products?”

Another area the Science and Programs Branch gets into under the Communities business line is an investment in the Aboriginal participation in Canada’s forest sector.

“Our role there is largely enhancing their own capacity to take on forest-related projects,” says Munro, “whether it’s support to their business development capacity or technical education. We work closely with them as they take on silvicultural contracts. There are a number of places in the country now where they are actually taking licenses for areas of forests under provincial jurisdiction.”

The Communities business line also calls upon the CFS science component when it comes to the issue of natural disasters.

“As our communities expand and you have what we call an urban/rural interface, you get situations like Kelowna BC two years ago where a naturally occurring wildfire encroaches on the urban sprawl into a forested area,” says Munro. “How can we develop an understanding of fire behaviour in that kind of situation and what do we need to do to fireproof those communities to the degree we’re able to.

“Should we be building those communities with different configurations than a classic subdivision? Should we be having major fire breaks around them? Should we be installing roof sprinklers – and will that do any good when you have a wildfire like you had in Kelowna roaring down the mountainside?”

Another aspect of using science to counter natural disasters involves insect infestation and disease: “What’s going to happen to a community in Northern BC that depends on a mill when all the pine that it’s used for decades is gone as a result of the mountain pine beetle? Are there other ways to use that pine once it’s been killed? How long can it stay usable on the stump? What are alternate uses if the conventional uses are no longer appropriate?”

Munro’s branch is also involved in helping to support a strong urban forest.

“We are trying, for instance, both to understand and quantify the energy savings in an energy-hungry world that can accrue if urban forests are planted and used correctly,” he says. “If you have an evergreen tree on the windward side of your house and it helps to mitigate winter wind, you end up not having to turn the furnace up as much. Or if you have a major shade tree on the sunny side of your house in the summertime, you don’t need the air conditioner as much.”

The DG points out that Canadian pioneers knew these things intuitively – or from hard experience – and built their homes accordingly but this knowledge got lost with the advent of huge subdivisions.

“We’re bringing that kind of logic back and quantifying it so that we can say explicitly that an investment in an urban forest translates into ‘X’ in terms of the pocketbook from an energy perspective and ‘Y’ in terms of the benefits to other natural habitats, whether it be small critters and birds or even the water table.”

Profiles

Ron Ayling

Regional Coordinator: Americas

How important is forestry in Canada these days?

This is such a big country - professions like forestry, mining, agriculture and other 'land-based' professions are not on the scope of the average Canadian (who is urbanized). But regardless, forestry is there - in the background, a pillar of our economy, one of the largest export earners, a source of employment for hundreds of thousands, the mainstay of many small, northern communities. Canadians expect forests to be there when they need them.

So, does this mean that Canada is still producing as many graduate foresters as in the past?

Canada has eight universities and some twenty-seven technical schools that offer degree or diploma programs in forestry. But enrolment is down. Not everywhere but overall. We are not producing the number of graduates that we need or will need for the future. Again, I think this relates in part to our increasing urbanization. Most kids have limited exposure to forests and forestry. For example, Boy Scouts and camping in the summer brought me to forestry, but even Scouts has changed for today's youth. Another example, the Ontario government once had a very successful Junior Ranger program that provided a summer's experience in forestry to young men and women across the province and many went on to forestry careers. This was dropped in some budget cut. For high school students today, high-tech jobs, large salaries and big city living are attractive. And yet, a career in forestry in Canada no longer means isolation in a remote northern community. We have come a long way from bush camps and fire towers. The profession offers great opportunities to do so many different things. The best I can say to describe a career in forestry is that it can be "satisfying". If there is an answer to all this, it might be that we have to get a better message out about the diversity and quality of life of the profession.

What impact has this lack of graduates had on the management of Canada's forests?

Good forest management involves a network of people and is more than just foresters - economists, biologists, business graduates, sociologists, engineers, people with a variety of backgrounds. But I think that a degree in forestry is the only one that provides a broad overview of everything that is or should be involved in good, responsible forest management. As a forester, of course I would like to see more people with forestry backgrounds play a leading role in forest management.

Are Aboriginal communities involved in forest management?

There has been marked increase in Aboriginal participation in forest management in many areas across the country,



probably starting about the mid-1990s. This is because of a concerted effort by provincial and federal governments, universities and colleges, and organizations like the Canadian Institute of Forestry/Institute forestier du Canada to create opportunities for training, employment and partnerships with First Nations peoples. Most First Nations communities live in forested areas and depend on forest resources; recognizing this and the close relationship and expertise many Aboriginal people have with forests led to an awareness that much more needed to be done to involve them in sustainable forest management. Aboriginal forestry organizations are assisted through partnerships in managing and operating reserve forests - silviculture, harvesting and processing. Through these partnerships

with industry, government agencies and groups like the Sustainable Forest Management Network, employment and economic opportunities are being created. There is also a real effort at several universities and colleges to develop Aboriginal forestry programs and research, and attract First Nations youth become foresters and forest technicians. There are not many university/ college trained Aboriginals at the moment; I think I recall an estimate of just over 80. This number will grow if we can focus on promoting the profession to young highschool students and somehow help them stay in school to graduate.

What would you say are the main challenges facing forestry in Canada in the next 10 years?

Canadian forest industries will continue to be successful in an increasingly competitive world because they are progressive and responsive to change. For the most part, they carry out, support and implement innovative research, and often take the lead in forming dynamic partnerships with governments, non-governmental agencies, universities, Aboriginal communities and others. As a profession, we need to strengthen these partnerships and networks to ensure forestry is widely understood and supported across the country. We must continue to work on and promote those areas that we do well, such as our efforts on sustainable forest management. The unique governance approach to forest resource management illustrated through the model forest program also deserves more support provincially as well as internationally. Organizations such as the Canadian Institute of Forestry, the professional forestry associations, industry and others need to work together to re-think how we promote forestry as a 'career of choice' to young Canadians, and to the general public. And above all, I think we need to actively and effectively discover ways to promote the importance of the forestry sector to our politicians, provincial as well as federal - not just its importance but what our needs are and how they can support us.

Reports from meetings

Forest Landscape Restoration

Forest landscape restoration (FLR) is a relatively new concept, which was originally defined at a workshop organised by WWF and IUCN held in Segovia, Spain in July 2002 as: a planned process that aims to regain ecological integrity and enhance human well-being in deforested or degraded forest landscapes. Foresters, especially at the international level, will increasingly talk of FLR, or sometimes forest restoration, in the future. It may supplant Sustainable Forest Management as a concept, in being easier to understand, wider in scale and specifically focussed on action.

