



Forests in Good Hands

THE WOODLAND ALMANAC



www.woodlot.bc.ca

Winter 2020

IN THIS ISSUE

- 3** GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT
- 4** COASTAL TIMBER PRICING
- 5** FIBRE RECOVERY ZONES
- 7** INTERIOR TIMBER PRICING
- 8** CONTRACTING OPPORTUNITIES
- 9** E-BITS FOR YOUR TWO BITS
- 9** EXTRAORDINARY PROJECT PROPOSALS
- 10** ENHANCED SILVICULTURE: WILDFIRE RISK REDUCTION ON WOODLOT LICENCES
- 12** PHOTOS NEEDED FOR INSTAGRAM
- 13** PODCASTS
- 13** EXTENSION VIDEO #2
- 14** RESULTS FROM THE ANNUAL MEMBER SURVEY
- 15** WHERE YOUR \$0.25 ANNUAL LEVY GOES
- 16** WHAT WE HEARD ON THE FOREST HEALTH TOUR
- 18** MANAGEMENT OF PRIME CONTRACTOR REQUIREMENTS AND THE MITIGATION OF CORPORATE LIABILITIES RELATED TO WORKSAFE BC LEGISLATION
- 20** FBCWA SCHOLARSHIP WINNER FOR 2020
- 22** WOODLOT LICENCE TRANSFER, SUCCESSION AND TAX PLANNING: QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS ARISING AFTER POSTING THE GUIDE
- 23** NOTICE: PURCHASERS OF PRIVATE MANAGED FOREST LAND
- 24** THANK YOU TO OUR CONTRIBUTORS

Woodlot Management Reflects Community Values for over 100 Years

by Sara Grady

It's unlikely that when Dale Wilson's grandfather was repaid an outstanding debt with a deed to a stand of trees in the middle of nowhere, it would lead the whole family down such an enriching path.

But that's exactly what happened in 1916.

It placed the Wilson family in a pristine part of British Columbia – Qualicum Bay, on Vancouver Island. Their small parcel of land provided a living for Dale's father, who harvested timber from the land with horses and an axe. It also provided a lifetime of memories for Dale, especially being lifted onto the backs of those giant horses and wandering the forest on childhood adventures.

In his "retirement" as a tugboat captain he pursued a woodlot licence that bordered the Wilson family homestead and the family was awarded Woodlot Licence 1464.

Brenda and Dale based their forest management on an ethic of respect for the land and to reflect the values of the community. Following woodlot licence



Dale & Brenda Wilson WL1464

regulations and their own stewardship goals, the Wilsons were able to remove timber sustainably, manage water, ecological and recreational resource values and ensure everyone in the community could enjoy it.

Vancouver Island is an eclectic mix of people who rely on income from some of BC's best timber and some of

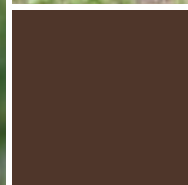
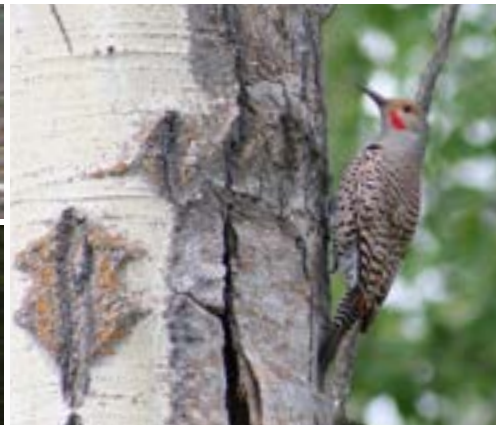
the province's most coveted backcountry. So, managing Woodlot Licence 1464 and accommodating such a wide range of values was a balancing act of diplomacy, technical knowledge and the understanding that they were part of a community.

Dale and Brenda, who are retiring this year from woodlot management, exemplified all the qualities sought out in the woodlot licence program. They've taken their responsibilities to honour the social licence to heart, and won the hearts of their community, as well as government officials. So much so, in fact, that they were put forward as potential nominees for the Minister's Award for Excellence in Forest Management and Innovation.

cont'd on page 6 ...



Forests in Good Hands



www.woodlot.bc.ca

FEDERATION OF BC WOODLOT ASSOCIATIONS

Contact: Brian McNaughton, General Manager • 381 Pheasant Rd., Williams Lake, BC, V2G 5A9

Tel: (250) 398-7646 • Toll-free: 1-866-345-8733 • E-mail: gen_manager@woodlot.bc.ca • www.woodlot.bc.ca

FBCWA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President.....	Jeff Beale, Fort St. John	jbeale@telus.net
Vice President.....	Reece Allingham, Lake Country	rallingham@hotmail.com
Treasurer	Nancy Pezel, Powell River	nancypez@telus.net
Secretary	Lisa Marak, Kelowna	lmarak@telus.net
Director.....	Mark Clark, Prince George.....	markclarkprpf@shaw.ca
Director.....	Tyler Hodgkinson, Castlegar	isforestry@gmail.com
Director.....	Coleen Marlow, Quadra Island	cmarlow@gicable.com
Director.....	Cliff Manning, Vanderhoof	cmfs44@hotmail.com
Director.....	Brian Amies, Golden	bdamies@gmail.com
Director.....	Don Whyte, Kelowna	montanebc@shaw.ca
Director.....	Tom Bradley, Winlaw	tomb@netidea.com

FBCWA CONTRACTORS

General Manager.....	Brian McNaughton..	lone_tree@telus.net ..	Tf: 1-866-345-8733
Timber Pricing (Stumpage) Coast...	Ed Hughes.....	ed@woodlot.bc.ca	778-424-6129
Timber Pricing (Stumpage) Interior.	Debbie Zandbelt	debbie@woodlot.bc.ca	250-549-3089
Admin Support & Communications .	Lisa Marak.....	lmarak@telus.net	250-765-6156
E-Business	Tom Bradley	tomb@netidea.com	250-226-7792
Bookkeeper.....	Heidi Denney	citizencane@shaw.ca	250-248-2633
Woodlot for Windows.....	Mike Bandstra	mbandstra@forsite.ca	250-847-4822

FBCWA COMMITTEE HEADS

Timber Pricing Co-Chair	Reece Allingham	rallingham@hotmail.com	250-718-3576
Timber Pricing Co-Chair	Coleen Maclean-Marlow	cmarlow@gicable.com	250-285-2520
Scholarship	Nancy Pezel	islandswest@shaw.ca	250-752-8896
Forest Management.....	Cliff Manning	cmfs44@hotmail.com	
Safety.....	Ken Dodd, Rick Walters & Gary Hanson.....		

