

PRSSS

Pacific Regional Society of Soil Science

PRSSS Executive

- **President:** Natasha Smyth
- **Vice President:** François Teste
- **Secretary:** Liz Freyman
- **Treasurer:** Susan Ames
- **Newsletter Editor:** Vikki Blouin
- **Director:** Andy Jakoy, Kristi Hromadnik

In this issue:

President's Message	1
Fall Field Trip Summary	2
Upcoming Events	3
Call for abstracts, Scholarship Proposal	4
Upcoming Workshop	5

Pacific Regional Society of Soil Science

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President's Message

The PRSSS Executive is now actively in the midst of planning our Spring workshop, currently scheduled to be held March 20 at UBC. The general theme will be related to what's happening in research. The workshop will feature a combination of presentations from professionals working in the field to grad students. The focus of the workshop will be to explore what is happening at the fore front of soil sciences, what is upcoming and hot! For this year, we are planning on having a limited number of t-shirts available on a first come first serve basis, so all of you that were looking for a unique PRSSS souvenir. . .

In the fall of 2003, we had a successful field trip to the Squamish Valley, Howe Sound Corridor and TFL #38. The trip was lead by fearless leader, Andy Jakoy and had several interesting stops along the way from Coast Intrusives at Caulfield Cove to the afternoon in TFL #38. We had beautiful weather and a great mix of members and new faces that spiced up the areas of interest. Please see Andy's field trip summary, included in this newsletter.

We are currently in the process of setting up our very own website. We are in the stages of designing it as well as learning to maintain it and hope this information can retained in future Executives to keep our site updated. Check out our progress at www.prsss.ca. Although the sight is currently under construction, we expect to have it completed by the end of June. Please share your comments and feedback with the executive at the upcoming workshop.

Another project underway is establishing a scholarship fund. We are still in the process of sorting out the details, but hoping to set something up, that will be supported by the bookstore fund. Further discussions on this topic will likely be held at this year's AGM, during the workshop.

We look forward to seeing many of you out at our annual workshop. On behalf of the PRSSS Executive I'd like to welcome any comments or concerns. Please drop us an email at prsss@vcn.bc.ca.

Natasha Smyth
 President

Fall Field Trip, 2003

By Andy Jakoy

During our 2003 Annual General Meeting we decided that we would restrict our field trips to day long ventures. This was a practical decision, because it generated a moderate interest among the local members and on the morning of September 27th, 12 enthusiasts departed from the Park Royal Shopping Centre in a rented van, for a day long trip, Stu being our fearless driver. Remember?! The 2002 week-end trip had to be cancelled, because only the president and vice-president were willing to go.

For this last Fall, we decided to visit Howe Sound Corridor, Squamish River Estuary and TFL. #38 in the Squamish Valley.

The first stop was Caulfeild's Cove; this is an interesting illustration of the contact between the Coast Intrusives and the Georgia Strait rocks. It was first shown to me by Dr. Bill Mathews in 1975. I've been visiting this spot regularly ever since. The Vancouver Geology booklet, by Dr Armsrtong (1990) features this phenomenon on p. 81. The origin of the "roof rocks" can be evidenced here. These are the strange dark rock inclusions, which we find in many places in the massive matrix of the Coast Intrusives.

From here on, the tour followed the usual stops of interests in the Howe Sound Corridor:

- a) debris torrent protection of Lions Bay community
- b) metamorphosed siltstones of the Gambier Group at Brunswick Point
- c) Porteau Cove
- d) Shannon Falls

In the town of Squamish we left Hwy. 99 and visited the estuary and found a classical Humic Regosol in a rich sedge fen. Unfortunately a large area of this fen is utilized for a dry-land sort, which is not a wise land-use option.

For lunch, we met Charlie Deminger in the Howe Sound Brew Pub. During lunch, Charlie introduced us to the operation of TFL. #38 of the Squamish Valley, where he had been a divisional forest engineer for nearly 30 years.

After lunch, we departed to visit TFL. #38. Our main objective was to see the Deminger Environmental Trail, which explores a lovely old growth forest, set aside by Charlie's colleagues to honour his work in the Squamish Valley.

The largest portion of the reserve is located on the channeled fluvial fan of Terminal Creek, a typical flashy, steep gradient coastal stream, hence the high quality site. We eagerly dug into the soil underneath the towering Douglas-firs and western red cedars and expected to find deep, moderately well-drained (Ae-less) Humo-Ferric Podzols or perhaps Sombric Brunisols, but to our surprise we were greeted by an Orthic Regosol (a Typic Fluvent). A little head scratching (in my case bald-head), explained the situation. The present stand is not an old growth after all, just a well developed seral stage of the Coastal Western Hemlock Zone and it probably originated after a horrendous flood of Terminal Creek about 300 years ago. The soil does not show signs of leaching as yet, therefore nutrients are available throughout. This explains the high quality stand. It's a miracle that it escaped the chainsaw, but now it honours Charlie.