Key features of FLR include:

- a focus on goods and services and processes rather than trees or simplistic definitions of forests;
- the linking of local action to a broader landscape level;
- the recognition of, and attempt to balance, land-use trade-offs;
- the provision of a multi-sectoral approach;
- a participatory decision-making process extended to all interest groups

There is, however, no “one size fits all” model

A number of potential benefits of FLR have been identified:

- contribution to rural poverty alleviation;
- increased rural commercial resilience and viability,
- improved ecosystem services,
- opportunities for payments for ecosystem services
- increased resilience to climate and other environmental changes,
- greater habitat connectivity, and
- enhanced conservation of biological diversity

In particular, FLR is seen as a means for delivering on internationally agreed commitments on forests, biological diversity, climate change and desertification. It can also be an important way of contributing to the Millennium Development Goals related to poverty reduction and environmental sustainability. FLR is a local mechanism that should be linked to and integrated with national level development processes, such as poverty reduction strategies

The concept has been promoted by the Global Partnership on FLR, which was developed to identify and reinforce a network of diverse forest landscape restoration examples that deliver benefits to local communities, fulfill international commitments on forests, and help manage forests for the ecological health of landscapes. Since its creation in March 2003, the Global Partnership has organized and supported over 11 national and regional workshops on FLR. In addition, the ITTO brought its series of restoration workshops under the umbrella of the Partnership, as did the FAO with its initiative on LFCC. The Global Partnership currently has more than 20 partners and sponsors. More information can be found at <http://www.unep-wcmc.org/forest/restoration/globalpartnership/>

These consultations organised by the Global Partnership in 2003 and 2004 formed the background to a global Forest Landscape Restoration Implementation Workshop, held in

Petrópolis, Brazil, from April 4-8 2005. The meeting was organised by members of the Global Partnership on Forest Landscape Restoration in collaboration with Brazilian host institutions. Co-organizers included the UK Department for International Development (DFID), the Forestry Commission of Great Britain, the International Tropical Timber Organization, USA Department of State, USA Department of Agriculture Forest Service, Japan Wood Products Trade Office, WWF - International, and State Secretariat for Economic Affairs of Switzerland (SECO). More than 100 participants representing local, provincial and national governments, international and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and the private sector, attended the workshop, which had the objectives of finding ways to increase understanding of good practices and opportunities in FLR activities, stimulating their political support, and catalyzing and demonstrating their implementation around the world.

One of the main outputs of the Workshop was the Petropolis Challenge. It notes the record of FLR in restoring key goods and services in degraded or deforested lands to improve livelihoods; calls for new members to join the Global Partnership on FLR; and calls on the international community to restore forest landscapes to benefit people and nature and contribute to reversing trends of forest loss and degradation. The Brazilian and UK governments will present the Challenge and the report of the Workshop to the Fifth Session of the United Nations Forum on Forests and to the High-level [Ministerial] Section in New York, 16-27 May 2005. in May. The report of the workshop will also be forwarded to UNFF-5, which will convene from 16-27 May 2005, in New York, US. The report can be found at http://www.iucn.org/info_and_news/press/flr-workshop-bulletin-2005-04.pdf

The organisers asked me to prepare a summary of the preparatory workshops that had been held before the Petrópolis meeting, so I had a good introduction to FLR. My impression of the workshop was of the very high quality of the papers, both the lead papers on the main themes of the workshop, and the case studies that illustrated the themes, as well as the lively discussions. I thought that the meeting clarified:

- the landscape concept, distinct from and beyond the site and more extensive and more complex than had been thought.
- the need for planning even at a simple level, for sustainability and the protection of investment
- the necessity for an adaptive approach, which allows the adjustment of objectives and strategies in the course of the work
- the importance of process, which can be as important as the outcome
- that approaches to FLR are not different from those for other natural resource management so existing toolkits, structures etc. can be used. There are new issues but the approaches are not different from those of existing challenges
- the need for a participatory approach and the long list of those potentially involved, directly and indirectly,

upstream and downstream. It was noted that it was not always easy to implement a truly participatory approach

In discussing the benefits of FLR it was noted that there was:

- Need to strengthen the capacity of disadvantaged communities or stakeholders
- In the short term, cash flow was the key point for farmers, even if there were sustainable benefits in the long-term
- There was little economic return in restoration, and thus there was need for economic alternatives
- The debate concerning native vs exotic species was continued, with the choice favouring the use of native species – but remembering the need for short-term cash flow

The critical need for reliable, current data for decision-making was apparent, and a number of interesting new tools to help in data-gathering, especially for stakeholder analysis.

They included:

1. Computer modelling for exploring trade-offs. University of Queensland, Australia.
2. FAO National Forest Assessment.
3. ITTO Restoration Manual.
4. Ranking Landscapes for FLR Implementation. WWF Madagascar
5. The Forest Restoration Information Service (FRIS - IUCN) and other Web-based Tools including Global Forest Information Service (GFIS) developed by IUFRO and the Global Land Cover Facility, University of Maryland.

In discussing investment opportunities, innovative financing, and policy incentives, I noted that new market mechanisms, a mixture of public and private, are emerging to pay for ecosystem services, such as carbon sequestration or storage, watershed management, landscape values or salinity control.

Jim Ball

(rapporteur to the Workshop)

Eucalypts for farmers in Tanzania

In February a two-day workshop in Dar-es-Salaam focused on the value of eucalypts for farmers and smallholders in Tanzania. It sought to raise awareness not so much because of the controversy that has long surrounded eucalypts and their water consumption, but on ways this valuable genus, when rightly used, can benefit small farmers.

The workshop was run by TAFORI, Tanzania's Forest Research Institute, in association with the Tree Biotechnology project supported by the Gatsby Trust, a part of the David Sainsbury Charitable Foundation. The project seeks to harness modern breeding strategies, using technology developed in South Africa, to benefit small farmers and growers.

Participants came from five Commonwealth countries viz. all parts of Tanzania, from neighbouring Kenya and Uganda, from South Africa and from United Kingdom. There was both Government and media interest, the latter more curious than censorious.

Several conclusions emerged which can best be summarised by saying that eucalypts are no different from other widely grown species: in the right place they offer very great benefits, in the wrong place, such as adjacent to someone else's valuable food crops, their vigorous growth can bring conflict.

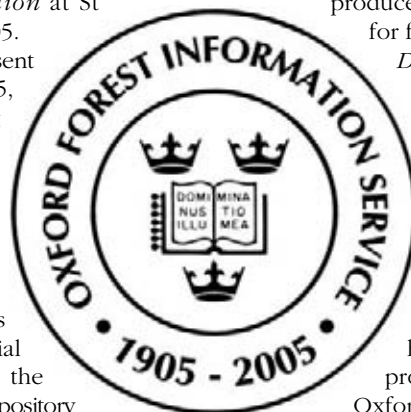
Julian Evans

Forest scenes

100 years of forest information from Oxford

Oxford Forest Information Service (OFIS) celebrates its centenary this year, marking the occasion with an international conference *Frontiers in Forest Information* at St Anne's College, Oxford, 5-7 December 2005.

The forestry collection on which the present service is based first came to Oxford in 1905, transferred from the Royal Indian Engineering College, Coopers Hill, Windsor, by Sir William Schlich, who became the first head of the new Oxford University School of Forestry. The School continued to train foresters for the Indian Forest Service and in 1924 was supplemented by the newly-created Imperial Forestry Institute as a central training facility for the UK Imperial Forestry Service. The library served both the School and the Institute, becoming a central repository for the increasing quantity of forestry reports being produced across the Empire, and under the guidance of Prof R.S. Troup took on the task of documenting them in its



Current Monthly Record of Forestry Literature. Troup chaired the FAO/IUFRO Joint Bibliographical Committee, which produced the first specialised classification scheme for forestry, later to become the *Oxford System of Decimal Classification for Forestry (ODC)*, published by CABI in 1953, and was instrumental in the University's decision to invite Imperial Agricultural Bureaux (now CAB International) to set up a Forestry Bureau in Oxford and take over production of the *Current Monthly Record*. The result was *Forestry Abstracts*, first published in 1939 and now on the web and CD-ROM as *Forest Science Database*, containing over half a million abstracts of forestry and forest products literature, most of which is held at Oxford.

