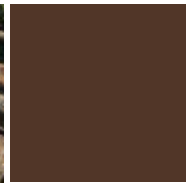




THE WOODLAND ALMANAC



www.woodlot.bc.ca

Summer 2015

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Fraser Valley Family Exemplifies Woodlot Values

by Sara Grady

"It's just that he really cares about doing a good job."

Chris Gruenwald, a Registered Professional Forester and Cal Carter's technical advisor on Woodlot #W0043, has tremendous respect for his colleague. Known as a hands-on, versatile woodlotter, Cal has earned a reputation for integrity in his community, among colleagues, and with the government agencies that provide regulatory oversight on his woodlot.

Given the circumstances, that's no small task. The woodlot is located in the Fraser Valley, one of the most intense regions for urban interface, hence public use, and scrutiny.

According to Allan Johnsrude, MFLNRO's District Manager in the Chilliwack Natural Resource District, "Cal's woodlot has lots of complexities." A euphemism? Perhaps.

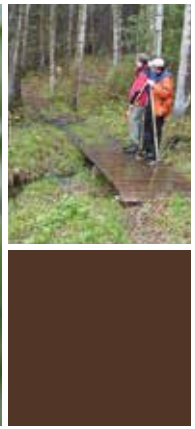


Herb, Cal, and Lee Carter 1 to r

Within the confines of the Carters' 416 hectare parcel (400 ha Crown-owned, 16 ha private) you'll find First Nations Territory, a federal prison camp, BC Hydro power lines, wildlife habitat, small lakes and streams that make up a community watershed, not to mention hikers, hunters and other recreational users, as well as some permanent residents on the shores of Echo Lake.

While honouring the needs and rights for this larger-than-average group of special interests, Cal must somehow find a way to exercise his right to draw value from the timber. He does so by carefully planning small, selective cutblocks – usually two or three hectares – taking cues from the market to decide whether he'll extract cedar, fir or hemlock from his block, then taking cues from nature (and, of course, provincial guidelines) to decide which trees come down and which ones stay.

con't on page 4



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When does your Woodlot Licence Plan expire?

by Brian McNaughton

A Woodlot Licence Plan (WLP) has a 10-year term. Since the *Forest and Range Practices Act (FRPA)* and *Woodlot Licence Planning and Practices Regulation (WLPPR)* were enacted just over 10 years ago the first wave of WLPs are about to expire.

FLNR has just released FRPA bulletin #16 – “Interpretative Guidance Respecting the Extension of Woodlot Licence Plans.” It is available at <https://www.for.gov.bc.ca/hth/frpa-admin/frpa-implementation/bulletins.htm>. It is recommended reading for any licensee who's WLP is about to expire.

Key points worth noting:

- Extending a WLP is a ministry driven process.
- A WLP must be extended if it conforms to prescribed requirements in FRPA and WLPPR.
- A WLP that does not conform to prescribed requirements may be extended for up to 2 years to allow the licensee to make the necessary amendments.

So what are the prescribed requirements? The best reference that I've been able to find is a FRPA cross-reference document from 2007. It lists the prescribed requirements for FRPA and the WLPPR, as well as other regulations and can be found at <https://www.for.gov.bc.ca/hth/frpa-admin/frpa-implementation/xref.htm>. It is 7 years old so it may not be entirely up to date but it is a good starting point.

Even though extending WLPs is a ministry driven process, there are a few things that a licensee should do. Check so you know when your WLP expires. If it's within the next year, contact your district office and begin the discussion. The reasons for doing



Brian McNaughton,
General Manager

so are:

1. District staff is busy. It's in your best interest to remind them that your WLP is about to expire. The decision as to whether or not a WLP conforms to prescribed requirements should be made before the WLP expires.
2. If the district manager intends to undertake First Nation consultation, it's better to start early so it's completed before the WLP expires.
3. It's an opportunity to find out if there's anything you should know or be concerned about. They may not review your WLP in detail, but should be able to advise if there are any new orders, objectives or district requirements. If there are, consider amending your WLP before it expires so it will conform to prescribed requirements upon expiry.

For your information, minor amendments to WLPs can be done without FLNR approval. FRPA defines a minor amendment as one that a woodlot holder determines to conform to WLP content requirements, doesn't materially change intended results or strategies, and conforms to prescribed requirements. The WLPPR is more specific and refers to correcting a mapping or non-substantive data entry that will not decrease the area where harvesting will be avoided or constrained or increase the adverse impact on forest resources, the reclassification of a stream, wetland or lake, or changes to a wildlife tree retention strategy providing they do not decrease the nature or quality of

wildlife trees or wildlife tree retention areas.

FRPA states that an amendment to a woodlot licence plan conforms to the content requirements if a person with prescribed qualifications certifies that it does, that a minor amendment comes into effect when its signed by the licensee, and a licensee must provide the district manager with a copy of the minor amendment as soon as practicable after it has been incorporated in the plan.

Major amendments must be approved and are subject to a statutory decision making process which could involve advertising, public review and comment, referrals to other agencies, etc.

Do what you can to make sure your WLP can be extended. It will make your life, and that of the ministry, much easier and better.

I hope you all have an enjoyable summer and look forward to seeing you in early October at the Annual General Meeting in Kelowna! ♦

Please note:

The opinions expressed in the Almanac do not necessarily reflect those of the Federation, the Council, or their members.



► From page 1

It's his practice to target the trees in the poorest health, and avoid large patches of old growth. Interestingly, the towering old growth trees are worth very little as timber; their value is in their role as part of the ecosystem. And Cal manages accordingly, with the guidance of his professional forester.

For the past 28 years Cal has taken pains to not only follow woodlot license regulations to the letter, but to also honour his responsibilities to his neighbours and the community at large.

"This woodlot is a complex environment," says Ministry Woodlot Forester John Stevenson. "Cal has to manage social expectations on top of the environmental imperatives, it's challenging." But the Ministry is confident that he makes a concerted effort to meet, and often exceed, all the regulations, as well as the needs of the community.

This piece of land has been under the care of the Carter family since Cal's father, Herb, acquired the woodlot license in 1986. A third generation logger, Cal wears many hats on the woodlot, and is passionate about his profession. "Cal does it all," says Chris. "You'll see him jumping from machine to machine while we're logging."

Originally the family ran the woodlot by themselves, but as environmental and harvesting regulations evolved they consulted Registered Professional Foresters to help them interpret, navigate and conform to the rules. It's an ongoing and fluid process, but Cal keeps an open mind and open ears, ready to adapt to changes in environmental, social or economic regulatory conditions.

Case in point, they're currently addressing a potentially sensitive cluster of trees around Echo Lake that some stakeholders consider a special habitat for bald eagles. Cal and Chris have been working closely with biologists, the Ministry and the environmental group who alerted them to the issue, working hard to ensure none of his logging practices will negatively impact these abundant raptors.

"I'm always open to hearing people's concerns, and will always seek out the facts to be sure I'm following the rules," says Cal. He's been transparent with his community in the past, taking time to visit any neighbour who might be impacted by future harvesting activities on his woodlot. Over the years he's received endorsement letters from neighbours, and was honoured with the Ministry of Forest's Stewardship Award in 2001.

