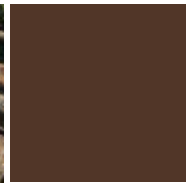




THE WOODLAND ALMANAC



www.woodlot.bc.ca

Summer 2016

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Woodlot Tour in the Regional District of Kootenay Boundary

by George Delisle

On May 26, 2016, representatives and staff from the Regional District of Kootenay Boundary (RDKB) enjoyed a forestry tour out in the woods to get a better understanding of the important role "Woodlots" play in the Boundary Forest District. Woodlot # 410 was selected for the tour, as the Regional District was having their monthly town hall meeting at the Westbridge Hall in the West end of the RDKB. The President of the West Kootenay Woodlot Association also participated in the tour. The RDKB suggested that they would like another woodlot tour over in the Castlegar/Trail area next time to get a broad view of the program across this part of the province. We are hoping to see this kind of co-operative effort can be duplicated across British Columbia.

Woodlot # 410 has been in existence since 1962, when it was awarded as a "Farm Woodlot" to Don Davidson from Westbridge. His two sons, Bob and Dan Davidson took over the management many



Local government representatives tour Woodlot 0410 in the Kootenay Boundary area.

years ago and have done an exemplary job ever since. Sites visited were selectively logged numerous times dating back to the early 1930's, again in 1960's, again in the 1980's and again in 2016, leaving the stand stocked with another healthy crop for the next pass which was possible only through the careful harvesting techniques developed by the Davidson brothers. This is a good example of how selection harvesting can work with fantastic results and is in stark contrast to industrial forestry practiced in most forestry settings today.

Issues discussed on this field trip included wildlife habitat, biodiversity,

cont'd on page 3



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 Cliff Manning
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 Coleen Marlow
 Brian McNaughton

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Getting RESULTS and Fond Farewells

by Brian McNaughton

A new bulletin entitled Woodlot Licences: Information Sharing & Consultation with First Nations is available on the Federation website. I would strongly recommend that every woodlot licensee take the time to read it carefully. It was drafted to address the various questions and concerns that have been raised by licensees and it includes guidance specific to cutting permits, road permits and woodlot licence plans.

A Federation initiative called 'Getting RESULTS' was just launched in the Selkirk, Campbell River, North Island and South Island Forest Districts. The project has two main purposes. One is to help licensees understand RESULTS and their reporting requirements. The other is to assist licensees to address high priority reporting issues with the RESULTS records for their WL. Whether we like it or not, reporting using RESULTS is a legal requirement. We also know from a review of WL records and recent audits by the Forest Practices Board that there is room for improvement for many, but not all, woodlot licensees. There is an article about this project elsewhere in this edition of the Almanac. Please read it. And most importantly, if you do receive an email or package in the mail from the Federation, please take the necessary action to address the identified reporting issues.

In recent weeks, I've had the opportunity to meet with Madeline Maley and Ian Meier, the Executive Director and Director of the BC Wildfire Service (BCWS) respectively. The meetings were in response to a resolution presented at the 2015 Annual General Meeting and



Brian McNaughton,
General Manager

questions raised by licensees. Topics discussed included where WLs rank with respect to initial attack priorities, what WL licensees can do to help detection and suppression efforts, fuel mitigation in high risk areas, and hazard assessments. A joint forest sector - BCWA committee has been struck and will be meeting every two months. Terms of reference are being drafted and priorities will be set at the first meeting. More information will be forthcoming in the months ahead. Also, BCWA advised that a review of hazard assessment requirements is planned and that the Federation will be part of that group.

Major licensees are putting the finishing touches on a tool that will identify and assess the risk of migratory birds at the stand level and they are going to make it available to WL licensees – for free! Based on a demonstration I was given, a licensee will be able to scale down on a map to a specific area, such as a planned cutblock or road. The program will identify the species and the likelihood of it being present (depending on season). It will rank the habitat in terms of importance and risk. The program will also provide some recommendations regarding management practices. It struck me as a very user friendly, useful tool. A notice will be sent out when it's available.

On a personal note, my good friend Robin Hood passed away on St. Patrick's Day. Rob was a woodlot

licensee, former president of the Cariboo Woodlot Association and director to the Federation. Many of you may have met Rob years ago when he did an Association building tour of the province. There's a tribute to Rob in this Almanac. He was one of a kind!

I hope you all have a great summer and I'm looking forward to seeing many of you at the Annual General Meeting in Prince George.

Brian ♦

► From page 1

species at risk, climate change, wild fire management and fuel reduction through selection harvesting. An old Western Larch with numerous (8 visible) fire scars depicting the constant presence of forest fires in the past, peaked the interest of those on the tour. The potential to grow more and better trees was demonstrated by "log cookies" as proof of how our trees can grow when managed properly.

One critical point that was pointed out, was the importance of any local government initiative regarding fuel mitigation. It should, and must include all (big and small) licensees working in any given area. This is critical as it can significantly reduce the cost of treatment to the taxpayer, so that the available government money can treat as big an area, as possible. It was also pointed out that fuel reduction is not a "one time wonder", but a constant application of reducing fuels as time goes on. There is no such thing as "Fire Proofing" an area, only making an area more "resilient" to fire and making an area easier to defend against fire. ♦

Sharing Information before the Dog Days of Summer

by Mark Clark

Your Federation has had a very busy spring season. A bulletin jointly sponsored by the Federation and the Ministry (FLNR) has been distributed widely and it will provide some clarity around how, when, and why Licensees are interacting with First Nations groups around the Province. I would encourage all licensees to read it carefully. In the cover memo, the Assistant Deputy Minister who signed off the bulletin called for districts and WL Associations to work together to ensure First Nations consultation and information sharing is being done properly. If you have concerns, make them known to your Woodlot Association.

The Federation has been actively engaged in a province-wide project designed to encourage and assist Woodlot Licensees to address high priority RESULTS reporting issues. This is not just about licensees meeting their reporting obligation; it also has implications to the issuance of a single cutting permit covering your entire woodlot. Before a 1 CP can be issued, all blocks in FTA (Forest Tenure Administration system)



Mark Clark
President

must be marked as closed. In order to close a block in FTA, RESULTS reporting must be done. See the article on page 10 of the Spring 2016 Almanac for more information. The “Getting RESULTS” project is being piloted

in 4 districts with standardized reports and a guidance document. Information for individual woodlot licensees is being distributed, discussed, and hopefully corrected on a consistent basis.

Each year the Minister of Forest, Lands and Natural Resource Operations presents up to 3 awards to deserving Woodlot Licensees in BC. The awards and cash prizes are to recognize innovation and excellence in woodlot management, and are distributed to three regional recipients. From those three, a provincial recipient is selected. The nominees are evaluated on the basis of their commitment to basic and incremental forestry practices, their efforts to expand and create markets, better utilize the timber resource, and their contributions to local community. The citizenship

component includes activities in the local Woodlot Association, the Federation or Council, and such things as educational tours, speaking presentations, suggestions that streamline or reduce woodlot administration costs, and promotion of the woodlot program. Since its inception in 2010, there have been 17 recipients. The awards continue to represent the commitment of the Minister to the woodlot program in BC. If you have a potential candidate in mind, the criteria and application format are posted on the FBCWA website at <http://woodlot.bc.ca/stewardship/>. Applications must be submitted by August 19 2016.

Please be careful with fire. As of May 3 2016, the BC Wildfire Service has actioned 193 fires, burning 21,355 hectares. This compares to an average for the last 6 years of 97 fires on 756 hectares in the same period. With a large proportion being human-caused, and woodlots very often in the interface, it's a good time to stay vigilant and update your contact information with Wildfire BC.