Today the forestry collections are managed by Oxford University Library Services, which operates Oxford Forest Information Service (www.plantlib.ox.ac.uk/forestry)

in conjunction with several partners, including CABI (www.cabi.org), the resource discovery gateway BIOME (www.biome.ac.uk), for which it provides forestry content, and the developing Global Forest Information Service, GFIS (www.gfis.net), as an information provider, and as a member of the IUFRO Task Force which developed the original concept. Now a CPF initiative managed as a partnership including FAO, CIFOR and IUFRO, GFIS seeks to provide ready access to a wide variety of resource types through a simple web-based user interface, improving availability of forest-related information for a variety of stake-holders. GFIS is now moving into a production phase, with database hosting by FAO; the new version will be demonstrated at the IUFRO Congress in Brisbane in August 2005, and over the coming years many more information providers are expected to make their data sources known through providing metadata to GFIS (contact gfis_coordinator@iufro.org for further details).

OFIS provides full document delivery services for copies of items in its collections (subject to copyright limitations), and began producing microfilm versions of journal back runs and other materials in 1964. Microfilms are still available, but supplemented now by digitized electronic versions which will be available world-wide on the web within the new *Oxford Digital Library for Forestry*, launching later in 2005. Initial content will include the complete archive of the *International Forestry Review* and its predecessors, from 2000 back to 1922, and complete sets of Oxford Forestry Institute publications (see www.odl.ox.ac.uk).

The original FAO/IUFRO Joint Bibliographical Committee, set up almost a century ago in 1908, eventually became IUFRO working group 6.03.00, Information Services and Knowledge Organization, which over the past five years has concentrated on developing forestry information networks. Together with CABI, Oxford University Library Services, and INASP, the Oxford-based *International Network for the Availability of Scientific Publications* (www.inasp.org.uk), it is organising the OFIS Centenary Conference, which will review the need for and uses of forest information today, the opportunities offered by new technologies and new publishing patterns, the this challenges for developing countries, and Oxford's role in the coming century as it continues to serve a global market in a networked age. Booking for the



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Roger Mills
Manager, Oxford Forest Information Service
roger.mills@ouls.ox.ac.uk

Can forestry really deliver poverty reduction?

After more than 40 years on forestry in Third World countries, may I offer a word of caution on the capacity of 'Forestry' to reduce poverty?

That is, we must keep things in proportion, especially because it is very difficult for all of us who have an assured income to really appreciate what it must be like to live in abject poverty, whether we work on local-salaried posts in a nation's capital, or in an international donor agency, or as an overseas Consultant, or travel on the international Workshops' circuit, or whatever. Yes, of course forestry has the potential to reduce poverty, but the word is 'reduce' not 'eliminate'. The ability of sustainable forestry to generate a new income of as little as \$1 per day can make a substantial contribution to a person's life if that person is living on less than a dollar-a-day at present (rather than at , say, UK's guaranteed minimum wage of \$9/hr!). However the real issue is how to develop one's livelihood out of absolute poverty with, in this stated case, an extra \$1 per day, bringing one's income closer to \$2 per day.

All this is not to say that, for example, NTFPs and traditional

medicines are not important, or that sustaining an assured supply of household firewood is not vital to people in impoverished Third World communities, or that people should not control the natural resources upon which they alone are dependent and be able to sell such resources in order to obtain an income, or run private nurseries, or anything like that. Initially, in these matters of 'poverty' it is certainly the case that the person simply has too little income – and 'forestry' can improve incomes and local well-being. However, over the slightly longer term, the definitive question is how, or even whether, a person can continue to develop their livelihood using forestry. Furthermore, we should consider whether the government of each particular Third World country can earn enough from forestry to help significantly to develop and operate even its basic social services.

In all this, I might also add that it is often ignored that there are two elements to poverty: that a person has too little money to obtain basic necessities; and that things, especially basic necessities, cost too much for the money that a person, or a Nation, has. There are few methods in this era of global

trade to address the second element, but it is where we of the First World may be most responsible for Third World salaries. Suppose that we want every child to have primary school education, but the country has to pay for books and school materials, let alone owning and operating computers! Even if these things were to be provided, for ever, at cost prices, it is usually at or near to our First World cost process. The same goes for supplying and maintaining piped water supplies....etc. Forestry is important, but let us not exaggerate its long-term potential for reducing poverty, and its potential for helping in

national economic development. Using forestry to increase one's income from the oft-stated 'less than a dollar a day' to \$2 a day is marvellous, but it does nothing for increasing one's capital for sustained economic development. Most forestry activities cannot address poverty globally. If an extra dollar per day is considered by the 'poverty' standards of our richer industrialised countries of this globalised world, it is nothing more than, say, your abandonment of our coffee that you let go cold in the bottom part of the your third or so cup.

DAVID MAY

UK paper industry finds voice

CPI Background

In the mid 1990s, as a direct response to the UK Government's call for fewer, better resourced, professionally - run trade associations, a number of organisations including The Paper Federation of Great Britain, the British Recovered Paper Association, the Corrugated Packaging Association, and The Association of Makers of Soft Tissue Papers established a strategy group to discuss and determine how the industry could use its collective resources effectively to gain maximum impact. These deliberations led to the formation of the Confederation of Paper Industries (CPI) which was launched in January 2000 as an 'association of associations'.

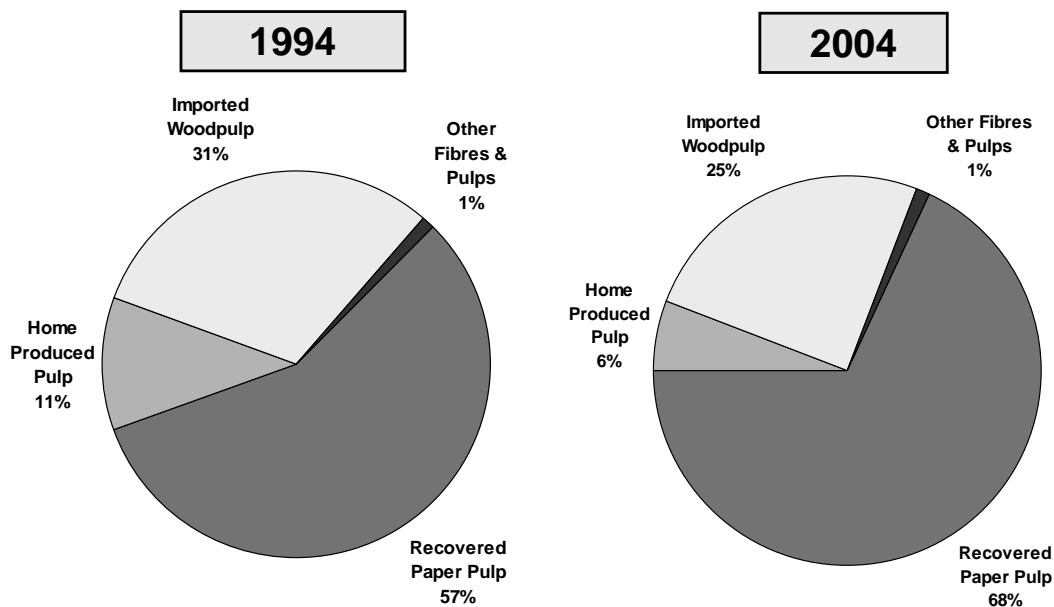
In January 2004, CPI moved to direct company membership when its association members relinquished their individual identities in favour of the new look CPI. To ensure sector

specific issues were suitably addressed, four sector bodies were established in corrugated packaging, papermaking, recovered paper collection and tissue manufacturing, each managed by its own Sector Body Manager.

