

The Foothills Model Forest Adaptive Forest Management/ History Project

Bob Udell

Foothills Model Forest Annual General Meeting

Calgary, Alberta

June 20, 2007



Medicine River - 1913

The Project Team and Board Promoter



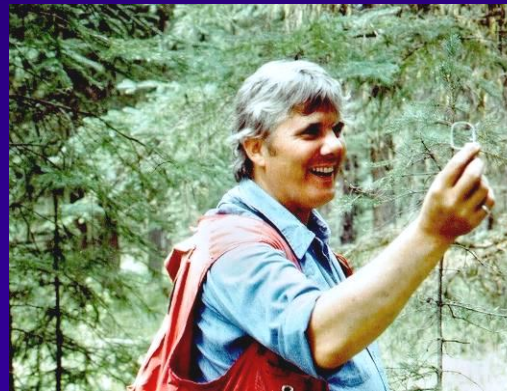
Dennis Quintilio and
Bob Stevenson



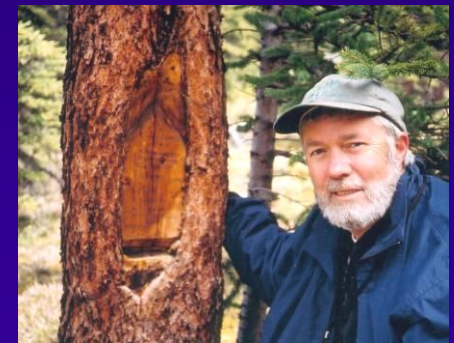
Pete Murphy



Bob Bott

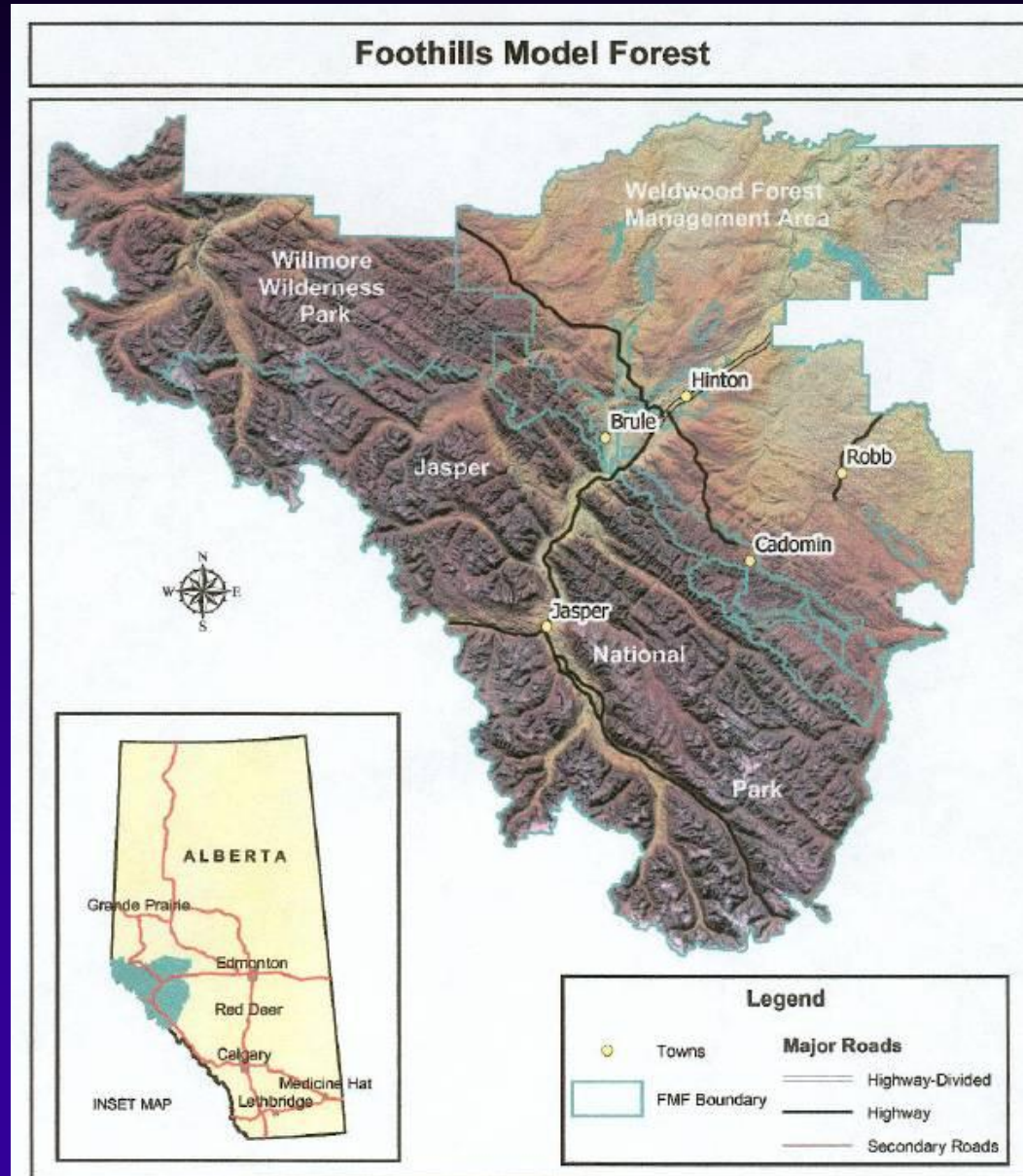


Dave Presslee



Bob Udell

Study area



The Adaptive Forest Management/ History Program 1996-2006



- Three Reports on MF Website
- Three Books Published
- Special Projects
 - Bridgland Study
 - Historic Trails Map
- One New Book in Process
- Five More Reports Planned/ In Process