This year's Annual General Meeting will be in Prince George from September 29th to October 1st. I hope to see many of you there. Have a good and safe summer. ♦

R & D Project Funding Available

The annual work plan has an allotment of \$5,000 for R & D Projects that will benefit woodlot licensees. If you have an idea for a project, submit a proposal to the Woodlot Product Development Council by January 31. Once submitted, proposals will trigger a discussion between the Council, Federation and proponent(s). The project proposal form can be found at: <http://www.woodlot.bc.ca/wpdc.html#projects>. ♦

■ Interior timber pricing

IAM updates, program support and more

by Debbie Zandbelt, RPF

Timber Pricing in the interior is relentless this time of year...the big push for all of last year's field work to be concluded, planning for the upcoming season, watching the snow melt, and this year...watching fire's start! All in the course of the last 60 days. However, back in the office the required updates to the Interior Appraisal Manual (IAM) got to the press...or in nowadays term...on the web ready to read!



Debbie Zandbelt, RPF
Interior Timber Pricing
Coordinator

IAM Table 6.2 updated May 1, 2016

The annual May update of the Interior Appraisal Manual Table 6-2 has been approved. The rates shown in this table are the rates that will be used on the annual August 1, 2016 stumpage update for all active woodlot cutting authorities and also for any newly issued cutting authorities effective May 1, 2016 and later (until any further update to the IAM occurs). Stumpage rates went up as expected and are expected to rise again in the next Manual update. The Harvest Billing System (HBS) is usually updated very promptly after August

1 – so check there if you are anxious to confirm your cutting authority has been updated. The weblink is <https://a100.gov.bc.ca/pub/hbs/>. Scroll down to 'Other Queries and Menus' and enter your timber mark or under 'Stumpage Rate Search' and again enter your timbermark and select the product logs. It is a public site and has no log in required! Feel free to call if any problems.

July 1, 2016 we are expecting to see the major annual update to the entire Interior Appraisal Manual. Draft version is now available and likely finalized by the time this article goes to print. We still do have some licensees on the MPS system –this manual update has some changes worth the review. On the Timber Pricing Branch website they include a version that has all the amendments highlighted in red. (<http://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/industry/forestry/competitive-forest-industry/timber-pricing/interior-timber-pricing/interior-appraisal-manual>). Many users have found this colour coding particularly useful. If not – I can

review easily with you at any time for clarification of any questions you may have.

IFS Stumpage program

As a reminder if any licensee is in the need for the IFS stumpage calculator program – please let me know ASAP. As of December of 2016, I will no longer be able to provide this program to licenses upon request. However, if you do still require it – it is vital you contact me as soon as possible in order for our license not to expire.

I would like to thank those licensees that have taken the time to call or email with woodlot questions or topics around the interior. Those conversations are in fact very significant for this portfolio – it aids in setting my priorities, provides support to know where the Federation Timber Pricing budget should be allocated, and provides the critical information I need to represent YOU at the various Interior timber pricing forums in the province. The interior unlike the coast has such a varied log market, incredibly diverse land base, and incredibly diverse range of issues – so, thank you greatly for your effort.

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	2.94	-	4.16	3.35	-	2.34	3.18	-	-	3.00
North East	1.56	-	-	-	-	1.31	1.34	-	-	1.34
North West	1.12	1.37	-	1.22	-	1.41	1.27	-	-	1.26
South Central	1.50	-	0.79	-	-	2.27	2.41	-	-	2.04
South East	2.79	3.71	3.52	2.78	3.23	2.92	2.89	3.03	3.10	3.13
South West	3.02	1.14	2.74	3.29	3.41	3.39	3.20	3.41	-	3.12

¹ Average for the Forest Zone

Coastal Stumpage and Timber Pricing: Stable State for the Coast

by Ed Hughes

Coast Woodlots Stable State and the Softwood Lumber Agreement (SLA)

The coastal woodlot licensees have been a stable small scale forest sector participant for many years now. There has been slow and steady growth, without significant negative impacts, since the log price downturn in 2007/8.

Slow and steady administrative improvements, and a stable TAB stumpage system has increased the demand for Woodlot tenures. Improved community stability and a reliable log supply, albeit small annual volumes, continues. The business linkages between suppliers (Woodlot licensees) and buyers throughout the coast, has made important contributions through domestic and export log sales. Long term business relationships have helped support the rural communities. Growing the woodlot sector has helped to improve the economic (small and medium sized businesses), social (recreational use in most urban fringe forests is continuous and supported) and environmental (a variety of species, ages, sites offer abundant wildlife habitat) benefits. Now when we are approaching a steady state, hopefully it continues.

The SLA negotiations were raised to the highest levels on March 12, 2016 during a joint announcement between President Obama and Prime Minister Trudeau. Mr. Obama stated that “a deal is a good thing and we are going to reach one”. Mr. Trudeau stated “I am confident we are on track towards



Ed Hughes,
Coastal Timber Pricing
Coordinator

resolving this irritant in the coming weeks and months”. By June 29 2016 there should be an update as to structure and key elements of a new SLA when the US, Mexico and Canada have their summit. Without a new SLA, our stable state both for log prices to the US and stumpage system have unknown outcomes.

A new SLA will be good news for both woodlots and the forest sector in both countries.

The one-year grace period for the SLA ends on Oct 12, 2016, after which trade action could happen.

Log Price Trends over the past 135 months

When I talk with coastal woodlot licensees, there is a constant interest in keeping the log market relationships strong and also avoiding only selling to one market. A diverse marketing strategy and plan is recommended to assist with maintaining a steady state for Woodlot licensees. Keeping many different log market baskets will help if (or likely when) a downturn impacts our steady state. It is helpful (I hope) to revisit the price fluctuations for our main tree species.

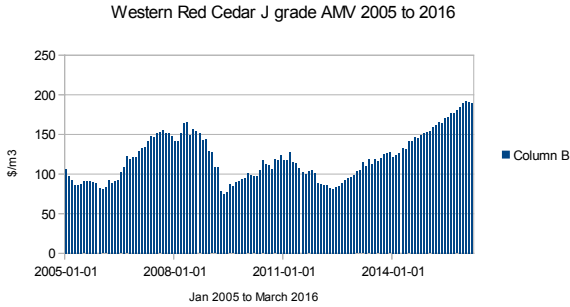
In the Winter 2014 Almanac I provided “Coastal Timber Prices over time from 2007 to 2013”, leading to some advice concerning the impact increasing log prices will have on stumpage. At the time, I believed that for some species and grades (Western Red Cedar (Cw) J and H grades) that we were at a potential peak in log prices. As demonstrated within the chart for Cw J grade AMV 2005 to 2016 the strong prices have continued for Cw. Is it the supply or demand that has caused the continuation of strong prices?

The demand both domestically and within lumber exports for Cw has been steadily increasing, partially due to the low Canadian dollar and improved US markets. The spring/summer period is usually when the strong markets continue for Cw. Nothing is likely to change significantly in the short term.

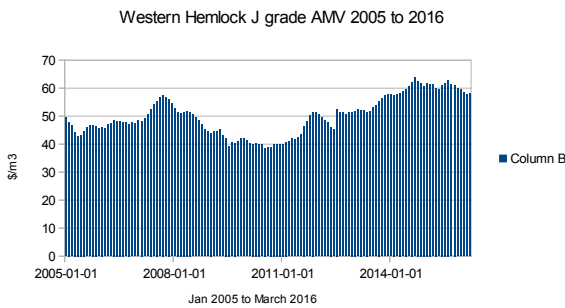
The supply on the other hand has significantly decreased over the past decade. The increasing prices of Cw has resulted in many of the forest owners harvesting to capture the good markets in the past. The constraints on the Cw log supply through a number of changes, including parkland and protected area designations, has resulted in a reduced supply of Cw. The replacement of Cw with Yellow Cedar (Cy) for example is occurring, due to the poor markets for Cy and a significantly lower price. Many other options might/could exist that are still to come. Species like true fir (balsam) can be used (both with weather resistant stain and advice to use it when it is protected from the weather), as a Cw replacement in certain application.