Despite the hurdles he faces on a daily basis, Cal is

■ President's report

Arrivederci!

Editor's Note:

Mark and his wife Norma, are on a well-deserved holiday in Italy. We gave him some homework while in Europe: Sample some Wine, see a Woodlot and enjoy your Wanderings around the country side and report back to us at the AGM in the fall! . ♦



Mark Clark
President

Tree ID App

The National Forest Week BC Coalition is pleased to provide a Tree ID smartphone app. The app is aimed at children, their parents and teachers. The app contains a glossary of all trees native to BC, geotagging capabilities, a list of parks and an events page.

Using the picture glossary in the app, you can learn to identify the trees in your school and garden. You can also geotag your favorite trees and make notes on them. The list of BC Parks will help you plan your next camping trip, picnic or hike. Finally, during National Forest Week (September 20-26, 2015), the Events page will be filled with fun activities taking place around the province.

The app is web-based which means it works on all platforms (iPhones, Androids, Google devices etc.). To download it, use your smartphone to navigate to <http://abcfptrees.com/appsplash/>. You will be prompted to save it to your home screen. ♦

unwavering in his support of the woodlot program, and his passion for forestry. "I love the Woodlot Program," says Cal. "There should be more woodlots, they're a great model for small-scale forestry that's good for the province, and for woodlotters. I go to sleep at night knowing I've done something good for the community." With his 20-year-old son, Lee, taking on greater responsibilities on the woodlot, it looks like this particular section of our province's forests will continue to be cared for in good hands. ♦

Encouraging Communications & Discussions

by Debbie Zandbelt, RPF

April and May have proven to be busy months in Timber Pricing. The Interior Appraisal Manual is planned to be updated July 1, 2015 so talks and meetings discussing the finer details are abundant.

However, the May 1, 2015 amendment to the current Interior Appraisal manual was of most importance to you as a Woodlot licensee. Table 6-2 that details the stumpage rate by zone by species was updated. The table details are below as well as a web link to the same information: https://www.for.gov.bc.ca/ftp/hva/external!/publish/web/manuals/interior/2014/Interior2014MayMaster_3.pdf

Rates are slowly climbing unfortunately. The major tenures full MPS permits including BCTS sales are all going up in stumpage thus in turn Table 6-2 rates climb. Any cutting permits with an annual redetermination completed August 1 will have these rates post August 1, 2015 (until updated by further Interior Appraisal Manual amendments).

As you may have read in the coast timber pricing article last Almanac – we are getting a new Provincial Director of Timber Pricing. This process is not yet complete – and



Debbie Zandbelt, RPF
Interior Timber Pricing
Coordinator

Grant Loeb and Keith Tudor remain sharing the duties. By next article we should have some confirmation on Murray Stech's replacement.

Flat Fee for woodlot waste
Timber Pricing Branch still has our proposal on hold. This is pending the provincial review of benchmark waste levels.

This process was not making any headway, but news of the Branch hiring a contractor to move it along was welcomed. Hope to make some progress on that proposal by year end.

MPS appraisal holders (this does not apply to tabular rate stumpage permits)

The thresholds of changed circumstance reappraisals have not changed. However, in the Interior Appraisal Manual Amendment #2 dated April 15, 2015 - the option was added for regional pricing staff to extend the deadline for changed circumstance certifications. Several licensees were not able to meet the deadlines due to snow levels or just because of the significant number of certifications they had to do. Thus if you have a work plan to get it done and are able to commit to a date - the regional staff now have the mechanism to extend your deadline.

Kelowna 2015 AGM is quickly

approaching. The Okanagan is never a bad place to be in the summer and to top it off you can get all your stumpage questions answered in one place! Last year it was truly important to hear folks talk about how stumpage and log prices had direct impacts on their lives and businesses. There will be again numerous opportunities to have such discussions and it not only helps you but helps me represent you better when I know your issues or concerns. Having a great glass of wine on the tours will just be a bonus!

I was happy to attend my first Directors meeting back in March. Met numerous folks that I had been talking to on the phone – so worth the time. Great discussions again were held on importance of stumpage to woodlot licensees. Keeps my time with the Federation worthwhile and relevant! Even though most licensees in the interior of the province are on tabular stumpage – it is easily forgotten the importance of maintaining these rates. That is where the timber pricing contract is vital to protect your stumpage interests. I continue to hold a seat on the Interior MPS technical committee, Interior Appraisal Advisory Committee, and both Regional Appraisal Advisory Committees. Thus questions are welcomed, however major or minor they may seem. My email: Debbie@woodlot.bc.ca. ♦

Table 6-2 Community Forest Agreements and Woodlot Licences: Coniferous Average Sawlog Stumpage Rates in \$/m³

FOREST ZONE	BALSAM	CEDAR	FIR	HEMLOCK	LARCH	L. PINE	SPRUCE	W. PINE	Y. PINE	OTHER ¹
North Central	3.22	-	4.17	3.56	-	2.64	3.36	-	-	3.22
North East	0.66	-	-	-	-	1.28	1.28	-	-	1.26
North West	1.17	0.51	-	1.08	-	1.83	1.26	-	-	1.31
South Central	0.25	-	0.25	-	-	1.01	1.62	-	-	0.84
South East	2.55	3.17	3.25	2.66	3.02	2.81	2.64	2.78	2.22	2.88
South West	2.67	3.13	3.12	2.46	-	3.85	3.21	3.00	-	3.39

¹ Average for the Forest Zone

TAB Rates and Log Market Snapshots

by Ed Hughes

It was great to have Woodlot licensees (Coastal and Interior) respond to the Timber Pricing importance section of the spring article with phone calls and comments made during face to face conversations. The supporting comments make the preparation and writing of the quarterly Coastal Stumpage and Timber Pricing articles more meaningful.



Ed Hughes,
Coastal Timber Pricing
Coordinator

All of the licensees that I talked with about stumpage since the Spring Almanac article appreciated being kept up to date. They all realize, after more than a decade of stumpage issues dominating our woodlot business, how important our TAB rates have become. TAB rates have virtually eliminated a massive appraisal workload (a miss directed administrative focus of the past) for Licensees and Government.

The rates under our TAB system vs a full appraisal under MPS would be comparable, but the cost and time required has been streamlined down to the submission of a one page form once every 4 years. A good news story for Government and Woodlots. The TAB implementation was accomplished during the tenure of three senior Timber Pricing staff, now all retired, so we are entering a time of significant staffing change.

Manager, Timber Pricing and Senior Timber Pricing Forester both retire:

In less than four months three of the most senior Timber Pricing staff have retired. As I mentioned in the spring almanac Murray Stech (Timber

Pricing Director) announced his retirement at the end of February after 40 years. On May 29 George Silvestrini is retiring after 34 years and now on June 5 Grant Loeb is retiring after 11 years. This is a significant change in a very short time period.

