



Box 6330, Hinton, Alberta T7V 1X6

# • Foothills Forest •

Issue 5, June 1994

## Foothills Forest goes International

On May 5th, Canadian Foreign Affairs Minister Andre Ouellet and Natural Resources Minister Anne McLellan announced the twinning of two model forest projects in Mexico with the Canadian Model Forest network. "The search for models of sustainable forest management is a common goal of many countries. By working together on the definition of practical, working level approaches to sustainable forest management, both our countries will benefit," Ms. McLellan stated.

This announcement has had a direct effect on Foothills Forest. We have been twinned with the Chihuahua Model Forest in northern Mexico. Both areas are mountainous with pine forests and the model forest programs both focus on wildlife conservation, watershed management, ecotourism, and the application of new information technologies to forest management.

Eastern Ontario Model Forest has been twinned with the Calakmul Model Forest on the Yucatan Peninsula. The Inhabited Forest project in the Lower Saint Lawrence region of Quebec will also

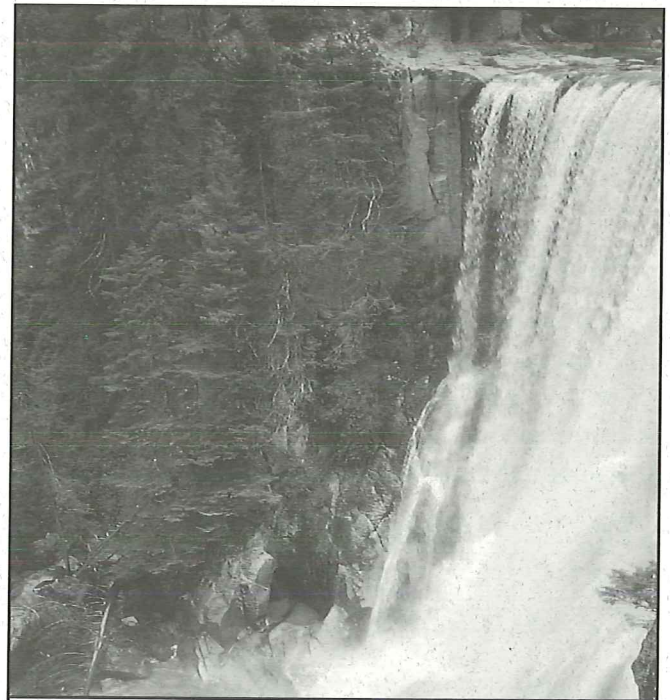
provide technical expertise to Calakmul.

Funding for the International Model Forests Program was provided for in the February 1994 federal budget, under the Green Plan International Partnership Fund. The Mexican model forest projects will receive an annual contribution of approximately \$500,000 CAD each, for the next three years. The Mexican government will provide matching funds for the two model forest projects.

### Work Already Underway

As implementing agency for the Chihuahua program, Foothills Forest Board members and staff have helped the people in Chihuahua set up accounting and office procedures and develop detailed project plans for the new model forest. The projects include the

construction of a tree nursery and the study of an endangered species of spruce tree as well as fish and wildlife management, and improved forestry practices. Studies are also underway to develop a geographic information system and to benefit the local economies by promoting an ecotourism industry.



*Cusarare Falls in the Chihuahua Model Forest will form part of the proposed ecotourism industry being planned for the area.*

We need your help! Please complete and return the questionnaire inside this Newsletter.



## Did you know . . .

A recent study prepared by Ernst & Young for the federal and provincial governments demonstrates the importance of the forest industry to Alberta communities. In 1992, there were 1,300 people in the Edson/Hinton area who were directly employed in logging, wood industry or pulp and paper jobs. When other factors such as local contractors, suppliers and service businesses were included, the total employment impact was estimated to be 2,834 jobs within the region.

The study also determined that the forest industry made 68 percent of its expenditures locally, with 12 percent going to Edmonton, 2 percent to Calgary and 15 percent out-of-province. On a provincial basis, \$1.18 billion was added to the local economies in 1992.

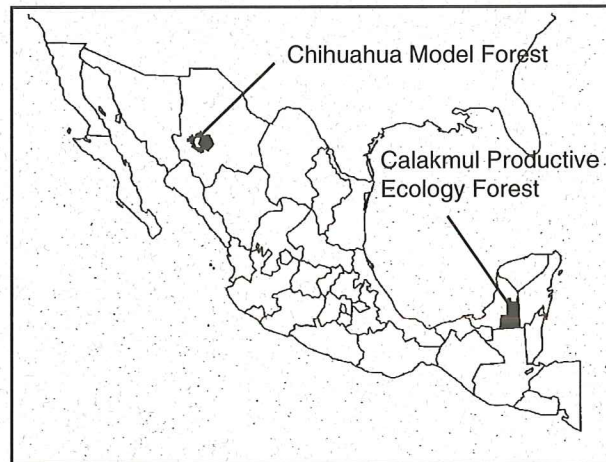
## The Bird Checklist is Coming!!

Due to some unfortunate and unforeseen delays, the Foothills Forest Bird Checklist is not yet available. The final layout is expected to be complete in the very near future and copies will be mailed out immediately to those persons who have requested them. We apologise for this inconvenience.

Anyone wishing to obtain a copy of the checklist can call or write the Foothills Forest office to be placed on the mailing list.