I have included charts for the AMV J grade from the Timber Pricing Branch zone 52 (Second growth) for a 135-month period between Jan 2005 to March 2016 for four species, Cw, Western Hemlock (Hw), Cy and Douglas fir (Fd). The values by species are significantly different, offering some options for using the right species for the right project, based on prices and appropriate species usage. As a woodworker, I appreciate having more than one species option in my shop, to match the wood characteristics with the

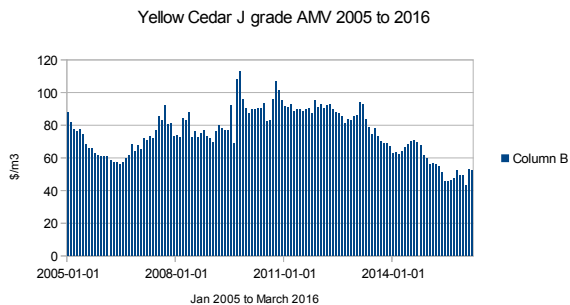
project, which should account for species values (logs and lumber) to avoid spending more than required for no benefit.



The AMV of Cw J grade has fluctuated between \$74/m³ (June 2007) to \$193/m³ (Jan 2016), with the average AMV of \$121/m³ over this 135 month period. The general trend is upward with periodic drops in AMV for short periods of time.



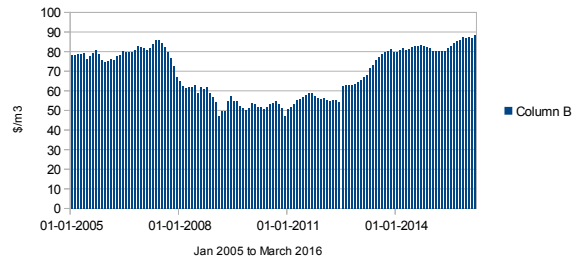
The AMV of Hw/Bg/Ss J grade has fluctuated between \$39/m³ (Aug 2010) to \$64/m³ (Sept 2014), with the average AMV of \$50/m³ over this 135 month period. The general trend is upward with prolonged drops in AMV.



I have included Cy, though it is a less common species on coastal woodlots, to demonstrate the much lower log values for a species that is being sold as a replacement option for Cw in the local retail lumber stores.

The AMV of Cy J grade has fluctuated between \$56/m³ (May 2005) to \$108/m³ (Aug 2009) with the average AMV of \$75/m³ over this 13 month period. The general trend is downward with common abrupt fluctuations in AMV for short periods of time.

Douglas fir J grade AMV 2005 to 2016



The AMV of Fd J grade has fluctuated between \$61/m³ (Aug 2008) to \$88/m³ (March 2016), with the average AMV of \$69/m³ over this 135 month period. The general trend is slightly upward with periodic changes in AMV for periods of time.

Coast MPS Advisory Committee:

MPS advisory committee completed its annual work with the approval of the CAM in March 1, 2016. The next MPS cycle began at the end of May!

Coast Timber Pricing Advisory Committee:

The CTPAC conference calls over the past 3 months have covered a range of appraisal issues. The CTPAC has been working down a list of action items, over the past year, which are being “checked off” through a slow and steady process by the working group members.

Flat Fee for Woodlot Waste:

Debbie Zandbelt is looking after this file during the Waste Manual review process that is taking place over the next while.

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. ♦

WPDC 2016-2017 Operating Budget

The Woodlot Product Development Council conducts work that meets Council's purposes to benefit all woodlot licensees with funding supported by the woodlot levy. The following amounts are approved for the 2016-2017 Work Plan. The WPDC is working towards a sustainable Work Plan of \$346,000 by 2020.

PORTFOLIO	BUDGET	PORTFOLIO TOTAL
WPDC Business		\$ 58,425
Directors' Expenses (Includes Travel Expenses for 7 Volunteer Directors)	\$ 17,500	
Administration (Includes Accountant and book keeper fees, storage fees and insurance)	\$ 5,925	
Coordinator Contract (Includes Fees & Travel Expenses for Cathy McClary)	\$ 35,000	
Questionnaire (Includes publication and distribution of 866 questionnaires to woodlot licensees)		\$ 500
Annual Report (Includes production and distribution of joint annual report with FBCWA))		\$ 700
Woodland Almanac (Includes production and distribution of Almanac four times per year, offset by ad revenues)		\$ 9,000
Woodlot Stewardship Recognition (Includes production of video featuring local woodlot licensees in AGM location)		\$ 4,500
AGM (Includes the registration brochure, AGM execution and support to host association)		\$ 8,400
R & D Proposals		\$ 5,000
Program Delivery (FBCWA) (Includes fees for GM & FBCWA Contractors, admin & communications)		\$ 294,420
TOTAL		\$ 380,945

Links of Interest

- 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 ◆



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. ◆

Industrial activity during Fire Season:

Have you provided EMERGENCY contact information to BC Wildfire Services yet?

Section 4 of the BC Wildfire Regulation requires a woodlot licensee who plans or carries out industrial activities (e.g. logging, hauling, etc.) within 300 meters of a forest or grassland from March 1st to November 1st to provide a 24-hour emergency contact number to the Ministry. In addition, a licensee should provide a location for the activity and advise when the activity is scheduled to occur.

Contact information for the various fire centers is as follows:

Fire Centre	E-mail	Office Phone
Coastal:	Forests.CoastalFireCentre@gov.bc.ca	250-951-4222
Southeast:	FORFSOP.FCRSE@gov.bc.ca	250-365-4040
Kamloops:	FORHPRP.RWCOKAM@gov.bc.ca	250-554-5500
Cariboo:	FORFCAP.FCRCAR@gov.bc.ca	250-989-2600
Prince George:	FORFPGP.RWCOPG@gov.bc.ca	250-565-6126
Northwest:	FORFNOP.FCRNW@gov.bc.ca	250-847-6633

Seventy-three (73) wildfires were reported on woodlot licences in 2015. In some cases, the BC Wildfire Service didn't know who to contact! All woodlot licensees should consider providing their local fire center with a contact name, phone number and email address. Also, if you are interested in being part of the provincial forest fire-fighting effort, include an expression of interest along with your qualifications and what equipment you would have available! ♦

WPDC Director Vacancy Positions

Each year the Woodlot Product Development Council (WPDC) may require filling up to a maximum of 4 Board of Director positions. Terms are for a minimum of 2 years and can be renewed three times (a maximum of 6 years). The Council Board is seeking nominations from woodlot licensees to provide leadership to the executive management team of the WPDC in meeting the Council's mandate.

As a Board Director you will work as a team member to develop the policies and operational guidelines that will ensure the funds of the WPDC are managed in a sustainable way for the long term.

You will be expected to participate in executive meetings twice a year, monthly teleconference calls and the Annual General Meeting of the Council. You will provide perspectives to the Council Board on local woodlot issues, priorities and needs.

All Directors will foster a positive working relationship between Council members and the Federation of British Columbia Woodlot Associations (FBCWA).

