



COLUMBIA MOUNTAINS INSTITUTE OF APPLIED ECOLOGY

Annual Report

2000-2001

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1 Message from the President

The 2000-2001 year proved to be a successful one for the Columbia Mountains Institute (CMI). In terms of activities, the highlights included: the organization of six workshops and courses that attracted 540 participants; the upgrading of the CMI website, which allows for easier and faster access to the wealth of information on the website; the completion of the Illecillewaet and Beaver Watersheds Atlas, now accessible on the CMI website; and the signing of a multi-year agreement with Parks Canada.

Without doubt, the most notable success of the past year was the organization of the "Managing for Bears in Forested Environments" workshop held in October 2000. This event drew 270 registrants from around the world, and was by far the largest workshop ever put on by CMI. The organizing committee for the workshop and our Executive Assistant, Jackie Morris, can take great credit for this successful event.

One of the major benefits of the "Bear" workshop was that it generated significant revenue for CMI. Probably the greatest challenge facing the organization since its inception five years ago has been the issue of sustainability. As with many small, non-profit societies, cash flow has frequently been a concern for the organization, and our existence has very much been a "hand-to-mouth" one in terms of the fiscal situation. While CMI has not become wealthy over the past 12 months, the Board of Directors now feel that we have a little breathing room when it comes to operational costs. The "Bear" workshop has helped illustrate that it is indeed possible to sustain the organization through activities that are congruent with our mandate of facilitating and communicating the results of ecological research.

As always, the success of CMI over the past year is due to the hard work and dedication of our Board of Directors and supporters, who spend long volunteer hours planning and organizing our workshops and courses. CMI has also been fortunate in developing partnerships with several other agencies and organizations, and we are grateful for the support provided by these partners. Last, but not least, much of the credit for our success must go to our only staff member - Jackie Morris. Jackie has done a wonderful job of managing the organization on a daily basis, and dealing with the myriad of issues and challenges that arise on a daily basis. The fact that the job of President has been very smooth sailing over the past year has been due to Jackie's efficiency on the front line.

It has been my privilege to serve as Columbia Mountains Institute's President during the past twelve months, and I look forward to continued success for CMI in the year to come.

Alan Mason

President
Columbia Mountains Institute of Applied
Ecology

2 Operation of the Columbia Mountains Institute

2.1 About the Columbia Mountains Institute of Applied Ecology

The Columbia Mountains Institute of Applied Ecology (CMI) is a non-profit society dedicated to facilitating applied ecological research in the Columbia Mountains of British Columbia and to making information stemming from this research available to managers, resource technicians, scientists and the public.

The CMI was incorporated as a society in 1996, and is based in Revelstoke, BC. The society is directed by a maximum of fifteen Board members. An Executive Assistant supports the Board on a contractual basis.

2.2 Board of Directors for 2000-2001

Executive

Alan Mason, President	Revelstoke Community Skills Centre
Lee Harding, Vice President	SciWrite Professional Services
John Wilkey, Treasurer	BDO Dunwoody Chartered Accountants
Susan Hall, Secretary	Parks Canada

Directors

John Woods, Past President	Parks Canada
Ian Adams	Corvus Communications
Don Barcham	BC Ministry of Transportation and Highways
Karen Bray	Columbia Basin Fish and Wildlife Compensation Program
Jenny Feick	BC Ministry of Environment, Lands and Parks
Bruce McLellan	Ministry of Forests
Dave Raven	Ministry of Forests
Tim Rogers	University of Calgary
Del Williams	Revelstoke Community Forest Corporation
Guy Woods	BC Ministry of Environment, Lands, and Parks

Staff

Jackie Morris

Directors' meetings are generally held on the second Thursday of each month, with the exception of July and August.

2.3 Membership of the Columbia Mountains Institute

The Columbia Mountains Institute ended the year with 115 regular members, 9 student members, and 11 corporate members.