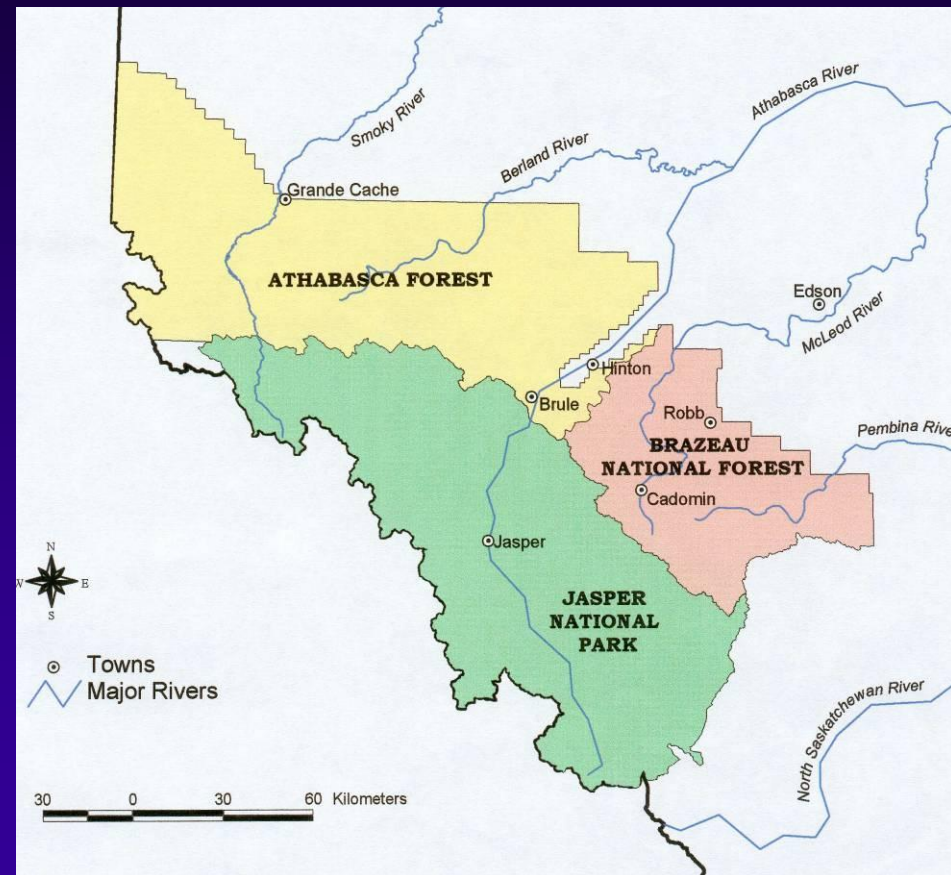
Report #1: 2000 Adaptive Forest Management in the Protected Areas of Foothills Model Forest



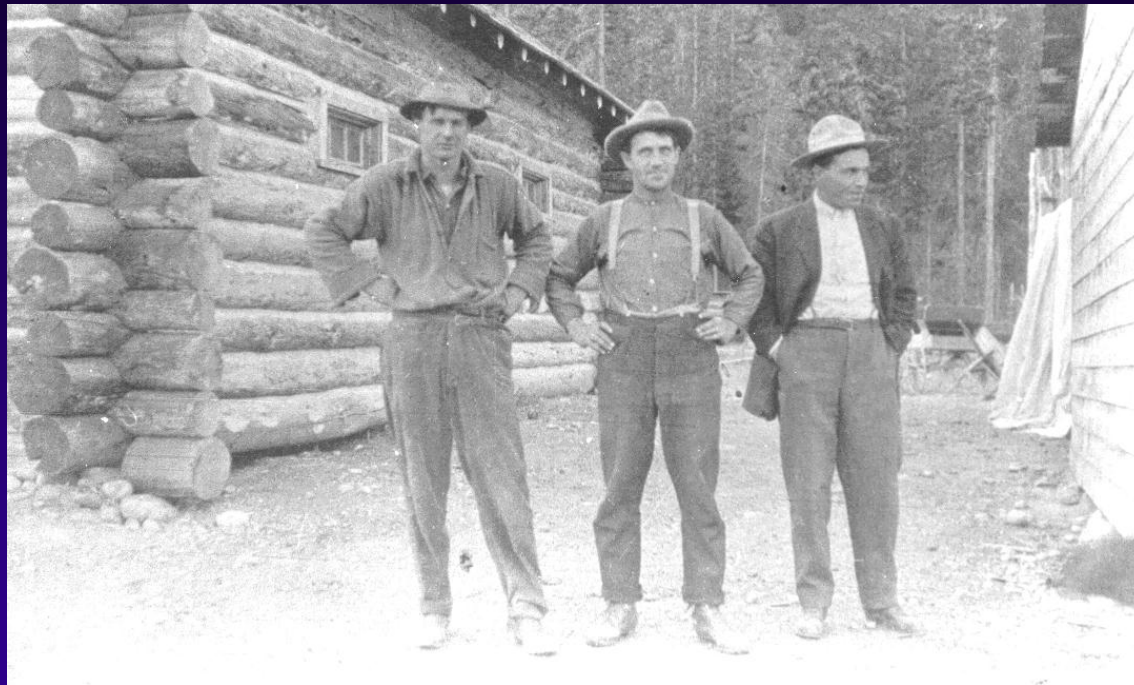
- by Michael den Otter

Examines Evolution of Adaptive Forest Management in Protected Areas of Model Forest – from tourism and exploitation to ecosystem protection