If you would like your name to stand as a Director for the WPDC, please submit a short bio along with 5 names and signatures of woodlot licensees who support your nomination.

Nomination Deadline: July 8, 2016.

Contact: Cathy McClary

Email: cjmclary401@gmail.com

Phone: 250-861-0271 ♦

FBCWA Vision

Woodlot holders/owners will participate in a healthy and diverse forest industry with woodlot licences and private forest lands, making significant contributions to local communities and providing a sustainable supply of forest products. The FBCWA will have a voice in forest and economic policy. BC's woodlots will be models of forest management excellence, and world-renowned for their social, economic, recreational, cultural, and educational contributions to rural communities. ♦

Understanding Property Taxes on Managed Forest Land

Note: This article is reprinted with permission from the Private Forest Landowners Association

Property tax incentives are a key component of the Managed Forest Program. Recent increases in bare land assessed values have forest owners concerned about a corresponding increase in property tax bills for 2016.

Based on these concerns, PFLA initiated a conversation with BC Assessment, as well as the Tax Policy Branch of the provincial government.

Thanks to a communication with Duncan Jillings, Director, Property Taxation, Tax Policy Branch, Ministry of Finance, we've received some clarification on how property taxes are calculated for properties within the Managed Forest Land Classification.

The amount of tax payable on a property depends on three factors: the classification of the property, the assessed taxable value of the property and the various tax rates that apply to the property.

BC Assessment assesses Class 7 Managed Forest Land using a two-step process that includes the bare land component, as well as the value of harvested timber.

While the majority of your property might be classified as Class 7 Managed Forest Land other portions might be classified in other classes, for example: Class 1 Residential, Class 4 Major Industry, Class 5 Light Industry or Class 6 Business and other.

If nothing else changes, a higher assessment value on a property, or a higher tax rate, will lead to an increase in tax payable. However, things do change.

Calculating provincial school and rural area taxes

Since 2008, the province's policy is to capture only an inflationary gain from non-residential classes in its provincial school tax and provincial rural area tax, plus any revenue from

new properties or new construction on old properties.

Inflationary gain refers to the BC Consumer Price Index, (1.1% inflation last year), not inflation of land values.

That means, by current policy, if managed forest land values double for all types of forest land, then provincial school and rural tax rates for managed forest land are cut in half, and the inflation factor added.

This calculation is applied to the property classification as a whole.

Under this policy, the province expects only modest revenue increase from a property class, unless there are new buildings, new properties entering the class, or land which has been re-evaluated with respect to its topography, accessibility or soil quality.

If one forest owner's property value went up while another's went down, year over year, with no changes to the physical property, one owner would see a school and rural tax increase and the other a tax decrease, while both owners would see an inflationary increase.

School tax rates for the Managed Forest Land Classification have been about the same (in the range of \$2.3/\$1000 to \$2.1/\$1000) since 1999, the first year of the new tax regime. In comparison, school tax rates for Business Classification were about \$9.9/\$1000 in 1999, and declined to \$5.8/\$1000 by 2015.

Calculating police taxes

For police taxes, the province is looking to recover a certain percentage of police costs. If managed forest land values go up faster than values in other property classes, the MFL class will pick up a larger share of the tax burden.

If managed forest land values rise slower than other property classes, then the police tax burden on the MFL classification will fall relative to other

classes.

With property values going up faster than inflation in most property classes, average tax rates are falling, and individual members will need to look at both their assessed values and their police tax rate if they want to see how their police tax burden is changing.

Regional district taxes

Regional districts also tax to pay for their annual budgets. The tax rates will vary depending on services, costs, and assessed values.

The province imposes tax rate ratios on regional districts. When regional districts set tax rates to recover costs, the Managed Forest Land Classification rate must be set at three times the residential rate.

On it's own, the 3:1 ratio on regional districts looks bad to managed forest landowners, but it was part of a package that actually helped forest owners overall.

When managed forest land tax changes were implemented, regional districts had recently lost considerable base because machinery and equipment were removed from the property tax base in the 1980s. The government wanted to avoid further shifts of tax burden to other property classes, perhaps residential class in particular.

When the MFL changes were made, tax shifts were reduced by requiring regional districts to keep a higher ratio on managed forest land than would otherwise have been the case. The province lowered its rural tax rate for managed forest land to provide the tax benefit directly to the Managed Forest Land Classification.

MFL ratios are more favourable under provincial school and rural area taxes, but less favourable under regional district taxes, regional hospital district taxes and the newer provincial police tax. ♦

Getting RESULTS

Federation Launches Project to Assist Woodlot Licensees

Annual reporting into RESULTS is a woodlot licensee's legal obligation! The Federation, in cooperation with FLNRO, has initiated a project to assist and encourage woodlot licensees to address high priority RESULTS reporting issues on their WLs. The project is called Getting RESULTS.

The project team has identified nine (9) high priority issues. High priority issues are defined as where there is missing or flawed (attribute and/or spatial) data:

- that is/was required to be reported under legislation or regulation;
- where the failure to provide information undermines the function of other government systems that rely on RESULTS generated information/data.

Examples include unreported openings, missing maps and/or no forest cover information. Currently, there are 2,863 such issues!

Each licensee with one or more reporting issues is going to receive a report for their woodlot licence, along with a guidance document explaining each issue and how to fix it. Most

licensees will receive the information via email, others via regular mail. The hope and expectation is that each licensee will respond by taking the necessary action to fix the mistakes.

Not everything will be fixable by a licensee or their service provider. Some fixes, such as updating the Forest Tenures Administration system (FTA), will have to be done by the ministry. Others, such as pre-2007 reporting, will involve licensees and district staff working together.

If you are one of the many woodlot licensees who uses a service provider/consultant to do your RESULTS reporting, please send your report to them and ask that they make the necessary corrections or fill in the missing information.

District staff have been informed about the project and will be receiving copies of the same reports as licensees. They are available to assist you with your reporting related issues. In addition, the guidance document includes a list of others who are available to provide support, when required.

The project launched in the North Island, South Island, Campbell River and Selkirk Forest Districts in May 2016, and will roll out to other districts over the next 6 to 8 months. If you are keen and don't want to wait to review and address RESULTS reporting issues on your WL, please contact Lisa Marak at admin@woodlot.bc.ca or 250.765.6156 and request a copy of your WL's report and the guidance document.

This is not an enforcement action or a data cleanup exercise. The objective is to try and correct reporting problems through voluntary action and cooperation between licensees and the FLNRO. How successful this project will be is up to you! This is an opportunity to fix past reporting issues, shift gears and focus on the future. In some cases, licensees could be averting compliance and enforcement action from being taken against them.

If you have any questions please contact either Coleen Marlow (cmarlow@gicable.com or 250.285.2520) or Tom Bradley (tomb@netidea.com or 250.226.7792). ♦

IMPORTANT NEW BULLETIN AVAILABLE

Woodlot Licences: Information Sharing and Consultation with First Nations

Brian McNaughton, General Manager

A bulletin entitled Woodlot Licences: Information Sharing and Consultation with First Nations has recently been signed off and distributed. It can be found:

- Under Reports & Publications at www.woodlot.bc.ca or at
- <https://www.for.gov.bc.ca/hth/timber-tenures/woodlots/reports-publications.htm>

The bulletin provides definitions, explanations and guidance specifically for Woodlot Licences. In addition to describing ministry woodlot licensees' duties and responsibilities generally, it also speaks to the specifics regarding Woodlot Licence Plans, Cutting Permits, Road Permits, Management Plans and Woodlot Licence replacements.