WPDC EXECUTIVE

President.....	Chris Hawkins, Yukon	chrisofmendenhall@gmail.com
Vice President.....	Lee Pond, Nanaimo	leepond@hotmail.com
Treasurer	Gernot Zemanek, Canim Lake	gernotzemanek@gmail.com
Director.....	John Massier, Quesnel	jmassier@xplornet.com
Director.....	Paul Galliazzo, Quesnel	pgalliaz@shaw.ca
Director.....	Dean Daly, Smithers	deanrdaly@gmail.com
Past President.....	Brent Petrick, Bonnington	smoky1458@shaw.ca

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

Coordinator: Cathy McClary • Tel: (250) 961-0271 • PO Box 23011, Plaza 33 Postal Outlet, Kelowna, BC V1X 7K7
E-mail: cjmccclary401@gmail.com • Publication # 40035578

FBCWA MEMBERS

Boundary	Tyler Hodgkinson
Bulkley	Irena Weiland
Cariboo	Gord Chipman
Columbia.....	Brian Amies
Fort St. James rep.	Steve Harrison
Fraser Valley	Kevin Webber
Kamloops & District.....	N. Fennell
Kispiox	Eddy Plant
Nadina District	Jon Seinen
North Island	Coleen Marlow
Peace River	Jeff Beale
Prince George	Mark Clark
Quesnel.....	Pete Maclean
Robson Canoe	Norm Lorenz
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

facebook

www.facebook.com/woodlotsbc

The 2% Solution

by Brian McNaughton

Ever wonder where the Woodlot Program, or quite frankly, BC's forest sector is headed in the next 12 to 48 months? Enter ministerial mandate letters. These are letters that the Premier sends to each minister to establish expectations, principles and priorities for the 4-year term of the government.

As it should, Minister Conroy's mandate letter contains many high-level, strategic priorities such as combatting COVID, fighting for a fair deal for BC wood products in softwood lumber negotiations with the United States, collaborating with the forest industry and stakeholders to implement the Interior Forest Sector Renewal process and the Coast Forest Sector Revitalization Initiative, and implementing the recommendations of the Old Growth Strategic Review.

A priority of note is that Premier Horgan directed Minister Conroy to develop a plan to downsize and re-structure the Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development and that a new Ministry of Lands and Natural Resource Operations with Nathan Cullen as the Minister of State be created. The role of the new ministry will be to "...implement land use policies that support BC's goals for



Brian McNaughton,
General Manager

economic activity, environmental sustainability and reconciliation with Indigenous peoples." Most people in the forest sector probably agree with this directive because

FLNRORD has become too large and unwieldy. This will be an interesting initiative to watch and hopefully the Federation will be asked for input. Clearly the 'Lands' part of FLNRORD will be moving to the new ministry but what exactly is going to happen with 'Natural Resource Operations?' It's in the title of both ministries. Whatever happens, I hope it results in an increased field presence by ministry staff with a strong emphasis on working with WL licensees by providing advice and guidance.

Another directive from the Premier is to "Continue work to update and modernize forest policy and legislation to ensure a competitive, sustainable future for forest communities, Indigenous peoples, workers, and companies." What could or should this mean to WLs? In my opinion, the WL program is <2% of the AAC so it should be <2% of the ministry's workload. I see this as an opportunity for the Federation to push for a review

of the program with a specific focus on reducing bureaucracy and streamlining administration. For example, change legislation so the WL licence document authorizes harvesting and road building and get rid of cutting and road permits.

Other directives in Minister Conroy's mandate letter provide opportunities for WLs; including:

- Transitioning the forestry sector from high-volume to high-value production.
- Making significant investments in forest health, wildfire protection, silviculture, and revitalizing our forests.
- Championing innovation.
- Reducing wildfire risk and better prepare and support communities for future wildfires.

Suffice it to say, the Federation has its work cut out for itself in pursuing the opportunities created by the Minister's mandate letter to not only improve the WL program, but advance good forest management!

All of the mandate letters can be found at <https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/governments/organizational-structure/cabinet/cabinet-ministers>.

Take care. Stay safe and healthy! ♦



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 ♦

Importance of Low Volume Cost Survey

by Ed Hughes

Coast Low Volume and Woodlot Crown Tenure Management Cost Survey update

By the time you read this article you will have likely received a letter date February 3, 2021 in your mail from Patrick Asante, Manager Timber Pricing Section. This is a follow up letter to emails sent out in April 2020 and requests Woodlot Licensees complete and submit Low Volumes Coastal Cost Surveys for the years, 2017, 2018, 2019 and 2020. The deadline is June 30, 2021. One initial point is that this letter is written in a similar way to the ones sent out regularly to all forest tenure holders. We are being dealt with in a standard way.

When the request to complete the survey first came out we took the time to discuss the survey with Timber Pricing Branch, the FBCWA board, coastal Woodlot Licensees and industry stumpage representatives. The preparation of the support package for Coastal Woodlot Licensees (WL) was completed with input and an eye towards making the survey easier, consistent and accurate. The **Woodlot cost calculator** (Introduction and



Ed Hughes,
Coastal Timber Pricing
Coordinator

Worksheets) was distributed directly to Woodlot Licensees who requested one and through the Coastal Woodlot associations.

Any Woodlot licensee or consultant that would like a copy

of the Woodlot cost calculator can forward me an email or give me a call to obtain a digital or paper copy.

Although this survey is not simple and will require time and effort, Woodlot Licensees should seriously consider submitting. This is a good time to look at section 136 (confidentiality) and 142 (recording and reporting) of the forest act which lays out the confidentiality and obligation we have to maintain records and complete cost surveys, when requested to do so by the Ministry.

Over the past 9 months, since the Low Volume cost survey was requested, I have received calls from many of the Coastal Woodlot Licences. I am impressed by the attitude of many of the callers intending to complete the cost survey. Like many of our obligations we have become accustom to, the submitters realise the

importance of completing the survey. The questions and requests for support from the FBCWA seems to in most cases have resulted in a submitted survey.