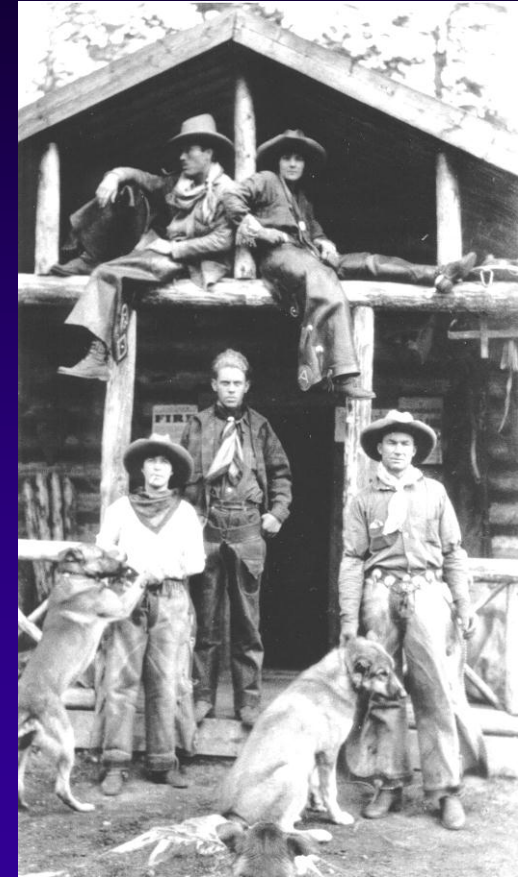
Includes map series on changes in Jasper National Park, Willmore Wilderness Park



Early Logging and Tourism in Jasper National Park



**Otto Brothers Camp
– Whirlpool River
Jasper National Park: 1919**



**Guides at Charlie
Matheson's Cabin**

From Exploitation to Preservation to Active Management – e.g. Prescribed Fire



Prescribed Burn in Jasper, May 23, 2003

Report #2: 2003 Evolution of Forest Management Agreements on the Hinton Forest

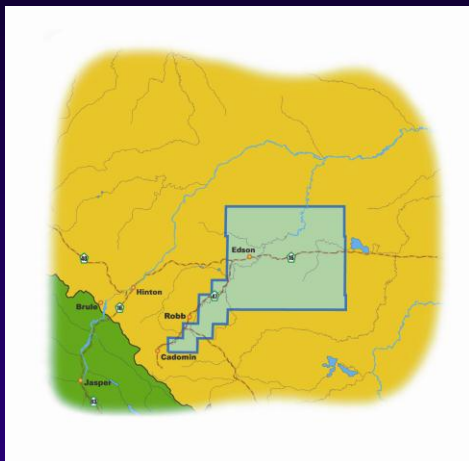


- by Peter J. Murphy
and Marty Luckert

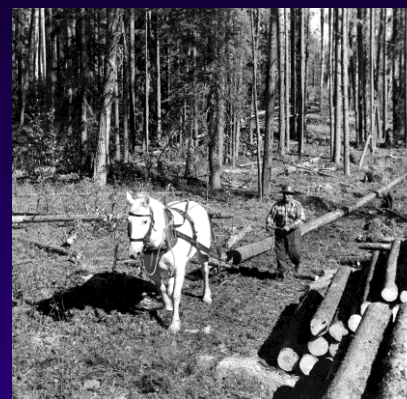
Deputy Minister Bob Steele
and NWP&P Vice President
Ivan Sutherland signing
1968 Forest Management
Agreement



Evolution of FMAs



**First FMA
1951**



**Current FMA
1988**



Report #3: 2003

The Hinton Forest: A Case Study

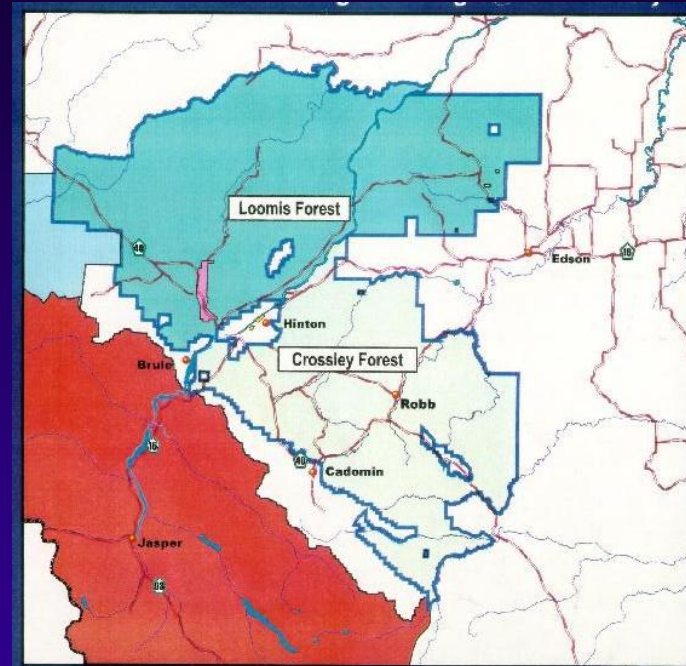
1951-2000



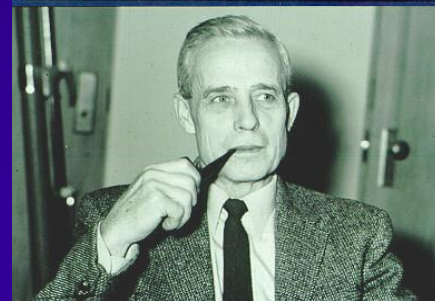
- by Peter J. Murphy, Bob Udell, Bob Stevenson