It is an important document and well worth the time to read carefully. Also, the cover letter from Tom Jensen,

Assistant Deputy Minister, Operations encourages Districts and Woodlot Associations to meet, review the bulletin and ensure that local business practices are consistent with the guidance provided in the bulletin. Please contact to your local Woodlot Association to find out if a meeting has been or will be held.

The bulletin is the result of a cooperative effort between the Federation and Ministry. ♦

ROBIN HOOD

July 19, 1959 - March 17, 2016

Submitted by Brian McNaughton

On March 17, 2016, with family at his side, our good friend and colleague Robin Hood passed away after a short but courageous battle with throat cancer. He was only 56 years old.

Rob was born in Edmonton, Alberta on July 19, 1959. As a youngster, he lived in London, England. His aunt owned a wool store and it is there Rob learned to knit! As a young man, Rob lived in Hixon, AB where he worked on a dairy farm and met Darlene, who eventually would become his wife. In 1980, they moved to Vancouver where Rob bought and operated a tire service truck. In 1982, they moved to Likely, BC. Rob worked in a sawmill (which burned down) and then worked for the Forest Service running beetle transects. At different times he owned and operated D&R Tire, worked for fisheries doing egg takes, worked for highways, and was the fire warden. In the early 1990's, Rob started up Sherwood Forest Contracting – a fitting company name for a man named Robin Hood. He owned and operated the company for many years, working on everything from tree spacing to riparian restoration. He was a master at accessing government programs and creating jobs for those on welfare or unemployment insurance.



Rob and his partner Norm Speed obtained Woodlot Licence 1452 near Morehead Lake in 1996, and he partnered in another Woodlot Licence in 2006. Not one to sit on the sidelines, he became president of the Cariboo Woodlot Association (CWA) in 2003, holding the position for six years. During that time, Rob served on the Federation of BC Woodlot Associations' Board of Directors. He was a strong advocate for expanding the woodlot program and a leader when it came to building Associations and getting people involved.

In the late 1990s Robin was part of a small group in Likely BC that responded to a call for proposals

under a new Community Forest Pilot Program. Their homegrown model of a community forest partnership between Likely and the Xat'sull First Nation (Soda Creek) was created around Robin's vision and a local kitchen table. As the story goes, the power went out and in order to meet the application deadline they worked into the night by lantern light.

In 2004, Robin was elected to the BC Community Forest Association's Board of Director, and served as President for the better part of 10 years. His leadership shaped the development of the BCCFA. He was collaborative, not adversarial. He believed in teamwork and understood that having fun and building personal relationships were essential activities – as important as meeting agendas, timelines and task lists.

Rob is survived by his wife Darlene, daughters Carla and Laurie, grandchildren Jenna and Dylan, and sister Amanda. There is no question that Rob's priorities were family, friends, community and forestry. He was a big man with an even bigger heart.

A music festival to celebrate Rob's life is planned for Saturday, July 30 at Cedar Point Park in Likely, BC.

A great tree has fallen! ♦

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.

JACK BAKEWELL, RPF #314 (Retired) P.Eng. (Retired)

October 8, 1927 – October 23, 2015

Submitted by Peter Sanders, RPF (Retired) and Ray Savola, RPF (Retired) with assistance from Jack's family.

John (Jack) Malcolm Bakewell was born in Ocean Falls on October 8, 1927 and grew up in Gibsons and Kitsilano – a true born British Columbian. Jack passed away on October 23, 2015, having spent a highly variable and wide ranging career in forestry, both here in British Columbia and in the many parts of the world where his interests and career opportunities took him.

Jack spent his early years (1945 – 1953) employed by consulting, logging and construction companies as a compass man and instrument man, on timber cruising, scaling and as a boom man. He attended the University of Washington and graduated with a Bachelor of Science in Forestry (Logging Engineering) in 1954

Jack spent his first year after graduating as the Camp Engineer of Anglo Canadian Timber Products Ltd. on layout and construction, moving on in 1955 as Project Manager for T & H Engineering and Forestry, in charge of forest inventories, management plans and logging engineering. The next step was as Superintendent of Saltspring Contracting, supervising the clearing and logging of the B.C. Hydro's Clowhom Reservoir before a spell as Chief Forester of Peace River Forest Industries which included developing their annual wood supply. For a two year period, Jack was Consulting Forester for the B.C. Supreme Court, an appointment regarding logging and milling practices on disputed properties and contracts.

In the early 1960's, Jack was

western manager for McGill & Gibbs Co., a position that included procuring some 20,000 poles for their Interior and Coastal operations. He then spent a short time as Timber Manager for the Mayo Lumber Company before moving to Reid Collins & Associates, engaged in road location and construction in the Interior. Moving again, Jack became a partner in Cranbrook Construction Ltd on heavy construction projects for B.C. Hydro and CPR. For a couple of years, Jack was engaged in Environmental Impact Studies on the Mackenzie Highway in the Northwest Territories for F.F. Slaney & Company and before moving back to Reid Collins and Associates. He spent some time with C.D. Schultz and Company on engineering and forestry projects in the Middle East and South America.

During his time with Reid Collins, Jack was involved in feasibility studies for forest development projects in B.C., on the potential forestry impacts of proposed Revelstoke B.C. Hydro development as well as on the design of a Folio Impact Procedure for B.C. Hydro rights-of-way.

From the late 1970's, Jack was a Consulting Forester and Engineer, consulting to a wide range of organisations including Westcoast Energy, B.C. Hydro, Royal Bank of Canada, Alice Arm Timber Ltd., Pitt Timber Ltd., MacGillis & Gibbs, the Federal Government (Department of Indian and Northern Affairs), and the Ministry of Forests and Lands where he was commissioned to study the Woodlot Tenure system, at which time he authored the report "The Woodlot Study". Other work involved pipe line location, inventory and valuation of Forest

Cover on Crown Lands.

Jack was a person of strong opinions and at times, of a forceful nature. When he spoke of his memories of meetings with politicians, he could be quite hilarious and this was frequently seen in his letters and papers, translated into sketches in the form of "stick men". More often, he expressed his frustration at politicians and company executives directly through the mail, and his filing system of letters, newspaper cuttings and communications were legendary. Among his many social involvements, he spent some time as Councillor at Terrace. Many of his memories were used in compilation of his book and can be found in "TNT:BC", the book he published in 1995. He maintained a meticulous record of his lobbying and communications with all levels of government, company executives, newspaper editors and the like.

Jack was an avid fisherman and hunter, and in times past, took his children with him camping and on other outdoor activities. In his "retirement" he worked with a number of other "retired" Professional Foresters, giving freely of his time to promote safety issues in forestry, support for the woodlot sector and used his experience to support many facets of forestry here in BC, and elsewhere.

Jack was predeceased by his first wife, Marion, and then by Liz, his second wife, and his brother David (RPF #148), and survived by his sister Irene, children Dean, Robert, Cheryl and Greg and nine grandchildren. He is sorely missed by his friends and for his outspoken manner on political and forestry issues. ♦

Tight Lines and Straight Shootin'

by George Dore

Editors' Note: George was the first Treasurer of the Woodlot Product Development Council and volunteered his time in that role for 6 years.

Those were mostly good times - my "Woodlot days in the Boundary"

I think enough time has passed for the following remarks to pass the 'Statute of Limitations' ...

Had my eye on a Woodlot ever since I heard of them in the late 70's, working with forestry consultants Reid Collins. My boss, Jim Collins, (who was one of the original 'wheeler/dealers' of Blue Mtn WL in the Fraser Valley) said to me in an astute moment one day, "that I would never amount to a 'hill-o-beans' in his company...try for a Woodlot.

