

# High Priority Private BC Land Acquired for Critical Wildlife Habitat

The Nature Trust Commits to raise \$2 million for Hofert/Hoodoos Property Conservation

A truly remarkable acquisition in the East Kootenay was made possible this year through the outstanding support from people living in the area and from provincial and national conservation organizations.

The 4,037 ha (10,000 acres) property known for the distinctive "Hoodoos" formations on the southern edge of the property lies in the Columbia River Valley between Fairmont Hot Springs and Invermere.

The diversity of this property ranges from wetlands along the Columbia River to grasslands to mid-elevation forests. Habitat is provided for migratory waterfowl and land birds as well as deer, elk, badger and other mammals. This property supports at least five red-(endangered or threatened) and blue-Continued on next page...



Distinctive Hoodoos formations in the East Kootenay

# Long, Hot Summer of Wildfires Impacts Okanagan Conservation Lands



Okanagan Mountain Provincial Park fire as seen from the west side of Okanagan Lake

Most of you are familiar with the devastating series of wildfires that have struck British Columbia's central and southern interior grasslands. Both the Okanagan Mountain Park and the Vaseux Lake fires have had a major impact on conservation lands owned by The Nature Trust. The Nature Trust gives its heartfelt thanks to the crews of the Ministry of Forests, community based Fire Departments, the forest industry and other agencies that have devoted massive personnel and equipment to Continued on page 4...

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The Endangered B.C. Badger It is thought that less than 200 badgers remain in B.C. today. See page 2

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listed (vulnerable) animals. It provides opportunities to enhance the habitat for ungulates and to become a recovery area for Sharp-tailed Grouse, a bluelisted species recently extirpated from the East Kootenay. The size and location of this property, added to the internationally recognized Columbia wetlands, the Columbia Lake Wildlife Management Area and The Nature Trust's 2,200 ha (5,440 acres) Westside Columbia Lake property, creates a unique opportunity to manage habitat in this area at an ecosystem level.

Led by The Nature Trust, the purchase of the property was completed at the end of February 2003 in partnership with: Columbia Basin Fish & Compensation Wildlife Program, Habitat Conservation Trust Fund, Ducks Unlimited Canada. BC Conservation Foundation and The Kootenay Wildlife Heritage Fund. This group raised \$1.44 million to close the purchase agreement. The \$3.5 million purchase price will be paid over three years to allow time to raise the remaining funds. Our fundraising goal is \$2 million by February 2006.

At The Nature Trust's June 3rd reception in Fairmont, Don Krogseth, Chair of The Nature Trust, was moved by the amazing support from the people in the East Kootenay. The Lake Windermere Rod and Gun Club, Southern Guides Association, Sparwood and District Fish and Wildlife Association, East Kootenay Big Game Club, A Bar Z Ranch, and the District of Invermere presented close to \$20,000 that has gone directly to the Hofert/Hoodoos purchase.

The Nature Trust staff is working on the development of a Land Management Plan for the Hofert/Hoodoos property. Jim Hope, The Nature Trust's BC Conservation Land Manager, noted that "this process involves input from our partners and key local groups regarding the values on the property and how best they can be managed over time."

The Nature Trust has been involved in land conservation in the East Kootenay for more than 25 years and has helped acquire more than 9,000 hectares (22,239 acres) of critical habitat in this region. ◆

### The Endangered Badger

The badgers we see in British Columbia are a subspecies of the American Badger (*taxidea taxus jefferson*), and are found in deep-soiled grasslands and open forest in the southern interior of our Province. Threatened by habitat loss, this subspecies is listed as endangered by the Province and federally by the Committee on the Status of Endangered Wildlife in Canada (COSEWIC). Currently it is thought that less than 200 adult badgers remain in BC, and that these numbers continue to decline.