Geographic Distribution of CMI Members by Province*

Province	Number of Members
British Columbia	102
Alberta	15
Saskatchewan	2
Yukon	2
Ontario	2
USA	1

*Excludes Corporate Members

CMI Corporate Members for 2000-2001

- BC Hydro
- Downie Street Sawmills
- Golder Associates
- Haul- All Equipment
- Okanagan University College
- Pandion Ecological Research
- Parks Canada, Western Canada Service Centre, Vancouver Office
- Revelstoke Community Forest Corporation
- Revelstoke Community Skills Centre
- Southern Interior Forest and Extension Partnership
- Tembec Forest Products
- Victoria Office of the Habitat Protection Branch, BC Ministry of Environment, Lands and Parks.

2.4 Supporters of the Columbia Mountains Institute

The Columbia Mountains Institute of Applied Ecology gratefully acknowledges the financial support of the Revelstoke Community Forest Corporation and Parks Canada (Contribution Agreement). Other grants and sponsorships are recognized in the list of workshops and projects.

3 Activities of the Columbia Mountains Institute

3.1 Collaboration

On April 14, 2000 the Columbia Mountains Institute signed a Contribution Agreement with Parks Canada (Mount Revelstoke and Glacier National Parks). This multi-year agreement formalized financial and in-kind support for the CMI, and outlined the benefits Parks Canada received in return. Support for the Columbia Mountains Institute furthers Parks Canada's interest in maintaining environmental integrity both inside and outside the national park boundaries.

This year the CMI signed a Memorandum of Understanding with Brendan Wilson of Cordilleran Ecological Research, and with Pandion Ecological Research. These Memoranda set the stage for supporting these Research Associates in various research projects.

The CMI now has a Memorandum of Understanding with:

- Dr. Mindy Brugman, Research Scientist
- Lauren Waters, Research Associate
- Brendan Wilson, Research Associate
- Pandion Ecological Research, Corporate Research Associate.

The CMI has entered into discussions with Okanagan University College regarding ways that the two organizations can support each other.

3.2 Supporting Applied Ecological Research

Research Projects Supported by the CMI:

- Natural Regeneration over a light-moisture gradient in the ICHmw2, Brendan Wilson, CMI Research Associate. (funded by BC Ministry of Forests)
- Windthrow Study – Integrating Mountain Caribou Requirements and Forest Management in the Interior Wetbelt, Lauren Waters, CMI Research Associate. (funded by Ministry of Forests, Columbia Basin Trust's Affected Areas and Communities Initiatives Program, Revelstoke Community Forest Corporation, and the Downie Bonus Fund)

- Caribou Habitat Recruitment – Meeting to secure input into draft guidelines, in support of Lauren Waters, CMI Research Associate.

CMI Email Bulletins

The CMI's email bulletins provide members with updates on CMI news, funding sources, web sites, new documents, job postings, workshops, and other topics of interest to researchers in the field of applied ecology. Seventy-one email bulletins were sent to CMI members over the year. By January, members were sending so many messages to the CMI office that a change in format became necessary. Messages are now grouped and sent bi-weekly as a bulletin. A print archive of these bulletins is kept at the CMI office. Bulletins are sent to over 170 people, and distributed further within the corporate members' networks.

Web Site (www.cmiae.org)

With financial assistance from the Columbia Basin Trust's Affected Areas and Communities Initiatives and from Parks Canada, the CMI web site was overhauled to provide easier access to the information now available on the site. Upgrading is ongoing.

Illecillewaet and Beaver Watersheds Atlas

This web-based atlas is a compilation of landscape-related information on the Illecillewaet and Beaver Rivers. The Atlas was created in cooperation with, and with financial and in-kind support from, Parks Canada and the Columbia Basin Fish and Wildlife Compensation Program. The CMI hopes to continue to expand the Atlas, and eventually to include other watersheds such as the main valley of the Columbia River from Revelstoke to Shelter Bay. View the Atlas at www.cmiae.org.

3.3 Education

Workshops

A major goal of the CMI is to identify current ecological issues, then host workshops to address these issues. Experts in the relevant fields present current research, explain new guidelines, or describe case studies related to the issues.

The following is a list of workshops offered in 2000-2001. Descriptions and abstracts of presentations are available on the CMI web site.

