

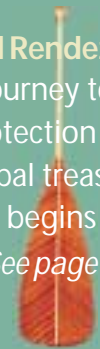


# Wilderness Activist

CPAWS NATIONAL NEWSLETTER

*In this issue:*

**Boreal Rendezvous:**  
The journey toward  
protection of a  
global treasure  
begins  
*See page 8*



*Also in this issue*

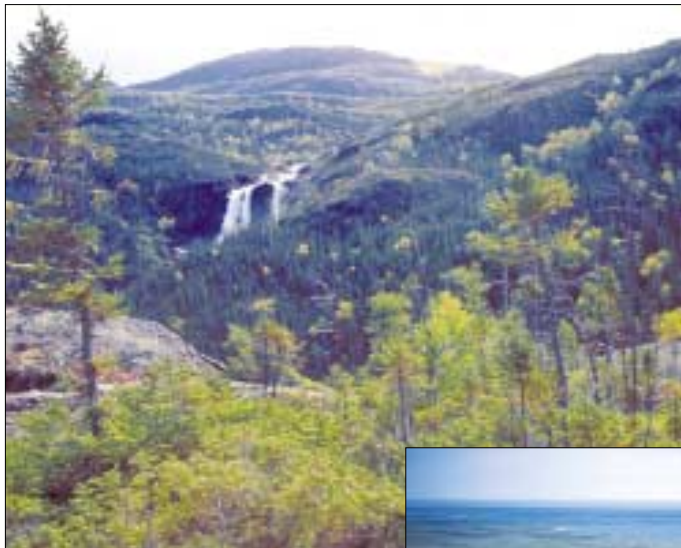
- Community Atlas Project
- Are our parks protected?

*Watch for ► Action Items*

## New national parks get the green light

### Funding now in place to implement ambitious action plan

There were big smiles in CPAWS' offices from coast to coast on March 24<sup>th</sup> when Heritage Minister Sheila Copps revealed what had been a critical missing piece in the federal government's renewed commitment to national parks. The Minister announced \$144 million in additional funding for implementing the Action Plan for Canada's National Parks and National Marine Conservation Areas, a plan for expanding and protecting the national parks system originally announced by the Prime Minister last October.



Conservation supporters had been left in suspense by the February federal budget, which allocated \$74 million for the first two years of the plan's implementation, but didn't spell out how the remainder of the plan would be financed. With the new announcement, the suspense was lifted and the picture for parks became much clearer. Of critical importance to the funding package was the inclusion of \$54 million per year in funding at the end of the five years to ensure long-term support for the expanded parks system.

"The funding means that what is likely the most ambitious action plan ever announced for national parks in Canada can move forward," says CPAWS Executive Director Stephen Hazell. "The money committed today will take the Prime Minister's promise from paper to the land and water where conservation really happens."

Hazell notes that fulfilling the terms of the action plan will expand the area protected in the national parks system by almost 50 percent, as well as adding approximately 15,000 square kilometres in marine conservation areas.

"The money will also help us better protect the ecological integrity of our existing parks," he says, by allowing for more scientific research and monitoring, ecological restoration and



*More funding will help move the Mealy Mountains in Newfoundland and the Manitoba Lowlands forward as national parks.*

cooperative work with regional partners to ensure that parks don't become isolated islands in a sea of developed land.

The national

action plan calls for the creation of 10 new national parks and five national marine conservation areas and the expansion of three existing national parks and programs to restore and protect the ecological integrity of all of our national parks.

"The dollars that have now been committed will allow Parks Canada to make major progress" with the action plan, says Alison Woodley, CPAWS Federal and Northern Campaigner. "We look forward to working with Parks Canada, communities, First Nations and provincial and territorial governments to ensure that the action plan is implemented in the best way possible to protect Canada's wild places." 🐾



by David Thomson, President and  
Stephen Hazell, Executive Director

The boreal forest is a very special place: The world's largest intact forest ecosystem. The largest terrestrial storehouse of carbon. A place with more wetlands and lakes than anywhere else.

Canada's boreal forest extends from Newfoundland's Atlantic coast to the mountains of Yukon and represents one-quarter of the world's remaining intact or original forest. While most boreal ecosystems have not yet been fundamentally changed by human activity, industrial development – including clearcut logging, roads, mines, hydroelectric dams and oil-and-gas cutlines – is advancing northward rapidly.

CPAWS' vision is to conserve the full diversity of boreal habitats and species by maintaining the still-wild state that remains in much of the boreal. Establishing an interconnected system of core protected areas, buffers, wildlife movement areas and special management zones is our top priority. We believe that comprehensive landscape-scale planning with genuine First Nations and local community engagement must happen before any further industrial allocations are made. This is the Conservation First principle.



Stephen Hazell (left) and David Thomson

But let's look beyond CPAWS' primary goal of protecting the boreal's wild character, and think about the forest's role in global climate and water cycles.

The boreal's capacity to absorb and store atmospheric carbon – and therefore to moderate the potentially devastating impacts of climate change – may be matched only by the world's oceans. But industrial development of the boreal (especially clearcut logging and oil-and-gas development) will increase the release of carbon dioxide and methane gases from wild forests by churning up wetlands, bogs and soils. It will also diminish the capacity of boreal plants to absorb carbon from the air. This is without even taking into account the huge amounts of greenhouse gases that will be released when fossil fuels mined in the boreal are actually burned to run our factories or power our cars.

The simple point is this: If Canada is serious about meeting its Kyoto Protocol targets, the huge amounts of carbon stored in boreal soils, bogs and trees must be kept there, and the boreal's capacity to store more carbon must be protected and, where possible, enhanced.

The boreal is just as important for conserving water. A United Nations report released in February 2003 warns of a global water crisis due to pollution, climate change and surging population growth. South Asia, northern China, the Middle East and sub-Saharan Africa will be hardest hit according to the report. In Europe only five of 55 major rivers are pristine; meanwhile, 40 percent of water bodies in the United States are unfit for recreation due to pollution. Already, more than one million people around the world die each year from diarrhea caused by drinking polluted water.

In Canada, one word – "Walkerton" – speaks volumes about how poorly Canada has managed its water resources in our populated south. By contrast, most aquatic ecosystems in boreal Canada have not been fundamentally altered

(continued on page 14)



**In the margin sidebars in this newsletter you'll read about some of the top issues that CPAWS chapters are working on. There are some great suggestions for things you can do to make a difference. Turn to page 11 for chapter contact information and more about how you can help.**



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John O'Driscoll

# Understanding Parks and Communities



Looking at the big picture for national parks is the purpose of a new CPAWS initiative that will paint a picture of the larger environments that three existing and one proposed national park are part of. The Community Atlas Project will also allow local citizens to get a better understanding of the role of national parks in their communities and of the way that land uses and other outside factors affect the ecological health of parks.

The project is a cooperative effort between CPAWS National and four chapters to make information about parks and their ecosystems more

readily available and accessible. For each of the four sites, the goal is to produce a comprehensive atlas that includes maps and data on land uses, natural values, species and communities in what is called the greater park ecosystem. The four atlases

will cover the St. Lawrence Islands and Bruce Peninsula National Parks in Ontario, Riding Mountain National Park in Manitoba and the proposed Gulf Islands National Park and Southern Strait of Georgia National Marine Conservation Area in B.C.

“The long-term ecological integrity of national parks depends not only on how well we manage lands within park borders, but also what happens in the surrounding region,” explains Alison Woodley, CPAWS Federal and Northern Campaigner. “When the atlases are complete, it will be easier for everyone involved in land management to make decisions that support the long-term health of national parks and communities.”

“A big part of the project is our commitment to both seek out information from people in communities adjacent to national parks and to make all of the information and data that we gather widely accessible to people and agencies in the region,” explains Gillian McEachern, CPAWS-Wildlands League coordinator for the Bruce atlas project.

In Manitoba, the atlas for Riding Mountain National Park will focus on the 13,318 square kilometre UNESCO Biosphere Reserve that surrounds and includes the national park. This large area contains a wide variety of land uses and ecosystem types, from boreal forest to prairie. “The rapid rate at which this region has been fragmented through agriculture and economic development has stressed the limits of ecosystem tolerance,” notes CPAWS-Manitoba atlas coordinator Richard Caners.

Understanding how parks are affected by decisions made outside their boundaries will

be easier with a comprehensive picture of what is happening in the greater park ecosystem, the area surrounding a park that influences the park’s natural systems. For example, this area may



The Gulf Islands are home to common murre.

include areas used by park wildlife outside of the park or watersheds that determine water quality and quantity both outside and inside the park. The atlases will also make it easier to study the cumulative or combined impacts of many different development or land-use decisions and activities on parks.