Weighing in at 3 to 8 kilos, badgers are portly members of the weasel family. They have shaggy grey to brownish fur with a short bushy yellowish tail, and a distinctive white stripe from the tip of their nose to their shoulders. Badgers get their name from the black patches or "badges" they have on each cheek.

The long thick claws on their front paws are well adapted for excavating their homes and digging after prey. These "digging machines" live in burrows which can be as big as 9 metres long and 3 metres deep.



One of the few grassland carnivores in Canada, badgers mainly feed on small mammals and play an important ecological role by controlling rodent populations. They will also eat birds, invertebrates, carrion and snakes; even rattlesnakes, where their ranges overlap.

Badger burrows are used by other animals. In fact, the decline of the endangered Burrowing Owl in BC is thought to be closely linked to declines in badger populations, since this owl species was known to nest in abandoned badger burrows in drier parts of the Province. ◆



Crew creating a fire guard around a smoldering sawdust pile at Cherry Creek Ranch

# Nature Trust's Summer Conservation Crews

A critical part of The Nature Trust's annual work program is on-theground land management at our 223 properties across the province. During this past summer, The Nature Trust had crews in the South Okanagan, Peace River and East Kootenay. These four crews, under skilled technical supervision, performed important on-theground land management work including fencing repair, noxious weed control and maintenance of trails, gates and property entry points.

#### Targeted weed species

(South Okanagan's Grassland-Steppe):

- sulphur cinquefoil
- diffuse knapweed
- spotted knapweed
- hound's-tongue
- tansy ragwort
- dalmation toadflax



The Nature Trust's 2003 South Okanagan Youth Crew

# Major Acquisition Helps to Save the Englishman River

The Nature Trust and Its Partners Working Together for Conservation

A landmark conservation agreement for the Englishman River on Vancouver Island's East Coast will protect the health and productivity of one of the most threatened water systems in British Columbia.

Through a collaborative acquisition strategy involving local, provincial, and federal government agencies and other conservation organizations in June 2003, The Nature Trust purchased 97 ha (240 acres) of riparian habitat ( the Englishman River property) and received an additional gift of 12.2 ha (30 acres) (the Craig Creek property) from the Englishman River Land Corporation. Weyerhaeuser Corporation also donated the remaining timber and commercial gravel that it held on the south side of the Englishman River. As a result. The Nature Trust holds title to more than 177 ha (437 acres) of riparian and inter-tidal wetlands in the Englishman River watershed and Parksville-Oualicum Beach Wildlife Management Area.

Along with these holdings, the Parksville-Qualicum Beach Wildlife Management Area provides a 40-kilometre corridor of ocean, beach, estuary, creek, river and forest land, bringing the area's total of protected habitat lands to more than 1,206 hectares (2,979 acres).

"The Englishman River is one of the most storied and majestic water systems in this province," said Don Krogseth, Chairman of The Nature Trust of British Columbia. "This is a conservation achievement that was 20 years in the making, and one that's enormously gratifying for our organization and our partners. A special thank you to long-time Director, George Reifel,



Englishman River

who was instrumental in coordinating this significant acquisition."

Located on the east coast of Vancouver Island, this extremely valuable steelhead and salmon-producing river system has seen dramatic changes over the past century. Increased reliance as a water source for neighboring communities emphasizes a critical need for ensuring an abundant, clean water system for fish, wildlife, and people.

The Englishman River property will be managed jointly by The Nature Trust and the Provincial Ministry of Water, Land and Air Protection. The newly acquired property at the headwaters of Craig Creek, a salmon-bearing stream, will be co-managed by The Nature Trust, the City of Parksville, and the Regional District of Nanaimo for fish habitat restoration, limited recreation use, and wildlife habitat conservation. ◆ Major funding for this project came from The Nature Trust's conservation partners who work together to purchase critical estuary and wetland resources through the **Pacific Estuary Conservation Program**. Organizations in this unique conservation partnership include:

- Habitat Conservation Trust Fund
- Ministry of Water, Land and Air Protection
- Environment Canada
- Canadian Wildlife Service
- Ducks Unlimited Canada
- The Nature Trust of BC
- The Land Conservancy of BC
- The Nature Conservancy of Canada
- Fisheries and Oceans Canada.