George Silvestrini (who I graduated with in Forestry at UBC) has had a variety of positions during his years with the Ministry. The early years in the district where during a time period when “temporary” positions were the name of the game and lay off/rehire become a continuous routine. It was interesting to hear George say that his most enjoyable position was Woodlot/Timber Sales Forester in the Maple Ridge Forest District for a few years. He recalled communications during that time when we both (I was at the time also a Woodlot/TS forester in Port Alberni) were making the new programs work.

George was the senior Timber Pricing Forester responsible for the Coastal Appraisal manual since 1996. Over the years George made significant improvements to the CAM. The centralization of the appraisal program in Victoria and the improvements to the digital (ECAS) programs has been a huge accomplishment. Now all users are on the same page, albeit still an incredibly complicated and detail manual for all MPS users. I must say on a personal note that George has always demonstrated a code of conduct that was exemplary during times when lots of difficult decisions were being made. I will miss my old class mate, but wish him well in his retirement.

Grant Loeb Manager of Timber Pricing

Branch also retired on June 5 making him the third senior Timber Pricing staff to leave, making an already big hole even bigger. I have known Grant since his involvement many years ago with a silvicultural audit on W0031 in early 2000 (located between Qualicum and Parksville), with Walker Addison and myself. Grant was out late on a Friday afternoon working on the last audit on his long list. After the audit he made a note that it was the most intensive silviculture he had seen impressed by Walker’s interest in the forest. Over the years Grant has supported our Woodlot program.

Grant graduated from UBC in 1988, worked in inventory, scaling and FP board until 2006 when he became the Manager of Timber Pricing. I have always found Grant to be available and informative, making time for the Woodlots in his always busy schedule. Good luck in retirement Grant.

I will keep everyone posted once replacements have been appointed to the three senior positions.

Flooding a log market:

Log market fluctuations are a reality of log sales and the woodlot business. There are many reasons for log price changes, but oversupplying an emerging market is the best way to cause a log market (or the supper cycle as it was described for most of 2014) to crash. Our oversupply, along with any other producer in the world, took a great China market and put it back to average, where it was historically. A china log (Hemlock, Balsam, Spruce and coarse Fir) started a few years ago at \$50 rose to \$85 and is now back down to somewhere in the \$50/m3 over a 5 year period (prices are on the truck).

Log market flooding is not something that Woodlot licensees can do anything about with less than 1% of the supply, but be prepared for the next log sort upward (or downward) price trend. In 2015 it is western red cedar increasing to \$190/m³ a new high. How long will it last? Likely until we flood her again!

Current Log Market Snap Shot:

This log market snap shot has been prepared by Ryan Clark, RPF, PMP, Timber Purchaser with TimberWest Forest Co. I am sure the coastal Woodlot licensees appreciate the update. Thanks to Ryan and many other log buyers in articles to come. Demand from domestic mills remains steady, although weakness in the end product markets of China, US and Japan is putting downward pressure on Fir and HemBal. Red cedar continues to be at historic high levels as a result of tight supply and strong demand. We are not expecting any major price corrections for red cedar logs looking forward through the summer.

Internationally, the annual number of new home starts in the USA is expected to be 1.05-1.1 million in 2015. This is lower than forecast and is basically flat compared to 2014, unlike the positive growth trend we have seen over the last several years. We are still a long ways away from reaching the historical average of 1.5 million new home starts per year. Due to the slowdown in Asia, and weakness in the US lumber market, there is currently more supply than demand in the US PNW market, which has kept log prices from rising in conjunction with the devaluation of the Canadian dollar. In fact, log prices in the Puget Sound area have declined ~15% to 20% in USD terms since the beginning of the year. In Canadian dollar terms, pricing in the PNW has also fallen as log prices have fallen more than the beneficial impact of the depreciating Canadian dollar.

The Chinese market has seen an approximate 25% decrease in log prices since the end of 2014. This is primarily due to being oversupplied at ports from suppliers worldwide; including many new suppliers that traditionally have not served the Chinese log market. We are cautiously optimistic that we will see improvements in this key market towards the end of 2015 and into 2016; although we are not expecting demand or pricing to return to previous highs in the near term.

The Japan and Korean markets have seen price decreases, although not as drastic as in China. The short-term outlook for Korea for high quality hemlock saw logs appears stable. Japan appears relatively stable for high quality Fir saw logs, however peeler log demand remains very much uncertain at this time with continuing weak demand.

For the Fall Almanac I have asked Keith Hall, Log Buyer and Operations Analyst with Coastland Wood Industries Ltd. to do the log snap shot. My objective is to rotate this log snap shot to as many log purchasers over time as possible. I will ask most of the experienced log purchasers for their input, providing coastal Woodlot Licensees with a growing list of potential log markets that they might not be aware of.

Both the MPS and CT advisory committees are chair and organized by the senior Timber Pricing staff who have all just retired, so I am expecting delays in our normally scheduled meetings.

Coast MPS Advisory Committees:

MPS advisory committee will begin its annual analysis in the spring, early summer. The committee does not have any meetings scheduled over the next few months.

Coast Timber Pricing Advisory Committees:

There are no CTPAC meetings scheduled, primarily due to the three retirements.

Flat Fee for Woodlot Waste:

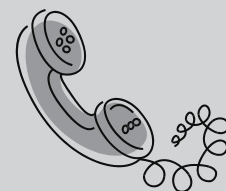
Waste benchmarks have been extended until September 30, 2015. No change in the Flat Fee proposal.

New Appraisal Issues – Continuous communication:

The Coastal Timber Pricing portfolio provides assistance to Woodlot Licensees upon request. If you have any concerns or issues I can be reached at 778-424-6129 or by email at ehughes2@shaw.ca. ♦

Purpose of the WPDC

The primary purpose of the WPDC is to ensure that levy fees are spent on woodlot licensee priorities to benefit and promote the woodlot industry throughout BC. Funds are collected through powers granted to Council under the Farming and Fishing Industries Development Act. ♦



Telephone Support for using the Woodlot for Windows AAC program is available to all woodlot licensees or their representatives.

Contact Mike Bandstra
ph: 250-847-4822
fax: 888-273-0209
email: mbandstra@forsite.ca



Come join us!

Wine, Woodlots & Wanderings

FBCWA's 28th and the WPDC's 18th Annual AGM & Conference
in West Kelowna on October 2-4, 2015

Wine

Boasting nearly 82 per cent of the total vineyard acreage in the province, the Okanagan Valley is BC's premier grape growing region. An ever-changing panorama, the valley stretches over 250 kilometers, across distinct sub-regions, each with different soil and climate conditions suited to a growing range of varieties.

From world-class operations to family-run boutique vineyards, Okanagan wineries are rich with character and consistently ranked among the world's best at International competitions.

