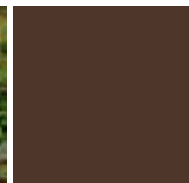




Forests in Good Hands

THE WOODLAND ALMANAC



www.woodlot.bc.ca

Fall 2020

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Alkali Resource Management Recipient of 2020 Indigenous Business Award

(Alkali Resource Management operate Woodlot Licence #0501 and Gord Chipman, RPF, is the new President of the Cariboo Woodlot Association. In the past 5 years, approximately 100 hectares of juvenile spacing has been completed and 20 loads of beetle killed trees have been pulled from the woodlot.)

Editor's Note: This article originally appeared in the Williams Lake Tribune and is reprinted with permission.

By Rebecca Dyok, The Williams Lake Tribune

The manager of Alkali Resource Management Ltd. (ARM) south of Williams Lake, Gord Chipman, knew weeks ago they were receiving a 2020



Bill Chelsea

Indigenous Business Award but had to keep the exciting news under wraps until the official announcement was made public by the B.C. Achievement Foundation.

On Monday, Oct. 5 he was finally able to break word. "We've always thought that we have the best First Nation forestry company in the province, so it's nice getting this recognition."

The first person Chipman said he told was Esketemc First Nation managing director Patricia Chelsea. She had pressed him to put ARM's name forward for the provincial awards which have honoured and celebrated Indigenous business excellence in B.C. since 2008.

"She said it's about time that ARM gets recognized in the province for what they're

doing in the forest industry."

The integrated forest management company was established in 2001 to manage the non-replaceable forest licences, woodlot licence and 27,000 hectare community

forest on behalf of Esk'etemc.

After changing its name in 2005 from Esketemc First Nation Forest Products to ARM, Chipman said the business continued to expand. Having outgrown their previous office space near the Alkali Lake Store, a 3,600-square-foot building was constructed in the middle of Esk'et (Alkali Lake) across from the community's church a couple of years ago.

"I spent 17 years working for large corporations, and the last 10 working out at Alkali has been truly rewarding for myself and my family," Chipman said.

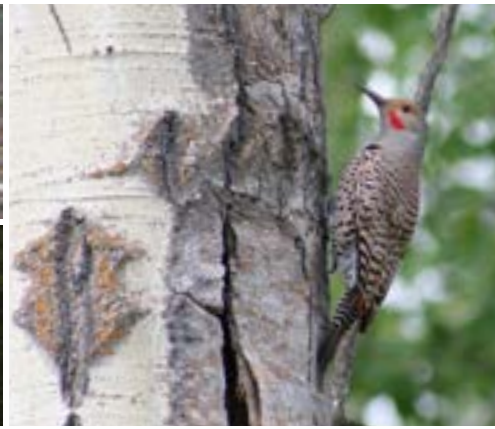
ARM annually employs approximately 100 people.

As an awardee of the 12th annual

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Forests in Good Hands



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FEDERATION OF BC WOODLOT ASSOCIATIONS

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WPDC PORTFOLIOS

Almanac & Annual Report: Paul Galliazzo & Brent Petrick; Annual General Meeting: Chris Hawkins; Contract Management: Chris Hawkins & Lee Pond
Extraordinary Project Proposals: Brent Petrick, Lee Pond & Paul Galliazzo; FBCWA Liaison: Chris Hawkins; Financial Management: Gernot Zemanek
Fund Management Liaison: Dean Daly & Gernot Zemanek; Nominations/Succession: Brent Petrick; R & D Project Proposals: Brent Petrick, Lee Pond & Paul Galliazzo; Resolutions: John Massier; Survey: John Massier & Dean Daly; Website: Paul Galliazzo

WOODLOT PRODUCT DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL • THE WOODLAND ALMANAC

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Shuswap/Okanagan.....	Fred Newhouse
South Island	John Gregson
Stuart /Nechako.....	Peet Vahi
West Kootenay	Tom Bradley

FBCWA JOINT WORKING GROUP

Brian Amies
Tom Bradley
Mark Clark
Tyler Hodgkinson
Coleen Maclean-Marlow
Brian McNaughton

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Are Reforestation Choices Meeting Objectives?

by Brian McNaughton

In September 2020, the Forest Practices Board (FPB) released a report entitled "Reforestation in the Interior Douglas-fir Subzone: Are Reforestation Choices Meeting Objectives?" While the special investigation did not look at Woodlot Licences specifically, the Board's findings and recommendations are relevant. The full report can be found on the FPB website at <https://www.bcfpb.ca/wp-content/uploads/2020/09/SIR53-Reforestation-in-IDF-Subzone.pdf>.

According to ministry data, 265 WLs have some Interior Douglas-fir (IDF); 93 WLs are 100% IDF; 233 WLs have >100 hectares and 248 have >50 hectares.

The FPB report concludes that all FRPA requirements were met but then goes on to state that licensees did not always apply 'best management practices' and investigators frequently observed regeneration that was in poor and marginal condition which led them to question whether or not stands would meet free growing or the timber objectives set by the province. In other words, the Board is suggesting that compliance with FRPA planning and practice requirements, including applicable stocking standards, likely will not achieve free growing stands, resilient forests, timber objectives, wildlife requirements or forage targets in the IDF! That's a very serious assertion that warrants attention!

The report raises other interesting questions - some of which are addressed, others not so much.

It notes that the IDF is subject to numerous objectives for resource values such as mule deer winter



Brian McNaughton,
General Manager

range, old growth management areas, wildlife tree retention, special trees, visuals, forage, timber, fuel/ fire reduction, etc. There are so many that sometimes it must seem like no matter the result on the ground, an

objective or best management practice or expectation will not be achieved. It makes me wonder if we could or should do a better job of integrating objectives.