“The basis of good planning is good information,” notes Woodley, and that is what the Community Atlas Project is designed to deliver. Right now, input from park agencies, governments, other conservation organizations and citizens is being sought for each park. The goal is to have both print and web-based atlases finished by the fall of 2004.

If you would like to find out more about the project, please contact Alison Woodley at the CPAWS National Office, [awoodley@cpaws.org](mailto:awoodley@cpaws.org).

*The Community Atlas project is made possible by the generous support of the Ontario Trillium Foundation, the Voluntary Sector Initiative of the Government of Canada, and ESRI Canada.*

## NORTHWEST TERRITORIES

Sahyoue and Edacho, large peninsulas on Great Bear Lake, are critical cultural areas for the people of Deline, who pass their culture from generation to generation through oral stories told on the land. To protect their culture, the land must also be protected. The peninsulas will be designated as a National Historic Site, which recognizes their cultural value but does not protect the land, which is wild boreal forest.

In March 2001, Canadian Heritage Minister Sheila Copps travelled to Deline to formally announce the five-year interim protection of Sahyoue/Edacho. Minister Copps stated that after the interim protection period, the peninsulas would become part of the National Parks system. In the two years since, little progress has been made on what the final protective designation will be. Parks Canada is currently examining protection options, but has not definitively stated that they will provide the designation required for the long-term protection of the peninsulas.

The people of Deline have been very clear that their priority is to fully protect Sahyoue/Edacho, and want to work in partnership with Parks Canada to do so. ► Please write Minister Copps and urge Parks Canada to formally commit to providing a long-term protective designation for Sahyoue/Edacho. See the What Can You Do for the Parks article on page 6 for contact information for Heritage Minister Sheila Copps.



The new Yukon government has suspended work on protected areas by shelving the Yukon Protected Areas Strategy (YPAS). YPAS was part of a national commitment to complete a network of protected areas. Several years of scientific work and broad public consultation led to YPAS, yet it yielded only one new protected area – the Fishing Branch Wilderness Preserve – before being axed by the government.

Premier Dennis Fentie's decision is a major setback for Yukoners who value northern wilderness, clean waters and wildlife. Settlement of First Nations land claims will result in further protected lands, but these will not be sufficient to meet the territory's conservation goals. Regional land-use planning is also underway in three traditional territories, but we still need to assess and legally designate protected areas that meet YPAS standards.

➤ Write a letter today to urge Premier Fentie and Environment Minister Jim Kenyon to reconsider their decision, and avoid the embarrassment of being the only government in Canada to turn its back on conservation. ➤ Visit the CPAWS-Yukon website for updated information at [www.cpawsyukon.org](http://www.cpawsyukon.org). ➤ Also visit the Yukon Action Centre at [www.wildcanada.net/yukon](http://www.wildcanada.net/yukon) and fax a letter in a couple of easy steps.



Pitcher plant

Evan Ferrari

# Fighting for real protection in parks

## Protected areas targetted for everything from pesticide spraying to motorized recreation across the country

Protected or not? That is a question we shouldn't have to ask about Canada's national and provincial parks. Yet from coast to coast, CPAWS is confronted with proposals to introduce motorized recreation, insecticide spraying, golf courses and roads in areas that are supposed to be protected for their natural values. With so much of our landscape already transformed by industry and development, CPAWS must continue to send governments the message that parks are off-limits to development plans that threaten their ecological integrity. Following are just a few examples of the threats to nature in parks across the country that CPAWS is tackling.

### Kawartha Highlands – Park or ATV Playground?

The Ontario government is backing away from a destructive plan to open the Kawartha Highlands Signature Site in south-central Ontario to intensive motorized recreation and development. The government's proposal to create a new "Recreation Reserve" designation for one of the largest relatively wild areas south of Algonquin Park was met by outrage across the province. The government's own Local Stakeholders Committee, which spent two years holding public hearings and drafting recommendations for Kawartha, called the proposed new legislation "an obscenity." Worse yet, the government also talked about applying the abysmal Recreation Reserve status to many of the other more than 200 Ontario's Living Legacy sites still awaiting regulation.

It appears that the public has been heard on this issue. The government allowed the Recreation Reserve legislation to die on the legislative order paper when it prorogued the legislature in February. Then Premier Ernie Eves announced the appointment of local MPP Chris Hodgson to conduct further consultations and draft recommendations for what should be done about Kawartha.

The government has already spent close to \$500,000 and two years consulting about the future of Kawartha and has a strong set of recommendations in hand from the Stakeholder's committee.

What Kawartha doesn't need is more uncertainty and more attempts to fashion some sort of compromise around protection for this ecologically important site. The original recommendation to give the site full operating provincial park status should be acted upon immediately – a message CPAWS has already delivered to the Premier and Mr. Hodgson. See [www.wildlandsleague.org](http://www.wildlandsleague.org) for current details.

### Sand Dunes Saved from Sand Traps

In a surprise turn of events, the Province of Newfoundland and Labrador rejected a proposal to allow a golf course development inside the Windmill Bight Provincial Park just one day before CPAWS and other conservation groups were to appear in court to oppose the project. Windmill Bight features fragile sand dunes, the Eastern Atlantic Plateau Bog, 44 species of birds, and borders on a significant salmon and trout streams.



Will ATV users push people off park trails?

Andrea Maenza



In April 2002, the government gave the green light to developers proposing to build a golf course within the park, which is on the rugged northeast coast of Newfoundland. The government planned to remove 95 hectares (much of it rare sand dunes) from the park to accommodate the course. Adding insult to injury, it committed \$2.6 million of taxpayers' money towards the project!



Roads threaten Gatineau Park's treasures.

Sierra Legal Defence Fund took the government to court on behalf of the Protected Areas Association of Newfoundland and Labrador (PAA), CPAWS, and the Newfoundland and Labrador Natural History Society. An order was also requested to prevent the Minister of Tourism, Culture and Recreation from removing any land from Windmill Bight.

The government's decision to stop the golf course development on the eve of the legal hearing was praised by CPAWS. "Our children and grandchildren will thank you for doing the right thing," CPAWS National Executive Director Stephen Hazell told the Newfoundland government.

### More Roads for Gatineau Park?

CPAWS is denouncing the January 17, 2003 decision of the National Capital Commission (NCC) to approve a new million-dollar access road in Gatineau Park in western Quebec near Ottawa. The proposed new road would cut a swath one-kilometre long and 20-metres wide through the forested part of the Mackenzie King Estate in order to increase automobile access to the park.

CPAWS-Ottawa Valley is concerned that the NCC is sidestepping the environmental assessment process and failing in its responsibility to protect the park from incremental development. "This proposed road is yet another sign that the NCC is failing miserably in its role as steward and guardian of Gatineau Park," says Jean Langlois, CPAWS-Ottawa Valley's Executive Director. "Gatineau Park is a national treasure with tremendous biological diversity – over 1,000 species of plants, 236 species of birds and animals, and 118 rare or endangered species packed

into 363 square kilometres. And yet the NCC management approach for Gatineau Park seems to be one of 'death by a thousand cuts' rather than protection."

Gatineau Park is one of the most heavily utilized wilderness parks in Canada with 1.5 million visitors per year. It has *eight* times the annual visits per square kilometre as Banff – Canada's most commercialized national park. And yet Gatineau Park has no legislation at all to protect it – it exists only at the discretion of the not-so-green NCC! "It is more essential than ever that Minister Sheila Copps introduce legislation to properly protect the Gatineau Park," says Langlois.

What can you do? ➤ Please contact Marcel Beaudry, chairman of the National Capital Commission, to tell him to stop the road through the Mackenzie King Estate, National Capital Commission, 202-40 Elgin St., Ottawa, Ont., K1P 1C7, info@ncc-ccn.ca; phone (613) 239-5555 or 1 800 704-8227; fax (613) 239-5063. ➤ Also contact Heritage Minister Sheila Copps and ask her to introduce legislation to protect Gatineau Park (see contact information for Ms. Copps at the end of this article on page 6).

### Poisonous Pesticides in Prince Albert?

In October, Parks Canada announced that it plans to aerially spray the pesticide *Bacillus thuringiensis* (Bt) to kill spruce budworm in Prince Albert National Park – overturning its own earlier recommendation not to spray. This about-face announcement was made in response to pressure from a small interest group that wants to "preserve" aging spruce trees in the park's townsite and nearby areas.