Market Pricing System Technical Sub-committee

Over the past three months the fall bi-weekly MPS conference calls have ended with the approval of the new Coastal Appraisal Manual (CAM) on December 15, 2020.

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 (office), (250) 954-8926 (cell) or by email at ed@huock.ca. ♦

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. ♦

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. ♦

Fibre Recovery Zones (FRZ)

How they are working for Coastal Woodlots

by Ed Hughes

The concept of Fibre Recovery zones on the coast began to gain momentum in the middle of 2018 due to high waste levels and the increasing demand for low grade fibre. Through workshops and an Aug 13, 2018 South Island Resource District Fibre Recovery Implementations and Expectation letter from Rhonda Morris, things began to move forward. How the changes are working for Woodlots on the coast still needs to be worked out. A query of the Timber Tenures website provides a full picture of the FRZ locations and policies.

The Forest Act defines “residual fibre” as Crown timber in an area that is cut but not removed from the area. Improving the utilization of poorer quality timber and reducing the volume of residual fibre left in the bush continues to be an important objective for the government of B.C. and Woodlot Licensees. Increased utilization will help mitigate shortfalls in projected fibre supplies, support new industries that can utilize low quality fibre, reduce carbon emissions and improve air quality through less burning of residual fibre (slash). Common goals with Woodlot Licensees!

The Fibre Recovery Process focuses on improving the use of lower-quality timber in areas of the province where there is a demand for the fibre from secondary users such as pulp mills, pellet plants, bioenergy facilities, and other users of low quality logs and other woody debris. The process encourages increased utilization through relationships between primary harvesters and users of low quality fibre. Woodlots have long term

relationships with log markets and are in good positions to improve utilization and marketing of log grade fibre.

The Fibre recovery zone mapping delineating the boundaries (https://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/farming-natural-resources-and-industry/forestry/timber-pricing/residue-and-waste/coast_frz_map_v2.pdf), as a PDF or through iMapBC at <https://maps.gov.bc.ca/ess/hm/imap4m/> are available. Waste penalties are applied within the Fibre recovery zone for avoidable waste levels greater than bench mark minimums. A penalty approach has been taken on the coast, except for certain grades and species.

The initiative supports business to business relationships, but also uses a waste penalty stick to make sure licensees are listening. The three times stumpage rate applied to obligatory excessive waste has resulted in most licensees getting the waste message. I have copied section 7.4.1.2 of the coastal waste manual that describes the waste rates within the fibre recovery zone:

Provincial Logging Residue and Waste Measurement Procedures Manual - Coast, Woodlot Licences, and Community Forest Agreements
7.4.1.2 Waste Rate Within a Fibre Recovery Zone

1. *Applicability of Waste Rates Waste assessment areas with any portion of the harvest area located within a Fibre Recovery Zone (FRZ) will be billed using the waste rate derived in this section. The items listed below are not subject to a Fibre Recovery Zone waste rate and are billed using the procedure in section 7.4.1.1: i. All avoidable western red cedar waste volume, ii. Areas within a Fibre Recovery Zone*

harvested using helicopter logging methods, and iii. Forestry licences to cut with stumpage rates determined under Chapter 7 of the Coast Appraisal Manual, master license to cut and occupant license to cut.

2. *The Coast Fibre Recovery Zone has geographic boundaries for Immature, Mature and Immature, and Mature Crown Timber. The applicability of these boundaries is based on: i. The FRZ boundaries in effect on the date the waste survey is initially submitted into the Waste System, and ii. The maturity of the cutblock as assessed under the timber merchantability specifications in section 1.2. For a waste assessment area to be considered within an FRZ, the maturity of the cutblock must be the same as the FRZ geographic boundaries it is contained within. For example: • A mature cutblock in a mature FRZ is in the FRZ • A mature cutblock in an immature FRZ is not in the FRZ iii. Refer to Appendix 8 Waste Benchmarks in the Coast Area and Fibre Recovery Zone (FRZ) Waste Rates for guidance on application.*

3. *Fibre Recovery Zone Waste Rate Calculation The following rates will apply to waste from timber originating in a Fibre Recovery Zones: i. The avoidable conifer grade X, Y and grade U hemlock and balsam waste volumes will be billed at the rates applicable under section 1.2.4.1 ii. Deciduous species within a Fibre Recovery Zone will be subject to the waste rate applicable under section 1.2.5 iii. The waste rate for coniferous sawlog grades other than those listed in (i) for: a. major licensees, b. community forest agreements, c. woodlot licenses, d. road permits, and e. forestry licences to cut with stumpage rates not determined under Chapter 7 of the Coast Appraisal Manual will be the greater of: • \$2.00*

► From page 5

per m3, or • the waste rate calculated for each species and grade under section 7.4.1.1 multiplied by 3. The majority of coastal woodlot Licenses excluding, the northern appraisal zone (Haida Gwaii, Coast Mountain, and parts of the North Island-central coast Forest Districts) are within the Fibre recovery zone.

Exemptions to the FRZ penalties for Woodlot Licensees are not available. There have been Woodlot Licensees who are inquiring about consideration of amendments to the exemptions policy, which will be pursued in time.

We have changed over the past few years our harvesting planning, management and scaling practices for low grade logs and waste survey awareness to minimize penalty impacts. The one problem is the market locations for giving away or selling low grade fibre are very limited. The opportunity to move low grade fibre from coastal woodlots is through conventional markets (pulp) or firewood. If the fibre recovery process initiative is expected to

become successful new markets (pellet plants, wood waste recovery plants or other well distributed facilities separated every 100+/- Km) need to be constructed (similar to the interiors pellet plant model).

It is still early days in changing the forest industry away from disposing low grade fibre by burning towards utilizing waste. So far the three times stumpage rate (2 times as a penalty) for avoidable waste is recovering additional stumpage revenue and encouraging better waste recovery, when possible. Most WL believe a market driven method is more feasible and realistic than a financial penalty.

We still have a situation on the coast where markets for wood waste are limited, except for areas located close to the pulp mills to fuel the Cogen plants. The majority of pulp logs or clean chips are not being wasted rather they are sold. The true waste wood that can not be sold into the firewood market needs to have somewhere where it is feasible to

utilize the waste (pellets, or modern central boilers). It is interesting to note that the main impediment to the construction of modern small scale biomass central heating plants is the Provincial Boiler regulation.