Since its inception in 1987, the Pacific Estuary Conservation Program has acquired over 1,400 hectares (3,458 acres) of key habitat along the coast of British Columbia and initiated the conservation designation of another 25,000 hectares (62,000 acres) of adjacent inter-tidal Crown lands.



Englishman River Estuary



### **Our Progress at a Glance**

- Hold title to 21,000 ha (50,000 acres) of ecologically significant land
- Manage 50,000 ha (125,000 acres) through long-term leases of Crown land
- \$50 million invested in land
- \$7 million invested in land management during the past 10 years
- Key regions: South Okanagan, Georgia Basin and the Pacific Estuaries of Coastal BC, East Kootenay and Peace River Valley Region
- Won the prestigious Ramsar Wetland Conservation Award 1999 for the Pacific Estuary Conservation Program

### Okanagan Fire: continued from page 1

respond to this year's fire season. And our sympathies go to the residential homeowners and ranching partners that have suffered major economic losses.

From a habitat, wildlife management and biodiversity perspective this year's wildfire season also offers an opportunity to demonstrate that natural disturbances-whether from wildfire, insect damage to forest stands, or catastrophic wind storms-are part of the natural plant/forest succession cycle and help to maintain a diverse grassland/open forest ecosystem with a mosaic of vegetation and habitat types. This diversity of grassland and open forest types provided by lands owned by The Nature Trust and its conservation partners in the Vaseux Lake corridor and within Okanagan Mountain Provincial Park are vital to a number of species including Lark Sparrows, Western Rattlesnakes, Whiteheaded Woodpeckers, and Ferruginous Hawks. Management Plans for these lands recognize that these wildfire events that occur once or twice in a century, though devastating in the short-term when they occur, are part of the landscape's natural succession process.

# Vaseux Lake Fire - a grassland fire re-shapes the landscape

This fire began on the afternoon of August 22nd at the edge of Vaseux The Okanagan Falls Fire Lake. Department and aerial tankers from the Ministry of Forests were able to protect both the rural sub-division along the Vaseux Lakeshore and six residential structures adjacent to the Blue Mountain Vineyard on the east side of Highway 97. Both the Casorso Ranch and the upland grazing area managed jointly by the Thomas family and The Nature Trust suffered severe losses to the already limited fall and late summer range resources in the Shuttleworth Creek and Vaseux Creek watersheds.

This grassland/open Ponderosa Pine forest habitat has been the focus of a cooperative effort by The Nature Trust, the Ministry of Water, Land & Air Protection, the Ministry of Forests, Casorso Ranch, Thomas Ranches and the Canadian Wildlife Service to reduce fuel loads by



Vaseaux Lake fire damage

thinning forest stands and conducting a series of controlled burns to restore vigor to the sage brush and bunch grasses of this shrub-steppe ecosystem. These efforts have been targeted to enhance habitat and vegetation for California Big Horn Sheep and Lewis Woodpeckers while trying to reduce the likelihood of an uncontrolled, catastrophic wildfire. However a prolonged drought, high temperatures, severe winds and fuel loads all combined to create an extreme situation once fire broke out at Vaseux Lake.

Wildfire is part of the natural complex of dynamic forces that have helped the arid grassland ecosystem of the South Okanagan evolve over thousands of years. The Nature Trust will work with its conservation partners and neighboring landowners to carefully monitor post-fire vegetation changes, minimize erosion as the fall and winter rains approach, and re-build the fencing and watering systems that are critical to the wildlife and livestock that use this ecosystem. Past experience with controlled fire at Vaseux Lake suggests that native grasses will respond quickly to the fire except in those areas where the fire burned so hot as to destroy all soil nutrients. The more sensitive Antelope and Rabbit brush plant communities (Purshia tridentata & Chrysothamnus nauseosus) found on a number of The Nature Trust holdings within the burn area have been hard hit by the fire.