CPI has now reached its objective being the authoritative voice acting on behalf of the paper industries. It is now firmly established in the eyes of Government, and the organisations it seeks to influence, as the authoritative voice of the paper industry.

Raw Materials Usage

The UK has the sixth largest paper market in the world (12.7 million tonnes) and the second largest in Europe. In 2004 6.2 million tonnes of paper were produced in the UK and 7.7 million tonnes were imported.



Fibrous Raw Materials Used in UK Papermaking - % Usage

Source: Confederation of Paper Industries Ltd

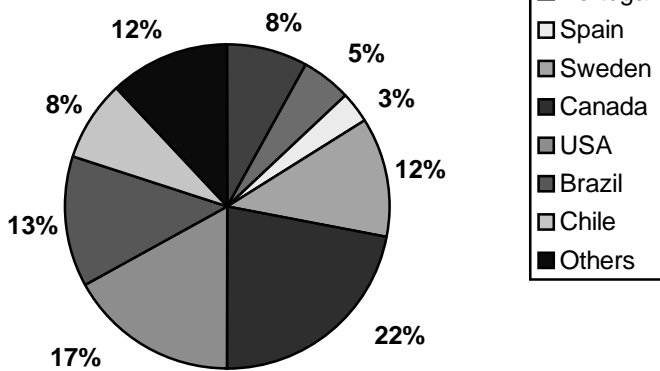
Only 11% of its land based is forested, compared with 68% in Sweden, 27% in France and 31% in Germany. However the UK does have a lot of people – over 57 million of them and consequently used paper, collected for recycling, now represents over 60% of the fibre used by the UK paper industry. This is called the “urban forest”.

In 2004 4.6 million tonnes of recovered paper were used and a further 1.3 million tonnes were exported, mainly to China. The UK is now the largest exporter of recovered paper

in Europe and it is predicted that recovered paper exports will top 3 million tonnes by 2010.

Collection is being driven by European legislation, for example the European Directive on Packaging and Packaging Waste, domestic initiatives such as the Government's Waste Strategy, which has set material collection and recycling targets for local authorities, and Producer Responsibility agreements.

Countries sending woodpulp to the UK
Source: Confederation of Paper Industries Ltd



Professor Thomas Lindhqvist, a Swedish professor of environmental economics, has been credited with inventing the phrase “extended producer responsibility” early in the 1990s. Professor Lindhqvist’s intent was to increase the responsibility of producers by making them accountable for the environmental impacts of their products, through their entire life cycle. Throughout the 1990s a range of policies and initiatives emerged based on this concept.

In April 2000, the UK newspaper publishers and British newsprint manufacturers agreed with Government staged

targets for the recycled fibre content, of newspapers consumed in the UK, culminating in a 70% content by 2006.

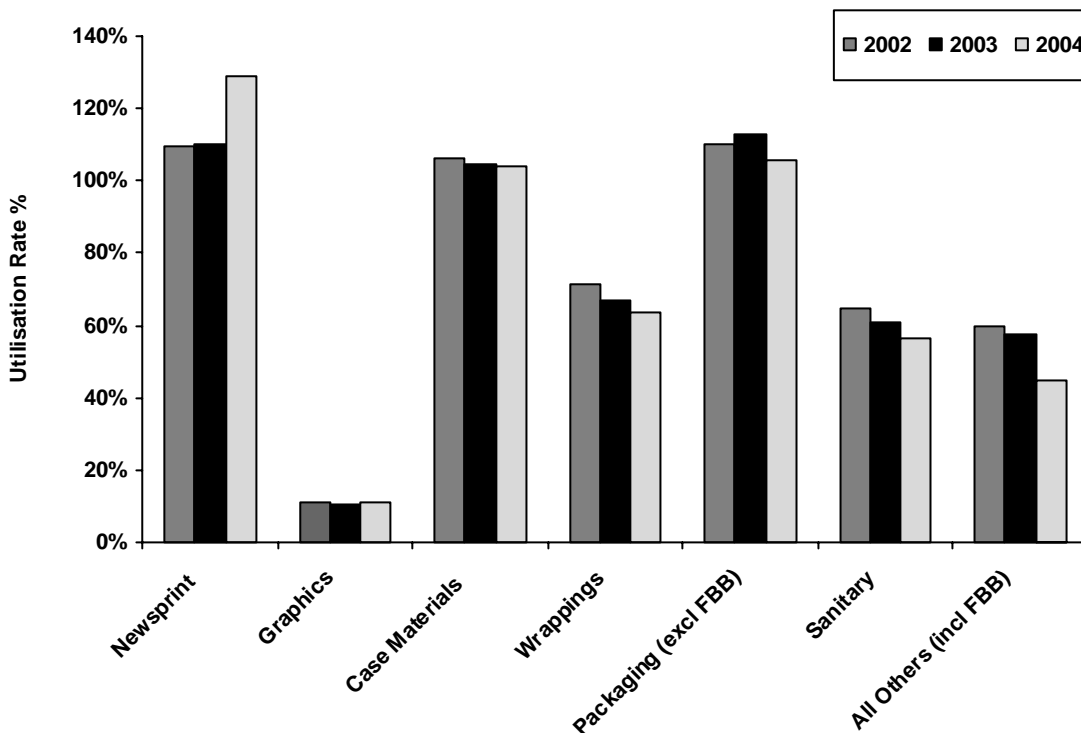
Similar agreements have been reached with the direct marketing and magazine publishing sectors. Producers of direct marketing material have agreed to collect for recycling over 50% of their publications by 2015. The targets agreed with magazine publishers have not yet been published.

The UK paper industry has used recovered paper for well over 100 years, although it did not become the dominant raw material until 1981. At that time imported woodpulp accounted for 43% of the raw material used to produce UK paper and board. As the development of deinking and other recycling technology progressed so did the growth in the use of recovered fibre. The UK papermaking industry now uses more recovered paper per tonne of production than most of the other major papermaking countries in Europe.

There are now only three papermills in the UK which make paper directly from trees that are grown in the UK and between them they used 350,000 tonnes of domestically produced woodpulp in 2004. A further 1.44 million tonnes were imported...

Recovered paper is not used to the same degree in all papermaking sectors. For example newsprint and corrugated case material manufacture is now totally recovered fibre based. The tissue manufacturing sector also uses a substantial amount, but a very low percentage is utilised in the printings and writings and speciality grades.

Recovered Paper Usage by Papermaking Sector



Note: Usage by sector of over 100% reflects the fact that the fibre content of recovered paper is approximately 85% of dry weight

Source: Confederation of Paper Industries

Paper cannot be recycled indefinitely; the cellulose fibres get weaker with every cycle and need to be constantly replaced. Virgin woodpulp is therefore an integral part of the papermaking chain.

Responsible Sourcing

In the 1990s, forest certification emerged as a way to validate claims of well-managed forestry sources by providing independent third party assessment of management practices.

CPI is committed to forest certification as a way of demonstrating that the woodpulp it uses comes from well managed forests;

The UK paper industry's overriding vision is to become, and be acknowledged as, one of the world's first truly sustainable industries. With its reliance on renewable woodpulp as its primary raw material and its ability to recycle a large percentage of its products it is uniquely placed to achieve this vision.