I am making the link between the need for more biomass facilities on the coast so that our forest waste can be delivered to local facilities. Canada is the only country in the world that has a regulator environment that does not permit the construction of modern small scale boiler units that if strategically located could economically utilize low grade waste and reduce open smoke burning. An article in the Canadian Biomass magazine <https://www.canadianbiomassmagazine.ca/residential-use-of-wood-pellets-a-missed-opportunity-in-canada/> documents this very well. Gordon Murray with the with the Canadian Wood Pellet association is pursuing changes to the regulations in an attempt to jump start the construction of modern biomass facilities on the coast. ♦

6

► From page 1

Maintaining a woodlot – particularly on such a compact parcel of land like Vancouver Island – requires a willingness to uphold environmental and forestry standards while being sensitive to public concerns and ensuring the public has safe and easy access to the land. The Trans-Canada Trail bisects the Wilson's woodlot, and in addition to all the roads Dale has built for logging operations, there's a network of looping trails that host up to 40 visitors a day. Even the local Walmart borders a section of the woodlot today. It doesn't get much more 'urban interface' than that.

Dale and Brenda were happy to share their forest with tourists and town residents alike. Over the years, they took great pride in educating

the public on their harvesting and reforestation activities.

They hosted small business, local schools and to run safe and controlled training exercises on the woodlot. Wilsons enjoyed the benefit of those collaborations as much as the trainees did. They saw it as part of their role as stewards of a Crown resource... to make it available to everyone for recreation and education along with providing revenue for their family's homestead.

Of particular note, they took an active part in the Nile Creek - Qualicum Bay rehabilitation project, by enhancing Nash Creek which runs through their woodlot and enlarging a pond for the wild cutthroat trout. It was a collaboration with Trout Unlimited Canada, Nile Creek

Enhancement Society and government agencies. Thanks to all their efforts, Nile Creek has been re-established as a fertile spawning ground for a range of species that had been at risk due to habitat destruction and over-fishing.

Dale echoed a sentiment shared by so many woodlot licensees. Having grown up roaming that forest as a child he wanted to preserve it for future generations.

Woodlot licensees take their stewardship responsibilities very personally – because they live in the community and share the forest with their neighbours, friends and families. The woodlot program will miss the Wilsons, but wish them well in their next adventure. ♦

Stumpage rates on Interior Woodlots

by Debbie Zandbelt, RPF

Lumber Prices exist today at record highs and as I write this surely indicates why my phone rings with questions on woodlot stumpage rates. The major tenure holders in the province have been faced with some of the highest stumpage rates in recent history. The question of the month is: “Will my stumpage change this year?” Here is the answer.

Any cutting permit (CP) issued under a woodlot licence in the BC interior will be priced according to Section 6.1.2 of the Interior Appraisal Manual (IAM). Stumpage rates are the rates prescribed in Table 6-2 - Community Forest Agreements and Woodlot Coniferous Average Sawlog Stumpage Rates in \$/m₃ by species and forest zone. This is with the exception of cutting permits which have been issued for the purpose of using amounts from an eligible road amortization agreement (ERAA). Woodlot cutting permits issued using Table 6-2 average sawlog stumpage rates are redetermined on August 1st of each year.



Debbie Zandbelt, RPF
Interior Timber Pricing
Coordinator

IAM Table 6-2 rates are updated bi-annually on May 1st and November 1st.

Scenario 1: W1234 CP X issued on June 1, 2020 (dollar figures below are only used for

example purposes only)

Stumpage rates for CP X are determined using the IAM Table 6-2 rates in place at time of CP issuance (i.e., Table 6-2 effective May 1, 2020) Example \$5 average sawlog rate.

The stumpage rates for CP X expire on July 31, 2020.

An annual redetermination is completed effective August 1, 2020 for CP X using the Table 6-2 rates in place at the time of redetermination. Table 6-2 rates effective May 1, 2020 will apply, and CP X stumpage rates will remain the same (\$5 remains).

When the Table 6-2 values are updated on November 1, 2020 the CP X stumpage rates remain unchanged (\$5 remains).

When the Table 6-2 values are updated on May 1, 2021 (to \$6) the CP X stumpage rates remain unchanged (\$5 remains).

An annual redetermination will be completed effective August 1, 2021 for CP X using the rates in place at the time of determination (i.e., Table 6-2 rates effective May 1, 2021) to \$6.

Unless rates require reappraising, (e.g. IAM Section 2.2.2 - Minister Directed reappraisal) the stumpage

rates effective/expiry dates for CP X, assuming that the CP was issued for 4 years, would be the following.

- June 1, 2020 - July 31, 2020
- August 1, 2020 - July 31, 2021
- August 1, 2021 - July 31, 2022
- August 1, 2022 - July 31, 2023
- August 1, 2023 - May 31, 2024

Scenario 2: W4321 CP Z issued on Dec. 1, 2020 (dollar figures below are only used for *example purposes only*)

Stumpage rates for CP Z are determined using the IAM Table 6-2 rates in place at time of CP issuance (i.e., Table 6-2 effective November 1, 2020) Example: \$7 average sawlog rate.

When the Table 6-2 values are updated on May 1, 2021 (to \$8) the CP Z stumpage rates remain unchanged (\$7).

The average sawlog rates for CP Z expire on July 31, 2021.


An annual redetermination is completed effective August 1, 2021 using the rates in place at the time of determination (i.e., Table 6-2 rates effective May 1, 2021) to \$8.

Unless rates require reappraising, (e.g. IAM Section 2.2.2 - Minister Directed reappraisal) the stumpage rates effective/expiry dates for CP Z, assuming that the CP was issued for 4 years, would be the following.

- December 1, 2020 - July 31, 2021
- August 1, 2021 - July 31, 2022
- August 1, 2022 - July 31, 2023
- August 1, 2023 - July 31, 2024
- August 1, 2024 - November 30, 2024



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



CONTRACTING OPPORTUNITY

Federation of BC Woodlot Associations

Administrative Support

After many years wearing a variety of FBCWA hats, Lisa Marak has given her notice that she will not be continuing with the Administrative Support contract. However, she will still be wearing the Communications hat and waving the flag to promote and benefit the woodlot industry!

