

Big Red

In 1999 Wilderness Committee volunteers discovered this huge oldgrowth redcedar that had been recently cut down by International Forest Products in the Sims Creek Valley, located 100 km. north of Squamish, British Columbia Canada. A quick ring count revealed that the tree was around 1,000 years old when it was cut down.

The Wilderness Committee team returned and chainsawed off the top of the big stump and removed it in sections. The sections were kiln dried in preparation for being cut into thin sections and mounted on sheets of plywood for display.



Counting the Years

Once the sections had been dried, cut, sanded and mounted on plywood, Paula Vera of the Forest Sciences Department of the University of British Columbia came to the Wilderness Committee offices to determine the true age of the tree by counting the annual rings.



She was able to determine that "Big Red" was between 979 and 1104 - with a median age of 1041 years when it was cut down.



Building Big Red

The Big Red display panel shown here is about four meters by four meters.

It breaks down into 9 smaller panels which can be bolted together to form the one big display panel.

The surface is varnished and various dates from the past 10 centuries of world history are affixed to corresponding annual rings.

The Wilderness Committee has several Big Red display panels, made from the stump that we found in Sims Creek Valley. This panel was being prepared for display in Japan.



Get Big Red!

You can get a Big Red display panel for your event, organization, or school.

You can get it for a day, week, year or forever.

Arrange to borrow, rent or buy a Big Red display panel.

We can custom design the display panel for you, or you can set it up yourself.

It's a great education tool to impress upon people the tremendous age and size of the oldgrowth trees in Canada's ancient temperate rainforests.

For more information, contact Matt Jong at the Wilderness Committee offices in Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada.

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