

**Press Release; Sept 26, 2005**

**Janet Quinn**

**Project Coordinator, *Road Watch in the Pass***

## **Road Watch Offers Something for Everyone.**

Wildlife observations, air photo imagery, international attention, prizes and stories, *Road Watch in the Pass* has something for everyone! As the fall season heads into full swing, *Road Watch in the Pass* continues to gain new users and make ongoing improvements based on participant feedback. This community-based project is always on the lookout for new participants. *Road Watch* is an excellent opportunity to enter your observations of where you see wildlife along Highway 3, in order to collect information to improve both wildlife and human safety. As wildlife movement patterns change with the season, *Road Watch* seeks to gather observation reports of wildlife seen near Highway 3, and it is very valuable information. To date there have been 622 wildlife observations reported.

Road Watch is pleased to announce additional 1m-photo imagery to make data entry easier on the interactive map. Alberta Sustainable Resource Development, Public Lands and Forest Division donated this new imagery. We now have 1m coverage from the Alberta/B.C border to the junction of 507/North Burmis Road and Highway 3. Thank-you to Ian Dunk from the Blairmore Office for his role in organizing for Road Watch to use this imagery. If you have not already checked out the map, be sure to click on [www.rockies.ca/roadwatch](http://www.rockies.ca/roadwatch) to take a look!

The Road Watch in the Pass project was presented at the beginning of September at the International Conference of Ecology and Transportation (ICOET) held in San Diego. Over 15 countries and 450 people attended this conference. Road Watch was highlighted at an afternoon poster presentation and received a great deal of interest because of the use of innovative technology and the involvement of local volunteers. Road Watch participants are contributing to the much-needed local dataset, and also contributing to the knowledge base for development of community-based research at the national and international levels.

Congratulations to Percy Williamson, this month's random prize draw winner. The more often you enter wildlife observations, the better your chance of winning!

Also at *Road Watch*, the new STORIES page is up on the website. Local citizens (all ages), are invited to send in a Crowsnest Pass wildlife story to be posted and shared on the website. These can be hunting stories, wildlife experiences in your own backyard, interesting experiences from the past; anything goes. Stories can be dropped off at Bellevue and Blairmore libraries, or emailed to [jqquin@telus.net](mailto:jqquin@telus.net).

Be sure to check out [www.rockies.ca/roadwatch](http://www.rockies.ca/roadwatch), or call Janet at 564-4833 for more information or to enter your wildlife observations or stories.