The Federation of BC Woodlot Associations (FBCWA), a non-profit society whose members are Woodlot Associations located throughout British Columbia, is seeking a qualified person to provide administrative support services. The services to be provided are listed below.

The term of this contract is 1-year; but may be extended for a second year. The work is part-time and is expected to average approximately 24 hours/month. It will involve working on weekends and evenings (conference calls and virtual meetings). Some travel will be required. Expenses will be reimbursed.

Qualifications:

- Experience providing administrative support services
- Proficient using various software (word, excel, powerpoint, etc.) and virtual meeting platforms (ZOOM, Skype, etc.)
- Well organized
- Good communication skills

Experience working for an organization run by a Board of Directors would be an asset.

Please submit a cover letter, resume and references to Lisa Marak – admin@woodlot.bc.ca by 4:30pm on March 19, 2021. In the cover letter please indicate the hourly rate you would expect to be paid.

For more information, contact Lisa Marak at 250.765.6156 or admin@woodlot.bc.ca.

Services to be provided:

- Advises the FBCWA with respect to complying with the administrative requirements of the Societies Act and bylaws.
- Provides administrative support to the FBCWA Board of Directors.
- Works collaboratively with the FBCWA's contractors and committees.
- Maintains a calendar of FBCWA events.
- Organizes and makes arrangements for meetings, virtual meetings and conference calls.
- Prepares and distributes meeting materials, i.e. agenda, contractor & committee reports, memos, correspondence, etc.
- Records minutes and notes
- Files and archives FBCWA documentation, photos, etc.
- Drafts quarterly and annual reports.
- Assists with the preparation of and amendments to budgets and work plans.
- Serves as the point of first contact for inquiries and correspondence. Directs inquiries to appropriate person and ensures responses are sent in a timely manner.
- Works with the Communications Coordinator to post relevant information to the FBCWA website.
- Maintains contact and distribution lists.
- Disseminates notices and other information to directors, members and, on occasion, licensees.
- Prepares and sends documents as directed including contracts, contract amendments/extension letters, memos, briefings, etc. ♦

CONTRACTING OPPORTUNITY

Federation of BC Woodlot Associations

Project Manager – Association Building

The Federation of BC Woodlot Associations (FBCWA) is a non-profit society whose members are Woodlot Associations located throughout British Columbia. There are 17 active WL Associations and 5 areas where the WL Association is either inactive or no longer exists.

The FBCWA is seeking expressions of interest from interested parties to manage and implement its Work Plan for Association Building. The Association Building project's objective is to increase WL licensees and service providers' membership, participation and support of their local Woodlot Association. A copy of the Work Plan is available on request (admin@woodlot.bc.ca).

Interested parties should have:

- Good communication skills;
- Good organizational skills;
- Experience arranging meetings and events;
- An understanding of the role and purposes of the FBCWA and WL Associations; and
- A working knowledge regarding woodlot licences and forest management in BC.

Experience working with woodlot licensees would be an asset. Willing to travel

The term of this contract is 1-year; but may be extended for a second year. The time commitment is expected to average approximately 40 hours/month (480 hours for the year) BUT the work will be intermittent, e.g. not much interaction or activity is expected to occur during the summer, and may be impacted by COVID-19. Applicants must be willing to travel.

Expressions of interest must be submitted to Lisa Marak – admin@woodlot.bc.ca by 4:30pm on March 19, 2021.

For more information, contact Lisa Marak at 250.765.6156 or admin@woodlot.bc.ca. ♦

Upgrade to Road Permit ESF System

by Tom Bradley

The government recently made significant changes to the computer systems used to submit spatial data when applying for or amending a Road Permit tenure.

This is part of the on-going Integrated Forestry Project, which is a review of and revision to the existing FTA (Forest Tenures Administration) system.

To quote them: “The Integrated Forestry Project (IFP) has been under way focusing on the design, build and delivery of web-based systems that provide better customer service, simplified application processes, integrated decision-making, and improved access to information for end users.”

Let’s just say that there is more to come from the IFP initiative.

The first system upgrades took place in late January. The noticeable impact to those of us outside government is that the Road Tenure (Road Permit) functions were moved from FTA to a new, separate module, the Resource Roads System(RRS).

At this time, the Woodlot ESF submission tool, WLGML, does not prepare submissions to the RRS system. This is temporary. The WLGML development team from 2009 is back in the saddle and working on upgrading WLGML to create RRS



Tom Bradley

submissions.

New WLGML Manual

Version 4 of the WLGML manual has been posted to the web.

The manual is a How To guide to e-FM

spatial submissions for woodlots. It covers CP and RESULTS reporting submissions. Google “WLGML” to find it.

Ver 4.0 streamlines content, adds an active link table of contents, and

catches up with changes in procedures and changes in my knowledge since Ver 3 was published back in 2016.

Version 5 will be along when we get the RSS functions of WLGML built.

Here to Help

If you are a woodlot holder or a consultant providing e-FM services for WL and have a question on e-FM reporting and submissions, please feel free to contact me at tomb@netidea.com for assistance with any questions or issue that you encounter. ♦

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: cjmccclary401@gmail.com

Phone: 250-961-0271 ♦

Enhanced Silviculture: Wildfire Risk Reduction on Woodlot Licences

by Alan Waters

One of the most serious threats facing woodlot licensees is the risk of wildfire destroying the timber on their woodlot licence, eliminating their investments in silviculture and in the worst-case scenario, rendering the woodlot licence into an uneconomic business opportunity. During the 2017 and to a lesser extent the 2018 wildfire seasons in Quesnel we witnessed the destruction of a tremendous amount of merchantable and immature timber that the future of the forest industry desperately depended on. Some of the burnt mature Douglas-fir logs were salvaged for peelers and sawlogs but thin barked mature species like spruce and balsam were not something that major licensees wanted to harvest or purchase from woodlot licensees. If there was any risk of scorched wood contaminating the pulp chips with charcoal major licensees didn't want the timber. As a result, burnt stands of thin barked trees including immature Douglas-fir, spruce, lodgepole pine and balsam were left to rot and fall down to create massive amounts of fuel loading for a future catastrophic wildfire in approximately 10 years. Areas of these types of stands that burnt in 2009 and 2010 wildfire seasons had just enough time to blowdown and burn again during the 2017 wildfires.