Woodlots

Boundary Woodlot Association

The Boundary Woodlot Association covers an area from Christina Lake on the East side of the district to Anarchist Mountain on the West side and stretches from the USA border on the South to Big White at the North end of the District. Similar to the Okanagan Valley, the forest types go from Ponderosa Pine sites to high elevation Engelmann Spruce-Balsam. Many of our members are intensive style forest managers, living in the local communities adjacent to the woodlots, circulating the revenue derived from woodlots within the local economy which in turn helps to stabilize the local communities. Most woodlots in the Boundary are located in or near the Interface areas. Selection logging is the main harvesting practice but some clear cutting also takes place. Numerous licensees are committed individuals who provide opportunities for groups from the public, such as school groups, to go out on field trips to develop a better understanding of our forests. Within our woodlots fuel reduction through careful logging has reduced the potential for Rank 5 fires. It will be interesting to look at how some of the fire hazard reduction programs work and at what cost to the taxpayer on the field trip planned on Friday Oct.02.

The question will be, can the woodlot program be expanded into more of these areas and get similar results with a much lower cost to the taxpayer?

Shuswap Okanagan Woodlot Association

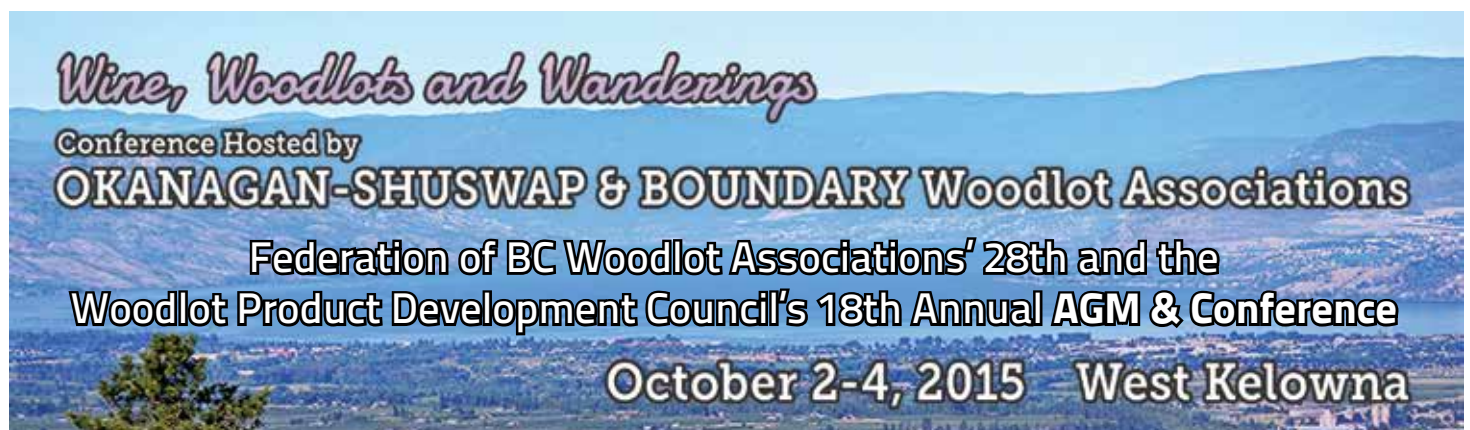
The Okanagan/Shuswap Forest District stretches from the Canada-USA border in the south to Three Valley Gap in the north and includes several major centres such as Salmon Arm, Kelowna and Vernon. You would be hard pressed to describe the typical woodlot. In one day you can travel from a dry belt Douglas fir forest type, cross a ridge into a lodgepole pine plateau woodlot and descend into sage brush and ponderosa timber type and that's only the morning. The afternoon would see a transition to wet belt red cedar and in the evening finish off the day tour at a western hemlock forest as wet and coastal as any you could find in the province. One thing you will find in common with the 67 woodlot licenses in the Okanagan/Shuswap and those in the rest of B.C. are their location in the interface zone.

The AGM this year is in West Kelowna. As you stand near the Holiday Inn Conference centre the interface zone becomes evident. Fires over the last few years have lowered the risk somewhat but edge forest remains. One recurring theme this year will be risk, be it fire or shifting climate. Getting a handle on it seems perplexing. Come join in the discussion and enjoy what the Kelowna area has to offer.

Wanderings

It is a pleasure to stand upon the shore, and to see ships tossed upon the sea; a pleasure to stand in the window of a castle, and to see a battle and the adventures thereof below; but no pleasure is comparable to standing upon the vantage ground of truth... and to see the errors, and wanderings, and mists, and tempests in the vale below. - *Francis Bacon*. ♦

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AGM News Flash!

One of the topics to be discussed at the upcoming Federation AGM in West Kelowna will be the new transfer rules for Western Larch. In talking to Barry Jacquish (Research Scientist) from the Kalamalka Research Centre (Barry is to be one of our guest speakers at the Federation AGM), the Ministry has moved the transfer guide line for Larch significantly further north than the recent restrictions have allowed, and are considering allowing 10% of your license area to be planted with Western Larch. From the look of the map on the wall at the Research Centre, this is as far north as Prince George. This topic should be of significant interest for all Licensees North of the Okanagan Valley. You will have to come to the AGM to hear how far north the new line is and what is planned for the next several years when it comes to managing Seed Planning Zones.

We hope to have someone from Victoria there to explain the policy and how we can expect it to be implemented at the District level!!!! What impact will this have on "Default Stocking Standards" remains to be seen. Will we have to amend Woodlot Licence documents or will it just be an amendment to the local districts own stocking standards? We need you there to express your concerns to the people that can and do have the say in how this will be done. Come hear the experts advice on how

to look after Western Larch up in the new area.

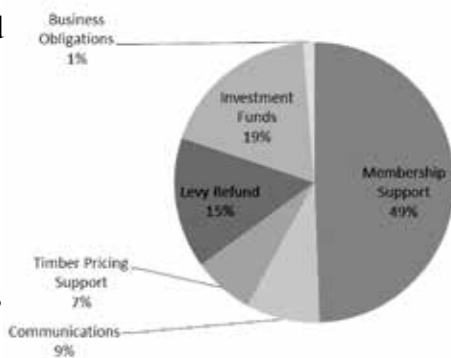
Barry will also give a presentation on what the Research Results show, for the genetic gains from their breeding program. How will this impact our AAC calculations and when we can expect a change in our AAC will be a question on everyone's mind. This AAC genetic gain will apply to more than just Western Larch. We can expect a wealth of information to come out at this meeting.

We will have several other Research scientists giving presentations as well but we want to keep your interest at an elevated level, so when you read the registration package you will simply not be able to say you are too busy to come. Some of the other topics will be on soil management and how soils respond to different fire intensities, importance of site prep, landing rehab is it worth it, climate change, fuel hazard reduction in the Interface areas, sowing requests, and the impact that site prep and prompt reforestation has on the cost of regenerating harvested areas and/or areas impacted by catastrophic events. We will also be discussing how do we get young people involved in managing our resource. Examples of how this has worked in numerous areas of the province will be highlighted. There will also be discussion around how Climate change may impact our forestry practices and what we can expect to see happen. It will be a value packed two days and then you add in the house boat ride on Okanagan Lake coupled with numerous wine tours and an option for the partners of a bike ride on the historic Kettle Valley Railroad bed (now part of the Trans Canada Trail system) to see the famous trestles at Myra Canyon and or a walk up the Mission Creek Greenway followed by a wine tour and we should have a very happy crew by late Saturday night. See you there.