The Deminger Trail from here winds through a 35 year old Douglas-fir plantation, where the parent material grades into a typical coastal colluvo-till. Here the soil met our expectations. It was a Humo-Ferric Podsol (Ae-less) with a 10 or more cm thick Ah. So we called it a Sombric phase. The deep Ah is probably due to the volcanic origin of the soil parent materials.

After this we turned homeward, thanking Charlie too, for his long and memorable work in the Squamish Valley. Charlie enjoys active retirement life now. He prepares table-tops from large tree-burls, makes his own wine, maintains a large garden, smokes his own trout and salmon catch.

Due to time constraints, we could not continue the trip towards Brandywine Falls and Whistler or for a dip in Skookumchuck Hot Springs.

Perhaps another year!?

Upcoming events/workshops/ seminars

Feb 25-27, 2004. 56th ABCPF Forestry Conference & Annual General Meeting. Vancouver. <http://www.rpf-bc.org/agm.html>

Mar 10, 2004. Steep Slope Logging-Extending Ground Based Systems. Cranbrook. <http://www.feric.ca/en/wd/home/events/steepslope/steepslope.htm>

Mar 23, 2004. Implementing Ground Based Harvesting Systems on the Coast. Nanaimo. FERIC. Contact: ed-p@vcr.feric.ca

Mar 26-28, 2004. Land Trust & Stewardship Seminar Series 2004. Cowichan Lake. <http://landtrustalliance.bc.ca/public/ss04register.pdf>

April 3-6, 2004. 11th Canadian National Conference and 2nd Policy Forum on Drinking Water. Canadian Water and Wastewater Association (CWWA). Calgary, Alberta. http://www.cwwa.ca/11thconference_e.asp

April 26-28, 2004. Forest Land-Fish Conference II: Ecosystem Stewardship. Through Collaboration. Edmonton, Alberta. <http://www.tucanada.org/forestlandfish2/>

May 12-14, 2004. Land Summit 2004 Conference. University of British Columbia. Vancouver. <http://www.bclandsummit.com/program.html>

June 16-18, 2004. 57th Annual Water Resources Conference: Water and Climate Change; Knowledge for Better Adaptation. CWRA. Montreal. <http://www.ouranos.ca/acrh/>

June 27-30, 2004. International Conference on Sediment and Geochemical Budgets in

Geomorphology to honour Professor Olav Slaymaker. UBC, Vancouver. <http://www.geog.ubc.ca/departement/activitis/>

June 28-30, 2004. Riparian Ecosystems and Buffers: Multi-scale Structure, Function, and Management. American Water Resources Association. Olympic Valley, CA. <http://www.awra.org/meetings/Olympic2004/summer2004.doc>

July 13-16, 2004. Confronting Water Scarcity: Challenges and Choices. CWRA. Lethbridge, Alberta. <http://www.confronting-waterscarcity.ca/aboutconf.htm>

Aug 8-11, 2004. 8th International Conference on Precipitation. UBC, Vancouver. <http://www.forestry.ubc.ca/precipitation/index.html>

Oct 2-6, 2004. One Forest Under Two Flags. Canadian Institute of Forestry/ Society of American Foresters Joint 2004 Annual General Meeting and Convention. Edmonton. <http://www.cif-ifc.org/agmpage.html>

Malaspina Forestry Extension Program <http://www.mala.bc.ca/www/ForestEx/CORSLIST.HTM>

Oct. 31-Nov. 4, 2004 ASA-CSSA-SSSA International Meetings with the Canadian Society of Soil Science in Seattle, Washington!! For more information go to www.asa-cssa-sssa.org/anmeet/ The Soil Science Society of America and Canadian Society of Soil Science will meet jointly in the Emerald City. We encourage you to participate in these joint annual meetings by presenting a research paper. The First Call for Papers is available online at www.asa-cssa-sssa.org/anmeet/. Click on the Poster/Oral Papers button. This site contains a lot of information on the joint SSSA/CSSS meeting in Seattle.