To contact CPI

For more information about CPI, please contact Director of

External Affairs, Kathy Bradley, on 07889 441402 or email kabradley@paper.org.uk. Alternatively, please visit www.paper.org.uk for further information regarding the paper industry.

If you would like more details about becoming a Member of CPI, please contact Des Fogerty, Company Secretary in the first instance on 01793 889621, or email dfogerty@paper.org.uk.



Kathy Bradley,
Director of External Affairs, CPI

Student notes

Frequently asked questions

One of the unfortunate side-effects of being a forestry student is that when a stranger asks the dreaded question "so what do *you* do?", there is sometimes the risk that one will be dragged into a question-and-answer session longer than the entire *Lord of the Rings* trilogy. After a while, being asked for advice on what to do with over-grown *Leylandii* (call a tree surgeon!), or under-performing apple trees (speak to a horticulturist!) can get a little tiring, and can those people who assume that you are in training to be either a tree-hugging anti-roads protester, or paradoxically, (in the words of one interrogator) a "tree-murdering axeman". Those who can remember the complete lyrics of Monty Python's Lumberjack song have the potential to cause even more trouble!

More seriously, a comment made by one recent acquaintance did indicate a real cause for concern. She told me that, though she had initially been keen to study forestry, she had decided to study zoology instead, fearing that it would be difficult for a woman to pursue a career in what she assumed

would be a male-dominated industry. I don't feel particularly qualified to make much comment on that issue, but I will say that regardless of the validity or otherwise of such a perception, I find it deeply disturbing that such fears continue to dissuade talented and enthusiastic individuals from engaging with forestry.

Teaching staff at my own university recently asked me what I, as a student, perceived to be the key challenges for the future of forestry education. Mindful of my acquaintance's comment, and of all the other times when (intelligent) people have assumed I'm either studying tree surgery or advanced level wood-chopping, the obvious answer seemed to be the need to address the impact of such perceptions. If we are serious about attracting new talent into forestry, then we need to take public perceptions seriously, rather than sticking our heads in the sand like ostriches.

Andrew Heaver

Around the world

The shape of things to come?

The Highland Forestry Forum, which advises Forestry Commission Scotland on local issues in the Highlands and Islands, the most remote parts of the UK, has pledged its backing for efforts to promote the use of more Scotland-grown timber, especially in the house-building industry.

Chairman Ian Ross said, "There are already some existing examples of good building practice based on home-grown timber, but there is a very real need to increase awareness of the exciting opportunities that greater and more creative use of Scottish timber can offer. "Scottish timber is a locally

sourced, renewable material that provides a diverse range of opportunities in terms of innovative, striking appearance and ease of future maintenance. It also has the added benefit of generating important rural and wider economic development spin-offs. This is very much sustainability in action."

In volume terms, Scotland is almost self-sufficient in timber, producing and using about 5 million tonnes a year.

Source: GB Forestry Commission

Officials fear spread of 'Sudden Oak Death'

Plant lovers in the South of California are being asked to watch their camellias, rhododendrons and other ornamentals for signs of Sudden Oak Death, a fungal disease that has already killed thousands of trees on the West Coast.

Mark Stanley, chairman of the California Oak Mortality

Task Force, said the disease was discovered in Germany and has now turned up in 12 countries, including England, Belgium, Poland, Spain and British Columbia.

U.S. Forest Service officials say the disease -- which shows up with spots on leaves and dead twigs -- was carried to the

region in ornamentals shipped last year from nurseries in California and Oregon. The ornamentals serve as hosts and wind-borne spores can infect nearby oaks, which often die within two years.

The fear is that the fungus could have the same effect on oaks in Eastern states as the chestnut blight did in the early

1900s. Spread by a fungus from Asia, chestnut blight virtually wiped out one of the East's major tree species within 50 years.

Source: www.ctv.ca

Ice Age forest due for spruce up

A £2.2m project to restore a forest that was left behind after the last Ice Age is due to be launched amongst the 58 woodlands of Atlantic oak in Meirionnydd, Wales, which are home to more than 1,000 native species of flora. They were once part of the forest on the Atlantic coasts stretching from northern Scotland to Portugal.

More than 4,000 acres of the woodlands will be looked after in a project aimed at restoring some of the character first created 14,000 years ago. The woodlands are considered to be some of the best areas of Atlantic oak woodland in Europe and have been designated as candidate Special Areas of Conservation because they are endangered or vulnerable.

Lea Hughes, Education Ranger for The Meirionnydd Oakwoods Habitat Management Project, said: "If you just take a minute and look around, you'll just see that there are hundreds and hundreds of different species.

"There are prehistoric plants here. All these mosses and

lichens are basically prototype plants and the first plants to develop after the last ice age.

"We're really lucky that we have them here to look at today."

Half the money for the four-year habitat scheme is from European Objective One funding schemes. The rest of the money has been raised by the woodlands' public and private landowners and the bodies supporting the scheme. Partner organisations include the Forestry Commission, the Countryside Council for Wales, Flintshire Woodlands, the Woodland Trust, Ffestiniog Railway, the National Trust and Snowdonia National Park Authority.

The work, to promote the importance of the woodlands to the local community, their visitors, the economy and the environment, should support the equivalent of 72 full-time jobs.

Source: news.bbc.co.uk

Northern lights: financial incentives destroy Siberia's forests

In a two-page article headlined *Fiddling while Siberia burns* the UK *Independent* newspaper of 31st May 2005 reported 'Russia's pristine forests are being destroyed by global warming and loggers' greed – and ill-equipped firefighters are powerless to act'. It continued 'Twenty years ago forest fires destroyed about two million hectares of Siberian forests....Last year 22 million hectares (about half the size of France) were lost'.

While this trend is explained to some extent by

increasingly dry summers a major cause is due to deliberate arson caused by unscrupulous loggers capitalizing on a legal loophole. Logging licences for forests that are burned are cheaper than those for unburned forests so fires are started and allowed to destroy undergrowth without significantly damaging timber crops. Wood is then sold, mainly to China, and loggers move on to new areas.

Source: *Independent newspaper*

New rule could open roadless forest areas

Democrats and environmentalists line up against Bush plan as the last 58.5 million acres of untouched national forests, which President Clinton had set aside for protection, were opened to possible logging, mining and other commercial uses by the Bush administration.

New rules from the U.S. Forest Service cover some of the most pristine federal land in 38 states and Puerto Rico. Ninety-seven percent of it is in 12 states: Alaska, Arizona, California, Colorado, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, Oregon, Utah, Washington and Wyoming. Governors can submit petitions within 18 months to stop road building on some of the 34.3 million acres where it would now be permitted, or request that new forest management plans be written to allow the construction on some of the other 24.2 million acres.

Some officials made it clear much of the land will remain untouched. "We have no plans to build roads in the roadless areas of the national forests in California. ... Areas are roadless here for a reason," said Matt Mathes, a regional spokesman for the Forest Service in the state. Agriculture Secretary Mike Johanns said his agency, which includes the Forest Service,

would work closely with governors "to meet the needs of our local communities while protecting and restoring the health and natural beauty of our national forests."

Democrats questioned why governors were getting so much power over land use. "Trees, wildlife and fish don't respect state boundaries, and I don't think decisions about management of roadless areas -- or other parts of the national forests -- should be based on those lines, either," said Rep. Mark Udall of Colorado. "The Bush administration's decision to gut the 'roadless rule' is a gift to special interests and a blow to the environment," said Sen. Hillary Clinton of New York in a press release.