Because this year's wildfire burned unevenly across the landscape, we are hopeful that sufficient pockets of intact Antelope brush and Rabbit brush plant communities survived the fire and will serve as seed sources for adjacent, more heavily burned portions of these grasslands. The Antelope brush habitat of the South Okanagan remains a conservation priority because it supports 88 provincially listed species at risk. Much of this Antelope brush habitat has already been lost to land and agriculture development.

We will continue to monitor post-fire vegetation recovery across this unique grassland/shrub-steppe habitat complex for the next several years. And we are already working with our conservation partners such as the Habitat Conservation Trust Fund and the Canadian Wildlife Service to repair fence lines and minimize invasive weeds on these grasslands.



Assessing fire damage at Okanagan Mountain Park, Kelowna

### The Okanagan Mountain Park Fire - Wildfire along the urban/wild land interface

his fire broke out in the dense for-L est stands of Okanagan Mountain Park on August 16th. Again, a combination of wind conditions, extreme air temperatures and low humidity resulted in a firestorm sweeping out of Okanagan Mountain Park on August 25 and 26th north towards the edge of the City of Kelowna and south towards the vineyards and rural residences at Naramata. This devastating fire that raged across the tops of the Ponderosa Forests and open grasslands along the Okanagan Lake's shoreline consumed the forest vegetation that comprised The Nature Trust's holdings at the north edge of the Park and the Murdoch family cabin (a recreational structure under lease to the Murdoch family members). This is the same fire storm that caused the destruction among the subdivisions along Kelowna's Lakeshore Drive.

This fire has a number of similarities to 100 year fire events that have swept rural subdivisions in Oregon, Eastern Washington and California in recent years. The Okanagan Mountain Park/Kelowna Fire is an example of the high property losses that can occur when a wildfire breaks out in a semi-arid environment and then expands rapidly into a catastrophic event outside the resources of fire departments to control. This fire, spread by unusually strong winds, leaped emergency fire lines and destroyed several residential subdivisions built up in the grassland and forest environments on Kelowna's eastern edge (the "forest - urban interface"). The immensity of the loss to 235 families in Kelowna who saw their homes burn is incomprehensible.

The Nature Trust will continue to work actively with experts from BC Parks and the Ministry of Forest to initiate priority landscape restoration tasks and work cooperatively so that the biodiversity values of this outstanding Provincial Park remain available for future generations.  $\blacklozenge$ 

# Rankin Property Acquisition Increases the Big Ranch/Musil Conservation Area to 472 Hectares

he Nature Trust and its partners **L** have purchased a 26 ha (65 acres) parcel of land on the Rankin Ranch property, bordering the Big Ranch/Musil Conservation Area (446 ha/1,101 acres) previously acquired by The Nature Trust in the Elk Valley of British Columbia. We have also been working with the Canadian integrated forest company, Tembec at Grave Prairie to manage the complex of habitat east of the Elk River. Our partnership with Tembec will help buffer the Big Ranch/Musil Conservation Area from adjacent agricultural operations as well as permanently conserving an outstanding winter forage area for ungulates, including Rocky Mountain Elk, mule deer and white-tailed deer.

The Rankin Property consists of forest or mixed open forest/grassland including mature stands of lodgepole pine, trembling aspen and cottonwood. Approximately 75% is grassland habitat containing a mosaic of native grassland plant communities (grass-herb-shrub) and remnant agronomic grass complexes. Combined with the open grasslands, riparian and mixed forest stands on the adjacent Big Ranch/Musil property, these grasslands are the most important



habitat features on the Rankin Property, providing a major source of ungulate winter forage as well as an important habitat for a wide range of small mammals and birds and a thriving group of badgers. The area is classified as Class 2 winter range (moderate to high capability) for elk and moose, and Class 3 summer range (moderate capability) for mule deer and white-tailed deer. Rocky Mountain Elk is the most abundant ungulate, with recent estimates varying between 200-400 animals with an upward trend. White-tailed deer are also abundant with some mule deer and moose also utilizing the property. Badgers, which are listed provincially and federally as endangered, have multiple dens on the Rankin Property.