It also begs the question - is adequate consideration given to the needs and ecological capabilities of the IDF when objectives are being established? Case in point, do post wildfire stocking standards for mule deer winter ranges focus too much on trying to re-establish Douglas-fir rather than accepting that ecological succession on burned sites requires aspen and other deciduous vegetation to help re-build soils? Or, what's the ecological significance of having lost much of the lodgepole pine in the IDF due to mountain pine beetle?

Having been involved with managing IDF forests for most of my career, a key consideration the report raises for me is the correlation between the pre-harvest health and condition of IDF forests and regeneration that the Board considers to be in a poor and marginal condition. There are lots of indicators that suggest IDF forests are not as healthy or in as good as condition as they could or should be; e.g. D-fir beetle, budworm, tussock moth, excessively dense and overcrowded understories, lack of diversity, high fuel loads, reduced incident of

fire that's needed to promote natural regeneration and rejuvenate fire-based ecosystems, etc. We know that advance regeneration is a key component of an IDF, multi-layer, silviculture system. I wonder if overstory retention targets in some GAR orders and/or objectives are adversely affecting the health and condition of advanced regeneration and intermediate trees and therefore compromising reforestation objectives?

Another question is whether or not FRPA and the current administrative framework adequately promotes innovation, adaptive management and/or best management practices? You may recall, Minister Donaldson asked about the lack of innovation on WLs during a meeting with the Federation a year ago - in Smithers in October 2019 before the Annual General Meeting. FRPA and the WLPPR allow for WL licensees to propose alternative performance requirements, including stocking standards. Is this occurring? Is it occurring to the extent that it should? If not, why not? What are the impediments? What needs to change?

The FPB's report is worth reading ...even if your WL isn't in the IDF. It is thought provoking and raises many relevant questions about current and future forest management, regardless of the subzone. In my opinion, it provides the basis for discussions that are needed and necessary ...sooner than later! As your representative, these are the kinds of topics that I will continue to bring up at both the Minister's Practices Advisory Council and the Chief Forester's Leadership Team.

Stay healthy and I wish you all a very Merry Christmas. ♦

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. ♦

TAB Rate Projections & Woodlot Cost Calculator Support

By Ed Hughes

Timber Pricing Branch Staffing

Over the past few years there have been Timber Pricing Branch staff changes so I thought it was a good time for any update. The current staff include the following:

Allan Bennett (Director) and Patrick Asante (Manager, Timber Pricing).

Timber Pricing Branch staff who work in policy are as follows:

- Kelly Schellenberg, Senior Timber Pricing Forester, Coast (acting)
- Ross Harris, Timber Pricing Forester, Coast (acting)
- Sabina Ghazarian, Timber Pricing Forester, Coast

Coastal Woodlots TAB rate projections for 2021/2022

The Coastal Appraisal Manual Section 7.2 (TAB) **projected** rates for March 1, 2021 provided in Table 1 are based on 8 months of data (January 1, 2020 to August 31, 2020) which are compared to current rates. Final rates are based on a full calendar year of data, so these **projections are preliminary estimates only**. These rates are provided by Western Forest Products



Ed Hughes,
Coastal Timber Pricing
Coordinator

as a planning tool for Coastal Woodlot Licensee's.

The rates for all species within the North and South zones are projected to be lower in 2021/2022 compared to current rates. Final rates will be different, but based on the

trend, lower rates are likely, based on 66% of the data being used for these projections. For comparison with the projected rates for 2021/2022, the current rates until the end of February 2021 have also been noted in Table 1.

2020 Coast Low Volume and Woodlot Crown Tenure Management Cost Survey update.

Since the last issue of the Almanac lots of attention has been put towards providing a useful cost data support package for Coastal Woodlot Licensees (WL) who plan on completing the Coast Low Volume and Woodlot Crown Tenure Management Cost Survey. Coleen Marlow and I have had extensive discussions with Timber Pricing staff, FBCWA Board of Directors and many WL holders. The support package which we have titled the **Woodlot Cost Calculator**

(introduction and worksheets) has been vented through the Timber Pricing branch, incorporating improvements and clarifications. The package is ready for distribution to any WL who requests the support documents.

The support package was prepared by working towards a cost submission by coastal woodlot licensees that is: based on the costs (invoiced, hours or Km) that are accurate; based on an understanding (agreement) of how the cost data will be used; provides a FBCWA support package for WL's to assist in providing accurate information and costs (Woodlot Cost Calculator); and ensures that there is a joint review of the data prior to being used.

This cost survey has been requested to provide data in support of the Low Volume Cost (LVCA) allowance of \$8.98/m³ under section 5.2.1 (for full appraisals accessible only to WL who have Extended Road Amortization agreements) of the Coastal Appraisal manual. The cost survey request is comprised of three years of cost data, with submission dates that are staggered for each year. The first data submission is for 2019, which is due by December 31, 2020. For those licensees who are intending to submit their cost data the support package can be requested by sending an email or giving me a call.

Coastal Woodlot Licensees have not been requested to do a cost survey since 2003. There have been and continues to be concerns expressed by all licensees that I have talked to about this survey. These concerns have been expressed to Timber Pricing branch. The FBCWA and WPDC boards are aware of the concerns and have been extremely supportive in preparing to

Table 1: Projected TAB rates (effective March 1, 2021) are compared to Current rates within section 7.2 of the Coastal Appraisal Manual.