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In 1980, I moved with my new-found love to the boondocks of the Christian Valley to my 18' trailer on 30 treed acres- no water/power/telco and penniless I discovered, when she balanced my chequebook.

When I was awarded Woodlot 0475 on about the third round, land inclusion requirements dramatically dropped to about 25 ha. or so. The local ranchers had mostly all got their Woodlots by then because they had lots of private land to swing the deal...tho much of their land was over-grazed, compacted dryland pasture or scrub forest land. With few exceptions, little or negative forestry experience required. BCFS staff cruised your WL and even compiled the data. That all changed in 1988.



Jim Collins of Reid Collins visits Woodlot 0475 in 1976. Jim's submission to the Pearce Royal Commission contributed to the Woodlot Program as we know it today.

In those early days, we made our own maps and colour-coded them with pencil crayons, BCFS signed our plans, our District Manager was not an RPF, but one who rose through the ranks. Those were the good ole days...

I remember the year before I was awarded the Woodlot. I applied for and received a 100m3 salvage permit for the "red" Lodgepole pine in my WL application area, (BCFS would not let us touch the green attack stuff-maybe it would go away?)} Hired my neighbour, Tom Davison, to skid my utterly random-felled red stuff (with his JD 440), took forever, but we traded logging projects that kept us busy, paid expenses, and made us better neighbours...

The next year the MPB really took off in the Boundary-the rest of the beetle story is history...

In the mid-nineties, when stumpage was at \$28/m3 (highest I ever saw it get), shipped a load of Fir Peelers (19 pieces) to Catherwood in the Fraser Valley - 40 m3 I think and with stumpage at \$28m3, haul at \$32m3

and log price at \$155/m3. My efforts on this load made the astounding sum of \$3800! However, it was to be one of a kind...

In the summer of 1990, there was little work to be had locally. With my new wife's 2 kids and my 2 girls visiting on their 'allotted summer holidays' (ages being from 12 to 19), there was a lot of energy and enthusiasm waiting to be exploited. I took out a post sale on the Woodlot working the cooler morning hours-me sawing 7 foot posts, the 2 oldest learning to drive while helping the younger ones load/unload while transferring posts to a landing below. We cut 17,000 that summer and went swimming in the Kettle River in the afternoon. Couldn't buy a summer holiday like that...

W0475 was right out our backdoor-you could walk to it in 2 minutes...

Every chance I would get, I would sneak out there and do a little thinning or pruning or ?..

Did the pruning mostly in winter on the Fir with herds of whitetail deer following me around like sheep, eating the moss and needles- they tasted real good too...

We used to maintain 25 kms or so of horseback trails in and about the Woodlot area for my wife and friends to ride about (no better way to view a Woodlot). Gave this up when the mag 'Outdoors BC' featured the Christian Valley. All the ATV road warriors and bow-hunters showed up right after, shooting the hell out of the does and fawns, cutting my plantations up for their blinds and shooting alleys,



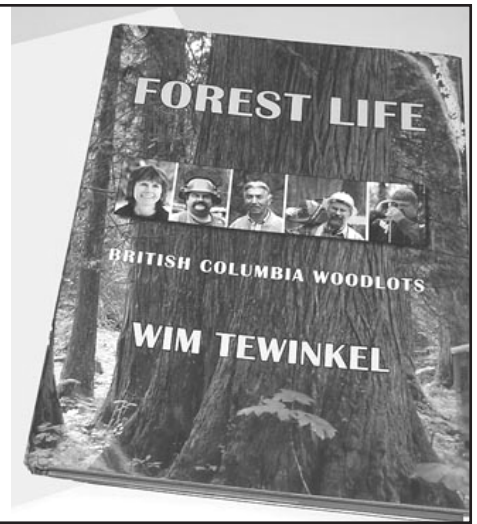
WoodSourceBC.com is BC's online wood marketplace! Connect with over 350 members searching for an opportunity to buy and sell more wood products and services than ever before. WoodSourceBC.com is a free tool AND it's easy to use. Create your profile and start listing items for sale, items you want to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

“Forest Life” makes a great gift

Are you looking for a great gift idea? Look no further! Forest Life: British Columbia Woodlots by Wim Tewinkel showcases and celebrates BC’s woodlots, woodlot licensees, and their families.

Through beautiful photos and a few words, this book captures the seasonal beauty of coastal and interior woodlots and portrays the landscapes and diversity of our forests as well as the stewardship of those who manage them.

You can order it from www.woodlot.bc.ca for only \$39.95, or woodlot licensees can buy it from their woodlot associations for only \$20.00 ♦



*Chloe 12, Lorrie 16, Forest 15, Maralee 19
at end of fence post summer 1990*

poaching my deer friends on our private...

My knees finally wore out in December 2006 (wheelchair bound...) My first doctor said I was too young (60) to get new knees. Next tried WCB, they wouldn’t hear of it because ‘my condition wasn’t documented overtime’. I thought 42 years working in the bush on 2 legs and paying their over-priced extortion was a sure deal... needless to say my next doctor in Feb. 2007 agreed to ‘up the ante’ as I told him, “fishing season was approaching and had a problem with my boat anchor”-2 weeks later, stainless steel knees and a new lease on life...

Felled/bucked and skidded my last 18 loads at 65 in 2012-saved a nice patch of open Larch for this day...

Advertised and sold the woodlot

in 2015 to a nice guy from Lumby, Graham Kroeker. You landed a prize in my opinion...

Am proud of my kids who were raised around my outdoor life- they all turned out pretty good and damned independent, one even has his own Woodlot.

My dear wife, Deirdre, who does all the paperwork, helped plant the trees, timber cruise, took a chainsaw course which enabled her to buck my logs for a few years, has the patience (or not) to endure my yakking about trees, huntin and fishin, et al- after 35 years, still puts up with me...

Lastly, thanks to all you Woodlot folks that I met over the years - you are a unique bunch...

I am not sorry to leave the ‘Program’- had a good run at it for 26+ years the hard way. With today’s technology, different idealism’s, and constantly changing goalposts and regulations, I do not miss it one bit... ♦



Chloe, Lorrie, Forest and Maralee at end of summer 1990 with 17,000 fence posts cut under supervision of Dad, George Dore on W0475.

Please help us out! If you are transferring or selling your woodlot make sure the new licensees get their own copy of the Almanac by asking them to send their contact information to the WPDC Coordinator. Also if you wish to remain on the Almanac’s mailing list let Cathy know. ♦

The FBCWA has a number of items that would make great gifts for friends, family, contractors and others on your list. Items in stock include screen-printed logo on t-shirts and coffee mugs, embroidered FBCWA logo on golf shirts, oilskin ball caps and knitted toques. Order through the WPDC Coordinator, Cathy McClary. ♦

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



Open Letter to the Minister

Re: Rock Creek Fire 2015

To: Steve Thomson; Tim Sheldon, Madeline Maley

March 8, 2016

Re: Evacuation Procedures for BC (Alert, Orders, Rescindment)

During last summer's Rock Creek fire many people experienced shock, frustration, anger, dismay, confusion and even arrest because of the way the Evacuation Orders were applied or rather mis-applied. Similar feelings were and have been experienced on many other fires throughout BC. Major changes need to be made in the training and application of these procedures so that they are properly understood by all parties and applied in a logical, knowledgeable and effective manner.

My thoughts and recommendations in this regard are outlined below for your consideration.

Background: The three levels of these procedures are: **Alert, Orders, and Rescindment**. They are set by the Emergency Operations Centers under the authority of the Regional Districts. The appropriate levels are determined in collaboration with the MFLNRO, MOTI and the RCMP. Once set, they are administered by the EOC and generally enforced by the RCMP.