Comprehensive examination of forest policy and forest practices from beginnings of management in 1955 to the 1999 forest management plan

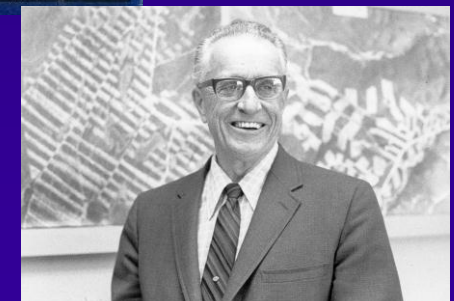
Legacy created by two Alberta forestry pioneers – Reg Loomis, Des Crossley



Crossley and
Loomis
Forests:
1997



Reg Loomis



Des Crossley

Evolution of Forestry Practices



Progressive Clear Cut 1977



Progressive Clear Cut 2006

**Natural Forest
Management System
2002**



Report #4: 2003

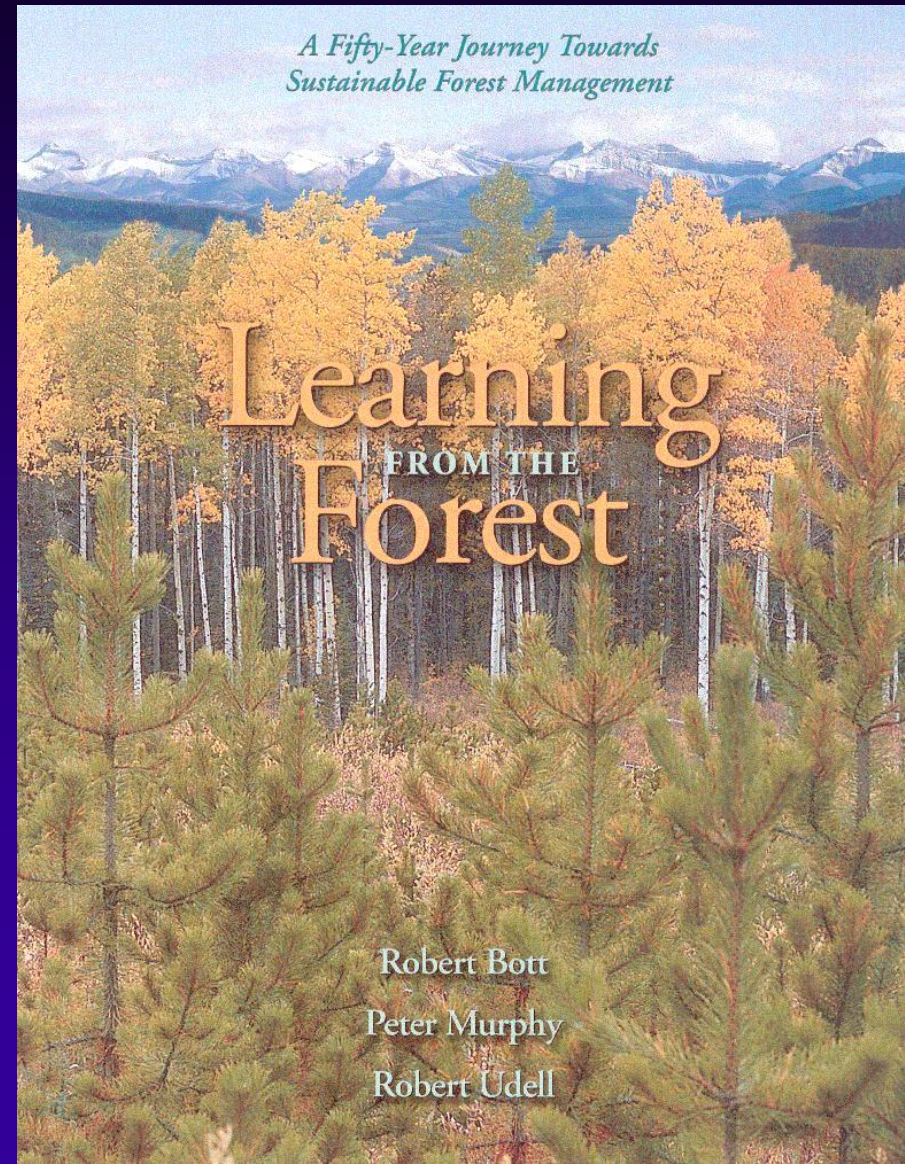
Learning from the Forest

by: **Bob Bott**
Peter J. Murphy
Bob Udell

**History of Forest
Management at West Fraser's