Lisa Marak and George Delisle
co-chairs of the Federation AGM committee. ♦

Where your \$0.25 annual levy goes

The Woodlot Product Development Council has a responsibility to ensure funding originating from the woodlot levy is prudently managed and used only for work and activities consistent with the Purpose of the Council which are to: Promote a positive image of the woodlot industry and its products; educate the general public and buyers about the benefits of BC woodlots and small-scale forest management and initiate and support research programs for the development and enhancement of the woodlot industry in the province. The pie chart shows a breakdown of where the levy is used. ♦



WoodSourceBC.com is BC's online wood marketplace! Connect with over 350 members searching for an opportunity to buy and sell more wood products and services than ever before. WoodSourceBC.com is a free tool AND it's easy to use. Create your profile and start listing items for sale, items you want to buy, and searching for new business opportunities. Over 95 listings posted this last quarter. Join this growing network today. Visit www.woodsourcebc.com. ♦



Know Your Responsibilities

How many hats did you wear today?

Did you know that as a small licence holder you have multiple responsibilities?

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On any given day, you may have responsibilities as:

1. An owner
2. A prime contractor
3. An employer
4. A supervisor
5. A worker

Workers Compensation Act - Responsibilities

Section 115

An employer must ensure the safety of all workers at the workplace.

Section 116

Workers must take reasonable care to protect the workers safety and the safety of other persons.

Section 117

All supervisors must ensure the health and safety of workers under their supervision.

Section 118

Prime contractor must ensure that all activities are coordinated and comply with regulation.

Section 119

Every owner must maintain the land/premises used as a workplace in a manner that ensures the health and safety of all persons at or near the workplace.

This is one of a series of Spotlight on safety columns produced for the Woodland Almanac by the BC Forest Safety Council. If you have a suggestion or would like to see a particular safety topic covered, please let us know. BSFSC has a team of safety advisors with more than 100 years of combined forestry and safety experience to provide trusted guidance and advice in all safety matters. Email safetyadvisors@bcforestsafe.org or call toll-free: 1-877-741-1060. The BCFSC is here to support industry achieve excellence in health and safety for all forest operations and their workers. ♦



Are you an owner ?

As a licensee am I also an owner? **YES**, definitely.

As an owner what are my responsibilities?

1. Provide and maintain the land and premises in a safe manner

Examples; maintain road access, remove danger trees, repair un-safe crossings, etc.

2. Identify and communicate known or foreseeable hazards

The owner must know, control and communicate any health and safety concerns of person at or near the workplace, that could result in being harmed (minor or trivial) by a condition or use of the workplace.

Examples; Hill @ km1 is considered a safety risk, steep slopes on the block, falling next to road, etc.

3. Ensure a plan is in place to address the hazards

- To be done before work activities commence
- Update if there is a change in circumstance
- Includes all worksite activities

Examples; steep slopes plan, hand falling plan, traffic control plan, etc.

4. Monitor worksite to ensure the plan is being followed,

Examples; work is consistent with plan, identification of unforeseen hazards, unsafe work methods, etc.

5. Ensure that all work related activities are both planned and conducted in a manner consistent with established safe work practices and regulations.

Example; steep slopes plan and activities are consistent with WorkSafeBC requirements and safe work practices, etc.

Scholarship Award Winners for 2015

We are very pleased to announce that two FBCWA Scholarships are being awarded this year. The two annual awards are given to students who are related to a woodlot licensee &/or a Private Forest Land Owner and are attending or planning to attend post secondary education, preferably in a forestry-related area of study.

Rachel Klassen, the recipient of the \$2000 scholarship, is the granddaughter of Melvin Henderson (W0260) and the niece of Allan Henderson (W0259). Both her grandfather and uncle are members of the Stuart Nechako Woodlot Association. Their woodlots are both behind Rachel's grandfather's ranch and she has many fond memories of snowmobiling and cross country skiing through the woodlots. When Rachel was in grade 1 she planted her first seedling on her uncle's CP Z; that seedling will soon be free growing. This summer Rachel will be helping with some brushing treatments on both woodlots so the areas can be declared free growing.

Rachel will be enrolling in first year Bachelor of Science courses at the University of Northern BC in September, with plans of going into a forestry or geography program. She says she has been able to juggle her academics, volunteer activities and a part time job for the past two years and through hard work and dedication has been on the school's honour roll for all of her years at Fort St. James Secondary School. Her volunteer activities include being a work crew member, cabin leader and staff member at Echo Lake Bible Camp for three summers as well as a volunteer at the Fort St. James National Historic Site.

Sarah Bickerton, the recipient of the \$1000 scholarship, is the daughter of David Bickerton (co-owner W1412). Sarah's

family is a member of the Quesnel Woodlot Association. She recently helped her father with walkthrough surveys and slash burning on the woodlot. Sarah says her father has shown her many of the things that they need to consider when managing a woodlot and that she looks forward to when she and her brothers can take on a more active role in the management of the woodlot as it passes through the family.

Sarah plays on several school sports teams, is a registered soccer referee, volunteers for a student run leadership program, and has been involved in many leadership activities including 'Leader in Training' at Camp Grafton for kids, Camp Counselor and Global Awareness Society. She recently went on a humanitarian trip to Nicaragua where she helped on various projects. Sarah has excelled academically, and has been named to the Principal's list at South Kamloops Secondary every year, top all-around student and top academic student. Sarah has already been accepted to the University of Victoria, Peter B. Gustavson School of Business where she will be starting the Bachelor of Business Administration program in September.

In this issue of the Almanac you can read the essay Rachel wrote that describes "What steps and management decisions I would take in order that my woodlot can be the greatest benefit to my community".

The five member scholarship committee was impressed with the quality of all the applications. Thank you to all who applied.

The funding for the \$2000 and \$1000 awards were generated through the "Silent Auction" at the FBCWA AGMs. Please continue to support this worthwhile cause at this year's AGM in Kelowna. ♦

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National Forest Week

National Forest Week takes place September 20 - 26, 2015. It is a week to focus on celebrating forests, and the values and services they provide for Canada. In BC, forests are an integral part of our environment, the economy and the social fabric of our great province.

The BC Provincial Coalition was established in 2013 with the overarching goal of showing young people in BC that they can enjoy time spent outdoors and learn more about the different uses of BC's forests including wood products, jobs, recreation and spiritual values.

National Forest Week is our opportunity to showcase the high level of forest and resource management on Woodlot Licences in BC. This is an opportunity to take the lead on a fun or

educational event such as:

- Visiting classrooms and talking about a variety of topics including forest flora and fauna; the forest economy; social/cultural aspects of the forest; tree identification; forestry careers etc.
- Taking students and the public on a walk in the woods (or park) for experiential learning
- Participating in career fairs or other National Forest Week school or community events
- Hosting a tree planting, invasive species clean up, public lecture etc.

The Provincial Coalition is pleased to provide support to volunteers who host events. They have a number of resources available including giveaways for children, forestry videos, links to



downloadable activities and more. You can find all resources at www.bcnfw.ca. Please visit often to see what new ideas and resources we've added as we get closer to National Forest Week.