Eight days before leaving office in 2001, President Clinton acted to take decisions about roadless forest land away from local federal managers. Environmentalists said the managers often were too close to logging companies and other developers. "Any short-term economic gain that would result from turning over these areas to corporate special interests is significantly outweighed by the economic benefit of keeping them intact," said Steve Smith, the Wilderness Society's assistant regional director for Utah, Arizona, Colorado and

New Mexico. "This takes us straight back to the early 1990s, when the national forests were managed as nothing more than tree lots for the timber industry," said Philip Clapp, president of the National Environmental Trust.

The Forest Service will have final say over the governors' petitions. But the agency is creating an advisory committee to help put the rule in place. The agency said petitions from the

states could be based on requests to protect public health and safety; reduce wildfire risks; conserve wildlife habitat; maintain dams, utilities or other public works; or ensure that people have road access to their private property.

Source: www.cnn.com

Borneo a 'hotbed' of new species

Over 360 new species have been discovered in Borneo over the last decade, highlighting the great need for conservation in the area, the WWF says. Previously unseen insects, frogs, fish, lizards and snakes have made themselves known to science for the first time. And a new report suggests thousands more species remain undiscovered. However, these newly introduced and yet-to-be-uncovered species are also under threat, WWF claims, because Borneo's forests are being cleared.

"Borneo is undoubtedly one of the most important centres for wildlife in the world," said Tess Robertson, head of the forests programme at WWF-UK. "It is one of the only two places on Earth where orang-utans, elephants and rhinos can be found."

Apart from the famous orang-utan, Borneo is home to other threatened species such as the clouded leopard, the sun bear and the Bornean gibbon. Amongst the 361 new species discovered since 1994 are a catfish and a giant cockroach, believed to be the largest in the world. Other species include 260 insects, 50 plants, 30 freshwater fish, seven frogs, six lizards, five crabs, two snakes and a toad.

WWF's report, Borneo's Lost World, suggests that a panoply of species may yet be found, especially in the largest and most pristine forests in the heart of the island, which is

relatively inaccessible. However, these species, along with their better known compatriots, have an uncertain future because of the timber, rubber, palm oil and paper trades.

Since 1996, deforestation in the whole of Indonesia has increased to an average of two million hectares per year - an area about half the size of the Netherlands.

The WWF claims that logging is set to rise because of the country's growing population and the soaring demands of international markets. According to the report, the illegal trade in exotic animals is also on the rise, as logging trails and cleared forest open access to more remote areas.

The WWF says it is working with Brunei, Indonesia and Malaysia on a new initiative to conserve the area known as the "Heart of Borneo" - a total of 220,000 sq km of equatorial rainforest - through a network of protected areas and sustainably managed forest. "The forests of Borneo are crucial not just for the protection of wildlife but also to safeguard water resources necessary for the prosperity of the island," said Ms Robertson. "Losing the heart of Borneo would be an unacceptable tragedy not only for Borneo, but for all of Asia, and the rest of the globe. It really is now or never."

Source: news.bbc.co.uk

International Forestry Students' Symposium 2005

Forestry students from the University of Melbourne and the Australian National University are proud to present the 33rd International Forestry Students' Symposium, Australia, 14-28th August 2005.

The IFSS acts concurrently as the annual meeting of the general assembly of the International Forestry Students' Association. IFSA is a voluntarily run, non-profit, non-governmental student organisation whose primary goal is to enrich the formal education of forestry students around the world through extra-curricular activities, dissemination of information, networking, and opportunities to participate in local and international events. IFSA provides a platform for students to access global forestry and allows students to become well-informed in their field. One of IFSA's current projects is to act as the official voice of Youth and Children at the United Nations Forum on Forests (UNFF) with 25 IFSA students recently visiting New York to represent their countries at the UNFF5. For further information on IFSA visit the website www.ifsa.net.

Over the last decade the traditional role of Australian Foresters has evolved from that of being timber managers to managing Australian forests for a myriad of different values and uses. Previously timber and economic viability were the most common values placed on a forest, but a changing social



conscience now warrants that we also give due recognition to the many other benefits forests provide to people.

For forest managers, managing forests to meet the needs of people both now and in the future is increasingly seen as the ultimate goal. In doing this, a balance must be maintained between various forest uses and values that at times are in direct contrast to each other. By exploring some of these issues during the IFSS 2005, it is hoped that participants - future forest managers from around the world - will develop a deeper understanding of the

broad range of values people place on forests. It is hoped that this knowledge will assist them in making more informed management decisions when faced with such issues.

The IFSS 2005 also provides the opportunity to showcase Australia's unique forests to around 100 forestry students coming from about 50 countries across 6 continents and will provide a forum to discuss a number of local and national issues facing the Australian forestry industry.

The theme of the symposium provides the scope to cover such issues as:

- water catchment management and salinity issues
- land restoration
- indigenous forest management and spiritual values

- community forest management
- native forest timber harvesting
- private forests and plantations
- national parks
- fire management
- technical advances in the forest industry
- ecotourism and cultural values
- farm forestry, and
- public awareness and education

In discussing these topics we hope to give balanced and accurate reviews incorporating the social, political, environmental, economic and scientific aspects of each issue.

The IFSS will begin in iconic Sydney followed by four days in Canberra where students will be introduced to forestry in Australia. A series of workshops and seminars will be held and the participants will be exposed to some areas recovering from bushfires in 2003 as well learning about the current issues facing the Murray Darling Basin. A day and night at the Aboriginal Darnhya Centre on the Murray River will give a special first hand insight into Indigenous Forest Management as well as providing a unique cultural experience for all the participants. The School of Forestry in Creswick will host three days including field trips to see farm forestry, plantations, processing technology and community forestry initiatives.

Tasmania has been the centre of recent political controversy in forest management and will provide some interesting field trips to the giant *Eucalyptus regnans* forests as well as observing coupe management, timber processing and export facilities of some of the companies working in the industry. The symposium will conclude finally in Melbourne.

The costs of running the symposium are met by sponsorship from the industry, government and NGOs. We are currently still seeking sponsorship and donations to meet these costs. If you are interested in becoming a sponsor of this important event please email Emma Leslie ifss-info@unimelb.edu.au.

Australia has recognised the need to implement more sustainable forest management and is at the forefront of nations working towards this goal and addressing some of the associated issues. We relish the opportunity to invite international students to take a closer look at Australian forests and forestry, while at the same time raising the profile of Australian foresters and their role in "maintaining a balance" within our own country. For more information on the IFSS 2005 Australia, visit the official website www.forestry.unimelb.edu.au/ifss05/

Emma Leslie

Wollemi Pine: ancient tree produces offspring

The Wollemi Pine, *Wollemia nobilis*, was discovered in 1994 somewhere west of Sydney, Australia. There are less than 100 individuals, and the exact location of the site is still a secret. Previously the genus had been known only from fossil records.

Now some plants have been bred and a few have been distributed to major botanic gardens, such as Kew and Edinburgh. I visited the one at Kew shortly after it was planted

out. From what one can see of the sapling, behind a heavy security fence, it looks rather like an Araucaria. And I was pleased to find out that from late 2005 you will be able to buy your own Wollemi pine and help directly fund its conservation. You can find out more at www.wollemipine.com or www.kew.org

Jim Ball

Kenya's Forest Cover Dwindling Fast, New Study Shows

Kenya faces a major wood shortage because plantation forests are not regenerating fast enough. According to a World Bank-sponsored study, the shortage might continue up to 2015 unless its arrested.