*continued on page 6*

## chapter hot spot

### BRITISH COLUMBIA

Strathcona Provincial Park on Vancouver Island, B.C.'s oldest provincial park, is once again under threat. Boliden Mine is seeking government approval to expand hydroelectric power generation at their Myra Falls Mine, which is surrounded by Strathcona Provincial Park. Boliden has already constructed power generation infrastructure on two creeks inside the Nature Conservancy Area of the park (where ecological integrity is the highest priority) under their existing Park Use Permits. Boliden now plans to siphon water from two additional lakes in the park. This development activity does not fall under the guidelines of the park management plan nor the *B.C. Park Act*. We have also heard that the long-term goal of Boliden is to build a power line to export power from the park to the B.C. Hydro grid. Enough is enough! This development sets a dangerous precedent for all provincial parks.

➤ Write a letter to Minister Joyce Murray, Minister of Water Land and Air Protection (P.O. Box 9047, Stn Prov Govt, Victoria, B.C., V8W 9E2) urging her to respect the Class A park and telling her that expanding hydroelectric development in Strathcona Park erodes wilderness values. For more information check out [www.cpawsbc.org](http://www.cpawsbc.org)

## chapter hot spot

### EDMONTON

Please see the article on Cheviot (page 12) to learn about one of the hot spots the Edmonton Chapter has been working on and what you can do.



chapter hot spot

## CALGARY/BANFF

The winter of 2002-03 sees us once again embroiled in a debate over the future of Kananaskis Country. In November, Alberta Community Development released a new Draft Management Plan for the Evan Thomas Provincial Recreation Area. Whereas the provincial government had as recently as 2000 suggested that this area be re-designated as a Provincial Park in recognition of its ecological significance, the new plan contains an open door to suggestions for the expansion of the Nakiska ski area, including the operation of a summer gondola and new fixed-roof accommodations and the expansion of golf-course facilities.

The Evan Thomas is the same area that was jeopardized last year by the G-8 Summit. Through the extraordinary efforts of federal and provincial officials, and the responsible actions of private citizens, that event passed with minimal environmental impact. It brought international recognition to the Kananaskis, however, and it now looks like the Alberta government is anxious to capitalize on this. The area's ecological significance, which was once the focal point of planning, now seems to be taking a back seat. CPAWS Calgary/Banff has been working hard to assure that nature stays front and centre in planning in Kananaskis Country.

chapter hot spot

## SASKATCHEWAN

Please see the piece on Prince Albert National Park (page 5) to learn about one of the hot spots the Saskatchewan Chapter has been working on and what you can do.

## Park Problems *continued from page 5*

A naturally occurring forest insect, the spruce budworm is feeding on trees in the Waskesiu townsite in Prince Albert National Park (PANP). The trees are old and nearing the final stages of life, says Colleen Rickard of CPAWS-Saskatchewan. "Just like people, they get old. Old trees naturally become susceptible to stresses around them, such as drought, soil compaction, root disturbance, erosion and insects," she explains. Spraying pesticides in the park will not save the trees, she points out. Scientists with Environment Canada, the Canadian Forest Service, the University of Saskatchewan and the provincial government have all indicated that spraying will only extend the life of some infested trees for a short time.

Bt pesticide is not environmentally safe. As with any pesticide, it is designed to kill something in the environment. A new report released by the Saskatchewan Environmental Society concludes there are many reasons why aerial spraying of Bt should not be allowed. The study notes that:

- There is no valid legislative or policy basis for allowing the aerial spraying of pesticides to control spruce budworm in Waskesiu;

- There are many studies and reports documenting human health concerns related to the use of Bt;
- Bt is toxic to many non-target species (such as butterflies and moths) and has ecosystem-wide risks and impacts. Less than one percent of the pesticide is likely to reach its intended target.

CPAWS-Saskatchewan believes that Parks Canada must investigate pesticide-free solutions before considering the use of poison. "What is needed," Rickard concludes, "is a decision based on science, not politics; a decision that would meet Parks Canada's legal obligation to make ecological integrity its first priority." 🐞

**What can you do?** Please contact Heritage Minister Sheila Copps and ask her to stop the spraying for spruce budworm in Prince Albert National Park. Minister of Heritage, House of Commons, Ottawa, Ont., K1A 0A6; phone (819) 997-7788; fax (819) 994-5987; Copps.S@parl.gc.ca; and Alan Latourelle, Chief Executive Officer, Parks Canada Agency, Jules Leger Building, 7th floor, 25 Eddy St., Hull, Que., phone (819) 997-9525; fax (819) 953-9745; alan.latourelle@pc.gc.ca

## How to get a double-digit investment return...and a tax receipt!

A lot of retirees are looking for alternatives to Guaranteed Investment Certificates (GICs) — investment vehicles that offer the same income security *but with a better cash flow*. This article will tell you about one such alternative. What's remarkable about this option is that it also allows you to make a significant financial contribution to CPAWS.

The alternative is a **Charitable Gift Plus Annuity**.

Here's how it works. Let's say you have a \$25,000 GIC coming due and you decide you would like to do something different with the money. If you make an *irrevocable* gift of the capital to CPAWS for a gift plus annuity, part of the funds, as determined by you and CPAWS (minimum 20%), becomes an immediate gift to CPAWS. The remaining funds are used by CPAWS to purchase an annuity from an insurance company to meet the gift annuity income obligation to you. You will receive a *guaranteed income payment for life*, paid monthly, quarterly, semi-annually or annually to you, as you wish.

In addition, you will receive a donation receipt for tax purposes for the immediate gift portion to CPAWS. Also, your annuity payment

will be substantially or completely tax-free; the amount of the payment that is tax-free is also based on your age.

For individuals who are aged 65 and older, the after-tax cash flow from a gift plus annuity is generally greater than from a fixed income interest investment such as a GIC. By the time you have taken into account the tax credit from the donation receipt, **an annuity based on a 7% pay out, for example, may be equivalent to a GIC paying 10% to 14%**, depending on your marginal tax bracket. Such GIC rates are unheard of in today's low interest environment.

In many ways, a gift annuity is a win-win proposition — you have the payments you need for the rest of your life and at the same time, you are making a significant gift to CPAWS. It's a way of supporting CPAWS without risking income you may need in later years.

Remember, your situation will be unique. If you would like to see what a gift plus annuity might do for you, please call or e-mail us. We will send you a confidential, no obligation, quotation. Please contact Leah Eustace, CFRE, at 1(800) 333-WILD or leustace@cpaws.org 🐞

# Nahanni Campaign – We're Making Progress

by Alison Woodley, CPAWS Federal and Northern Campaigner

Our Nahanni campaign is on a roll!! Last fall, the Prime Minister included a Nahanni expansion in his major announcement of a Parks Canada Action Plan. And in the NWT, First Nations are on board for a major expansion of the park as well.

Most of the South Nahanni Watershed lies within the traditional territory of the Deh Cho First Nations. The Deh Cho are currently negotiating a land and self-government agreement with the Government of Canada. Recognizing the importance of the Nahanni region to their people, the Deh Cho have called for the

protection of the entire South Nahanni Watershed – a position entirely consistent with CPAWS' objectives. Currently, the Deh Cho and the Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development (DIAND) have agreed to the interim protection of 18,800 square kilometres of land around the park – more than 85 percent of the Deh Cho part of the watershed!

Interim protection is a critical step towards permanent protection as it prevents further industrial activity while final decisions are made. While the Deh Cho continue to support protection of the entire watershed, DIAND has dug in their heels and refused to protect the entire area. CPAWS and the Deh Cho will continue to work to protect the remaining 15 percent of lands in the watershed.

In January, the Sahtu First Nation released a draft land-use plan that identifies the entire upper South Nahanni Watershed as a proposed conservation area, with a specific interest in national park expansion. This also represents a great leap forward for

the future of the Nahanni as protected wilderness.

So, what about the mines? Existing industrial interests will not be addressed through the Deh Cho process, but will be left in place as pre-existing uses through the process. However, CPAWS continues to oppose mining and other industrial activities in the watershed. There are two mines that threaten the ecological integrity of the Nahanni: Canadian Zinc's proposed Prairie Creek Mine and North American Tungsten's operating Cantung Mine.

CPAWS continues to oppose the Prairie Creek Mine and to intervene in the regulatory and environmental review processes. No new permits have been issued for the mine this year.

The Cantung mine has been operating on the Flat River, a tributary of the South Nahanni, for just over a year after a 15-year closure. CPAWS was successful in having an environmental assessment called for the mine when the company applied for a new water licence last year. However, this decision has just been overturned in the NWT Court of Appeal. We will be assessing next steps to ensure that the Cantung mine does not cause damage to the Nahanni, and that the site is properly cleaned up by the company.