For more information and to volunteer, contact nationalforestweekbc@gmail.com

The Federation also has education items to give away such as Ollie's Woodlot Adventures Colouring & Activity book, carabineers with educational cards and bookmarks. For a supply, contact lisa@woodlot.bc.ca. ♦

FBCWA Scholarship Winning Essay: “If I am the license holder of a woodlot, what steps and management decisions would I take in order that my woodlot can be the greatest benefit to my community?”

By Rachel Klassen

If I am the licence holder of a woodlot there are steps and management decisions that I would take so that my woodlot would greatly benefit my community. Promoting knowledge, ongoing awareness and actual hands on activities would help ensure my community would benefit. In addition, making sure that I am a good steward of the woodlot and engaging in best practises as well would benefit all of my community.

I would involve the community in my woodlot by focusing on involving the different age groups. I would set up, develop and implement school tours of the woodlot. I would focus on preschool, elementary aged students, secondary aged students, adults and seniors. I would develop a woodlot curriculum for each age group that visited. Numerous topics could be explored including studies of trees, other flora in the area, wildlife, recreation opportunities in the forest, stewardship and sustainable practises and so on. I would incorporate discussions on a variety of woodlot-related topics by featured guest speakers. I would like to have the local paper feature visits to my woodlot several times a year, perhaps one feature for each season of the year.

Another essential way to involve the



community would be to use various forms of social media. For example, I would create an interactive Facebook group featuring my woodlot and woodlots in general. My Facebook page would be updated regularly with photos, videos and accompanying explanations of what is happening in my woodlot. I would encourage questions and provide answers to the best of my ability. I would also explore opening up a twitter feed about my woodlot and community events.

Also, I would work with various community clubs and groups such as the local Fort St. James ATV and Dog Sledding Clubs. I would work with them on developing recreational trails and maps that they could use to responsibly access my woodlot area trails. I would develop a Visitor’s Log Book for my woodlot and be able to track the various user groups and members of the community that are involved in my woodlot. I would welcome any suggestions user groups have as well for improving and continuing to develop community involvement.

I would also implement selective logging practises on my woodlot. These practises would be beneficial for my community to observe and take part in when

appropriate. Selective logging practises would ensure a hands-on approach to natural resource management and the health and sustainability of my woodlot. My uncle and grandpa who both own woodlots sell their wood to small local sawmills. My priority would also be to sell wood to small local mills. I would continue with this practise as it directly benefits all of the local community.

There are many steps and management decisions that I would take to ensure that my woodlot is the greatest benefit to my community. Involving various age groups in tours and related curriculum, engaging user groups, utilizing various forms of media including the local newspaper and social media such as Facebook and Twitter and being a good steward of my woodlot would benefit my community. ♦

Purpose of the WPDC

The primary purpose of the WPDC is to ensure that levy fees are spent on woodlot licensee priorities to benefit and promote the woodlot industry throughout BC. Funds are collected through powers granted to Council under the Farming and Fishing Industries Development Act.



Links of Interest

- British Columbia Trees App: <http://abcfptrees.com/appsplash/>
- Our own website: <http://woodlot.bc.ca>
- Woodlot Safety Program: Safety info & Tools – Resources Packages: http://www.bcforestsafe.org/safety_info/resource_packages.html
- The Working Forest newspaper offers an e-newsletter and a newspaper on small-scale forestry across Canada: www.workingforest.com ♦



MEMBER *Reflections*

Ralph Moore June 12, 1945 ~ April 16, 2015

Submitted by Denise English

Like so many woodlot licensees Ralph was colourful and unique. However to have known Ralph was to have known the 'greenest woodlot licensee.' His life work and story attest to this fact. His wisdom, wit and love of life will be missed by all those he touched.

Ralph Moore passed away on April 16, 2015 as a result of an accident. The world has been made a poorer place with the loss.

Ralph was born on June 12, 1945 in Kimberley BC. The family was living in Mud Creek in the Columbia Valley. Deanna of Kamloops and Jacqueline of Creston are his sisters.

It is no surprise that Ralph had such a love of the mountains, growing up between the Purcells and the Rockies. His father, Jack took his young son with him on countless wilderness hikes. With the bond forged between the two on these trips, Ralph thrived as a force of nature, unequaled in his knowledge and familiarity with all things Mountain. He shared with hundreds of people over the years his passion for the wild, knowing that protection begins with appreciation.

Ralph's abiding joy in the natural world was also nurtured by his mother, Margaret, a fine artist who awakened many to beauty with her work and daily life. Ralph was able to communicate so much of that essence with his photography.

Supporting Ralph in his continued activism for protecting planet Earth, was his wife of 27 years, Sam. They were married at their home on the hill with their son Ryder, then four, in attendance. Ralph was very proud of his son, as he grew into a fine young man.



Sam's dear older son, Adrian, has always been closely tied to Ralph, and provided him with a granddaughter whom he adored, Natasha. Sister Jackie's son, Devon, enjoyed a close relationship with his unique uncle.

Together Ralph and Sam created a lifestyle built on sustainability, integrity, generosity, and "small footprints". They shared a deep love of learning, gardening, social/political awareness, family and community, and their own paradise on Goat Mountain.

The initiatives that Ralph has been involved with over the years are too many to name. He was especially pleased with the opportunity to protect the forests on Goat Mountain by establishing a Woodlot. He was proud of the work of the local Community Forest Corporation. He was a founding member of the environmental group that eventually became Wildsight. He donated hours of his life to assisting individuals and groups in whatever ways he could.

Ralph's passing has left a great void, in his family and in his community. He would wish that this void be filled by individual initiative towards conservation and a deepening commitment to preserving the balance of nature.

Ralph leaves his wife Sam, son Ryder, step-son Adrian and grand-daughter Natasha; his adoring sisters Deanna and Jackie; their husbands Francis and Clements; his last remaining aunt Lois Ford; his admiring nephews and nieces Judy, Laurie, Joyce, Michael, and Devon; many wonderful cousins; and a large group of friends who are the finest in the world. ♦

The Woodland Almanac is always looking for creative submissions for "Member Reflections" related to small-scale forestry. We'd like to hear from you on stories from the woodlot or see your photos from the block. "Member Reflections" can also be used to share obituaries on licensees who are no longer with us. If you'd like to submit an article or photo, contact Cathy McClary at cjmclary401@gmail.com.

■ My two cents worth: a licensee's opinion

Honestly, Constable!

by Harold Macy
W1677 (retired)

Pulled up to one of our Woodlot gates recently and sat in my truck fuming. There in front of me was a half dozen neatly tied up garbage bags. Trash dumping is an ongoing irritation for our interface forest land. We are the regular recipient of assorted couches, mattresses, and even once a dead horse. I have learned to pick up the sacks before the bears or other scavengers spread them about, muttering and cursing as I do.

When I hefted the first bag into the truck, a peculiar odour wafted out—vaguely skunk-like, though I knew there were none of these rodents on the Island. Opening a bag, I discovered a mass of moldy leaves, stems and root wads from BC's most lucrative agricultural crop. Another bag was full of wires, empty fertilizer jugs and hardware. Another packed with Lucky cans, drained of working-class nectar.