Species	North Coast	South Coast
	Projected/Current \$/m ³	Projected/Current \$/m ³
Balsam	\$0.59/\$2.96	\$2.19/\$3.09
Hemlock	\$0.61/\$2.40	\$2.70/\$3.53
Cedar	\$0.44/\$3.88	\$6.01/\$7.23
Cypress	\$0.50/\$2.08	\$3.39/\$4.33
Fir	\$0.59/\$2.96	\$4.68/\$5.46
Spruce	\$0.76/\$2.26	\$2.84/\$3.67
Other	\$0.66/\$2.96	\$5.66/\$4.61

help Coastal WL with this request.

Some of the basic facts about cost surveys include: Cost surveys are completed regularly by major licensees; Cost surveys are a mandatory requirement, but are described as requests; If cost data is not provided there is a strong likelihood that the LVCE will be changed or removed from the CAM; If there is a lack of submissions we will be likely asked again, possibility more broadly; Coastal WL costs are high for many of the phases that are used to populate the LVCA (planning, administration, silviculture and possibly others) which could support a higher allowance, but our costs could possibly be lower also.

It is important to understand that: “By submitting this survey, you agree that the survey information is shared between the following parties, for the following purposes: The Forest Policy and Indigenous Relations Division and the other Divisions of the Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations & Rural Development and Government of British Columbia, for the calculation of Tenure Obligation Adjustments, and Specified Operations values for the Coast Appraisal Manual; as well as to meet other audit, analysis, benchmarking, economic and cost modelling and reporting as required by the ministry, including data to support the defense of Softwood Lumber,

countervailing duties and other litigation.”

As the Timber Pricing contractor on the coast I believe that being proactive and participating is important. For further information regarding the cost survey request I would appreciate as much communication on this as possible from Woodlot Licensees, so do not hesitate to call or email.

Market Pricing System Technical Sub-Committee

Over the past two months, the Committee has been having weekly MPS conference calls. The new CAM is planned for approval by December 15, 2020.

The Coast Timber Pricing Advisory Committee (CTPAC) is functionally disbanded. However, the committee and stakeholders are regularly copied on timber pricing letters and recommendations with many of the same individuals sitting on the MPSAC.

New Appraisal Issues – Continuous communication

The Coastal Timber Pricing portfolio aids 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. ♦

FLNRORD Staffing Update



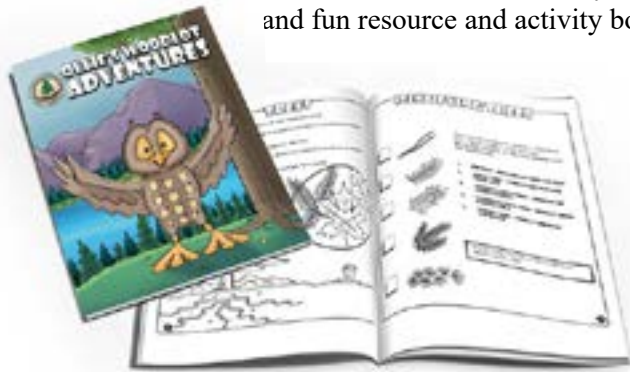
Doug Kelly

Doug Kelly was recently confirmed as the Director of Forest Tenures Branch following the retirement of Doug Stewart last January. Doug graduated from UBC in 1980 beginning his career with BC Forest Products and then as a consultant prior to working in government. Before joining Forest Tenures Branch, Doug was the Director of the Resource Road Project. Other roles Doug has held include Safety Analyst with the BC Safety Authority, Financial Manager, Manager of Engineering and Real Estate Operations, Treasury Board Analyst and Manager of Implementation of the Forest Practices Code. Doug currently lives in Victoria and is looking forward to working with Woodlot Licensees.

Ted Traer, who has played a significant role in the Woodlot Program is retiring from the Quesnel Forest District. See page 15 for a tribute to Ted. ♦

Activity Book

Ollie’s Woodlot Adventures takes you to a woodlot licence where you will learn about trees, the forest and how it is sustainably managed. An informative and fun resource and activity book for licensees to give



students visiting a woodlot or interested in the forest. It even has a colouring page of a woodlot licensee. To order, contact Lisa Marak at lisa@woodlot.bc.ca. ♦

■ Interior timber pricing

Tab Rates, Waste Assessments and New Director

by Debbie Zandbelt, RPF

Update to the Interior Appraisal Manual Table 6.2 expected in November

Lumber markets took an unprecedented sky-high rocket in pricing this summer peaking early September and are now dropping as fast as they rose. The equations in the Interior Appraisal Manual are much more market reactive than previously. Because of this market change a significant increase in stumpage is expected for major tenure holders in January 2021. Woodlot licensees only see the Table 6.2 (the table in which our stumpage rates are reported) adjusted biannually. Once in May and again in November. This will help to moderate significant stumpage fluctuations. However, I am expecting the November table rates to increase from May of 2020.

Waste Assessments are a licence obligation

Reminder that waste assessments are a licence obligation – a cost to doing business and are required to be reported. Just as RESULTS reporting is required; waste assessments and reporting your waste is also required. Policy is in place to issue fines if failure to do your assessment and report in a timely manner. You can use the Harvest Billing system to track waste volumes reported.

I monitor the volume billed on woodlot licensees annually and it is no surprise that licensees are busy



Debbie Zandbelt, RPF
Interior Timber Pricing
Coordinator

logging this year. Just a reminder that waste assessment volume billed is added to the cut control volume harvested. For Grade detail of what is charged please refer to the Provincial Waste and Residue Manual.