Hinton operation**

Builds on previous three reports

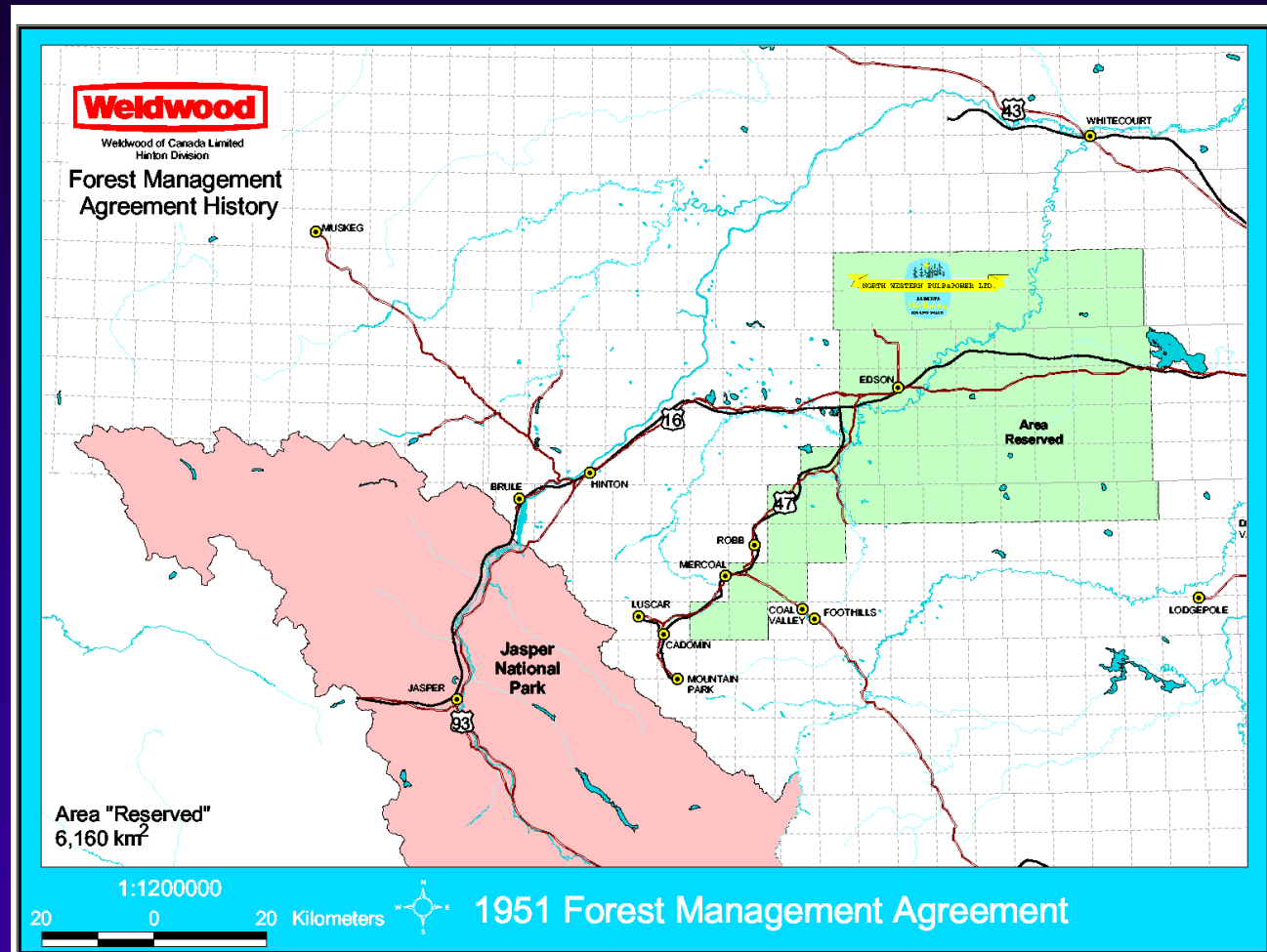
**Published June 2003
Foothills Model Forest/
Fitzhenry and Whiteside**



A Story of One Man's Vision....



Frank E. Ruben
1980
NWP&P Founder
1951



Report #5: 2006

A Hard Road to Travel



- by Peter J. Murphy
Bob Udell
Bob Stevenson
Tom Peterson

From the end of the ice age to 1955:
An examination of the history of the land,
the people and the forests of a region
at the heart of Alberta's history

Joint publication of the Foothills Model
Forest and the Forest History Society,
Durham N.C.