This was not the first and probably not the last grow-op cleanout we have received. Last time, I called the Mounties and asked them if they would like to examine the evidence. They were uninterested unless I witnessed the dumping and had photos, license plates and a preferably lawyer as a passenger. But they thanked me and established a file number. So this time I did not even bother, but tossed the evidence into my pickup and drove toward home, not having the non-emergency phone number and didn't think a 911 call was appropriate.

Now it is not often the Queens Cowboys venture into these hinterlands, but lo and behold, once I pulled onto the paved road there they were, a random roadcheck. I grinned and stopped. An officer asked for my

license and insurance papers with a firm smile.

"Jeez, am I glad to see ya." I said, "Save me a phone call."

"Oh, why's that?"

"Got a grow-op in the back of my truck here."

Well, even behind his Terminator sunglasses, his eyes were like Bambi in the headlights and I enjoyed the shock. After relishing the moment, I explained the situation.

He looked suspicious. "Yeah? How do I know it's not yours?"

"Well, I'd be pretty lame to be driving around mid-day with contraband in an open truck. And if you call Constable Miller at the Courtenay detachment, he can verify my story."

He strode to his cruiser and radioed for confirmation, all the while keeping an eye on me so I wouldn't make a dash for freedom.

"Okay, your explanation checks out. What are you going to do with the stuff?"

"The organics are going in my compost bin, the Lucky cans in my recycles, and the rest is going roadside for pickup on Tuesday."

He tried to talk me into taking it all up to the regional dump, but I told him I wasn't about to drive forty kms for someone else's garbage, not only that but I imagined rolling up to the gate and having to explain to the man what I had and sit there until he called the detachment and got some other cop to drive up and check it out.

Ended up with two seedling boxes of Lucky cans—worth a half tank of fuel. Threw the rest in the compost. Can't wait to taste the pumpkins! ♦

WL Annual Reporting Requirements Have Changed

Effective May 1, 2015, Section 76 of the Woodlot Licence Planning & Practices Regulation was amended. A WL licensee is now required to report completed activities on an annual basis. Prior to the amendment, S. 76 required woodlot licensees to report annually on partially completed harvesting activities. The form and information required is as per RISS-WL (RESULTS) manual, which stands for RESULTS Information Submission Specifications for Woodlot Licences. It can be found at: <http://woodlot.bc.ca/results/>.

In addition, a WL licensee no longer has to report:

- a transfer of a free growing obligation under FRPA S. 29.1(3);
- an exemption under S. 78 or 79 of the WLPPR;
- a declaration that an obligation has been completed as per FRPA S. 107; or
- relief that was granted under FRPA S. 108.

A WL licensee is still required to report the approximate location of any resource features or wildlife habitat features that they become aware of during the year and that are within or contiguous to a road or cutblock. Also, if they hadn't already done so, any S. 20(1) amendments they made to their Woodlot Licence Plan must be reported. A 20(1) amendment is one that a licensee can make without the approval of a district manager; i.e. it meets the content requirements of a WLP and does not materially change the intended results or strategies specified in the plan or conforms to prescribed requirements. ♦



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Spectrum Resource Group is a vegetation management solutions provider working actively in forestry, oil and gas, utility and community resource industries across Western Canada. Spectrum specializes in reducing the spread of invasive and noxious weeds, maximizing crop-tree growth and survival, mitigating fire hazards, and providing for the security of assets.

Stand Tending

- Manual Brushing
- Aerial and Ground Herbicide Application
- Basal Bark Application

Reforestation

- Tree planting

Administration

- Pesticide Management Plan creation
- Woodlot License and Management Plans
- One Cut Permit Applications
- RESULTS data entry
- Mapping / GIS services



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Letters to the Editor

AFRICAN COMMUNITY PROJECT - Report on creating Community Forests in Zambia

Greetings Members

Over the past few years the Federation of Woodlot Associations has contributed to the success of our project of creating community forests in Zambia. The holistic approach of 'social forestry' has brought nature and people closer together. Our interpretation of 'social forestry' is providing: clean, safe, drinking water, education for everyone, basic health, sustainable livelihoods, forest management and cultural well-being.

This concept of community forests has expanded to every corner of Zambia. The demand of supplying tree seeds to these community forests has grown to the point that we distributed over 1,000,000 seeds in 2014. Your donation last year went to acquire the seeds from the communities, packaging, supplying planting instructions and distribution. Most of the seeds we distributed come from trees we have planted in the past.

It would be an honour to be able to give a PowerPoint presentation to any of the member Associations or anyone interested in what we do or how they could get involved.

Again, on behalf of African Community Project and our community forests members, we want to say Zikomo kwambiri (thank you) for your past support.

My best regards, Garry Brooks - Executive Director,
African Community Project ♦

A big THANK YOU to the Federation for the colouring books.

The Federation provided 400 Ollie's Woodlot Adventures colouring books to a field tour program put on by the FLNRO District staff out of Terrace at Lakelse Lake Provincial Park. Formerly it was part of National Forest Week when it was held in spring but now it is part of the school's natural resource curriculum for Grades 4 & 5. The grade 6's went this year as well as they missed last year. The field trip is a full day outing where the students rotate through 4 different stations: Fish and Wildlife, Ecological Biodiversity, Silviculture/Forest Management and Fire.

Greg Cowman, CIF Rep, Cariboo ♦



Ollie's Woodlot Adventures Colouring and Activity Book

Ollie's adventures take you to a woodlot licence where you will learn about trees and how a forest is managed sustainably. Perfect for students visiting a woodlot. It also compliments our educational resource package which includes a lesson plan, curricular connections for teachers, DVD and other handouts. To order, contact Lisa Marak at lisa@woodlot.bc.ca

25/100ths: A Quarter Century in the BC Forest Service 1995-1980

Woodlot Licensee, George Benwell has published a memoir of his 25 years as part of the B.C. Forest Service. George joined the Forest Service in 1955 and remained in the service until 1980.

The book begins with a family history and recalls tales from George's youth when he was getting in and out of trouble around Nelson. It sets the stage for the meat of the book, which relates to a series of adventures and anecdotes from his 25 years with the Forest Service.

There are stories of timber cruising, firefighting, search and rescue, wildlife encounters and investigating rogue loggers. George reflects on raising a family in a remote community. Most of the stories are from George's earlier years in the forest service and they make it feel very much like pioneer times.

The book has the feel of a grandfather telling stories to his grandchildren. There's a definite style of, "This is how we did it back in my day." The writing is open and a little rough, but it reflects George's personality.

Come meet George at the AGM in West Kelowna. He may twist your ear for a while or even sell you a book!

Or give him a call at 250-837-2464. ♦

Retaining Professionals - Guidance for Woodlot Licensees

PREAMBLE

Over the past ten years, since FRPA was introduced, professional reliance has proven to be a vague and sometimes difficult concept for many woodlot licensees to understand. The purpose of this bulletin is twofold. One is to improve woodlot licensees' understanding of professional reliance. The other is to provide advice on how to engage professionals so a woodlot licensee receives the best possible advice and recommendations, so that professional reliance can be used as a due diligence defense should it ever be necessary, and to ensure a professional can be held responsible and accountable. To help guide woodlot licensees, a checklist is provided at the end of this bulletin.