New Timber Pricing Committee Interior Director

Within the Federation's Board of Directors there are two directors that head the Timber Pricing Committee. As the Board of Directors changes from time to time so does the Timber Pricing Committee. Reece Allingham has now stepped up to be the Interior representative replacing Jon Seinen. Coleen Maclean-Marlow remains our coastal representative. Reece and Coleen will work with Ed and I to strategically steer us on our timber pricing priorities within the Federation. We are happy to have them both aboard. Thanks to Jon for all his support and guidance over the last few years. Timber pricing is not always the most exciting topic – but it surely plays a big role in the economic decision of harvest timing.

Northern Interior and Southern Interior Regional Appraisal Meetings

In November, the Interior Regions

have decided to join their Regional Appraisal Meetings to address topics that are similar across the Interior. I represent all the Interior woodlots at these meetings. If there is any topics that are needed to be addressed by this group, please feel free to forward them to myself. If we do not meet the November 18th, 2020 deadline for topics (due to publication timelines for this article) I will be sure to address them individually with the appropriate Regional Staff.

I can be reached at 250-549-3089 or Debbie@woodlot.bc.ca for any questions, concerns or ideas for future articles! I appreciate the calls, as it keeps me informed on the current issues that you as woodlot managers are dealing with! ♦

Please note:

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



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 ♦

Post Harvest Milestone

by Tom Bradley

Recently, I was asked a very good question that I no longer knew the answer to: “What does the Post Harvest Milestone do?” I understood its function under the Code, but I did not know what, if anything, it did under FRPA. I and many others have just been leaving it blank. After discussion with Resource Practices Branch, I have a better understanding of the Post Harvest Milestone, and I thought that a review of all the Milestones could be informative for readers.

There are four potential Milestones in RESULTS that a tenure holder and their professional may choose to declare for each standards unit:

- **Post Harvest**
- **Regeneration**
- **Free Growing**
- **No Regeneration**

Milestones on offer vary by harvest type. But: “May choose to declare.” Isn’t achieving, for example, free growing a legal obligation that is incurred by harvesting / even aged management? Indeed it is, and the holder must fulfill the obligation per the applicable stocking standards or inform the Minister of the failure to do so and propose a solution. (WLPPR 35 and 35.1) But there is no regulatory requirement to declare the Milestone. So we are careful to say “may declare”.

I and those I talk to are not able to come up with a scenario where it would be a good choice to achieve free growing and not declare the milestone, so it is a strongly recommended optional action. Also remember that surveying for and declaration of reforestation outcomes is the practice of professional forestry.

Back to the Milestones.

Free Growing Milestone: Under FRPA, may be declared when the



Tom Bradley

standards unit has reached free growing per the applicable stocking standards. WLPPR 75 requires that the holder carry out a survey on or before free growing date and provide a copy of a record of the survey to the Minister. WLPPR 76 specifies the time frame for the reporting and that the Chief Forester may set the reporting format (which is RESULTS). WLPPR 84 requires the reporting of free growing forest cover to RESULTS. But no reg requires the Free Growing Milestone to be declared.

Regeneration Milestone: Under FRPA, may be declared when the standards unit is satisfactorily restocked per the applicable stocking standards. WL must meet the regeneration targets in the time frame set by the applicable stocking standards, but there is no regulatory content that requires reporting of this success or failure. If you choose to declare the Regeneration Milestone, WLPPR 84 requires the reporting of forest cover to RESULTS.

Post Harvest: Under FRPA, there is no regulatory content that defines what this milestone may be declaring success in or that requires it to be declared.

Declaring the Post Harvest Milestone does change the Block Status from LC - Logging Complete to S - Silviculture in RESULTS and in FTA. This is desirable. S - Silviculture is a more accurate description of a unit that is being managed to achieve stocking standards. The recommendation from Resource Practices Branch is to declare the Post Harvest Milestone for FRPA blocks to change the block status.

(I spent a number of years wondering how/why some blocks were S and some were LC. Seems that FLNRO

may come by and make the status change in the background regardless of Post Harvest Milestone status.)

Under the Code, there was regulatory content that required an assessment of whether the many specific practice requirements set in the PHSP or Site Plan for the standards unit had been met. The Post Harvest Milestone was the opportunity for the holder to assert they had turned mind to and had complied. This regulatory content is not present under FRPA.

No Regeneration: Interesting name. “I hereby declare there is no regeneration.”

This milestone pertains to intermediate cuttings that have no free growing or regeneration objectives, as the harvest is not intended to initiate regeneration. Intermediate cuttings are subject to stocking standards, but those standards address the quantity of, species of, and condition of mature trees retained on a site after a harvest. The No Regeneration Milestone may be used to declare, in the prescribed time frame, that an intermediate cut area meets the applicable standards.

WLPPR 75 requires that the holder carry out a survey of an intermediate cut area from 12 to 36 months after completion of harvest that identifies the forest cover inventory and damage to trees by insects, disease or other factors. WLPPR 75 also requires that the holder provide a copy of a record of the survey to the Minister. WLPPR 76 specifies the time frame for the reporting and that the Chief Forester may set the reporting format (which is RESULTS). But no reg requires the No Regeneration Milestone to be declared. As with the Free Growing Milestone, no one I speak to is aware of an argument not to declare it when the obligations have been met, and it is a strongly recommended optional action. ♦

So, you want to transfer your Woodlot Licence?

By John McClary

Recent woodlot licensee surveys indicated a need for guidance regarding succession and tax planning related to retiring and transfer of their woodlot tenure to a family member or its sale. The Woodlot Product Development Council (WPDC) has produced a comprehensive Woodlot Licence Transfer, Succession and Tax Planning Guide. This article provides an initial, general overview by taking excerpts from the Guide. Consult the Guide and your professional advisors for more detailed advice.