With thousands of letters being faxed to the federal government supporting protection of the entire South Nahanni Watershed, along with the firm support of First Nations, the momentum is building for one of the world's greatest conservation opportunities. You can add your voice to this groundswell of support for conservation by taking action. Working with Wildcanada.net, we have launched a Nahanni Action Centre. Send a free fax to support the Nahanni campaign with a click of the mouse. Visit [www.cpaws.org/nahanni](http://www.cpaws.org/nahanni) and follow the links to the action centre. 📠



Virginia Falls, Nahanni

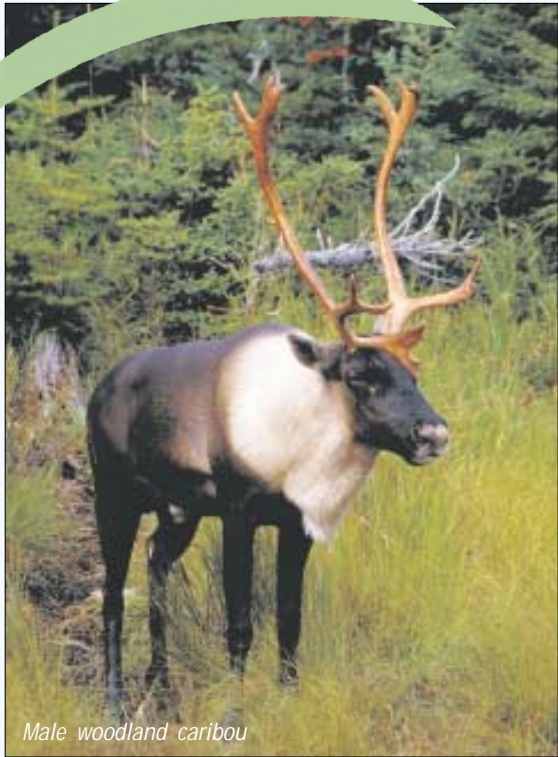
## chapter hot spot MANITOBA

Flowing from the Manitoba-Ontario border through Atikaki Wilderness Provincial Park, the Bloodvein River is an integral part of Manitoba's East Side boreal forest, which is the largest unharvested area of boreal forest in North America. The beauty of the Bloodvein River, a Canadian Heritage River and premier wilderness canoeing destination, is threatened by proposed road and bridge-building activities. The Manitoba government is preparing a land-use plan for Manitoba's East Side. Unfortunately, the planning process allows industrial developments to proceed while land-use planning is still underway. One of these developments is a bridge over the Bloodvein River, for which the design study is underway. The pristine quality of the Bloodvein is symbolic of the entire East Side ecosystem. Once it has been breached, the region will be open to development.

► Write Premier Gary Doer and Conservation Minister Steve Ashton urging them to complete the land-use plan and ensure the protection of the East Side boreal forest before irrevocable decisions are made. Premier Gary Doer and Hon. Steve Ashton, Legislative Building, 450 Broadway, Winnipeg, Man., R3C 0V8 or [premier@leg.gov.mb.ca](mailto:premier@leg.gov.mb.ca) and [mincon@leg.gov.mb.ca](mailto:mincon@leg.gov.mb.ca) respectively. ► For a sample letter and to learn more, go to the Bloodvein River Action Centre at [www.wildcanada.net](http://www.wildcanada.net).



# CANADA'S BOREAL FOREST



Male woodland caribou

The boreal forest wraps the northern hemisphere like a green cloak spanning some 12,000 kilometres and covering close to 11 percent of the planet's surface. Canada's boreal forest is globally important. It is one of the world's greatest intact forest ecosystems. In Canada, it contains more wetlands, rivers and lakes than anywhere else on Earth. CPAWS believes we must act now to protect it from uncontrolled development and resource extraction.

As part of our campaign to raise public awareness and celebrate our magnificent boreal region, CPAWS with its partners, the David Suzuki Foundation and the Canadian Boreal Initiative, is organizing Boreal Rendezvous 2003. Throughout the summer, CPAWS staff and trustees, distinguished Canadians – including writers, photographers, musicians, artists and First Nations representatives – and their guides will paddle through some of the world's last wild, intact forest areas where nature still reigns supreme. Following a spring kickoff in Toronto, the first paddle dip will be in the Nahanni in July, with the final pull-out from the Dease River in British Columbia in August. This will be followed by a national celebra-



marsh marigold

tion of a summer of paddling in Ottawa in September.

CPAWS chapters are working on the ground (and on water) to spread the word about our opportunity – and responsibility – to protect a huge, diverse and still-wild ecosystem. Chapters are also planning many fun kick-off and wind-up events for each trip; so don't miss what's happening in your area. For more information or to go on a virtual paddle with the Boreal Rendezvous crews, visit [www.cpaws.org/rendezvous](http://www.cpaws.org/rendezvous).

## SOME OF THE PROMINENT CANADIANS JOINING THE BOREAL RENDEZVOUS:

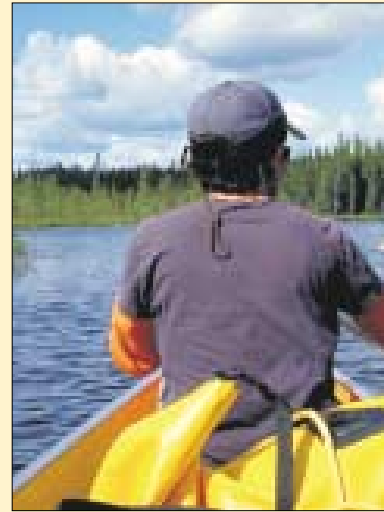
Dease River – Ethnobotanist, anthropologist, biologist, writer and photographer **Wade Davis** has worked around the world studying plants, people and their culture. A native of B.C., he has immersed himself into many Indigenous tribes and clans and shares many of these experiences through his outstanding books, articles, photographs and presentations.

Churchill River – Author and musician **Tomson Highway** is one of Canada's leading playwrights, with two Dora Mavor Moore Awards and a Chalmers Award to his credit. Tomson's *Kiss of the Fur Queen* has been a bestseller, and he has also written children's books using Cree and English. He has received the Order of Canada and an Aboriginal Achievement Award.

Berens River – **Rebecca Mason** studied at the Ontario College of Art in Toronto where she first developed her unique painting style. Working on large sheets of Japanese

paper, Becky takes inspiration from her natural surroundings of the Gatineau Hills, with trees and canoes as the central themes.

Nahanni River – Comedian, actor and writer **Rick Mercer** is best known for his two TV shows, "Made in Canada" and "This Hour Has 22 Minutes" in which he shares his social and political views. With more than a dozen Gemini awards, he has also written and performed in several one-man shows, appeared in television and film productions, been heard



BOREAL RENDEZVOUS  
A CELEBRATION OF  
GREAT NORTH



## The Boreal Rendezvous

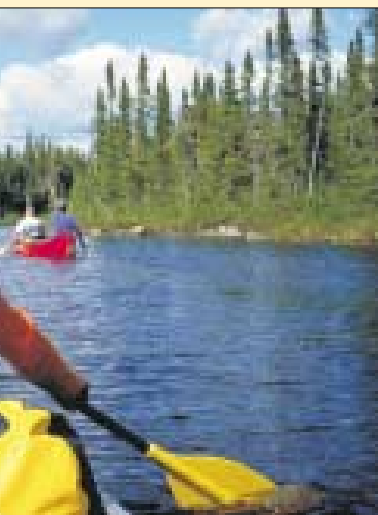


- CPAWS has members across the country
- Our Regional Chapters are already planning
- CPAWS has years of experience organizing

[www.cpaws.org/b](http://www.cpaws.org/b)



# : TRUE NORTH, WILD & FREE



RENDEZVOUS  
ION OF OUR  
HERN RIVERS



boreal-rendezvous

on radio and read in various publications.

Athabasca River – **David Suzuki** is the Chair of the David Suzuki Foundation and an award-winning scientist, environmentalist and broadcaster. He is well known for his series “The Nature of Things,” “A Planet for the Taking” and “It’s a Matter of Survival,” among others, and founded the program “Quirks and Quarks” for CBC Radio.



The boreal is as much water as it is land.