The management of the Rankin grassland and open forest will be incorporated into the existing management plan for the Big Ranch/Musil Conservation Area. The Nature Trust will work closely with the local volunteers from the Sparwood & District Fish & Game Club and Tembec staff to maximize habitat enhancement opportunities in this important ungulate habitat area in this part of the East Kootenay Region. ◆

### **Our Funding Partners:**

- Elk Valley Rod & Gun Club
- Fernie Rod & Gun Club
- Sparwood & District Fish & Game Club
- Lake Windermere District Rod & Gun Club
- Kimberly Wilderness & Wildlife Association
- Elkford Rod & Gun Club Michael Sykes Memorial Fund
- Kootenay Wildlife Heritage Fund
- Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation of Canada
- Columbia Basin Fish & Wildlife
  Compensation Program

# **Celebrating the Sockeye at the Adams River**

**S** ince 1976, The Nature Trust has been helping to conserve the Adams River, one of BC's most significant rivers. This river supports the largest run of sockeye salmon in BC. Today, The Nature Trust along with its partners, The Nature Conservancy of Canada, the Province of British Columbia, Fisheries and Oceans Canada and Canadian Wildlfe Service, own and manage riparian land strategically located along the Lower Adams River as part of the Roderick Haig-Brown Provincial Park.

Roderick Haig-Brown was a writer, a fisherman, a farmer, a magistrate and a renowned conservationist. He was one of the original directors of The Nature Trust of British Columbia in the 70's, then known as the National Second Century Fund of Canada. His work in conservation continues to have an influence on a generation of people now living, who find his words have a visionary ring.

"I have been, all my life, what is known as a conservationist. I am not at all sure that this has done myself or anyone else any good, but I am quite sure that no intelligent man, least of all a countryman, has any alternative. It seems clear beyond possibility of argument that any given generation of men can have only a lease, not ownership, of the earth; and one essential term of the lease is that the earth be handed on to the next generation with unimpaired potentialities. This is the conservationist's concern."

To celebrate this year's salmon run, the public are invited to attend Salute to the Sockeye in the Roderick Haig-Brown Provincial Park October 4-19.



Sockeye Run in the Adams River

Pacific Salmon Poem by Roderick Haig-Brown River-born fugitives, red muscled under sheathing silver, Alive with light of ocean's changing colors, The range of deeps and distances through wild salt years Has gathered the sea's plenty into your perfection. Fullness is the long return from dark depths Rendering toll of itself to the searching nets surging on to strife on brilliant gravel shallows that opened long ago behind the failing ice. In violence over the gravel, under the burn of fall. Fullness spends itself, thrusting forth new life

To nurse in the stream's flow. The old life,

Used utterly, yields itself among the river rocks of home.

# A Fond Farewell to Nature Trust's Paul Smith

The Nature Trust remembers Paul Smith, a driving force behind The Nature Trust from 1976 to 1994. Paul was appointed by the Hon. Pierre E. Trudeau when The Nature Trust of British Columbia was known as the National Second Century Fund of Canada. He was instrumental in finding and securing significant land on Vancouver Island, with particular focus on wetlands. He was awarded recognition from the Federation of BC Naturalists for his dedicated service and many contributions to conservation in British Columbia.

He will be missed by all who knew him.



