

# Friends of the South Slopes

Summer 2010



Wild Horse Canyon Trail  
Okanagan Mtn. Park April 2010

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## TELUS, FOSS & MTBco Volunteers complete the Captain Nemo Re-Route

The Captain Nemo re-route project is nearly complete! On May 29th seventeen TELUS volunteers and volunteers from FOSS and Mountain Bikers of the Central Okanagan worked on the trail in the pouring rain. FOSS Director Brad Wright managed the project and MTBco helped with technical assistance in trail building. FOSS' Past President Dan Hobson rallied the TELUS employees as part of the *TELUS National Day of Service*. The rain didn't keep the volunteers from enjoying the sense of accomplishment that came from constructing the last section of trail for this project. All that remains to be done is a bit of tweaking, new signage and the installation of the Stuart Burns Memorial bench at a viewpoint near the Kettle Valley Rail Trail.



Photo Credit: TELUS



Photo Credit: TELUS



Photo Credit: Brad Wright

# Okanagan Mountain Provincial Park

By Penny Gubbels

In mid April, three enthusiastic FOSS members hiked the Ridge Trail in Okanagan Mountain Provincial Park. It was a glorious spring day highlighted by a bear sighting in Wild Horse Canyon. Along the way we picked up a total of twenty two hitchhikers.....ticks! Here are some precautions you can take when you are in tick-country:

- Walk on cleared trails if possible and avoid long grass or wooded areas
- Wear a hat, pants, long sleeved shirt—light coloured clothing
- Tuck your pant legs into socks
- Apply insect repellent containing DEET on all uncovered skin
- Carefully check clothing and scalp when you leave the hiking area



## ***OMPP Volunteers***

A group of eager cyclists and trail runners/hikers from West Kelowna are volunteering to do much-needed trail maintenance in Okanagan Mountain Provincial Park. A project plan is being worked out between these volunteers and FOSS so that the work can be done under FOSS' Provincial Park Use Permit. OMPP is under the management of Blake Dixon, BC Parks' Area Supervisor/South Okanagan. Blake enthusiastically supports the help of these volunteers. FOSS provided the volunteers with hand saws and the board will pay for first aid training and other certification needed for them to comply with FOSS' Safety Plan and Park Use Permit.

### ***Mountain Goat Trail***



Photo Credit: Pip Aikens



Photo Credit: Pip Aikens

## ***Further Trail Erosion Mitigation MBPP***

In May FOSS hired Terry Burke from the Okanagan Trail Riders Club to do more work with OTRA's specialized trail building machine. Terry started by repairing the Hachey Creek culvert on the Pink Hwy and then he built some low water crossings on the steep, rocky section of the Pink Hwy that is north of Flamingo Flats. He worked his way up to Lookout Trail, improving the drainage and repairing eroded sections. Because of the extremely wet condition on Lookout Trail west of the bridge, he was not able to mitigate the boggy condition of the trail. This project will need to take place later in the year when it is drier. Isabel Pritchard managed the project and Brad Wright was the FOSS volunteer who worked with Terry Burke.



## ***Trail Clearing in MBPP***

Over the past few weeks BC Parks' Senior Ranger Erin Gunoff & Ranger Stietse Breedijk cleared:

- Connector from Upper Bench to Pink Highway
- The unnamed trail that connects Pink Hwy (south of Flamingo Flats) to Hillbilly
- Lower Crawford Trail from KVR to Earring and down Earring to Upper Bench

Erin reports that they have also been brushing the trails near the Stewart Rd. East Trailhead, repairing fences and picking up litter, especially at the Angel Springs parking lot where some people are illegally dumping garbage.

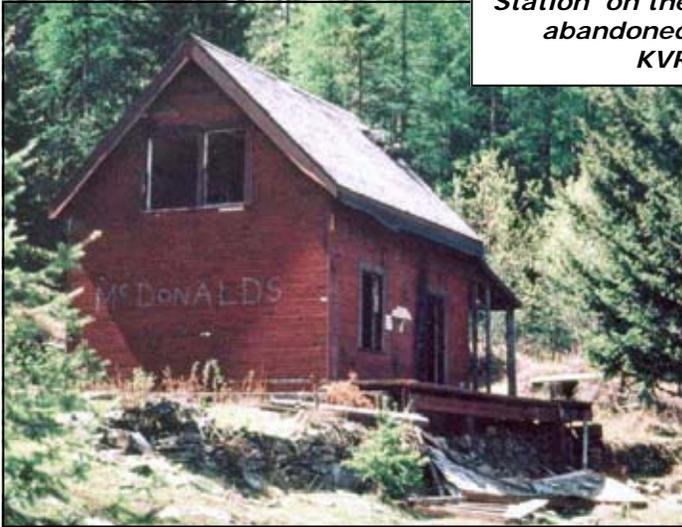


***Cinnamon bear & cub (she has two cubs) sighted on the KVR at Captain Nemo. Sr. Ranger Erin Gunoff took the photo on June 6th. There have been lots of bear sightings on the South Slopes this year.***