## The Mexican Model Forests

The Mexican government held a limited competition in the spring of 1993 to decide the locations of two Model Forest sites. Eight regions were invited to submit letters of intent and the two best proposals - one each from the tropical and temperate regions of the country, were asked to develop full project proposals.



### Calakmul Productive Ecology Forest

The tropical site incorporates the Calakmul Biosphere Reserve, one of the largest in the country. The goal is to harmonize culture, the environment and the community by experimenting with agroforestry techniques, monitoring

wildlife populations, developing an ecotourism industry and educating the local population as to the use and value of the local forest resources.

### Chihuahua Model Forest

The temperate forest site covers more than 108,000 hectares in the Western Sierra Madre range in what is known as the *Sierra Tarahumara*. It has a wet-temperate climate with a mean annual temperature of 9.8°C and an average of 148 frost-free days of per year. The largest part of the area's forests are pine-oak associations although other forest types are also present. The proposed activities will integrate non-timber values into forest management to improve and diversify the local economy.

## German Media Visit Foothills Forest

On June 14th and 15th, four German media representatives were taken on a tour of Foothills Forest and Weldwood's Hinton operations. They were accompanied by personnel from the Canadian embassies in Brussels and Bonn and an official from the European Communities.

The group was on a one-week visit to Canada to view Canadian forestry practices. Stopping first in Toronto, they travelled to sites in Eastern and Northern Ontario before arriving in Hinton. A brief introduction to Foothills Forest and the forest types found here was presented before the field tour started. On the field trip, they were shown a variety of sites which demonstrated the management of our local forests and the integration of wildlife and recreation considerations into forest planning. Following a visit to the sawmill, the group headed for Kamloops to see the B.C. Interior ecosystems and then to the temperate rainforests on Vancouver Island.



## Foothills Forest Questionnaire

In order to help us plan our communications program for the next 3 years, Foothills Forest is conducting a survey of the local residents. The survey will be repeated at a future date to evaluate the effectiveness of our program. You can assist us by answering the following questions and by letting us know how you would like to receive information about our Model Forest.

<i>Strongly Agree</i>	<i>Somewhat Agree</i>	<i>Neutral</i>	<i>Somewhat Disagree</i>	<i>Strongly Disagree</i>	<i>Don't Know</i>
-----------------------	-----------------------	----------------	--------------------------	--------------------------	-------------------

- |  |   |   |   |   |   |    |
|--|---|---|---|---|---|----|
| 1. The vision of Foothills Forest is "Sustainable development and Integrated Resource Management through Conservation and Cooperation." This is the direction the forest sector should be following. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | DK |
| 2. Research being conducted by Foothills Forest will assist the forest sector in meeting its goals leading towards sustainable forestry practices and integrated resource management.                | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | DK |
| 3. The forest industry now adheres to policies which are sensitive to environmental concerns.  | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | DK |
| 4. Professional foresters in government and industry do a good job of balancing the economic value of forests with other values such as environmental protection.                                    | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | DK |
| 5. Forest companies not following the environmental protection guidelines established by the Province are being fined.   | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | DK |
| 6. The forest industry is contributing its fair share in efforts to protect recreational, wildlife and wilderness areas so that all can enjoy Alberta's forests.                                     | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | DK |
| 7. We are doing a good job of keeping you informed about the work we are accomplishing at Foothills Forest.  | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | DK |

8. From the following list, please check off the sources of information which have been most helpful in making you aware of Foothills Forest.

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Local newspapers (Parklander, Leader, etc.) | <input type="checkbox"/> Foothills Forest newsletter         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Local television                            | <input type="checkbox"/> Foothills Forest Open House         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Local radio (YR radio network)              | <input type="checkbox"/> Friends and Relatives               |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Foothills Forest speaker appearances        | <input type="checkbox"/> Foothills /other forestry personnel |



9. From the following list, which sources of information have been most helpful in developing your opinions on forestry issues such as wildlife conservation and harvesting practices? Please read the list first and number your selections in order of importance with 1 being most helpful and 7 being least helpful.

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| ___ Literature from environmental organizations     | ___ Literature from the forestry sector |
| ___ News media (TV, newspaper, radio)               | ___ Personal experience                 |
| ___ Experience of others (friends, relatives, etc.) | ___ Scientific/technical publications   |
| ___ Other, please specify _____                     |   |

10. Are you employed in the resources sector, i.e. forestry, mining, oil & gas, etc? Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_

11. To which environmental organization(s) do you belong? \_\_\_\_\_

12. For statistical purposes only, please indicate your age group:

- \_\_\_ 17 & under    \_\_\_ 18 to 34    \_\_\_ 35 to 44    \_\_\_ 45 to 54    \_\_\_ 55 & over

Suggestions for our future communications efforts would be appreciated.

---

---

---

---

If you would like to further discuss your answers to the questionnaire, please call Bryan Millar at 865-8342 or provide your name and phone number in the spaces below and we will contact you.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone No.: \_\_\_\_\_

If you would like additional copies of this questionnaire for others in your household, please call us.

Completed questionnaires may be mailed to Box 6330, Hinton, T7V 1X6 or they may be dropped off at the Alberta Forest Service offices in Edson, Hinton, Grande Cache and Robb or at the Forest Technology School in Hinton.

*Thank you for helping us!*