Though conditions for plantation forestry in Kenya are superb, regeneration had been poor leading to in a declining and aging forest. The study was done by Mr Roger Sedjo, a World Bank consultant, whose report says forests in Kenya:

- Provide a permanent flow of wood for products;
- Generate a permanent flow of revenue for the Government;
- Provide an alternative to the import of forest products.

The poor forest regeneration has led to a serious shortage of industrial timber.

The study also says poor choice of species was another major problem. These species are suitable for many areas but take time to mature and have reduced financial returns. To minimise the crisis, the report recommends the introduction of fast-growing trees like eucalyptus.

Kenya's forests cover is 1.7 million hectares. Of these, 160 thousand ha is plantation forest. The research says the acreage of plantation forest is down to 120 thousand ha due to population pressure. "Given the high population density and low income levels in much of the plantation region, local pressures on some of the plantation lands in the form of encroachment are often severe," it adds.

Source: allafrica.com

Balance of tourism and ecology threatened in Costa Rica

More than most other destinations, the small, peaceful Central American nation of Costa Rica has built its travel reputation on protecting rain forests, volcanoes and gorgeous nature preserves. Yet a controversy over one of its premier rain forests -- mountainous Monteverde in the north -- shows how difficult it can be to balance the desire for tourism with

a regard for ecology.

Nearly 5,000 feet high and 4 miles east of Santa Elena, Monteverde's main claim to fame is its unspoiled Cloud Forest Reserve. Literally in the clouds much of the time, its humidity gives rise to towering flora and diverse fauna such as sloths, howler monkeys and the quetzal, a blue-green bird

once famously worshiped by ancient Mesoamerican cultures. Growing up around this natural phenomenon is a relatively low-key tourism industry of small inns and hotels, restaurants and attractions such as a coffee plantation, cheese factory, rafting and the famous "canopy tours, on which you zip over the treetops on steel cables or walk among them on hanging bridges. These are run by locals, some foreign expatriates and descendants of American Quakers who moved here in the 1950s.

A gentlemen's agreement to keep such growth in balance with nature is being endangered by a group of entrepreneurial local farmers who, in late 2004, asked for permission to drain

an unprecedented amount of precious water from the local reservoir -- far more than needed for irrigation.

The suspicion that they are a front for a large resort is bolstered by the fact that their environmental-impact report proved full of inconsistencies. With both the community and nation now on alert, the danger seems to be receding, but it is not yet past. Residents are appealing for support from within Costa Rica and internationally. The incident demonstrates how "sustainable tourism" is not always so easy to sustain in the face of greed and shortsightedness.

Source: <http://sfgate.com>

EU peacekeepers combat Bosnian illegal logging

European peacekeepers in Bosnia are trying to clamp down on illegal loggers who are costing the Bosnian economy around US\$100m every year. Wood and wood products are the single biggest export from Bosnia, 43% of which is covered in forest.

The collapse of the former Yugoslavia brought an end to any regulatory system and now the forestry industry is riddled with corruption from top to bottom. Apart from the loss of revenue, there is environmental damage such as soil

erosion and the risk of fire from sawdust dumped by illegal loggers. Now peacekeepers are using helicopters with advance surveillance equipment to track illegal loggers, and random road checkpoints have been put in place. And it is hoped the action may have a dual effect as the gangs involved in illegal logging are often also involved in the harbouring and protection of indicted war criminals.

Source: www.ttjonline.com

Amazon destruction accelerating

The Amazon rainforest is being destroyed at near record levels, according to new figures released by the Brazilian government. The environment ministry said 26,000 sq km of forest were chopped down in the 12 months prior to August 2004. The figure is the second highest on record, 6% higher than the previous 12 months.

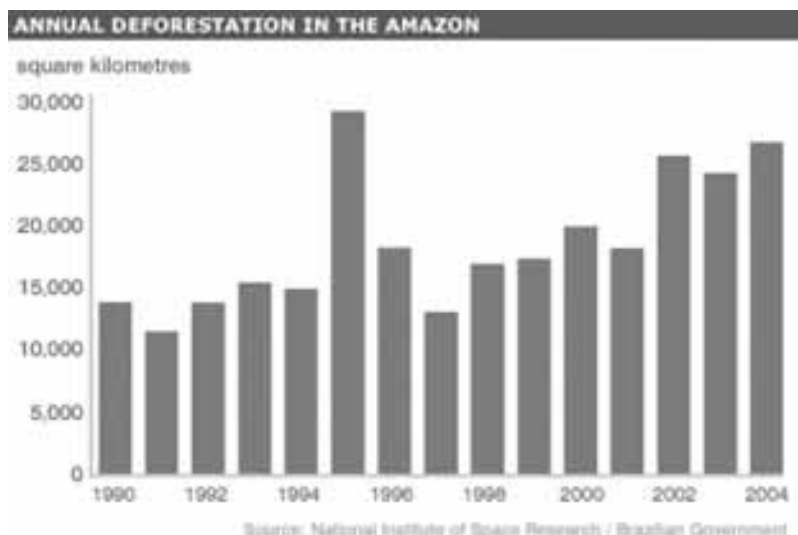
Deforestation was worst in the state of Mato Grosso where vast swathes of land have been cleared to grow crops. The loss of 26,000 sq km means almost a fifth of the entire Amazon has now been cleared. On this occasion, just under half of the deforestation occurred in Mato Grosso, where trees have been replaced with soya fields.

Last year, exports of soya, mostly to China and Europe,

propelled Brazil to a record trade surplus. But campaigners say exports are being put ahead of the environment. In a statement, Greenpeace called the governor of Mato Grosso the "king of deforestation". He himself is one of the world's largest soya producers.

Responding to the figures, the government points out that it has increased satellite surveillance of threatened areas and created some of the largest environmental reserves in Brazilian history; but so far there is little to show for it.

The broader fear among environmentalists is that a shrinking Amazon will soon become a net polluter of greenhouse gases such as carbon dioxide as its absorbing properties are reduced and more and more felled trees are burned.



Source: news.bbco.uk

Bugoma Forest Burnt Down By Herdsmen

The dry spell, which hit in December 2004, has drastically affected Bugoma forest, one of Uganda's large forests. Hundreds of herdsmen fled their homes in search of water and pasture and took refuge in Bugoma. A number of hills were burnt down. The streams flowing through the forest are toxic because of the chemicals used in spraying the cattle.

These herdsmen violated the quarantine, the district imposed in Hoima district since September 2004 against the movement of cattle, after the outbreak of foot and mouth disease. Most of them moved from Kiboga and entered the forest through Buhimba, Kiziranfumbi and Kabwoya sub-counties. The National Forest Authority (NFA) officials were not aware of these intruders until a rumour spread that residents had seen rebels in the forest.

"They have been there for over two months, without our knowledge. I was surprised to be implicated by security that

I was training rebels in Bugoma. When the security people carried out an operation in the forest, there was no trace of rebels, but only herdsmen," said Reuben Arinaitwe, an NFA officer, in charge of Bugoma and Budongo forests. "There have 40,000 cattle and they have burnt down a large portion of Bugoma to get young grass for their cattle."

There may not be any rebels in this forest, although some residents insist they have seen some people clad in army uniform patrolling the forest. "Some of the herdsmen were brought at night, escorted by armed people in army uniform. Even today, we see some of them with these cattle keepers grazing in the forest. I cannot tell if they are rebels or not," said a resident of Nsozi trading centre in Kabwoya sub-county.