PROFESSIONAL RELIANCE & WOODLOT LICENCES

With the implementation of the Forest Range and Practices Act (FRPA) in 2004 came a new concept called professional reliance. The Association of BC Forest Professionals (ABC FP) defines professional reliance as the practice of accepting and relying upon the decisions and advice of professionals who accept responsibility and can be held accountable for the decisions they make and the advice they give. Professional reliance means that licensees and government will follow the advice and direction of professionals for tasks and activities that fall within the scope of professional practice.

FRPA does not define the scope of professional practice or direct what work or activities a professional must do. In the case of forestry and engineering, it is the profession's regulatory body that has been given the legal right and duty to determine the scope of professional practice for its members. For other professions, legislation states professional requirements. But be aware - there are overlaps in the scope of professional practice between different professions! If a licensee has any doubt whether or not a particular practice or activity falls under the scope of professional practice, or which profession it may fall under, they should ask their district WL Forester.

To assist woodlot licensees, the ABCFP, Federation of BC Woodlot Associations (FBCWA) and the Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations (FLNRO) collaborated to develop a matrix that identifies tasks that must be done by professionals as it relates to woodlot licences. The PR matrix is an appendix in the memo entitled "Interim Guidance: Roles and Responsibilities of Woodlot

Licensees, Government Staff and Forest Professionals" and can be found at http://www.for.gov.bc.ca/dck/tenures/tenures_index.htm#Notices.

FRPA and the Woodlot Licence Planning & Practices Regulation (WLPPR) are the two primary pieces of legislation directing a woodlot licensee's forest planning and practices, and together they hold a woodlot licensee accountable for all FRPA related business pertaining to the woodlot licence regardless of whether or not a professional was involved. However if something should go wrong, following a qualified professional's advice and/or recommendations can be used as a due diligence defense by a licensee when defending their actions.

ENGAGING RESOURCE PROFESSIONALS

BEFORE retaining a professional, a woodlot licensee should:

1. List the deliverables; i.e. the specific tasks and advice that they require from the professional.
 - In order to gain a better understanding of the role of a professional in the work they are about to undertake, a licensee could:
 - o Refer to PR matrix (http://www.for.gov.bc.ca/dck/tenures/tenures_index.htm#Notices);
 - o Consult with their peers;
 - o Ask a professional;
 - o Review practice guidelines which are available from a profession's website; or
 - o Seek advice from the appropriate professional regulatory body; e.g. Association of BC Forest Professionals or Association of Professional Engineers and Geoscientists of BC.
2. Take steps to ensure the professional they intend to retain is reputable and possesses the necessary qualifications to do the required work.
 - Professional consultants should be able to provide a company brochure, backgrounder or resume attesting the kind of work that they do.
 - You should find out how well the professional can support the work and your business. For example, do they have professional liability insurance? Is the insurance applicable to the services to be rendered? Will they be doing all the work in house or will some

be outsourced? If so, what work will be outsourced, to whom and under what conditions?

- A licensee might also want to check a professional's references, talk with other woodlot licensees, ask a major licensee, talk to the Ministry and/or even call a professional regulatory body to find out if a particular professional has ever had any disciplinary issues.
3. Ensure there is a written and signed contract or agreement between a woodlot licensee and the professional that:
- Lists the project/contract deliverables; and
 - Includes clauses whereby the professional attests to the fact that they:
 - o Belong to the appropriate regulatory body;
 - o Have the necessary accreditations, knowledge, skills and expertise to do the stated work; and
 - o Possess professional liability insurance that covers all of the professional's services required under the contract/agreement for the term of the contract.

Professional consultants will likely be able to help. They should be able to provide a form contract or letter of understanding (LOA). Like a contract, a LOA will describe the specific details of the work they will do for you but without as much legal verbiage.

A licensee should also consider whether or not the contract should require the professional to provide a letter of conformance¹ or provide the licensee with the option to request and receive a letter of conformance. Should something go wrong, a letter of conformance can aid a licensee's due diligence defense and help exact accountability on a professional.

If you don't feel a contract or letter of agreement is needed; at the very least a woodlot licensee should have the professional sign a letter stating the task and the professional services to be rendered, verifying they are qualified and have the necessary skills, knowledge, and experience to do the job, and verifying that they are responsible and accountable for the work.

DURING the course of the work, a woodlot licensee should:

1. Meet regularly and stay informed about the work that is being done, what is being prepared, and what the professional may be intending to advise or recommend. Setting a meeting schedule is recommended. FRPA holds the woodlot licensee responsible for the outcome of practices on the ground. Dialogue while the work is underway will help ensure that the professional and licensee are on the same page with regards to the management and practices to be employed on the woodlot licence area.

2. Take notes and document all dealings with professionals and others who do work on the woodlot licence; i.e. keep emails and other correspondence, write up and date notes following conversations and meetings, etc. By documenting all dealings during the course of the work, a woodlot licensee is exercising their due diligence to ensure all the required work was done and done to an acceptable standard.

UPON COMPLETION of the work, a woodlot licensee should:

1. Arrange a completion interview with the professional.
2. Ensure they are in agreement with the professional's advice and recommendations.
3. If necessary, arrange for follow-up or future meetings to discuss and review work that is being done pursuant to the professional's advice or recommendations. In some cases, a professional must provide oversight, supervise or be involved in the implementation and delivery of certain activities. These cases should be identified.

The woodlot licence is a long-term business. Licensees are legally bound to the professional content of approved plans and practices. In many cases, plans and practices live for many years, even if they aren't implemented until much later; e.g. free growing declarations. Establishing a good relationship with a professional(s) helps provide continuity of management and administration while helping to achieve acceptable outcomes.

SUMMARY

Professional reliance in FRPA rests on the assumption that licensees and government will follow the advice and direction of a qualified professional for a particular circumstance. As the person responsible for the management and administration of their woodlot licence, there are things that a woodlot licensee needs to do to make sure professional reliance works well. This bulletin is intended to provide a better understanding of a woodlot licensee's engagement of professional service; including how it works and what they might do to protect their interests. Responsibilities and accountabilities between a licensee and a professional are much clearer, better defined and more provable if a licensee specifically identifies the work to be done by a professional, exercises due diligence in the selection of a qualified professional, and fully documents the relationship between the professional and themselves.

Review the checklist in this bulletin on our website: www.woodlot.bc.ca. ♦

1 A letter of conformance would:

- Specify the professional services that were provided;
- Attest that all work complied with all applicable Acts, regulations, by-laws and practice requirements;
- Confirm that all appropriate documents have been duly signed and sealed;
- Verify that the professional has acted in the licensee's best interests while upholding and protecting the interests of the public, worker safety and the environment; and
- Acknowledge that the professional assumes responsibility and is accountable for all professional works carried out under the contract/agreement.



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BC Forest Safety



**Thank you
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