CMI Annual Researchers' Meeting / Annual General Meeting
April 2000, Revelstoke BC
40 participants

Ecology of the Columbia River Reservoirs

May 2000, Revelstoke BC

91 participants

This workshop was organized with major support from Fisheries Renewal BC through the Columbia-Kootenay Fisheries Renewal Partnership. Additional financial and in-kind assistance was provided by the Columbia Power Corporation, the Sustainable Fisheries Foundation, Parks Canada, the Columbia Basin Fish and Wildlife Compensation Program, and the Affected Areas and Communities Initiatives (Columbia Basin Trust).

Managing for Bears in Forested Environments

October 2000, Revelstoke BC

270 participants

Financial and in-kind assistance came from BC Ministry of Forests, Canadian Mountain Holidays, Columbia Basin Fish & Wildlife Compensation Program, the Columbia Basin Trust's Affected Communities and Areas Initiatives Program, Columbia Power Corporation, Downie Bonus Fund, Parks Canada, and Tembec Industries.

Wildlife Chemical Immobilization Course

February 2001, Revelstoke BC

15 participants (this was the maximum for the course)

In-kind support from Parks Canada

Fifth Annual Roads, Rails, and Environment Workshop

March 2001, Revelstoke BC

89 attendees

Financial and In-kind assistance was from Armtec Limited, BC Rail, Canadian National Railway, Canadian Pacific Railway, CCI Coast Masonry Supplies, Columbia Basin Trust/Affected Areas and Communities Initiatives Program, EBA Engineering, Insurance Corporation of British Columbia, Parks Canada, Revelstoke Community Futures, and Summit Environmental Consultants.

Caribou Habitat Recruitment Meeting

March, 2001, Revelstoke BC

35 invited participants

Held in support of Research Associate Lauren Waters.

Access to Ecological Information

A grant from the Columbia Basin Trust's Affected Areas and Communities Initiatives Program allowed the CMI to build its capacity to provide Revelstoke with ecology-based information. Improvements to the CMI web sites were advertised in the local newspapers, larger print runs of the CMI newsletters meant a wider distribution of the newsletters in the community, and print copies of summaries of CMI workshops were provided to the Okanagan Regional Library and the Revelstoke Secondary School library. Science teachers at the Revelstoke Secondary School were sent selected updates from the CMI email bulletins.

Newsletters

Two issues of the CMI newsletters were produced, in September 2000 and February 2001. Copies were distributed to regular and corporate members, workshop participants, a courtesy list (politicians, other agencies) and to various outlets in Revelstoke.

4 Financial Report

Preface to Financial Statement:

The un-audited financial statements report a large improvement in the financial operations of the institute. CMI achieved a surplus for the year of \$13,131 compared to a deficit of \$9011 in the previous year. This improvement was largely the result of some very successful workshops.

The accumulated surplus as at March 31 2001 was \$23,76.00. Both the balance sheet and the statement of operations include deferred revenue. This represents workshops and courses that CMI has received revenue and incurred expenses for, but has not actually completed the event. By removing these amounts the surplus for the year more accurately reflects the actual results of operations for the period.

John Wilkey

Treasurer
Columbia Mountains Institute of
Applied Ecology

Columbia Mountains Institute of Applied Ecology

BALANCE STATEMENT

as at March 31, 2001

ASSETS

CURRENT ASSETS

Bank - Revelstoke Credit Union – Chequing	23,624.22
Bank - Revelstoke Credit Union – Shares	30.41
Accounts Receivable	14,585.54
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS	<u>38,240.17</u>

CAPITAL ASSETS

Computer Equipment	1,997.62
Accumulated Amortization – Computer Equipment	-
TOTAL CAPITAL ASSETS	<u>1,997.62</u>

TOTAL ASSETS \$40,237.79

LIABILITIES AND SURPLUS

CURRENT LIABILITIES

Accounts Payable	10,549.80
Deferred Revenue	5,926.66
TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES	<u>16,476.46</u>

SURPLUS

Surplus - Beginning of the Year	10,630.05
Surplus - For the Current Year	13,131.28
TOTAL SURPLUS	<u>23,761.33</u>

TOTAL LIABILITIES AND SURPLUS \$40,237.79