## QUICK FACTS ABOUT THE RIVERS:

### Coal River, Yukon

~ Delicate mineral formations, icy blue water, cool springs and life forms associated with year-round flowing water make the Coal River Springs a regionally and nationally significant.  
~ Development is threatening this wilderness. Land and resource management plans must be crafted to provide a template for both conservation and development

### Dease River, British Columbia

~ The Dease River runs right through the great boreal forest of northern B.C., and is the largest boreal watershed in the province. It has gained a reputation as a premier Canadian canoe trip destination, with great scenery and good wildlife-viewing opportunities. Currently, CPAWS-BC and the Kaska Dena First Nation are jointly engaged in a number of land-use planning processes in the Dease Watershed, including the development of the Dease-Liard forest plan.

### Nahanni River, Northwest Territories

~ The South Nahanni River surges through a vast swath of boreal wilderness, rich in scenery and wildlife. The river flows through canyons over one-kilometre deep, plunges over Virginia Falls – a cataract twice the height of the Niagara – and flows past hot springs and giant tufa mounds.  
~ Twenty-five years after being established, Nahanni National Park Reserve is still under threat, in spite of its vast size and remoteness

from urban centres. (See page 7 for more on the Nahanni River.)

### Athabasca River, Alberta

~ The Athabasca River is the longest river in Alberta. Rising from the glaciers in Jasper National

Park, it stretches 1,540 kilometres through mountains, prairies, forests and muskeg to the Peace-Athabasca Delta in Wood Buffalo National Park, one of the largest inland freshwater deltas in the world.

~ The Athabasca River flows through old-growth forests into the last true wilderness in Alberta and is a key part of our campaign.

### Churchill River, Saskatchewan

~ The Churchill follows the historic fur trade route to the Saskatchewan River Basin through beautiful precambrian shield country. It flows through forests inhabited by woodland caribou and has the largest inland popu-

*continued on page 10*

## Help us reach the rivers

Are you a frequent flyer with more air miles than you know what to do with? Then please consider donating a block of 15,000 or 25,000 Aeroplan miles to Boreal Rendezvous 2003 to help us fly conservationists, First Nations representatives, scientists, writers, photographers and staff to some of Canada's most beautiful northern rivers.

To donate your frequent flyer miles to the Boreal Rendezvous contact Scott Nurse at 1-800-333-WILD or boreal@cpaws.org.

In return, we'll provide you with a tax receipt for the fair market value of the flight.

The deadline for frequent flyer miles contributions is June 1, 2003.

The Boreal Rendezvous is being developed in partnership with:



David Suzuki Foundation



SOLUTIONS ARE IN OUR NATURE



**WILDLANDS LEAGUE**

After almost nine years of ignoring requirements to properly monitor forest growth and health, develop plans to protect old-growth forests and large roadless wild areas, and to limit the size of clearcuts, the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources has decided that the easiest way to avoid further criticism of what the Ontario Court has called “a litany of non-compliance” is simply to get rid of these troublesome rules altogether. In its proposal for renewing the master rulebook for forestry in Ontario – the Class Environmental Assessment (EA) for Timber Management – the ministry is proposing to drop most of these important conditions. Further, it would also like to be excused from ever having to answer to the people of Ontario for its management of public forests again. The Ministry is asking for an unprecedented – and quite possibly illegal – permanent renewal of its EA approval. Finally, at the urging of the forest industry, the Ministry has also come up with a plan for a legal requirement to put timber production ahead of all other forest uses. If the Ontario Ministry of the Environment accepts this proposal it will represent a huge step backwards for public forest management in Ontario.

➤ Find out more at [www.wildlandsleague.org/saveourforests](http://www.wildlandsleague.org/saveourforests).



CPAWS' Boreal Majesty book tour was a big success in raising awareness about Canada's boreal forest. Wildlife photogra-

pher, naturalist and science writer Dr. Wayne Lynch and Parks Canada conservation ecologist Dr. David Henry toured across Canada last fall, stopping in nine different cities where CPAWS chapters arranged evenings to remember. From the sold-out Edmonton event to a filled-to-capacity Winnipeg venue, audiences shared the authors' many experiences in the remote and mysterious northern boreal forest landscape.

If you missed the event, you can still buy their books. Dr. Lynch's latest, *The Great Northern Kingdom: Life in the Boreal Forest*, is a stunning collection of photographs of the creatures that inhabit our most northern forests. Dr. Henry's most recent is *Canada's Boreal Forest*, an in-depth look at the powerful forces that shape the boreal region, from snow to fire. (Check your local bookstore or buy them online from CPAWS-Wildlands League — visit [www.wildlandsleague.org/pub2.html](http://www.wildlandsleague.org/pub2.html).) Our heartfelt thanks go to Wayne Lynch and David Henry for bringing the boreal to our doorsteps!

**TRAGICALLY HIP**

One of the country's top bands, the Tragically Hip, has donated approximately \$10,000 to CPAWS' Boreal Forest Awareness Campaign. When the band announced that the proceeds from sales of more than 100 limited-edition lithographs of the original watercolour painting used for their “In Violet Light” CD would be passed along to CPAWS, the store handling the sale of the lithographs was sold out within a week! A huge thank you goes to the Tragically Hip. ♪

**NEW BOREAL FACTSHEET**

The global climate is being affected by human activities. The prime source of human-caused greenhouse gas emissions is the burning of fossil fuels, although at a global scale deforestation is also a significant factor. The boreal forest is the world's second largest storehouse of carbon (behind the oceans).

CPAWS has just released a new factsheet in its Boreal Forest Factsheet series on climate change. Visit [www.cpaws.org/boreal/resources/climatechange.html](http://www.cpaws.org/boreal/resources/climatechange.html) to download a copy.

**Boreal Rendezvous** *continued from page 9*

lation of bald eagles in North America. A rich Aboriginal heritage is kept alive by current generations of Dene, Cree and Metis. ~ Mining, hydro and forestry development is putting pressure on this ecosystem. We are working to designate significant new protected areas throughout the watershed.

**Berens River, Ontario-Manitoba**

~ The Berens River flows west from its headwaters deep in Ontario's boreal forests all the way to Lake Winnipeg in Manitoba. The forests that the big river rolls through on its journey are among the most intact and wild forests left on the planet. They are also part of the traditional homelands of many Aboriginal people, including those from the Pikangikum First Nation, who live near the river's headwaters.

~ These First Nations are currently engaged in land-use planning for a large area of the forest that the Berens winds through, planning that will help determine whether we can protect the wild character of these forests while improving economic and social conditions for First Nations.

**Moisie River, Quebec**

~ The Moisie River of Labrador and Quebec is considered by many to be one of the most rugged wilderness canoe routes in Eastern Canada. With its headwaters in the remote Labrador Plateau, the Moisie slices through a series of canyons and gorges, the longest, largest and most powerful of all the rivers of Quebec's North Shore region.

~ The Moisie River is North America's greatest Atlantic salmon spawning river with 10-45,000 Atlantic Salmon returning there every year. (See page 16 for more on the Moisie River.)

**Wind, Snake and Bonnet Plume, Yukon**

~ The Wind, Snake and Bonnet Plume Rivers are among Canada's most striking and pristine mountain river watersheds and are at the heart of a great mountain ecosystem. The eastern part of the Peel River watershed has been used by Tetl'it Gwich'in and Nacho N'yak Dun for generations.

~ CPAWS-Yukon is currently supporting a land-use plan that includes a strong conservation strategy for the Peel watershed – a plan that will sustain communities and the economy of the region. ♪



# Help us protect British Columbia's globally unique sponge reefs

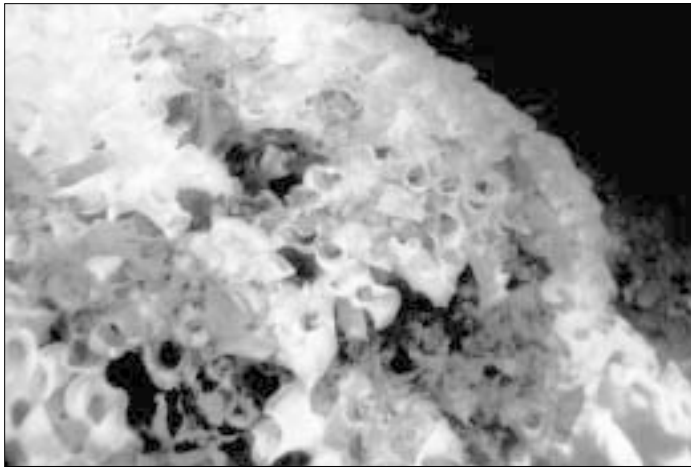
by **Natalie Ban**, Marine Campaign Coordinator, CPAWS-BC

The British Columbia Chapter of CPAWS is asking Fisheries and Oceans Minister Robert

Thibault to designate the globally unique sponge reefs found only in Hecate Strait on the B.C. coast as marine protected areas under the *Oceans Act*.