Dr. Geoff Scudder

### Dr. Geoff Scudder C.M., D.Phil, ER.S.C. Receives Order of Canada

Geoff Scudder's reputation for excellence is vast and far-reaching. An entomologist, he is a world authority known for important research, including the discovery that certain species can help track the effects of environmental degradation and global warming. He served as head of the University of British Columbia's renowned Department of Zoology for 15 years and has held other leadership roles, notably president of the Entomological Society of Canada and of the Canadian Society of Zoologists. In addition, he is very active in promoting conservation, particularly in British Columbia, where he is involved with numerous biodiversity projects and sits as a Board Member for The Nature Trust of British Columbia.

Geoff became a Member of the Order Of Canada in 2003 in recognition of his significant contributions to our country. The Governor General presents this award on behalf of all Canadians to honour distinguished service to a particular group or in a particular field of activity at a local or regional level.

Our warmest congratulations, Geoff.

# **Executive Director's Message**



Lt is an exciting time to be joining The Nature Trust of British Columbia as the new Executive Director.

What a dynamic era, with the purchase of the Hoodoos, Englishman and Savary Island properties we are constantly moving forward on these and many other projects. Conservation of our natural legacy is vitally important for our fish and wildlife habitats and we pursue this goal every day.

None of this would be possible without the dedicated staff and Board of Directors which make up The Nature Trust of BC, and the generosity of donors who have supported us over the past 32 years. Together, we have developed a leadership role in conservation, with acquisitions and management of over 20,235 ha (50,000 acres) of critical habitat throughout the province and an additional 50,588 ha (125,000 acres) of habitat under long-term lease.

We actively pursue new fundraising strategies for our many important projects, such as completing the purchase of the Hoodoos and the Englishman River, establishing endowments for the Ian McTaggart-Cowan Scholarship and Brink McLean Grassland Fund and developing land maintenance endowments. Your support in helping us to conserve land of significant value and protect the habitat that it nurtures is vitally important. Please join us as a Partner in Conservation so that we may all enjoy the unique beauty of this wonderful province, today and in the future.

> Doug Walker Executive Director

## New Appointments to 2003/2004 Board of Directors



Don Krogseth CEO/Chair of the Board

Don Krogseth has been a director of The Nature Trust of British Columbia since 1997. A West Vancouver resident Don Krogseth is an avid outdoorsman and accomplished fly fisherman. He is a member and past Director of the Pennask Lake Fish and Game Club. Don's success in the investment and financial services sectors includes leadership positions with Connor, Clark & Lunn Investment Management Ltd. and Dixon, Krogseth Investment Counsel. He is presently a Director of Pembina Pipeline Corporation (Calgary, AB). His commitment to the community has included directorships with the Vancouver Oral Centre for Deaf Children and the Alzheimer Foundation of British Columbia.



Robin Wilson Director

Robin Wilson has joined The Nature Trust to chair the newly-created Marketing and Communications Committee. Robin is a life-long North Vancouver resident and a respected marketing and business consultant with 30 years' experience developing strategic marketing and communications programs for a host of leading companies, organizations, events and not-forprofit associations. Robin's extensive community work includes currently serving as: Director and Chair of Special Events for Canada Place Corporation; President of Ronald McDonald House BC: and Committee Chair, BC Liberal Women's Commission.

## New Nature Trust Staff Appointments 2003/2004



Susan Paczek, M.Sc. R.P.Bio Conservation Specialist

As the newly-appointed Conservation Specialist for The Nature Trust, Susan Paczek is responsible for updating databases for both The Nature Trust and the Land Trust Alliance, mapping our property boundaries and providing support to our staff, generating maps and information products for reports. Our new mapping capabilities will be invaluable to our partners, with whom we work on a number of large conservation initiatives.

A native of Richmond, BC, Susan obtained her B.Sc. in ecology at McGill University, and went on to complete her Masters at UBC's Centre for Applied Conservation Research (CACR), studying songbird habitat associations in shrubsteppe habitat of the South Okanagan and Similkameen Valleys. At this time she became familiar with The Nature Trust properties and management issues in this area, and acquired expertise in the use of GIS (Geographic Information Systems) and remote sensing, including additional coursework in Arc/Info software (GIS software) at BCIT.