General considerations when contemplating a licence transfer:

Woodlot Licences are transferable (with a few exceptions) with the Minister of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development's approval. Each Woodlot Licence Holder contemplating a transfer should consider details that must be dealt with before, during and after a transfer. Some are: family and business obligations, tenure transfer process, existing and future licence obligations, Private (Schedule A) land ownership, taxation issues, legislation requirements, and ongoing financial and business management. A succession plan is an ongoing process to ensure management and skills, processes, knowledge, ownership, and control of a business transition properly from one generation to the

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. ♦

next. It is recommended that each woodlot licensee develop a succession plan. Estate planning is also important. It considers the future management of the Woodlot Licence as part of the estate plan.

Forestry disposition considerations when proceeding with a licence transfer:

Woodlot licensees can transfer their Woodlot Licence(s) to another party, with notice given to the Ministry. All transfers undergo review for the Minister's approval to assess the impact on the public interest, Indigenous communities, and the marketing of fibre in B.C. Dispositions can occur in three ways: transfer of an agreement, a change of control, or an amalgamation of a corporation that holds an agreement. Transfer of a Woodlot Licence is permitted with conditions: the Minister approves the disposition, all money required to be paid to the government has been paid or is the subject of an arrangement for payment approved by the Minister of Revenue, the intended recipient is a corporation, person or First Nation that is eligible to enter into a Woodlot Licence and any Private land in the Woodlot Licence area remains subject to the Woodlot Licence for a minimum of 10 years. When transferring a Woodlot Licence, the existing Licensee should ensure the new licensee is aware of any existing or future Forest Tenure obligations. These may include but are not limited to road maintenance, silviculture, other commitments in the Management Plan, and any clauses in Schedule C of the Woodlot Licence document that the new Licensee will assume. Any of these could affect the potential for a successful transfer.

Legislation considerations when proceeding with a licence transfer:

A Woodlot Licence Holder should consider the following:

- Removal of Private (Schedule A)

land before the transfer.

- The transfer of the Private (Schedule A) land with the Woodlot Licence.
- Drafting of the purchase agreement.
- Liability: Depending on how the Woodlot Licence is sold (i.e. transfer of the corporate Holder or transfer of the Woodlot Licence) will have a significant impact on the Seller's/ Purchaser's liability. Language in the purchase agreement may help limit the extent of a seller's liability. Although the legislation dictates that a seller will remain liable for outstanding liabilities after the transfer, a seller can incorporate indemnifications into the agreement. These will allow a seller to rely on the purchaser(s) to cover any damages the seller may suffer.

Taxation considerations when proceeding with a transfer:

Every Woodlot Licence succession plan and sale will look different depending on many factors. If it is owned in a corporation, you can either sell the assets of the corporation or sell the shares of the corporation. If you are selling shares of a corporation, you will need to consider if they qualify for the lifetime capital gains exemption. Also, who you are selling to will come into play. Will you be selling to a third-party purchaser or transitioning it to the next generation of your family? There is a distinction for taxation purposes between a privately owned woodlot (land and timber owned in fee simple) and a Crown Woodlot Licence (where the BC Crown owns the Crown land and the Crown timber) as the value of the land and timber may not be applicable.

It is important to understand tax implications if no planning is done. If you were to die while still owning your Woodlot Licence, or the shares of your corporation that owns the Woodlot Licence, there will be tax implications. On death, you are deemed to have disposed of your assets at their fair

cont'd on next page ...

market value. As a result, you will be taxed on your final personal tax return as if you had sold your assets at fair market value. Because it is a deemed disposition and not an actual disposition, your estate may have taxes to pay but no cash to do so as the value is still tied up in the asset, your Woodlot Licence. One exception, if you die before your spouse and your Will specifies that your assets are to go to your spouse on your death. Your assets automatically roll tax-free to your spouse.

Where a woodlot is operated as a business with a reasonable expectation of profit, the Canada Revenue Agency considers it a commercial woodlot. Factors are: existence of a forestry management plan, amount of time


spent compared to other sources of income, size of the woodlot, your personal forestry qualifications, and are you part of an association? Tax planning needs to contemplate all relevant factors.

Private (Schedule A) land considerations when proceeding with a licence transfer:


Many Woodlot Licences contain Private land. When considering a transfer of a Woodlot Licence that includes Private land, there will be two steps: the first, decide how to deal with the Private land component; and the second, dealing with the Crown (Schedule B) land portion. For Woodlot Licences that contain Private land, there are three options: Private

land is removed from the Woodlot Licence; or Private land remains attached to the Crown land and is either purchased or leased by the new woodlot licensee; or existing Private land is removed, and new Private land is substituted. Removal of the Private land in the Woodlot Licence before proceeding with a transfer should be considered. If a transfer occurs without dealing with the Private land first, the transfer will be null and void.


The Woodlot Licence Transfer, Succession and Tax Planning Guide is available for downloading online at “woodlot.bc.ca”. If interested, a paper copy will be made available to a woodlot licensee upon request from Cathy McClary, WPDC Coordinator. ♦




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Learn about WLS and past stewardship recipients

► From page 1

B.C. Achievement Indigenous Business Award, ARM will be celebrated in a series of digital campaigns and films honouring their achievements this November.

“I am particularly inspired by this year’s awardees,” stated B.C. Achievement Foundation chair, Anne Giardini. “All of them exemplify resilience and innovation during this time of challenges. This year’s awardees demonstrate that integrating the practices of the past with the economies of the future benefits us all.”