Dr. Manfred Krautter, a palaeontologist and one of the world's leading experts in sponge reef research from the University of Stuttgart, recently gave a series of public lectures in British Columbia. According to Dr. Krautter, "when I first read about the discovery of the sponge reefs in Hecate Strait, I was absolutely electrified. I couldn't believe it. For me it was like discovering a living dinosaur."

During the age of the dinosaurs about 150 million years ago, the sponge reefs formed a broken reef belt extending more than 7,000 kilometres. This reef system was the largest biotic structure ever built on earth. Sponge reefs were thought to have become extinct, until they were discovered



in British Columbia!

These fascinating sponges are found nowhere else in the world but B.C.'s ocean waters. In July 2002, Dr. Krautter's research team discovered damage to the

most pristine of the sponge reefs. Shortly thereafter fishing closures were imposed on the four sponge reef locations, yet these provide only short-term protection. Marine protected area status is needed to

ensure the long-term protection of the globally unique sponge reefs.

"The world expert on sponge reefs is calling for marine protected areas, and DFO scientists now recommend marine protected areas for the sponge reefs. What is Minister Thibault waiting for?" asks Sabine Jessen, Conservation Director of CPAWS-BC. "Not only should they be protected by Canada as marine protected areas, but they deserve international recognition as World Heritage Sites by UNESCO as well." 🐠

**What You Can Do:** We need your help! Sign the postcard enclosed in this newsletter and you can demonstrate to the Minister that this is an issue of national importance.

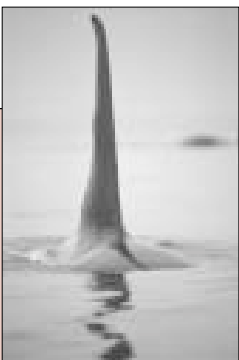
chapter hot spot  
**OTTAWA VALLEY**

Imagine a 36,000-hectare natural area within sight of the federal Parliament buildings, providing habitat for wolves, black bear, lynx, and 118 rare or endangered species. This is Gatineau Park, which includes land that Prime Minister Mackenzie King dedicated to the people of Canada in his will. Unfortunately it is a park in name only, with no legal protection whatsoever. The land is entrusted to the National Capital Commission, which specializes in urban greenspace and real estate development rather than conserving natural ecosystems. Two major road projects and other inappropriate developments threaten the park's integrity. Without legal protection, and without management guided by park legislation, Gatineau Park will die a death by a thousand cuts. The federal government has the opportunity to legally protect Gatineau Park for future generations, but needs your encouragement.

➤ Please write to Hon. Sheila Copps, Minister of Canadian Heritage, House of Commons, Ottawa, ON, K1A 0A6 (no postage required for this address). ➤ For more information/pour informations en français: [www.cpaws-ov.org/quebec.htm](http://www.cpaws-ov.org/quebec.htm) and see the Gatineau piece on page 5.

Top: Manfred Krautter; bottom: Kim Conway

Marilyn Kazmers



## CPAWS AGM

This year's CPAWS Annual General Meeting will be held on Thursday, October 30, 2003 in Vancouver. For more information please check our website at [www.cpaws.org](http://www.cpaws.org) or contact the CPAWS National Office at 1-800-333-WILD.

Au Québec, il y a de nombreuses raisons de célébrer. En effet, plusieurs bonnes nouvelles pour la conservation de notre patrimoine naturel sont à souligner. D'abord, le gouvernement a décidé de mettre fin au programme de construction de mini-centrales hydroélectriques qui prévoyait harnacher certaines de nos plus belles rivières, dont la splendide Manitou. Cette importante victoire est le fruit d'une mobilisation populaire entamée par une formidable brochette d'artistes qui ont osé se mouiller. Toutefois, le répit risque d'être de courte durée puisque les partis de l'opposition entendent revoir cette décision s'ils s'emparent du pouvoir. La SNAP-Montréal continue de collaborer à l'opération « Adoptez une rivière » et demande à ses membres de soutenir activement les efforts des artistes et militants engagés dans ce combat. Pour ce faire, nous vous invitons à questionner et à insister auprès des candidats politiques de votre région sur l'importance de préserver nos dernières rivières sauvages.

Les annonces successives du ministre de l'environnement, M. André Boisclair, concernant la protection des rivières Moisie (Côte-Nord) et Ashuapmushuan (Lac-Saint-Jean) sont d'autres excellentes raisons de se réjouir. Ces rivières et une partie de leur bassin versant deviendront les premières réserves aquatiques du Québec. Ces sites s'ajoutent à ceux déjà sélectionnés dans le cadre de la Stratégie québécoise sur les aires protégées et de nouvelles annonces sont attendues sous peu. Cependant, le gouvernement tarde à protéger les forêts possédant une valeur commerciale et il hésite toujours à revoir en profondeur le régime forestier actuel. Svp écrire à M. François Gendron, Ministre des ressources naturelles 5700, 4<sup>e</sup> Avenue Ouest, bureau A 308 Charlesbourg (Québec) G1H 6R1. Exigez la création d'aires protégées dans la forêt boréale commerciale ainsi que l'institution d'une enquête publique et indépendante sur la gestion de nos forêts !

# Ontario Teachers, a Proposed Coal Mine and a Major Threat to Jasper National Park

by *Dianne Pachal, Conservation Consultant, CPAWS-Edmonton*

**H**ow are these connected? Together with mining company Sherritt International, the Ontario Teachers' Pension Plan holds the coal leases for the proposed Cheviot mine in central Alberta on the border of Jasper National Park. They are also a key player in the recent merger between miners Fording and Teck Cominco, who have combined all of their metallurgical coal assets under the new Fording Canadian Coal Trust.

The huge open-pit Cheviot Mine, to be located on public lands, was first applied for in 1996. So far, it has not been developed due to its poor economic viability and public opposition. The Teachers' Pension Plan and the mining companies now have the final say on the fate of a nationally significant wildland area known as Mountain Park that encompasses the mine site, and on whether Jasper National Park, a World Heritage Site, will be harmed by a massive mining project on its border. They can decide whether they want to create a massive scar on a wild landscape next to a national park or a celebration of a farsighted decision to leave these lands intact.

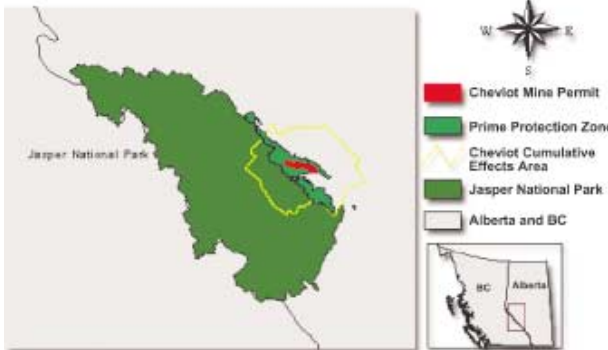
The UN World Heritage Committee has already asked Canada to reconsider its approval of the mine. Parks Canada has also strongly argued that the ecological integrity of Jasper, including the park's grizzly bear population, will be damaged if Cheviot

proceeds. In March 1999, the Federal Court of Canada ruled that proceeding with the Cheviot Mine would contravene the *Migratory Birds Convention Act* by destroying migratory bird habitat — leaving it permanently buried under millions of tonnes of excavated rock dumped in the wildland's valleys.

Cheviot would be used to produce metallurgical coal for export. Using the land to create a park, by contrast, would help preserve a wildland area rich in history and home to rare and threatened wildlife. Since 2001, the parent companies have had an alternative to Cheviot in place with their Line Creek mine and associated coal reserves in southeast B.C. CPAWS and eight other organizations have asked the companies to negotiate the return of the coal leases to

the citizens of Alberta for the purpose of park establishment and inclusion within the Jasper World Heritage Site. In 1999, Amoco (now BP Energy) did just this by releasing its petroleum leases to the Nature Conservancy of Canada; paving the way for a park in the Whaleback area of the southern Alberta foothills. 🐾

**What You Can Do:** Your voice needs to be heard again, this time by the money behind Cheviot. ➤ Write to the Ontario Teachers' Pension Plan: Claude Lamoureux, President and CEO, and Brian Gibson, VP Active Equities, Ontario Teachers' Pension Plan, 5650 Yonge St., Toronto, Ont., M2M 4H5. ➤ See [www.cpaws-edmonton.org/cheviot](http://www.cpaws-edmonton.org/cheviot) for more information.