The 2017 and 2018 wildfire seasons also clearly demonstrated that 10- to 25-year-old conifer plantations on cutblocks where broadcast burning, or simply good utilization of healthy timber stands followed by excellent piling and burning of slash accumulations on landings and roadsides resulted in areas where wildfires did not have enough fuel to burn. The catastrophic wildfires in 2003 also demonstrate that 10+ year-old conifer plantations are



unlikely to be burnt by wildfire if good utilization and logging slash disposal was executed on the cutblock. If the wildfire fire spread rank is elevated by wind then there is a greater risk that plantations with little logging slash will still burn.

So what does all this talk about wildfire risk have to do with enhanced silviculture? A truly experienced silviculturist will tell you that site preparation is an important component of enhanced silviculture. In recent years licensees have all but eliminated site preparation as part of their silviculture treatment regimes, preferring to “direct plant” cutblocks and spend the absolute minimum on fuel hazard abatement. Mother Nature is not impressed with these strategies and the increasing numbers of hectares of cutblocks that are burned by wildfires is an indication of her anger and frustration.

There is a lot of talk these days about creating resilient forests to deal with climate change that is likely to increase the frequency and severity of wildfires. The best way to mitigate against this potential increased threat of wildfire is to practice excellent utilization and slash hazard abatement on each and every cutblock you harvest on your woodlot licence; followed by prompt and effective reforestation. For other high risk areas on the woodlot licence (i.e. adjacent to main public roads), fuel management treatments

involving “thinning from below”, pruning of crop trees to a height of 2 meters and piling and burning the woody surface fuels along with the non-merchantable trees cut during thinning and the pruned branches. This past year I was fortunate enough to receive Forest Enhancement Society funding to complete fire risk reduction treatments on a 50 meter wide swath on my woodlot licence that was directly adjacent

to the Blackwater Road (a main public road used extensively by harvesting traffic, local residents and recreationists).

I would like to share what I believe is the best practice for carrying out fuel management treatments involving the construction and ignition of hand piles. This past year was disastrous for completing fuel management projects in Quesnel because of prohibitions and restrictions on open burning that made it impossible to efficiently burn hand piles because of COVID-19. All open burning except camp fires was prohibited on April 15, 2020 when there was still a foot of frozen snow on parts of the fuel management project area as shown in the attached photo. To the best of my knowledge there were no cases of COVID-19 in Quesnel during April and I was burning hand piles with virtually no smoke at a location 55 kilometers away from Quesnel. I have attached a couple of pictures of the smokeless fires I take pride in creating when I burn freshly constructed hand piles. The key to creating a virtually smokeless fire is to start with a high component of dry, dead standing material and keep the fires burning hot and clean by adding mixtures of green or wet fuel with sufficient additional dry fuel. This is not hard to do when you are treating stands with a component of beetle killed lodgepole pine.

In my opinion, there are serious

problems with the way the Open Burning Smoke Control Regulation restricts open burning in Quesnel due to the tendency for consistent predictions of POOR venting from the Environment Canada weather station at the Quesnel airport. These venting predictions are totally misrepresentative of actual venting conditions over most of the Quesnel Forest District. The Open Burning Smoke Control Regulation is also way too restrictive with respect to the burning of hand piles associated with Fire Smart treatments and other fuel risk reduction treatments in the Wildland Urban Interface.

When hand piles are properly constructed with fine dry material like dead Douglas-fir branches and dead standing suppressed trees it is possible to build a small, hot fire with this dry material and continue adding larger dry material until you have a hot hand pile sized fire (i.e. 2 meters tall by 3 meters wide). Once you have a hot base fire you can meter in a combination of elevated dry pine blowdown and green pruning branches to produce a fire with virtually no smoke. The key is to keep the fire burning hot by feeding the fire with additional dry and green fuel but preventing the fire from becoming so hot that it will singe or kill the surrounding crop trees. When you see the branches of nearby trees waving in the convective heat from your fire it is time to stop adding fuel to that pile. Instead you should start another hand pile fire or prune some trees or buck up some blowdown until

the first fire cools down a little. Once the first fire reaches this maximum size a second hand pile should be lit before more fuel is added to the first fire. A worker can normally ignite and continue to add fuel to 2 or 3 hand piles simultaneously without causing heat damage to the surrounding crop trees.

Burning restrictions that only allow you to burn no more than 2 hand piles at once are completely inefficient and totally unnecessary if each hand pile is constructed so it is burning hot and clean. Hand piles that are created this way during fuel management treatments are totally different than large machine piles that produce way more smoke. There is no scientific justification for open burning regulations that apply the same restrictions to hand and machine piles. There is an urgent need to burn hand piles when carrying out fuel management treatments in the wildland urban interface and the current Open Burning Smoke Control Regulation desperately needs to be re-written to significantly reduce the restrictions which are impeding our efforts to complete extremely important fuel management burning.

Hand piling woody debris well in advance of fall burning is not efficient



unless the piles are covered with plastic to prevent the fuel from being saturated by rain and snow while you are waiting for the legal venting requirements to be achieved. It is also more difficult to ignite hand piles that are piled well in advance as the fine dry fuels (kindling) are usually covered with larger fuels. There is also the problem of building the piles before ignition a little too large and then damaging or killing the surrounding trees with excessive heat when the piles are burnt. This problem of building too large of a pile is prevented when you burn the pile as you add more fuel to the pile.

In discussing hand piling and burning with Ken Day who did a lot of fuel mitigation burning with the UBC Alex Fraser Research Forest and the Williams Lake Community Forest, Ken stresses the need to burn as you pile for maximum efficiency and minimal smoke. It is also important not to cut the woody debris into smaller pieces than you can lift and place on the burning pile as the more pieces of woody debris you have to cut and carry to the fire, the more work is required to achieve your fuel reduction target. Similarly, it is better to build more hand piles and carry the woody debris a shorter distance than create fewer hand piles where the woody debris has to be carried further to each fire.