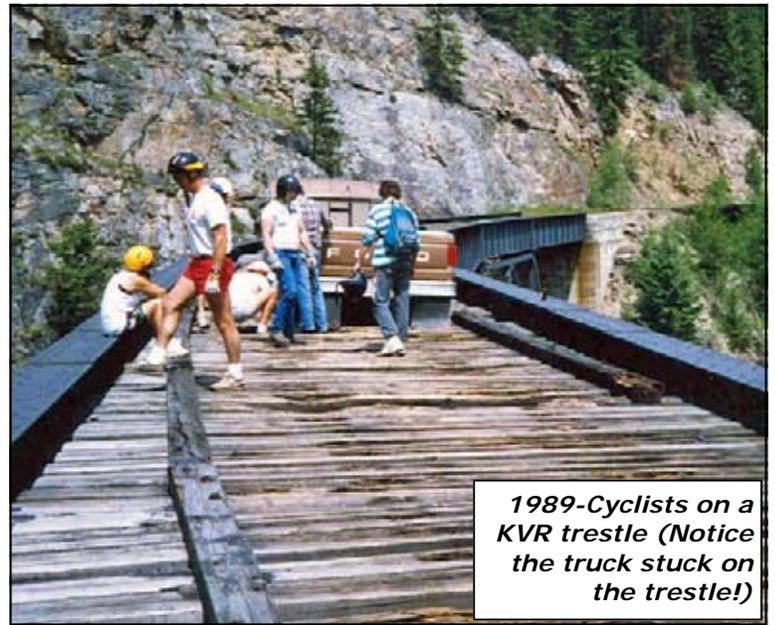


***Stietse and Erin clearing lower Crawford Trail***

# Looking Back...

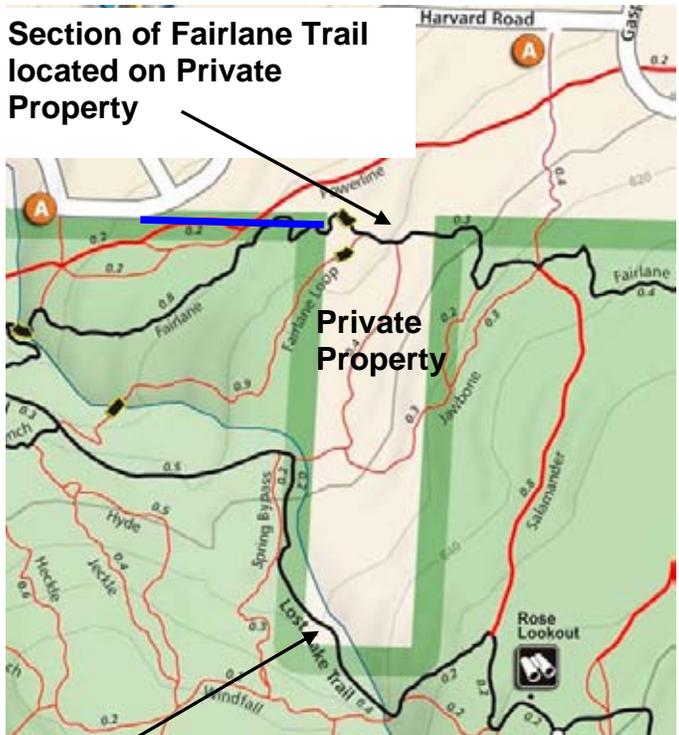


1987 Ruth Station on the abandoned KVR



1989-Cyclists on a KVR trestle (Notice the truck stuck on the trestle!)

**A Boundary Adjustment to Myra-Bellevue Provincial** The owners of the property known locally as 'The Meadow' or 'Thunder Meadow' plan to apply to the Province for land to construct a driveway to access their property. This would be accomplished through a boundary adjustment to Myra-Bellevue Provincial Park.



Section of Fairlane Trail located on Private Property

Private Property

Section of Lost Lake Trail located on Private Property

The applicant's land is a forty acre parcel bordered on three sides by Myra-Bellevue Provincial Park. Access to the applicant's land was cut off in the mid 90's when the adjoining property on Harvard Road was subdivided. The blue line on the accompanying map identifies the approximate location of the proposed boundary change.

On June 16, 2010 BC Ministry of Environment staff held a meeting to discuss this proposed application. Representatives from the Province, the City of Kelowna and two FOSS board members met with the property owners. FOSS' objective during this process is to secure legal public access to Fairlane Trail and Lost Lake Trail where they lie within the private property. The FOSS board of directors is also pressing for removal of the minimum amount of land from Myra-Bellevue that would be necessary to construct a driveway to access the applicant's land locked property.

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## 2010 Hunting Season Dates *When you are on the trails....be aware!*

Hunting is currently allowed in Myra-Bellevue Provincial Park, including the trails north of the KVR which are known locally as the Crawford Trails. The dates for the 2010 hunting season vary depending on the species, class (eg. bucks), and special seasons for youth and bow hunters. Full information is available on-line at the Ministry of Environment/Fish and Wildlife.

[http://www.env.gov.bc.ca/fw/wildlife/hunting/regulations/0910/docs/region\\_8.pdf](http://www.env.gov.bc.ca/fw/wildlife/hunting/regulations/0910/docs/region_8.pdf)

# Myra-Bellevue

Spring 2010

Melissa Bryan—visiting from Nelson



Photo Credit: Teresa Brinton



Photo Credit: Brad Wright



Cyclists on Crawford Trail



Lost Lake



Photo Credit: Brad Wright