The Alert means that the danger levels are threatening and residents should be ready to evacuate within an hour's notice.

The Order means that residents should evacuate immediately as there is imminent danger. This is not a mandatory order although many believe it to be so and treat it accordingly. However, If and when a person evacuates is entirely up to them. With extremely few exceptions (children under 19 or handicapped adults) no one can force a resident to evacuate. It has also been the practice to prevent people from re-entering or accessing their properties once they have left or are restricted from entering if they were away when the evacuation order was given.

Rescindment: The evacuation orders are rescinded and people are allowed to return to their properties.

Problems and Challenges:

1. The term **Order** is extremely confusing to all parties involved in emergency management operations especially to those dealing with fires. The word "order" conveys the meaning that it is mandatory when it is not and hence confusion reigns.

Recommendations:

A. The term "**Order**" should be replaced by

the term "**Recommendation**". This would convey the meaning that evacuation was a wise course of action but was not mandatory and would remove the main cause of the widespread confusion.

B. Residents that chose to remain but needed to temporarily leave their property (e.g. to get food or gas etc.) and/or those residents who were away when the "**Recommendation**" is made should be allowed to return to and/or access their properties. If necessary these people could be asked, or even required, to sign a release for indicating that they were remaining at their own risk with no liability accruing to others because of their decision.

C. Access by the general public would be restricted as appropriate.

D. However, access by neighbors and/or Ministry Fire Fighters and/or other authorized personnel who wished entry to assist those who stayed in defending their properties would be allowed access as appropriate.

E. To determine whether or not one should stay or evacuate the following Evacuation Guidelines should be provided to and used by them.

Evacuation Guidelines: Criteria to assist in determining whether one should evacuate or stay

- a. Have all children and/or handicapped people been evacuated to a safe place or evacuation center? If yes, then----
- b. Is the home and property Fire-Safe so the property is defensible? If yes, then-----
- c. Do they have adequate fire-fighting equipment and water etc. on hand with everything in working order? Two of the most important items are---a reasonable supply of water and a way to deliver it, either by gravity or via a gas water pump with sufficient hose and nozzles etc. If yes then----
- d. Are they physically fit and properly clothed to fight fire? if yes, then----
- e. Do they have at least one and preferably two escape routes and safe places to go to? This might be a lake or river or cleared opening at one's back door or a good road etc. If by foot, then one must be physically fit. If by motor vehicle, then is the vehicle in good working order? If yes, then---
- f. Do they have reasonable knowledge of fire behavior and have a level of risk identified ahead of time so that when that level is reached they know they will evacuate. If yes, then---
- g. When a person evacuates is therefore entirely up to then.

If there is any "no answer" to the above provisos or criteria re when to evacuate then one should say yes to evacuation and proceed accordingly.

Obviously, as per the above list, when people evacuate will vary to a large degree. Some people, and I've known many, evacuate when the Evacuation Notice is issued. Good for them. Others wait until the Orders are issued. Again, good for them. Some, however, remain and/or evacuate whenever they feel unduly endangered by a situation above their level of preparedness or competence to handle. Very good for them

2. **The Regional District, as they are in charge of Emergency Operations, has a due-diligence responsibility to inform and protect the people under their jurisdiction.** By issuing the Evacuation Recommendations as above to their constituents and providing them with the associated information they will be fulfilling their due diligence responsibilities owed to their constituents.

3. **Those choosing to stay inherently accept the responsibility for their own safety with no negligence accruing to the Regional District, the MFLRNO, MOTI, the RCMP or other party.**

Recommendations:

- a. The provincial government should ensure that all relevant parties involved in emergency evacuation procedures, especially the general public, are made aware of and are well and properly informed of all of the above.
- b. This should be accomplished via appropriate press releases, training manuals and training sessions to and/or for all parties as best suited to the particular situation and/or audience(s).
- c. Annual reminders and training sessions should be undertaken as necessary to ensure all of the above is well understood and applied and adhered to in an appropriate manner.
- d. Those deciding to stay on or enter their property to protect it may be required to sign a waiver indicating that they understand the risks they are taking, accept full responsibility for their actions and absolve any and all parties from any liability due to their decision to stay on or enter their property.
- e. Other items as deemed relevant and appropriate.
- f. The Provincial Government should enact the required legislation and supporting regulations to enable the above.

I sincerely hope you will give favorable consideration to the above proposals.

Respectfully submitted,
Fred Marshall RPF P.Ag. Cert. Arb.
Marshall Forestry Services

Minister's Response:

Fire Evacuation Protocol, May 2, 2016
Dear Mr. Marshall:

My colleague, the Honourable Steve Thomson, Minister of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations, has asked me to respond to your e-mail of March 9, 2016, and attached letter and commentary, regarding evacuation protocol in the event of a forest fire.

I appreciated receiving your observations about last summer's Rock Creek fire, specifically with respect to evacuation alerts, orders and rescindments. You are likely aware the feedback you submitted on this topic this past February as part of the ongoing Emergency Program Act review has been posted to the consultation web site for public consideration, and can be viewed online by visiting <https://engage.gov.bc.ca/emergencyprogramact/>.

You are correct regarding your observation that although the current Act provides local governments or the Minister the authority to issue an evacuation order, there is no authority to compel competent adults to leave their private property once the order is made. While emergency responders warn residents of the imminent risks of remaining in an area subject to evacuation, it is ultimately the responsibility of the individual to voluntarily evacuate.

A key purpose of the consultation period for the Emergency Program Act review, which was open for comment until April 22, is to look at tools that may be of use to local authorities in delivering emergency preparedness to their communities. The feedback we receive will contribute to the possible development of future policy and legislation. We look forward to reviewing the input we received, and to the presentation of the final report which we anticipate later this spring. In the meantime, you can continue to take part in the dialogue by visiting the consultation web site.

Thank you for taking the time to write and share your observations.

Sincerely,
Naomi Yamamoto, Minister of State

■ E-Bits for Your Two Bits

Don't Edit RESULTS ForCov Online

by Tom Bradley

We are into the Getting RESULTS rollout, and things are going well. We are of course learning things.

One of the first things I noticed was blocks that I thought had good forest cover data (because I had done the Forcov submission myself!) showing up in the potential errors reports as "Missing forest cover spatial".

After checking, I realized that the Licensee had edited the forest cover attributes using the Web based, online access to RESULTS long after the e-Submission. The attribute and spatial data were both there, but after the on-line edit, the dates on the attribute and the spatial data were different. The blocks got flagged as "Missing forest cover spatial" because, by definition, spatial was not submitted with the on-line edit. Attributes and spatial are supposed to go in together, not separately.

I am sure there is a debate to be had about how it ought to work. Regardless, if you edit your forest cover in RESULTS on-line, instead of uploading new forest cover attributes and spatial data via ESF, you create a system error. Your block will show up in the quality assurance reports. And eventually, you will have to upload through ESF to get the error reports to stop.

You have two choices to avoid this:

- 1) Download WLGML, the free e-Submission software for WL, and learn to use it.
- 2) Pay your service provider for the 15 to 20 minutes required to e-Submit the ForCov attribute edits you want.

RESULTS lets you do it yourself on-line, but I strongly recommend you avoid the temptation and do it "right" the first time. ♦

Call for Nominations: 2016 Minister's Award for Innovation and Excellence in Woodlot Management

This is your chance to have a colleague, who is a good manager and contributes to the Woodlot Licence program, recognized by the Minister.