Despite it being a stressful year due to COVID and having ended their past financial year in April on a sour note due to volatile market conditions,



Chipman believes a bright future still lays ahead for ARM even as they cautiously watch if stumps rates — which ARM annually shells out \$3 to \$4 million — will increase next year.

He said ARM signed a three-year fibre supply agreement with Pinnacle Renewable Energy Inc. in Williams Lake in 2019.

This year ARM is exploring long-term arrangements with Atlantic Power Corporation in Williams Lake on biomass, and are starting to manage Tolko’s licenses located within their traditional territory on behalf of Tolko. “We’ve only been doing it for six months but we’re having longer term plans working with Tolko,” Chipman said.

“We’ve been trying to work with some of the other forest entities like B.C. Timber Sales and West Fraser Timber, so I see the scope and the opportunities in forestry increasing year after year,” he added. ♦

Small Tenure Safety

Do You Need Help Developing A Safety Plan For Your Tenure?

In BC, each small tenure holder (e.g., woodlot, community forest, etc.) has a responsibility to have a safety plan in place to guide forest management activities on their tenure area. Recognizing that tenure holders manage those operations in a range of ways, the Woodlot Licence and Community Forest Agreement Safety Committee has developed three (3) safety plan templates.

Each template provides guidance and resources (checklists, example forms, links) that will help small tenure holders build a new safety plan or enhance their existing program. If you are interested in becoming Safe Certified, these templates will also assist you in pursuing that objective.

The templates have been developed based on two main criteria:

1. Who conducts the activities (e.g. the tenure holder and/or their employees, or a contractor(s).
2. The nature of those operations (e.g., higher risk activities such as road building, harvesting and log hauling, or lower risk activities such as planting, silviculture surveys and layout)

The following descriptions will help you evaluate your situation and choose which scenario is most relevant for you.

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Scenario #1 This scenario is intended for tenure holders who contract out all activities carried out on the tenure area. However, this does not preclude the tenure holder from conducting administrative tasks and/or visiting the tenure for general or site inspection purposes.

An example of this scenario is a tenure holder who contracts out all activities but still may want to visit the tenure from time-to-time.

Scenario #2 This scenario is intended for tenure holders who use contractors to conduct higher risk activities (i.e. road building, harvesting, log hauling, etc.) and the tenure holder conducts ONLY lower risk activities (i.e. basic silviculture, layout, etc.)

An example of this scenario is where the tenure holder who may conduct planning and layout activities, plants (or helps a contractor plant) trees, grass-seeds landings and makes sure road signs are in good shape, and contracts out all roadbuilding, harvesting, hauling and mechanized site prep activities.

Scenario #3 This scenario is intended for tenure holders who directly conduct low and high-risk activities in the tenure area (i.e. planning, harvesting, silviculture, etc.). The tenure holder may also periodically use contractors to perform some of these activities.

An example of this scenario is a tenure holder who builds its own roads, uses a skidder, but may contract out falling and hauling activities.

If you are looking at building or fine-tuning your safety plan, please check out the applicable Tenure Safety Plan resources by accessing the “Safety” tab on the Woodlot Federation website.

If you have any questions, please contact the following Woodlot Licensees who are members of the Safety Committee:

Gary Hanson, canyoncreekresources@gmail.com

Rick Walters, rickwalters@thelakebc.ca

Ken Dodd, okisollo@shaw.ca ♦



Big Tree Fascination

By Emma Neill

The public has been fascinated by big and old trees for decades, not only in BC, but around the world. In BC Randy Stoltmann played a key role in bringing the protection of big trees to the forefront with his books such as the *Hiking Guide to the Big Trees of British Columbia*, which probably sits on many shelves. In the late 1980s the identification of several big Spruce trees eventually led to the establishment of the Carmanah Walbran Provincial Park in 1990.

The original registry of big trees in BC was initiated by Randy and formally established in 1986 by the B.C. Forestry Association, which became Forest Education B.C. (FORED). After the tragic death of Randy in the Kitlope (1994), FORED stopped maintaining the register. Eventually, the Conservation Data Centre became the new custodian of the registry until 2009, when it was transferred to the Ministry of Forests and Range. In 2010, the BC Big Tree Registry found its final home in the Faculty of Forestry at the University of British Columbia. The Big Tree Registry now includes 219 coniferous trees and 103 deciduous trees, with 43 trees meeting criteria for champions: <https://bigtrees.forestry.ubc.ca/bc-bigtree-registry/champion/>.

In 2019, FLNRORD identified and protected 54 trees from the UBC Registry with a Part 13 Order. Two woodlots have trees protected by this Part 13 Order - a woodlot in Princeton has three record breaking trees and a

woodlot in 100 Mile house at Bridge Lake has a record Douglas fir. On September 11, 2020 government established the Special Tree Protection Regulation, targeted to protect more of BCs largest trees.

Direction to staff was that the proposed Big Tree Policy should protect approximately 1,500 of the largest trees from harvest. The Regulation was developed to ensure these trees included a selection of the most publicly recognized exceptional large tree species. A short list of species was chosen based on the BC Big Tree Registry, and the deciding criterion for a tree to be included in the Regulation was that a tree species must have at least 10 observations in the Big Tree Registry. There are 60 species of trees in BC and this resulted in shorter list of 12 species. This includes coastal Douglas-fir, interior Douglas-fir, grand fir, pacific Yew, ponderosa pine, Sitka spruce, western red cedar, yellow cedar, arbutus, bigleaf maple, black cottonwood and Garry oak. There are separate criteria for Western Red Cedar and Black cottonwood based on location – coast or interior.