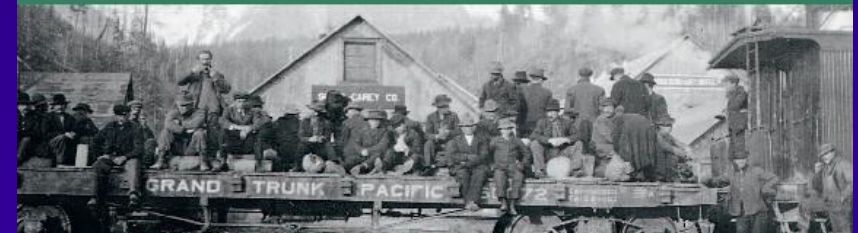
Published Winter 2006/2007



A HARD ROAD TO TRAVEL



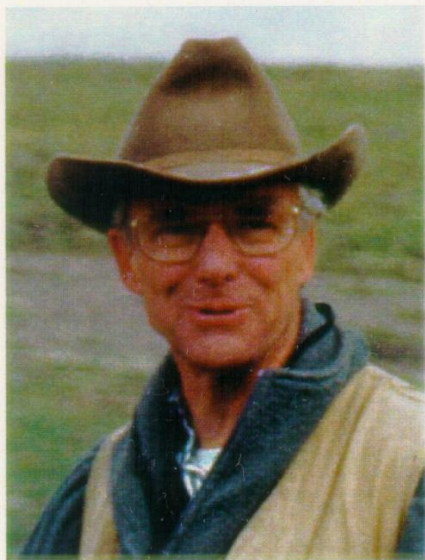
LAND, FORESTS AND PEOPLE IN THE UPPER
ATHABASCA REGION TO 1955



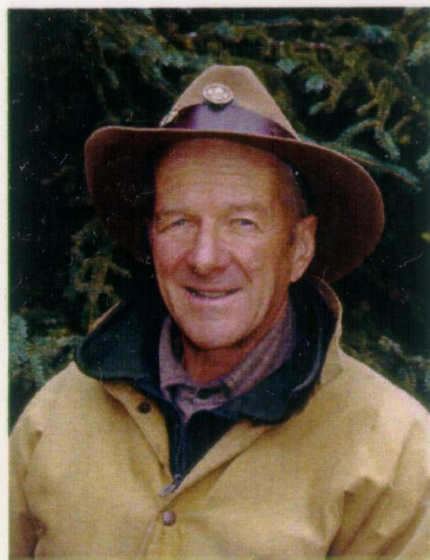
MURPHY / UDELL / STEVENSON / PETERSON



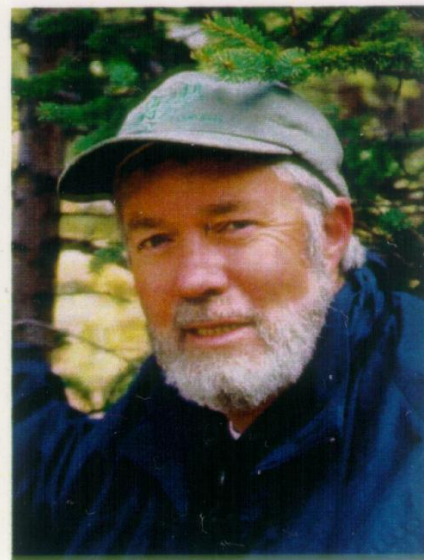
Authors



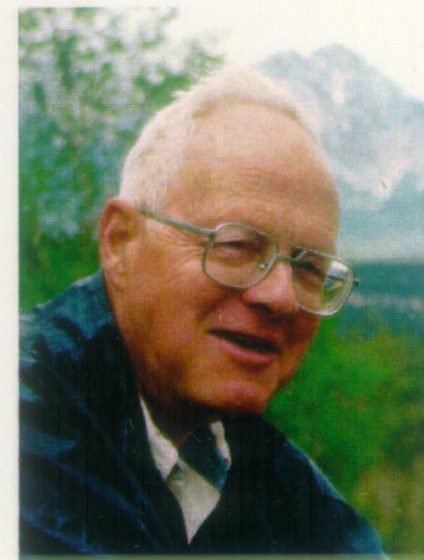
Peter Murphy



Bob Stevenson



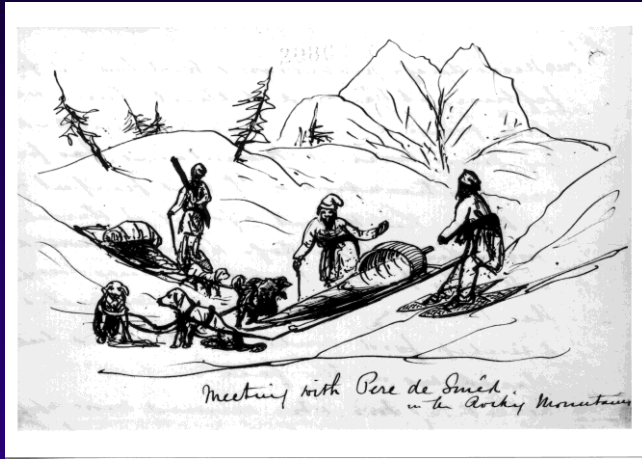
Robert Udell



Tom Peterson

Murphy - Stevenson - Udell - Peterson

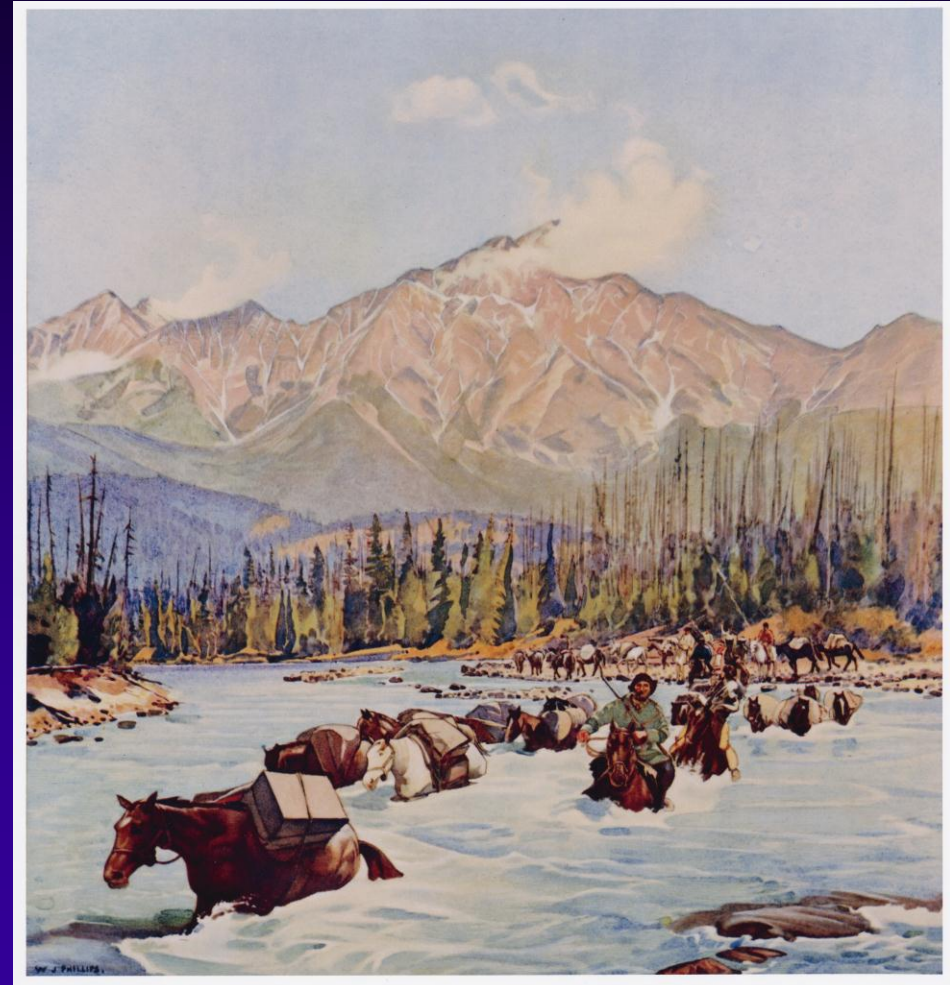
158 Photos and Reproductions of drawings and paintings