Susan's work experience includes a variety of research assistantships and contract positions for the CACR, Slocan Forest Products, Canadian Wildlife Service and others. These projects have focused on studies of habitat requirements in relation to management issues for various organisms in BC including: songbirds, waterfowl, cavity nesting birds, mammals, vascular plants, lichens, bryophytes and fungi in a diversity of landscapes including grasslands, forests and wetlands.



Carl MacNaughton's Vaseaux Lake home, edged by fire retardant

# A Salute To The Volunteer Fire Fighters

Carl MacNaughton, Okanagan Conservation Land Manager for The Nature Trust, nearly lost his Vaseux Lake home while away on vacation. As the fire came within thirty feet of Carl's home, a volunteer crew fought the flames from his balcony. Their many hours of work and the help of fire retardant dropped from water bombers saved the MacNaughton dwelling. "My wife and I are extremely thankful to have such dedicated friends who put their lives at risk to save our home."



The Nature Trust is dedicated to the conservation of habitats and the naturally occurring plants and animals they nurture as well as areas of ecological significance and scenic beauty within British Columbia.

DONALD KROGSETH Chairman of the Board & Chief Executive Officer

Directors of The Nature Trust: DARYLL HEBERT, PHD GEORGE KILLY IAN McTAGGART-COWAN, OC, OBC, PHD DENNIS PERRY CARMEN C. PURDY R.L. (DICK) RICHARDS, FCA GEOFF SCUDDER, D PHIL PETER SPEER, FCA FRANCES VYSE JIM WALKER ROBIN WILSON C.C. (KIP) WOODWARD

Member Emeritus VERNON C. (BERT) BRINK, OC, OBC, PHD

> DOUG WALKER Executive Director PATRICK OSWALD Leadership Giving

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# How You Can Help The Nature Trust:

The Nature Trust conserves ecologically significant lands within British Columbia in a variety of ways:

### CONSERVATION COVENANTS:

We work with landowners to set up agreements to protect ecologically significant portions of their land; these conservation covenants are held in perpetuity and may result in favourable tax treatment.

### ECOLOGICAL GIFTS:

The federal government allows The Nature Trust to accept donations of ecologically significant land from governments, corporations, foundations and private donors.

#### FINANCIAL DONATIONS:

We rely on the generosity of individuals, foundations, other charities, associations, corporations and governments to continue our conservation efforts. Please call **1-866-288-7878** toll-free to donate by Visa or MasterCard. We are happy to accept cheques as well. The Vancouver Foundation maintains The Nature Trust Open Fund if you wish to donate to our organization through them.

#### **BEQUESTS:**

We accept bequests in the form of land or monetary donations via a will or life insurance policy.

#### LIFE ESTATES:

We also arrange life estates or term leases for landowners who wish to donate their lands to us, while continuing to live on the land.

We would be happy to discuss any of the above options with you. Please feel free to contact The Nature Trust at any time for more information.

## **Testimonials**

"As a loyal friend of The Nature Trust I am so pleased that they are working with other major conservation organizations in the Province to more effectively co-ordinate their efforts. It is also good to know that The Nature Trust is properly maintaining their land to benefit generations to come - this is an increasingly expensive undertaking but an extremely important one."

Dr. Joyce Davies

"We first supported the Nature Trust in 1992 to assist with their involvement in the purchase of Jedidiah Island in the Gulf of Georgia. Their organization is managed with sound business principles so our contributions have continued each year as we strongly believe in their efforts to conserve BC's natural legacy." John Flintoft.

Connor, Clark and Lunn Investment Management Ltd.

Our thanks to Graham Osborne for providing many of the outstanding photographs in this newsletter.