Ken Wright



**I** understand. It's a pretty new trend. How do you trust it? Is it the best option for you and your lifestyle? You've heard about it. You're interested. But you're not quite sure about it.

You've been told that monthly giving could be easier for you, could be more environmentally friendly and could maximize your donations to really help CPAWS' important conservation initiatives. In this section, we will explore these ideas by looking at some questions that CPAWS members have had about the ins and outs of pre-authorized monthly giving at CPAWS.

**Q** What exactly is monthly giving and how does it work at CPAWS?

**A** Monthly giving is where pre-authorized monthly donations are made from a credit card or a bank account. Members of the monthly giving program at CPAWS, the Wilderness Protection Club (WPC), may give smaller, monthly gifts of \$5, \$10, \$20 or whatever amount they choose, often allowing them to give more over the course of a year than they could donate at any one time to help protect wilderness in Canada.

**Q** I like to send in my donations to keep track of what and when I'm donating. How would monthly giving be easier on me than making single, separate gifts?

**A** By pre-authorizing monthly donations, you don't have to worry about mailing in your gifts. Your pre-authorized donations are made consistently on the same day every month. You also don't need to receive regular appeal mailings that remind you to donate. And, instead of receiving your tax receipts throughout the year after each time you make a donation, you are issued just one cumulative WPC tax receipt early in each new year, with plenty of time to file your tax return.

**Q** What makes monthly giving more environmentally friendly?

**A** Monthly giving uses much less paper and energy:

- You don't need envelopes or stamps;
- CPAWS does not send you regular appeal mailings;

- You don't get a bunch of separately delivered tax receipts;
- Your donations do not have to be delivered separately to us; and
- CPAWS can organize your information so that your monthly donations are processed quickly and efficiently.



**Q** What does CPAWS offer to members of the Wilderness Protection Club?

**A** Along with a special CPAWS lapel pin that you may wear with pride, WPC members at CPAWS receive benefits that are more associated with keeping members informed and involved. They receive:

- *The Special Report*, a unique bi-annual update, written by Stephen Hazell, National CPAWS Executive Director, that goes beyond the headlines to provide WPC members with insider information about CPAWS' initiatives.
- Access to the password-protected WPC web page on the CPAWS website that has special WPC information.
- A special WPC representative at CPAWS National Office who is available via e-mail, phone or regular mail to address any questions or concerns you may have about the WPC, CPAWS or conservation issues in general.

**Q** Is my personal and financial information kept confidential and secure?

**A** Absolutely. CPAWS will *never* make the personal or financial information of monthly donors available to other organizations or businesses. And you may increase, decrease, pause or stop your donations at any time.

CPAWS is pleased to announce that it has adopted the Ethical Fundraising and Financial Accountability Code developed by the Canadian Centre for Philanthropy, in consultation with charity leaders throughout Canada. For more information, visit [www.cpaws.org](http://www.cpaws.org)

### chapter hot spot NOVA SCOTIA

The Atlantic Ocean Committee of the Nova Scotia Chapter has been very active recently. The committee's main objective is to establish marine protected areas (MPAs) in the Atlantic region, and maintain ocean wilderness values as ocean industrialization unfolds. To this end, we have joined the Sable Gully Advisory Committee, which will advise the Department of Fisheries and Oceans (DFO) on the creation of its first MPA at this offshore site. We are also participating in the Eastern Scotian Shelf Integrated Management (ESSIM) planning process, DFO's first attempt at integrated marine management. The Sable Gully lies in the ESSIM area and is one of several sites with a rich bottom fauna, including deep sea corals.

The committee is also working to promote nearshore MPAs. If all goes as planned, we will soon be joined by a DFO science intern who will analyze coastal habitats. We are also seeking nominations from the public for potential MPA sites. To complement work on protected areas, we are working to stem specific threats to ocean wildlife by raising awareness and responding to marine development proposals. One threat is ocean noise pollution, which affects cetaceans. Responding to offshore oil-and-gas development has also been a focus of our work.

*continued on page 14*

## Books available from CPAWS



**Alternative Futures:  
Alberta's Boreal Forest  
at the Crossroads**  
by Dr. Richard Schneider,  
Executive Director of  
CPAWS Edmonton Chapter  
\$22.95\*

*Alternative Futures* is a citizen's guide to the issues facing our northern forests. Dr. Schneider reviews the history and current state of the forestry and oil-and-gas industries, and describes the ecological impacts these industries are having on the forest. Considerable space is dedicated to the description of new approaches to forest management emerging from the scientific literature, based on maintaining natural patterns and processes. The book is richly illustrated, with more than 125 colour photos, maps, and graphs, and is thoroughly referenced.

"Schneider's book accurately describes the mayhem that the cumulative effects of several types of industries regulated in isolation are causing in the boreal forests of Alberta, and the shortcomings of recent management models. In contrast to earlier works, he also devotes considerable space to proposing solutions. This book should be required reading for all Albertans, and for all Canadians concerned about the fate of their boreal forests." — *David W. Schindler, Killam Memorial Professor of Ecology, University of Alberta*



**Home Place: Essays  
on Ecology**  
by Dr. Stan Rowe, Ecologist,  
former CPAWS Trustee, 1994  
winner of the J.B. Harkin  
Conservation Award  
\$24.95\*

Originally published in 1990, this revised edition of *Home Place* reopens an important chapter in writing about nature and ecology. Each issue related in this collection of essays artfully circles back to the notions that people are not the sole expression of importance on Planet Earth. Humans are dependant parts of the Ecosphere, from which we evolved and by which we are sustained. *Home Place* is part of the Canadian Parks and Wilderness Henderson Book Series. Stan Rowe will donate the royalties from this book to support the Canadian Parks and Wilderness Society.

Praise for the 1990 edition of *Home Place*: "*Home Place* is more than a critique of modern and social and ecological values; it is a window through which readers can look and discover a bit of themselves, and a bit of the beauty that nature provides us." — *Alternatives*

*\*prices of books do not include GST and shipping (Basic Canada Post charges apply)*

**Call 1-800-333-WILD  
to order your copies now!**

## Monthly Giving

*continued from page 13*

Okay, so it's easier. But what is the benefit of monthly giving to the real on-the-ground conservation initiatives of CPAWS?

Perhaps the most important purpose of monthly giving is that it provides a consistent and reliable source of funding, allowing CPAWS to respond immediately to urgent issues as they arise and to plan for important longer-term programs and projects.

Well... there you have it. As we've seen, monthly giving at CPAWS is easy, safe, environmentally friendly, and it maximizes your donations in support of CPAWS' important conservation initiatives. Monthly giving offers the satisfaction of knowing that you are helping to secure a sustainable future not just this month or next month, but consistently throughout the year. Today, nearly 1,000 CPAWS members belong to the monthly giving program, the Wilderness Protection Club. 🐾

*If you are interested in joining, or would like more information, please contact your national WPC representative, Sara Krynitzki: Call her at 1-800-333-WILD or (613) 569-7226; e-mail her at [wpc@cpaws.org](mailto:wpc@cpaws.org) or visit the WPC webpage at [www.cpaws.org/supportus/monthly-giving.html](http://www.cpaws.org/supportus/monthly-giving.html)*

## Online giving – fast, easy and secure.

Did you know that you can donate to CPAWS online? Your security is ensured through our partnership with Charity.ca. Please visit [www.cpaws.org](http://www.cpaws.org) today and simply click on the Donate Now button to support our work to protect wilderness!

## Message *continued from page 2*

(some exceptions include the damming of the Peace River in B.C., the Nelson and Churchill in Manitoba, the LaGrande in Quebec and the Churchill in Labrador.) Abundant and extensive boreal wetlands absorb and filter water on a massive scale, slowly releasing it into streams and rivers that feed into the sources of drinking water for much of Canada's human population. These wetlands also perform other important ecological roles, such as providing nurseries for fish and feeding grounds for migratory birds. In a world where poor water quality or inadequate water supplies is becoming the norm, we must not repeat past mistakes and permit industrial development to destroy and contaminate boreal wetlands and waterways.

Our rallying cry should be: No more hydro dams, pipelines, logging or mining megaprojects in the absence of land-use planning that protects boreal watersheds!