Call For Abstracts

CALL FOR ABSTRACTS -- DUE APRIL 1

The restoration community is invited to join the Society for Ecological Restoration International for its 16th annual meeting and conference, to be held in Victoria, British Columbia, Canada, from August 23rd to 27th, 2004. This conference will be held jointly with the Canadian Land Reclamation Association. The organizing committee of SERI-2004 invites proposals for symposia, contributed papers, posters, and presentations in other media including electronic media, visual and installation art, and performance, to be presented during the conference. The theme of the conference for 2004 is "Restoration on the Edge". The conference theme reflects a number of "edges" in current restoration problems and practice, which will be a focus of the conference. A number of topics include:

- Restoration case histories
- Riparian forest restoration
- Restoration of endangered species and related habitat
- Restoration in resource-dependent communities
- Restoration economics
- Savannah restoration (Garry Oak and other savannah types)
- Fire in restoration
- Urban restoration
- Restoration and invasive species
- Wetland restoration
- Salmon habitat restoration
- Marine and estuary restoration
- Restoration philosophy & ethics
- Traditional ecological knowledge
- Indigenous land use and restoration
- Communities in restoration
- Restoration in developing countries
- Mine land reclamation
- Restoration education
- Upland Forest upland restoration
- Alpine restoration
- Restoration under conditions of climate change
- Restoration and carbon budgeting
- Issues in cross-border and international restoration

For more information and to make submissions, go to the SER website at www.ser.org.

Deadline for submissions is April 1, 2004. See you in Victoria, BC this summer!

Scholarship Proposal

We are currently exploring the option of setting up a \$500 annually funded award to be honored over a minimum of 3 years. We have been accumulating money in the bookstore fund and would like to see it put towards a use that is consistent with the society's values. We are looking at establishing criteria for a potential student, that may not necessarily focus on academics, but also ambitions. We are hoping to discuss this proposal further at this year's AGM, March 20, 2004 at UBC.

Membership Renewal

Please find enclosed a PRSSS Enrolment/ Membership Renewal/ Change of Address form. If any of your information from the last PRSSS Directory has changed, here is your chance to update the world. Please consider reviewing your membership as well, and take this opportunity to renew if needed. If you have any questions regarding your membership standing, please let me know at 604-873-3877 or at liz.freyman@gems1.gov.bc.ca.

Liz Freyman
Secretary

PRSSS Bookstore

Just a reminder that we have various materials available for distribution. A list of inventory can be viewed on our BCIA link. For further information, please contact me at 604-736-7225 or at burtonjakoy@yahoo.com.

Andy Jakoy
Director

Dear PRSSS member,

Thank you for your interest in PRSSS. Please return this form with your payment to PRSSS at your convenience. Please also indicate any changes of address and in particular **your e-mail address** so we can keep our database up to date.

Thank you very much for your contribution, we greatly appreciate you support.

Sincerely,

your PRSSS executive

PRSSS ENROLMENT / MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL / CHANGE OF ADDRESS

Name: -----
Employer: -----
Title: -----
Professional Interests: -----
Address: -----
Postal Code: -----
Telephone Work: ----- Home: ----- Fax: -----
e-mail: -----
Comments/Suggestions: -----

Please Find Enclosed (check one):

<u>1-Year Membership - \$10</u>	<u>2-Year Membership - \$20</u>
\$ 5 (Student)	\$10 (Student)

Please include me in the PRSSS Directory: **Yes:** **No:**
Please send me the newsletter by: **e-mail:** **regular mail:**

Please return the form and payment to the following address:

Pacific Regional Society of Soil Science
c/o University of British Columbia
266B-2357 Main Mall
Vancouver, BC V6T 1Z4

fax: (604) 822-2184
e-mail: prsss@interchange.ubc.ca

Thank you!!!

26TH PRSSS WORKSHOP
CURRENT SOILS RESEARCH

Saturday, March 20, 2004

Room 160 – 2357 Main Mall

MacMillan Building

University of British Columbia

8:30 am –3:30 pm

Featuring;

Justin Straker : *The Use of Biosolids in the reclamation of Highland Valley Copper Mine*

Paul Sandborn: *What's New in Forest Research*

Elyn Humphreys: *CO₂ Fluxes and Various Forest Stands*

Peter Sorokovsky: *Effects of Turf Management on Soil Compaction*

Pre-Registration is strongly encouraged and may be done by returning this form with a cheque to;

PRSSS
c/o Susan Ames
3884 West 21st Ave
Vancouver BC V6S 1H4

NOTE: For catering purposes please confirm your attendance by phone 604-224-9102 or e-mail s.ames@telus.net prior to **March 12, 2004**.

REGISTRATION FOR THE 26th PRSSS WORKSHOP

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Registration fee includes program, refreshments and lunch

Please check appropriate fee

Student registration (please bring student ID) _____ \$20

Registration for all other participants _____ \$40

If it is time to renew your PRSSS Membership, please fill out form on reverse.

Total Amount Enclosed \$ _____

(Please make cheques payable to Pacific Regional Society of Soil Science)