Source: allafrica.com

You say Forestry, I say Terra da floresta

International forestry faces an over-abundance of definitions and a shortage of clear information about differences of use among languages and regions. The International Union of Forest Research Organizations (IUFRO) has been addressing both these issues. In particular, we are aware that users of scientific and technical vocabulary (e.g., scientists, wood and forestry professionals, students, politicians, journalists, translators) may benefit from expert assistance on how particular terms and definitions are used locally.

If you are willing to provide such assistance, in any language, please download form and become a member of the online Directory of Experts. This Directory is supported

by IUFRO and maintained by the Swiss Federal Institute for Forest, Snow and Landscape Research WSL

<http://hermes.wsl.ch/didado/lterpw.searchftrms>.

The form can also be downloaded from

<http://www.wsl.ch/forest/risks/iufro/yourname.pdf>.

The use of the Directory is free and open to anyone in and outside the forestry and forest research circles. Users select the relevant experts by searching a database by languages and fields of expertise. They ask their questions by email, fax or phone directly to the experts. Feedback from either user or expert to the database manager is welcome as it may be used in IUFRO's terminology database SilvaTerm.

China plants GM trees

Chinese scientists and Greenpeace are at odds about the impact of genetically engineered poplar trees on the environment. Experts at the Chinese Academy of Forestry say transgenic poplars have been tested thoroughly and should pose no threat in the dry and arid conditions of northern China. However, Greenpeace China says the trees pose an unpredictable threat, with their pollen possibly travelling great distances and spreading to unmodified poplars.

Two modified poplars, Poplar-12 and Poplar-741, have been planted since commercialisation of the trees was approved in 2002. About 200ha of Poplar-12, which has been genetically altered to resist insect attack, have so far been planted, while only 3ha of Poplar-741 are currently being grown.

Source: www.tjonline.com

Atlantic Coast rainforest flooding

On 22 March environmentalists staged a protest against the Barra Grande dam, Brazil, which will destroy 5,600 ha of highly endangered Atlantic Coast primary araucaria pine forests. The forest once covered the entire coastline of Brazil but has now lost at least 93 per cent of its original cover. Investigations by Brazil's environmental protection agency, IBAMA, now reveals that the clearing of the primary forest

had been omitted in the project's impact assessment. Based on this report, the federal government authorised the construction of the dam. Activists fighting the destruction of the area condemned this "logic of the done deal" in using fraudulent-studies to license the project.

Source: Forest Watch www.fern.org

Publications

Root to Canopy: Regenerating forests through community-state partnerships

Editors: Bahuguna, V.K., Capistrano, D., Mitra, K., and Saigal, S.

This impressive 320-page book is the result of a very fruitful partnership between the CFA (India) and Winrock International, India. Under the broad title “Participatory Forestry in India” it represents the combined work, not only of its eminent editors but also of a great team of prominent experts who bring together countless years of experience of “JFM” – Joint Forest Management.

What is the special importance of this book at this time? How does it fit into the national and international context? As S. Shyam Sunder, CFA chairman for South Asia puts it in his introductory Message, Joint Forest Management is a tool, rather than an end in itself, for addressing Forests as a national asset. We are, in my view, at a crucial point in the history of forests in the world – forests are still seen as a national asset and caring for them is now rightly seen as virtually impossible without the involvement of the people – the “stakeholders”. But where does the concern for forests lie? Most obviously perhaps, in the international forums that draw up the agreements to which national governments sign up and certainly in the national forest departments and concerned ministries that have the responsibility of “National Forest Authority” In a modern democracy power – authority – should ultimately feed through the elected representatives of the people. And even today power over forests dates back to pre-democratic times when the state, “Crown” or ruler was the primary owner. It was the rulers’ concerns for forests that led to the creation of state forest services in central Europe, which created the reserved forests under state control which are now the norm in India and most of the rest of the world. It is JFM that attempts to bridge the gap between those with the power, the Forest Authority which has the overall responsibility to the elected leaders to keep the nation’s forests in good shape and those without power who nonetheless depend on the forests for their lives and who de facto manage them.

The famous British politician Tony Benn has pointed out that all in power should be asked:

- What power have you got?
- From where did you get that power?

- In whose interests do you exercise that power?
- To whom are you accountable?
- How can you be got rid of?

Some of these questions are asked here and JFM in its many forms provides some of the answers. But as we have seen, JFM, is a means to an end, which is the impossible goal of being all things to all people; it is about the balance (and imbalance) of power and there is plenty of controversy in this excellent book – which I earnestly hope will not end up merely on a shelf. The controversies which it describes must be addressed and the collective wisdom in this book raises a myriad of vital questions together with many of the answers, though certainly not all.

Perhaps in a very brief overview a mention of a few of the questions will tempt the reader to try to obtain a copy

How to change the mindset of foresters and what sort of training do they need? How to define “success” of a managed forest under JFM – and how can the participants in the process monitor this success? How to prioritise forests for JFM – those ecologically rich or those that are degraded? How can local “indigenous” understanding be blended with scientific knowledge for the benefit of both forest and people? – when most of the people are desperate for cash income? Can total responsibility ever be devolved entirely to local communities so that they become the “Forest Authority”?

Here is a most important book which every thinking forester should read, if not own – but how many will have the opportunity? It is one of the major roles of the Commonwealth Forestry Association in its global and national context to bring to the profession the latest in scientific, managerial and political thinking about trees and forests and this splendid example for CFA India is a credit to all concerned. There is great teamwork here, from Winrock International who provided much of the funding, from the CFA India members who devoted so much of their time to the preparation, from the NGOs who brought their very special experiences to the debate, from the officials and from the superb editing group. If you have not seen it I urge everyone to try to get their hands on a copy.

Peter Wood



COMMONWEALTH FORESTRY ASSOCIATION

"To promote the well-being of the world's forests and those who benefit from them"

CFA Membership Application Form

Please note that membership is for a calendar year not for 12 months from the time of joining (e.g. Someone joining in October would receive the journal and newsletter for March, June and September of that year when they joined. They would then be entitled to receive the December journal and newsletter when they were published).

Title: Address:

First name:
 Family name:

Phone no: Postcode/Zipcode:

Fax no: Country:

E-mail:

Annual subscriptions (in GBP)

Membership category (*circle as appropriate*)

Category	Cost (£)	Membership benefits			
		Membership of CFA	CFN (HC)	IFR (HC)	IFR online
Student	10	✓	✓		✓
Student plus	25	✓	✓	✓	✓
Developing country	10	✓	✓		✓
Developing country plus	25	✓	✓	✓	✓
Ordinary	50	✓	✓		✓
Ordinary plus	65	✓	✓	✓	✓
Family	75	✓	✓	✓	✓
Institutional member	180	✓	✓	✓	✓
Institutional subscriber	180*		✓	✓	✓

* If ordered through a subscription agent the subscription fee is £153 (£180 less 15% agency discount).

HC= hard copy

Payment method

cheque
(payable to "Commonwealth Forestry Association")

credit card - VISA / MASTERCARD

Name on card:

Card Number:

Expiry Date: /

Send to Commonwealth Forestry Association
 2 Webbs Barn Cottage
 Witney Road
 Kingston Bagpuize
 Abingdon, Oxon
 OX13 5AN
 UK

Tel: +44 (0)1865 820935
 Fax: +44 (0)870 0116645
 E-mail: membership@cfa-international.org