Pierre-Jean de Smet 1846



Milton and Cheadle 1865



Parting of the Brigades



The Setting:

West-Central Alberta & Columbia River B.C.

28 maps

Foreword by Ian MacLaren

Professor
of
English
&
History
University
of
Alberta

Foreword — I.S. MacLaren

When he wrote *Seven Rivers of Canada*, his memorable personal history of the nation, essayist and novelist Hugh MacLennan opined that the souls of Canadians lay with our rivers. MacLennan argued that when, in the age of railways, we left the rivers we lost something of our souls. In the farthest reaches of the western Prairie provinces, the upper Athabasca River still runs as an exception to this idea. A tributary of the epic Mackenzie River, the Athabasca flows over 1,200 kilometres (about as far as the Rhine), and none of that distance has suffered the humiliation of a dam. The Peace River, the other great tributary of the Mackenzie, was changed forever by the creation of Williston Lake behind Bennett Dam in 1967. Abraham Lake behind the Bighorn Dam altered the North Saskatchewan River in 1972. As early as 1910, the Southern Alberta Land Company was building Bassano Dam for irrigation projects that diverted the waters of the Bow River; it was one of fourteen irrigation or, in its upper reaches, hydro dams that have transformed the Bow forever. Across Athabasca Pass, the Columbia River has been reduced, writes Blaine Harden in *A River Lost*, to a series of puddles by an almost infinite number of dams. By contrast, the Athabasca remains the river it was over 40 years ago, when MacLennan could see that “it gives you a sense of the power and mastery of the system to which it belongs.” And that power and mastery, 10 times greater when the river is in flood but always fast and demanding a traveller’s or forder’s respect and caution, are the same today as they were 150 years ago when David Thompson became the first European North American to record seeing its upper reaches. The upper Athabasca received historical designation as a heritage waterway in 1989 as an acknowledgement of that free-flowing, ongoing history.

The pre-contact Native and post-contact non-Native history of the Athabasca River’s upper reaches tells a story of intimate relations between people and a region. From a principal transportation corridor for trade among Native groups on both sides of the Cordillera, the Athabasca and its tributaries, the Miette and the Whirlpool, evolved in different ways as waves of resource exploitation and new forms of transportation came into existence over the course of 15 decades, moderating into resource management in the 1950s. That no one could resist its attributes as a corridor is best exemplified in the years 1915 and 1916, when not one but two railway lines operated in the valley between Hinton and Jasper; both stuck as close as possible to the river.

An undammed river and its valleys offer an apt subject for an uninterrupted history. Still, most histories of the upper Athabasca region pay more attention to the travellers through the region than to the people who stayed and settled in it. Treating the Athabasca corridor for its entire non-Native history, *A Hard Road to Travel* takes its readers through two parallel histories brought together as one. It

Seven Chapters



1. The Land and the Forest
 2. Early Explorers and Athabasca Pass
 3. The Yellowhead Pass
 4. The Road North Towards Jasper
 5. Railways, Roads and Development
 6. Forest Protection and Management
 7. North Western Pulp & Power
- Reprise and Epilogue