This summer, CPAWS together with the David Suzuki Foundation is organizing Boreal Rendezvous, a cross-Canada celebration of Canada's boreal forests. Canoe expeditions including distinguished Canadians, First Nations people and conservationists will take to the waters of some of Canada's most breathtaking boreal rivers, including the Nahanni, Athabasca, Berens and Moisie. In early September, the expeditioners will gather on the banks of another great river, the Ottawa, for public festivities and a grand finale. Please join us this summer in celebrating Canada's boreal! 🐾



## NORTHWEST TERRITORIES CHAPTER

### How to contact us

address: P.O. Box 1934, 4th floor, 4921-49th St., Yellowknife, NWT, X1A 2P4  
phone: (867) 873-9893  
fax: (867) 873-9593  
e-mail: cpawsnwt@theedge.ca

### HelpWanted/Wish List

- \* A good quality slide scanner with associated software. The ideal scanner would be able to scan slides in at 1200 dots per square inch (dpi) or greater (this is to ensure print production quality of the scanned images).

## YUKON CHAPTER

### How to contact us

address: Box 31095, Whitehorse, Yukon, Y1A 5P7  
phone: (867) 393-8080  
fax: (867) 393-8081  
e-mail: cpaws@cpawsyukon.org  
website: www.cpawsyukon.org

## BRITISH COLUMBIA CHAPTER

### How to contact us

address: Suite 610, 555 West Georgia St., Vancouver, B.C., V6B 1Z6  
phone: (604) 685-7445  
fax: (604) 685-6449  
e-mail: info@cpawsbcc.org  
website: www.cpawsbcc.org

### HelpWanted/Wish List

- \* small light table (for viewing slides)
- \* small microwave

## CALGARY/BANFF CHAPTER

### How to contact us

address: Suite 1120, Kahanoff Centre, 1202 Centre St. S.E., Calgary, Alta, T2G 5A5  
address: Suite 306, 319 Tenth Ave. S.W., Calgary, Alta., T2R 0A5  
phone: (403) 232-6686  
fax: (403) 232-6988  
e-mail: info@cpawscalgary.org  
website: www.cpawscalgary.org  
Executive Director Dave Poulton's  
e-mail: dpoulton@cpawscalgary.org  
Education Director Gareth Thomson's  
e-mail: gthomson@cpawscalgary.org

## EDMONTON CHAPTER

### How to contact us

address: P.O. Box 52031, 8210 - 109 St., Edmonton, Alta., T6G 2T5  
phone: (780) 432-0967  
fax: (780) 439-4913  
e-mail: info@cpaws-edmonton.org  
website: www.cpaws-edmonton.org

### HelpWanted/Wish List

- \* small photocopier



## SASKATCHEWAN CHAPTER

### How to contact us

address: Suite 203, 115-2nd Ave. North, Saskatoon, Sask., S7K 2B1  
phone: (306) 955-6197  
fax: (306) 665-2128

e-mail: info@cpaws-sask.org  
website: www.cpaws-sask.org

## MANITOBA CHAPTER

### How to contact us

address: P.O. Box 344, Winnipeg, Man., R3C 2H6  
office: Room 3b-70 Albert St.  
phone: (204) 949-0782  
fax: (204) 949-0783  
e-mail: info@cpawsmb.org  
website: www.cpawsmb.org

### HelpWanted/Wish List

- \* desktop computer
- \* small photocopier
- \* printer

## WILDLANDS LEAGUE CHAPTER

### How to contact us

address: Suite 380, 401 Richmond St. W., Toronto, Ont., M5V 3A8  
phone: (416) 971-9453  
fax: (416) 979-3155  
e-mail: info@wildlandsleague.org  
website: www.wildlandsleague.org

## OTTAWA VALLEY/VALLEE DE L'OUTAOUAIS CHAPTER

### How to contact us

address: Suite 601, 880 Wellington St., Ottawa, Ont., K1R 6K7  
phone: (613) 232-7297  
fax: (613) 232-2030  
e-mail: ovinfo@cpaws.org  
website: www.cpaws-ov.org

## HelpWanted/Wish List

Items are needed in Ottawa/Hull and in Montreal, and a tax receipt can be issued for their donation.

- \* computers (Pentium or newer, laptop or desktop)
- \* for slideshows/presentations: digital/video projector, overhead projector, light table, large portable screen.
- \* items for silent auction: art pieces and other objects of value on a nature theme

## SECTION MONTREAL

### Pour nous contacter

adresse: 1030 rue Beaubien Est, Bureau 303, Montréal, Que., H2S 1T4  
téléphone: (514) 278-SNAP (7627)  
télécopieur: (514) 278-3085  
courriel: snapqc@cpaws.org

## NOVA SCOTIA CHAPTER

### How to contact us

address: c/o School for Resource and Environmental Studies, Dalhousie University, Halifax, N.S., B3H 3J5  
phone: (902) 494-2966  
fax: (902) 494-3728  
e-mail: cpawsns@thegreenpages.ca

## NATIONAL OFFICE

Suite 506, 880 Wellington St.  
Ottawa, ON K1R 6K7  
(613) 569-7226 or 1-800-333-WILD  
fax (613) 569-7098  
info@cpaws.org  
www.cpaws.org



Yes, I want to support CPAWS' work for wilderness

Registered Charity 10686 5272 RR0001

I enclose:

\$35    \$50    \$100    \$500    \$1,000    \$ \_\_\_\_ other

I'm enclosing payment\*    cheque    VISA    MasterCard

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E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

\*Make your cheque or money order payable to CANADIAN PARKS AND WILDERNESS SOCIETY and send it along with this form to us in the reply envelope enclosed.

# Quebec's Moisie River to flow free – forever

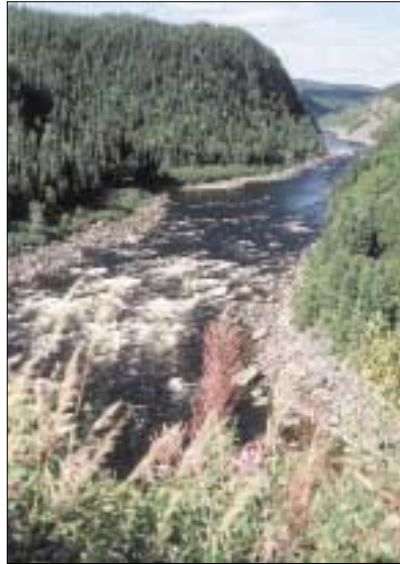
In an effort to meet the Quebec Protected Areas Strategy objective of protecting eight percent of the province's landbase by 2005, Environment Minister André Boisclair announced interim protection for almost 4,000 square kilometres of the Moisie River watershed in February. "This is a major commitment by the government to put conservation first in this outstanding natural area," says CPAWS-

Montreal Conservation Coordinator Jean-Francois Gagnon. In particular, Gagnon congratulates l'Association pour la protection de la rivière Moisie, a group of local fishers, who played a key role in securing this victory thanks to 25 years of putting pressure on the government to protect the river. Gagnon also praises the beauty and intact natural values of the Moisie River, the St. Lawrence's most powerful

undammed tributary. The river rises on the Labrador Plateau near the province's eastern border and runs 400 kilometres south to the St. Lawrence near Sept-Iles, carving through dramatic mountain scenery and whitewater canyons that have earned it the reputation among canoeists as the "Nahanni of the East."

The Moisie is also one of North America's most productive Atlantic salmon rivers and its lower course passes through dense boreal forest virtually untouched by industry. Its watershed is almost entirely undeveloped, but with the

financially strapped Uniforêt paper company owning rights to its forests and with two major tributaries – the Pekans and the Carheil – slated for diversion towards Hydro-Quebec turbines on the adjacent Ste-Marguerite River, the Moisie was left off the government's list of sites slated for designation under the Quebec Protected Areas Strategy released last July (see *Wilderness Activist* Fall 2002).



The Moisie River is a whitewater paddling destination.



That has now changed. The area under interim protection varies from six to 30 kilometres wide and stretches 320 kilometres from Labrador to just before the St. Lawrence. It includes the Pekans and the Carheil Rivers in the north as well as dense forest in the south. All industrial activity will be prohibited within the reserve but hunting and fishing activities will continue and existing cottages will be maintained.

The final boundaries of the protected area will be determined after public hearings have been held over the next several months, explains Gagnon. CPAWS, together with the Union québécoise pour la conservation de la nature, WWF-Canada, and the Réseau québécois des groupes écologistes (a Quebec environmental network) will be working collaboratively to ensure that Quebec meets, and exceeds, its commitment to establish protected areas representative of the province's biodiversity. ♻️

For more information / Pour informations en français:  
[www.cpaaws-ov.org/quebec7.htm](http://www.cpaaws-ov.org/quebec7.htm)

Left: Jean-Paul Gauthier; right: Jeannor Vitch



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