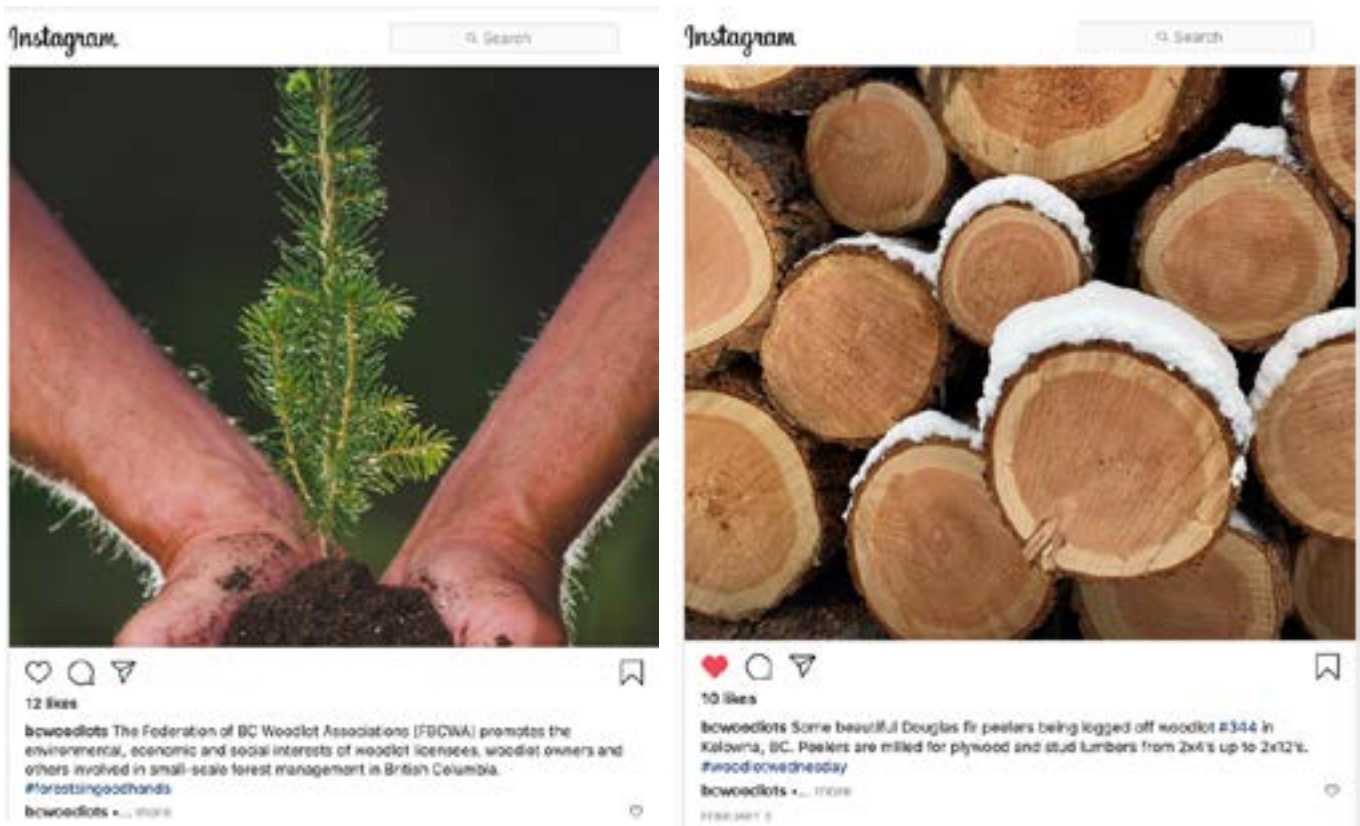
Any comments, questions or suggestions you have on this article would be most appreciated.

Please contact me by phone: 250-747-0649 or email: alanwaters@quesnelbc.com. ♦



Photos needed for Instagram

(Instagram is a photo & video sharing social networking service)



12

This February, the FBCWA launched an Instagram Page - bcwoodlots - to complete our social media presence. We need lots of interesting photos and videos to promote the work we do, the forests we manage and examples of maintaining social licence with the general public.

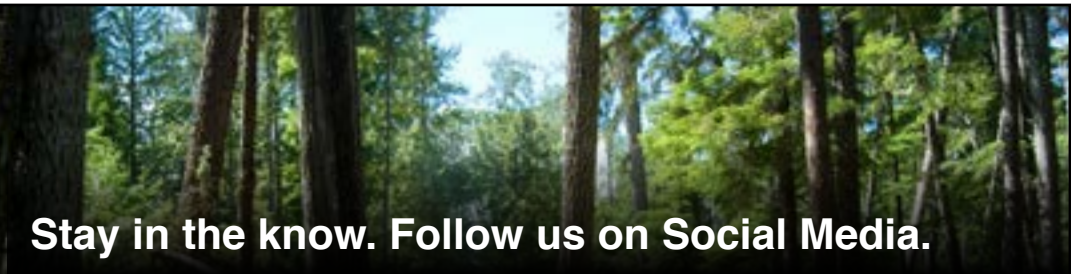
Please submit photos and videos to Lisa Marak at admin@woodlot.bc.ca.
Ensure the resolution is between 500 and 1,000 KB which is easy for a cell phone.




The first 10 photos/videos submitted by 10 different woodlots chosen to be posted on bcwoodlots Instagram page, will receive a \$50 gift card to Indigo/Chapters. ♦




Forests in Good Hands




Stay in the know. Follow us on Social Media.

 @woodlotsbc
Get the latest news

 @woodlotsbc
Follow us

 Woodlots BC
Learn about WLs

 BCWoodlots
Check us Out

Podcasts

(Podcasting is a service that allows Internet users to listen to audio files (podcasts) on their computers, phones or audio players. They can be educational, interesting or just entertaining).



In a continuing effort to provide extension to woodlot licensees, the Federation has produced a series of three podcasts from the 2019 AGM/Conference in Smithers.

Podcast 2 – Fire Mitigation and Fuel Hazard Reduction (Presenter Mike Simpson)

Podcast 3 – Fibre Utilization: Operational Opportunities or Challenges for Woodlot Licensees

Podcast 4 – Competing Resource Objectives, Regulations and Policy

They can be found on woodlot.bc.ca under Media>Podcasts.

This is the completion of this pilot project to see if woodlot licensees find this format informative. Please provide any feedback to Lisa Marak at admin@woodlot.bc.ca. ♦



13

Extension Video #2: How to Verify Cut Control by Grade

The second extension video to assist woodlot licensees in their day-to-day management is now available for viewing - How to Verify Cut Control by Grade.