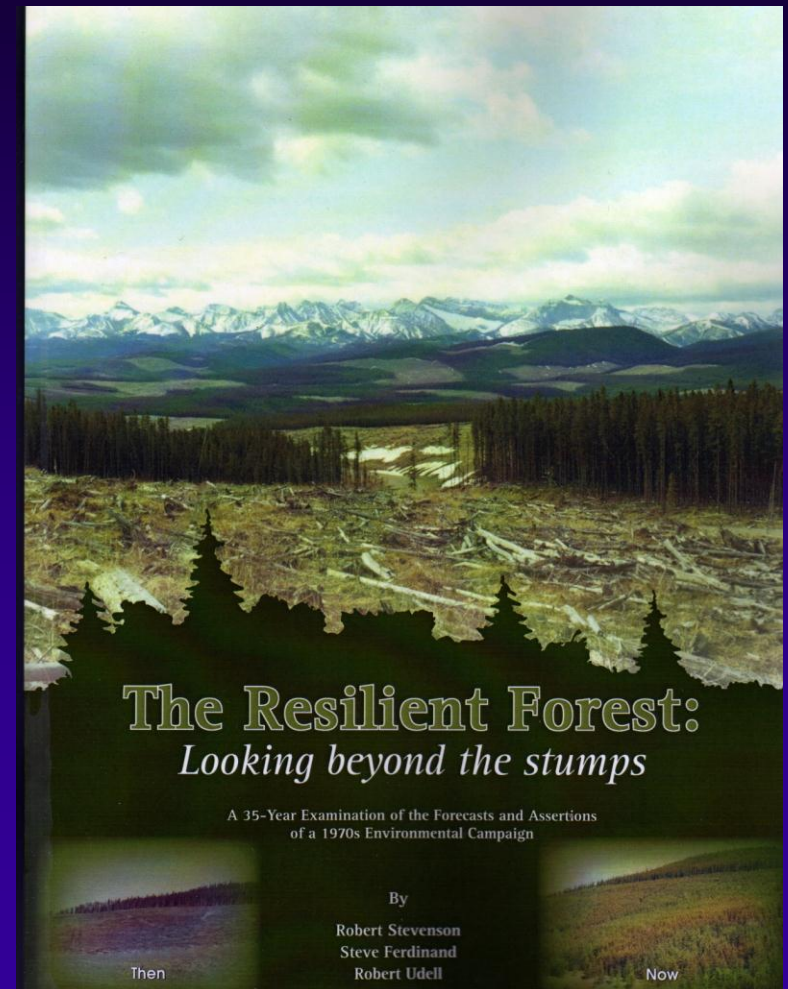
Report #6: June 2007

The Resilient Forest: *Looking Beyond the Stumps – A 35-year Retrospective on a 1970s Environmental Campaign*

by Bob Stevenson, Steve
Ferdinand and Bob Udell

**Controversial ENGO
Campaign in 1972 targeted
destructive harvesting and
reforestation practices at
NWP&P**

**35 years later, Stevenson,
Ferdinand and Udell examine
the premises of the campaign
and the outcome of the dire
forecasts therein.**



The “Zimmer Report”



Zimmer 1971



Hellum 1972



West Fraser 2006



Report #7: 2006 50 Years of Harvest and Reforestation: A Historical Photo Review

by Bob Udell

DND Experiment
1966

Company Harvest began on
the Hinton FMA in 1956

A photo essay examines
evolution of forest policy and
practice on the FMA over 50
years.

Captures images from historic
events in the Company's past,
and how the landscape has
evolved over time.



View in 2006



50 year Rephotography Project



1. Locate Images (1969 planting: "Ontario Tubes" Camp 1)

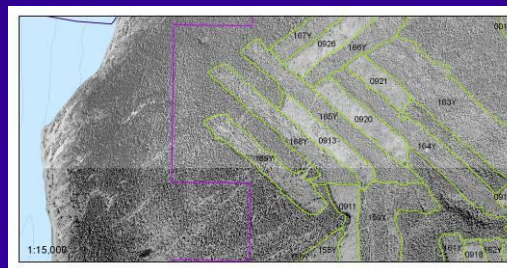


2. Rephotograph

- GPS photopoints
- Aerial images

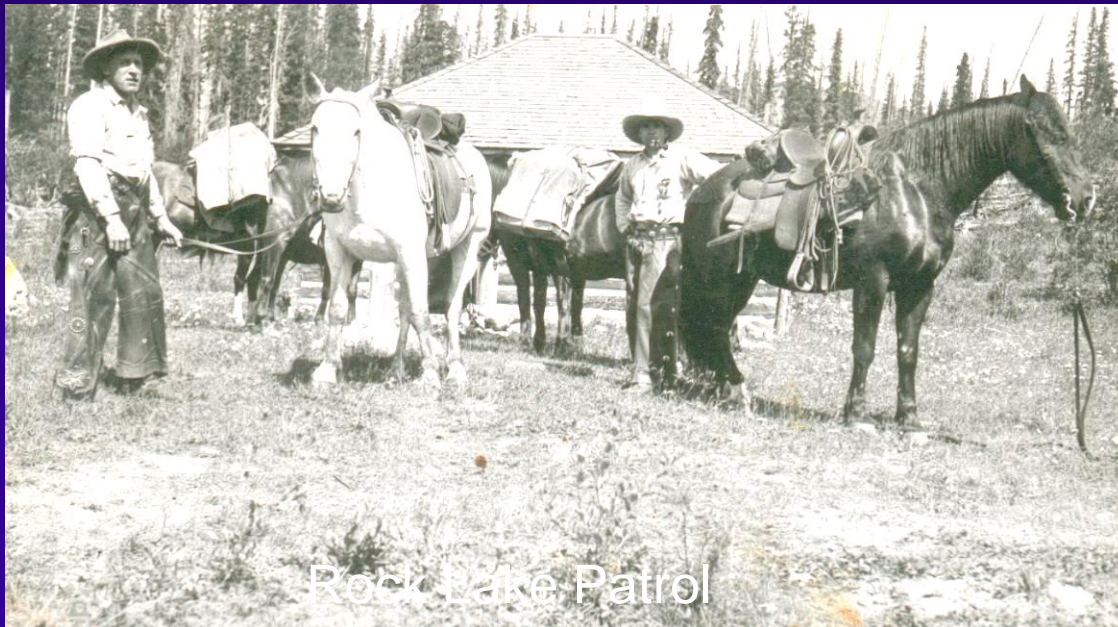


3. Maps and Report 2006



Report #8: 2007/08

Mountain Trails: Memoirs of a Forest Ranger at Entrance, Alberta Jack Glen 1920-1942



Rock Lake Patrol

Mile 58 Cabin
1920



Forestry Headquarters



**Athabasca/Brazeau HQ to 1920
At Entrance**

Other Projects

The Bridgland Project 1999,2000



<http://bridgland.sunsite.ualberta.ca>

M.P.Bridgland - 1915

Jeannine Rhemtulla 1999



Future Projects



- A History of Silviculture at Hinton
- Ecotour of Highway 16
- A History of Foothills Model Forest 1992-2012



Conclusion.....

The Adaptive Forest Management/ History Program 1996-2006+



“By Understanding our Past We Shape Our Future”



Crossley and his
Forestry crew, early 60s

Jackladder at current airport
site, Jasper early 1900s