The protection measures for trees that meet the thresholds include a one hectare reserve around the tree in part, to minimize windthrow hazard to the identified tree. In some cases, these trees could be located in WTPs, and single trees can contribute to WTP requirements. A responsible person (WL Licensee) is required to report any specified trees to the District

office and retain them along with any supporting trees within 56 metres. While exemptions can be provided by the Regional Executive Director, the circumstances are very limited – forest health, fire abatement, public safety and First nations traditional use. There are also specific exemptions related to roads. Licensees are encouraged to review the information located here: <https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/industry/forestry/forest-tenures/forest-tenure-administration> for additional information. Questions can be directed to your local District staff or Emma. Neill@gov.bc.ca ♦

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>. ♦

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Links of Interest

- Our own website: <http://woodlot.bc.ca> ;
- Check out the new Woodlot Licence Reference Guide produced by the FBCWA to assist with the management and administration of a Woodlot Licence: <https://woodlot.bc.ca/woodlot-licence-reference-guide/>
- Building and Maintaining a Resilient Natural Resource Sector online forum, January 26-28, 2021 www.BCNaturalResourcesForum.com



EPP Project: Mixedwood Management in Northeast BC: Part 2 Release from brushing treatment

By Chris Hawkins, Chris Maundrell and Jeff Beale (Association of Peace River Woodlots)

Funding for this project was provided by the Woodlot Product Development Council under the Extraordinary Project Proposal (EPP) portfolio.

The timber supply in BC's three Northeast BC TSAs (Dawson Creek, Fort St John, Fort Nelson) is approximately an even allocation between conifer and broadleaf species. The TSAs have about 10 percent of the province's woodlots, all within Treaty 8. Woodlot broadleaf composition is highly variable, ranging from about 5 to 70 percent of mature stands. The broadleaf component makes northeast BC (Association of Peace River Woodlots) unique in their management objectives, economically and socially which impact on the ground practices and future revenue streams compared to the rest of the province.

Our first Almanac article looked at natural stand development – no broadleaf competition removal after planting spruce. Early results from these trials suggested that broadscale broadleaf removal is not warranted for both economic (cost), biological (overall conifer growth) and stand resilience reasons. Also, conifer growth in the mixedwoods is as good or better than a TIPSYS projected pure spruce stand of the same age on the site.

As a follow up to the natural stand development study, we looked at release of spruce from broadleaf competition on the same sites. We established competition free radii around the spruce crop tree of 0, 1 (current standard), 2, and 4 m. Our primary interest was in growth and yield, and carbon storage, but we collected data to allow us to describe

the economics of management practices and if possible, the role of climate change on stand growth and development.

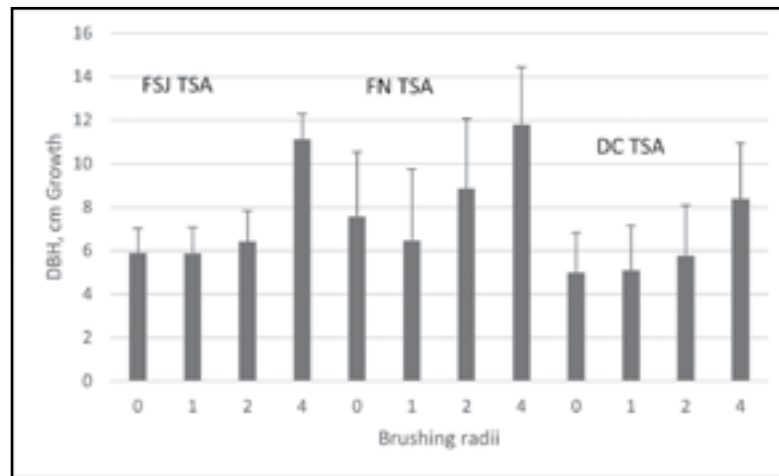
Early (11- and 12-years post treatment) are interesting. DBH growth generally did not respond to brushing until the competition free radius was 4 m (Figure 1). However, Prophet River did show some release at a 2 m radius. As expected, there was no significant height growth response to the four brushing treatments. Similar early findings have been observed at mixedwood sites in the central BC interior.

These observations present a dilemma. Is it best to maintain current practices where total yields and carbon storage are reduced or should practices be modified to focus on productivity (conifer and broadleaf) and carbon storage? Our findings may be relevant to more woodlots than just those in Northeast BC. There is an initiative underway to stop the use of herbicide on forestry land (<http://stopthespraybc.com/> accessed November 3, 2020) in BC and knowledge from the Northeast may be beneficial in developing

biologically based integrated stand management plans in other areas of the Province. For successful implementation this requires 1) new/different approaches to growth and yield modelling in TASS (Tree and Stand Simulator) or the Mixedwood Growth Model (MGM) out of the University of Alberta will need to be developed in conjunction with the BC Government, as well as 2) innovative practices of on the ground management regimes.

Given our current situation where the past does not predict the future, an observation from almost 135 years ago (Gayer 1886) suggests a sound approach for woodlot management: “a mixed forest condition (complex forest) is better able to deal with the uncertainty of future stand development and environmental risk”. This suggests managing our woodlots for resilience will be the most beneficial approach for licensees. Unfortunately, even today, mixedwood or complex stand management, at best, is poorly understood. In part, this is due to lack of experience, data, and suitable growth and yield models. ♦

Figure 1: Mean DBH growth and standard deviation at sites in the three northeast TSAs – Fort St John (Mile 88), Fort Nelson (Prophet River) and Dawson Creek (One Island Lake).