One woodlot licensee from each Region - Coast, Southern Interior and Northern Interior, will be recognized and awarded \$2,500. Of those three, the top performer will be selected as the provincial recipient and awarded an additional \$2,500.

Information about eligibility, award criteria and the application process is available on the Federation's website at <http://woodlot.bc.ca/stewardship/>.

The deadline for the receipt of nominations is August 19, 2016. ♦

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 ♦

Reforestation Expectations, SARA, and Everything is for Later

By Peter Sanders

With reference to articles and letters in the Spring 2016 Almanac, they bring to mind the unquantified and financially unrewarded issue of Environmental Goods and Services (EGS).

Rural Dwellers who are “primary producers”, not merely Licensees produce EGS of both a positive and negative nature. Negative EGS are dealt with under various laws and regulations, but little or no acknowledgements (especially financial) that accrue in the production of positive EGS.

The recipients to the positive EGS are the entire community (rural, urban, local, district, regional, national and global), and such positive EGS products are almost universally taken for granted by the increasingly urbanized society. Such products are often demanded as the right of every citizen. Although I recognize that social preference reflects the social background of the individual, I make no distinction with respect to individuals, ethnicity or other social groups when viewing social trends - we are all Canadians.

Primary producers supply attractive landscape attributes, valuable habitat of all types, protection of all manner of flora and fauna, watershed stability – you name it, the list is long, and we produce it. Yes, we, the producers, get direct benefits. For example, our family own, control and care for the majority of the catchment area supplying our farm/woodlot with water, and we get to use the high quality water product. The water we draw does not require filtration or disinfecting, but we likely

use less than 0.1% of the production, the balance going into the ground water pool and eventually into the local river.

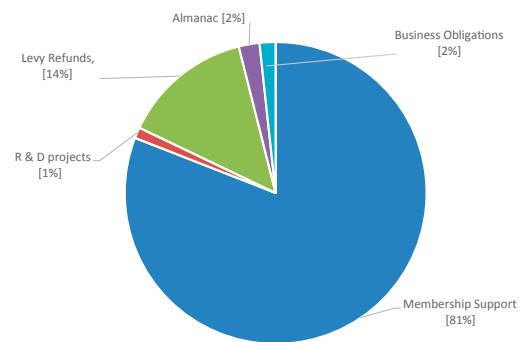
Our property supports a healthy population of game animals. However, we are not hunters. We have “posted” the three kilometers of public road passing through our property. There is an annual egress of game onto adjacent Crown land to feed the appetite of the mainly urban cowboys who appear in droves every year to satisfy whatever instinct drives them to wound, maim and occasionally kill something. We frequently receive the legacy of their endeavours as some animals make it back to our property sporting arrows or various bullet holes before they die. There is little or no “return” for the production of this particular social good (i.e. wildlife production – we’ll leave the urban cowboys to another time). People like to see our sheep browsing in the

fields, hay being produced and the associated farm activities. It makes the area attractive and inviting. The cultural landscape is evolving, often through the efforts of the rural primary producers. Their efforts make a very diverse and attractive landscape. It’s all pretty civilized but there is a cost involved to provide the EGS and there is a huge outcry when such services are “violated” or absent. Rural primary producers are prime and easy targets. Mind you, some rural properties host rotting vehicles and various other unsightly debris, but, as found in other countries, such negative EGS can be dealt with through regulation given the political will (hopefully tempered with an element of common sense).

The eye of the beholder is the value driver, and as society inevitably changes and becomes increasingly urbanized, social preferences change and so do the values within the EGS

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. ♦



spectrum. After all, it is human beings that place “values”. Rural dwellers are very much at the mercy of reactive, knee-jerk politicians and their associated army of regulation enforcers, and, of course, often well-funded NGOs who have lots of time on their hands and are desperate for new issues upon which to raise protest funding. The rural communities have minimal redress when social preference changes, particularly when the change is rapid. We live and work in a biological system that takes time to respond. The pressure on both farms and woodlot owners (often the same people) in the form of increasing regulation and enforcement is daunting and often lacking in common sense. Yet there is no real financial reward for the primary producers of these EGS renewable resources to offset this increasing pressure and associate costs.

Here on our farm/woodlot, we cut a number of trees on the forested portion of our property – we operate a true privately owned farm/woodlot – not a one-product restrictive license. Our treed area is very diverse, attractive and extremely rewarding to own and operate in conjunction with the agriculture area.

So we have the spectre of “climate change” (Oh! Horrors – My goodness, what should we do (apart from pour tax money into research and excuses – after all, isn’t that carbon tax a gem))? Well, not long ago in geological time, our property was buried under 3 – 4 kilometers of ice. Surprise! The climate changed (and it’s all our fault - there’s a “definite maybe”). Let us leave “climate change” for another day. In the meantime, check the climatic history of Mother Earth over the past million years, (yes, it has been done with relative accuracy although not by the forestry profession) even over the past six thousand years, and it will provide an inkling of what is in store for us regardless of human behaviour. The climate will continue in its irregular patterns and we will



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File: 19400-09, 19900-06, 19400-20/ILG
APR 28.2016

To All Interior Licensees:

I am writing further to my August 7, 2015 letter, which indicated that facilities that produce cants are eligible for grade 4 crediting under Section 17(6) of the Cut Control Regulation from September 1, 2015 to April 30, 2016. The grade 4 credit for canting facilities will be eliminated on September 30, 2017.

The primary use of this policy tool has been in the Merritt Timber Supply Area (TSA). The new allowable annual cut (AAC) and rationale for the Merritt TSA has recently been released, and provided details on the use of the grade 4 credit and other available policy instruments, such as TSA caps on the total volume of grade 4 crediting to ensure sustainability of timber supplies.

Considering the new AAC determination and other factors, the grade 4 credit for canting facilities will be extended for eighteen months

until September 30, 2017, and then eliminated. This final eighteen months will maximize the ability to capture value from beetle-killed trees in the Merritt TSA, while providing time for making business decisions and allowing for the new Merritt TSA AAC to be monitored in the context of the overall grade 4 usage and crediting activity.

Please note that for the purposes of this policy, a cant facility is defined as a facility that produces and ships as a final product a cant that is intended for re-manufacture into a final product at another facility. Facilities that produce cants that are further refined into lumber or veneer continue to be ineligible.

Questions should be directed to Kelly Finck, Senior Tenures Forester, Forest Tenures Branch at (250) 387-8301.

Sincerely,
Dave Peterson
Assistant Deputy Minister
Tenures, Competitiveness & Innovation Division

likely adapt. Certainly the trees will adapt to changing climatic conditions.

Let us look at what we can control with a passing comment on the role of the Federation and its activities. We see all manner of “portfolios” focused on regulations, stumpage, penalties associated with non-compliance but nothing (at least from what I can see or read) on the lack of EGS rewards to the primary producers of this country (yes, there are other places than BC). After all, there are probably well in excess of 20 million “true woodlot owners” on our small planet. There may be over 30,000 in BC alone. In my opinion, the Federation needs to take a close look at EGS and the emphasis of its activities should be within the overall scope of Federation

activity and develop a vision for a long term plan to influence political action on EGS (or any other issue).

I agree to a large extent with Miles (“Everything is for later”, Spring Almanac 2016), although doing what we do results in immediate benefits. These immediate benefits are in personal well-being and good health, the pleasure of physical activity and the immense satisfaction of watching the results of our work maturing on a day to day basis. We have a life style with huge benefits – that is for now, and everything else is for later. That “later” may be sooner than we think. In my case, having been born in 1933 every new day is absolutely super (with tomorrow being somewhat uncertain)! ♦

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