

**Beyond Sawlogs...  
An Area Based Tenures Experience**



How did I get myself into this?



## Wetzin'kwa: blue/green water

- Wetzin'kwa refers to the Morice/Bulkley rivers
- It means blue/green or clear water in the Wet'suwet'en people's language.



# The Early Years (~10 years ago)

- Sawlogs to West Fraser (Remember this is in 2008-2009)



## The Middle ages (~5 years ago)

- Strength of the Forest Industry improves
- Markets expand, poles and house logs are smaller economic niche markets.



## Today (2019)

Continue to Work towards:

- Improving fibre utilization,
- Reducing emissions from open burning,
- Reducing the landscape level wildfire hazard



## Beyond Sawlogs

How are you doing that you ask?

- Support new markets and harvesting practices. Sometimes at a small loss in terms of the overall bottom line



Photo Credit (Chris Gareau, Smithers Interior News)  
From left to right Leroy Reitsma, Taylor Bachrach, Larry Gardner



## Wetzin'kwa fibre now goes to many users:

- Sawlogs to major sawmills and small producers,
- Dead and Dry Pulp logs to Seaton Forest Products Ltd.
- Green Pulp and Grade Z to Pinnacle Renewable Energy
- Firewood / Fibre to Witset, Town of Smithers and Village of Telkwa





## Operational Challenges

- What was once two bush sorts is now many sorts (decking room is an issue)
- Writing and enforcing contracts that promote the right log going to the right place.



## Operational Challenges

- Cut control implications (think Grade 4 Credits as per Section 17(6)(a) of the Cut Control Regulations)
- All season road access (ability of contractors to deliver fibre in a timely fashion)
- Building capacity through incentives to contractors to make the best utilization decisions that can come at no profit (sometimes a loss) to the tenure holder



## Benefits of Removing More Than Sawlogs

- Improved employment / job creation
- Improved wildfire risk reduction
- Improved bottom line (for us this is still to come)
- Reduced emissions from open burning
- Improved recovery equals less onsite waste



# Results



## Outstanding issue



## What to do with Bucking Waste?

- We have improved utilization, with the exception of bucking waste.
- How can practices change to leave less bucking waste behind after harvest?



Thank you.