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Special Tree Protection Regulation

September 17, 2020

Dear Licensee:

Please find on the link below a copy of the Special Tree Protection Regulation that took effect on September 11, 2020, to protect exceptionally large trees and the adjacent supporting trees. The additional links below provide further information on the mechanism for reporting these trees and applying for an exemption from the regulation.

Special Tree Protection Regulation: https://www.bclaws.ca/civix/document/id/oic/oic_cur/0501_2020

Reporting Specified Trees and additional information: <https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/industry/forestry/forest-tenures/forest-tenure-administration>

The intent of the regulation is to provide protection for some of BC's largest trees. The ministry is preparing additional guidance documents on the regulation enacted under the Forest and Range Practices Act. In the interim, a Q&A document is provided to help clarify general implementation issues.

Licensees are invited to provide ongoing feedback that may be considered through periodic review of this regulation. Please review this information and send any questions you may have to your local district manager or Emma Neill, Senior Timber Tenures Forester, Forest Tenures Branch at emma.neill@gov.bc.ca.

Yours truly,
Doug Kelly Director
Regional Executive Directors District Managers
Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development, Forest Tenures Branch

Tel: (778) 974-2387
Email: doug.kelly@gov.bc.ca
Website: www.for.gov.bc.ca

WPDC Director Vacancies:

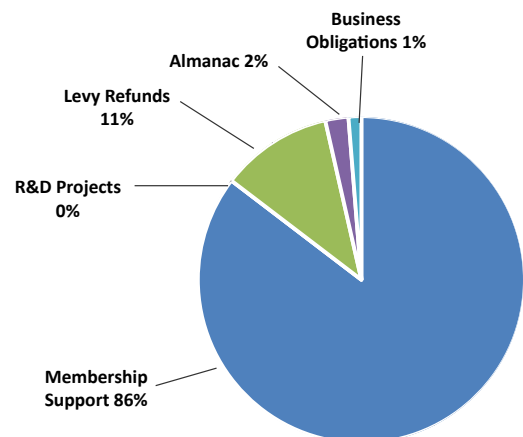
Interested in providing direction on the spending of the woodlot levy?

Volunteer Directors are needed to sit on the Board for 2-year terms. Annually the Board needs to fill 3-4 positions.

Directors must be woodlot licensees. The Board meets twice a year in Spring and Fall and conducts business through monthly teleconferences that last about one and a half hours. Expenses are reimbursed for travel to the annual woodlot conference, meetings and phone calls. Contact Cathy McClary for more information: 250-961-0271 or email: cjmclary401@gmail.com. ♦

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. ♦



Woodlot Product Development Council Extraordinary Project Proposals:

The Board of Directors for the Woodlot Product Development Council (WPDC) has an initiative to allocate funds to Extraordinary Projects that are not included in the joint work plan with the Federation of BC Woodlot Associations (FBCWA). Eligible proponents must be one of the following: Woodlot Licensee, Woodlot Association, WPDC Board of Directors or FBCWA Board of Directors. The annual amount allotted is \$100,000. Applications will be received throughout the fiscal year. In the event of competing proposals, the Board will assign the highest priority to Provincial projects that benefit the most woodlot licensees, a medium priority for regional and a lower priority for association level projects. Application forms can be found on the website: www.woodlot.bc.ca

For more information, please contact WPDC Coordinator:

Cathy McClary

Email: cjmclary401@gmail.com

Phone: 250-961-0271 ♦



FEDERATION OF BRITISH COLUMBIA
WOODLOT ASSOCIATIONS
Forests in Good Hands

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. ♦

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Ted Traer: A Tribute from the Woodlot World

*Submitted by Geoffrey Klassen,
Timber Tenures Forester, Forest
Tenures Branch*

November 10th, 2020 was Ted Traer's last day with the Provincial Government. Ted has been with government for over 30 years; 20 of those years spent in the Woodlot Licence Program in Quesnel. When I first met Ted, I knew we were going to get along sportingly. Intangible at the time, but I knew it. Being newer to the woodlot program, he was an extremely important resource for me. I considered him invaluable for my woodlot indoctrination some years ago, and I don't hesitate to say he always took time to provide his seasoned 2-bits for anyone that asked. Ted brought expertise to all facets of the woodlot program and proved a rare expert in Woodlot for Windows. He was always one of my favourite "go-to guys" in the Districts. Always a great conversation. Ted has always had a great sense of humour and a fantastic way with words. Probably some of the best catch-phrases I have ever heard! Never one to shy away from volunteering to participate in the development of provincial program processes, hosting District woodlot field tours, or showing off his many talents at Moose Meadows Farm, you could always count on him to



Ted All Dressed Up



put his best foot forward. For a fella his age (sorry Teddy), he has amazing energy and an equally upbeat persona.

We are going to miss Ted (on the job). But before too long, I hope to visit him for some ice fishing and perhaps he'll give me some expert trap shooting tips. One thing is certain, there will be active construction at Moose Meadows Farm and likely a few

structures and animals present that were not there the last time I visited. His door is always open. He doesn't stop moving....except to share a whisky and 'shoot the breeze' (Ted, you'll note I spelled whisky correctly). We are sorry to see you go, Ted. But we are happy for you and your family and wish you all the best. You will be missed. "How do you like me now"..... ♦

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 cjmccclary401@gmail.com.



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Thank you to our contributors for this issue:

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- Chris Maundrell
- John McClary
- Brian McNaughton
- Emma Neill
- Debbie Zandbelt

Advertising Rates

As a service to FBCWA members, the Woodland Almanac will make space available for non-commercial ads, free of charge. Commercial advertising space is also offered to enterprises at the following rates:

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