Click on BC Woodlot YouTube channel link: <https://youtu.be/MuqJ3UusNyc>.



This video is a follow-up to the first video and goes through the steps “How to Verify Your Cut Control by Grade using the Ministry of Forest’s Harvest Billing System”. A companion guide has been developed to assist you in following along with the video (see attached) and can be found on the [woodlot.bc.ca](https://woodlot.bc.ca/government-requirements-approval-info/#cut-control) website <https://woodlot.bc.ca/government-requirements-approval-info/#cut-control>.

Thank you again to Debbie Zandbelt, Interior Timber Pricing Contractor for her work on this. ♦

We asked, You Answered!

Results from the Annual Member Survey

Editor's note: All those who completed the survey were eligible to win a coveted FBCWA hat and T-shirt. Congratulations to the draw winner: Ainslie Jackman W1427, of Valemount BC!

The Woodlot Product Development Council (WPDC) undertakes an annual member survey to understand how we can better serve our members, and to help guide decisions about activities that are funded by the WPDC, using the \$0.25 levy from the woodlot annual rent contribution.

We used this year's survey to gather feedback on members' concerns, how we are communicating, and how we can better support our members. Some themes that emerged from the survey results were concern over First Nation consultations, the desire to have more in person visits to woodlots, and the timeliness of processes and communications. Some of these issues could potentially be mitigated by using WPDC funding for additional resources to benefit woodlot licensees. The WPDC Board of Directors will be discussing how best to guide activities funded by the levy and address concerns that have been expressed by the membership.

The Council has a business relationship with the Federation of British Columbia Woodlot Associations (FBCWA) to provide support and services to all woodlot licensees in BC consistent with the purposes 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 initiate and support research programs for the development and enhancement of the woodlot industry in the province. Survey findings will help fine tune the priorities and focus efforts and allocation of time and resources for activities approved in the annual Budget and Work Plan.

There are 850 woodlot holders in BC, 678 surveys were sent in the mail and participants had the choice to respond by mail or to complete the survey using SurveyMonkey.

115 members responded to the survey. Of those that responded:

- 87 have one woodlot registered to them, 19 have two woodlots registered to them, and 5 were completing on behalf of a legal entity/organization
- 51 had woodlots located in the Southern Interior, 41 in the Northern Interior, and 19 on the Coast
- The majority of respondents (66%) have had their woodlot licence for 20+ years
- 99 were a member of their local woodlot association, 12 were not

An overwhelming 97% of participants have used email to receive communications from the Federation of

British Columbia Woodlot Associations (FBCWA) or the Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations, and Rural Development (FLNRORD) in the past year. The Woodland Almanac was also a popular tool with 73% of respondents having accessed it to receive effective communication in the past year. Only 4% received communications through training sessions. Although email was the preferred method of communication going forward for 96% of respondents, only 7% of participants would prefer future communications to come through the FLNRORD website.

60% of Woodlot licensees have viewed one or more of the currently available online woodlot products, 14% were not aware that these initiatives existed. While the demographics indicate that 61% of the members are 60 years or older, it was found that almost an equal number of woodlot licensees do and do not have a plan in place for the succession or transfer of their

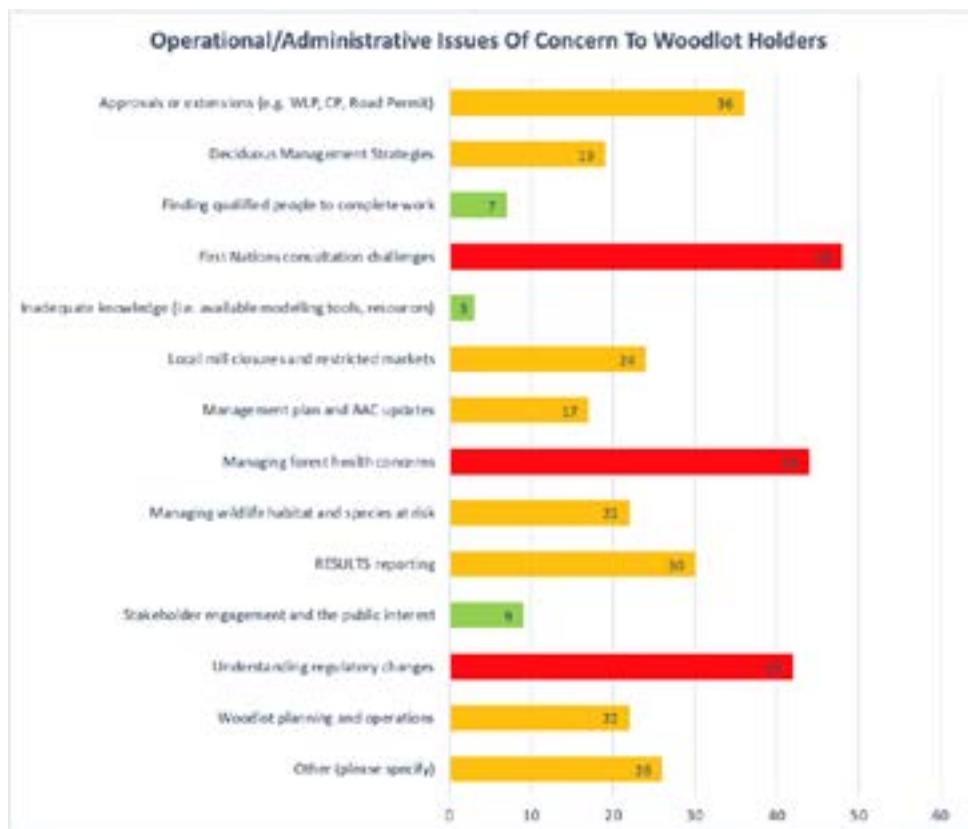


Figure 1: Operational or administrative topics of concern to Woodlot Licensees.

woodlot, 49% do and 51% do not. The WPDC has recently produced a Woodlot Succession and Tax Planning Guide, a Fire Hazard Assessment, and a Fire Mitigation checklist. Other products including a Woodlot Manual, podcasts, and YouTube videos, have all been developed by the FBCWA, with funds provided by the WPDC. All these products and more can be accessed at <https://woodlot.bc.ca/>.

When asked how local District offices could support licensees and the woodlot program, within the existing policy and legislation, the overwhelming theme which emerged was to have more in person visits to the woodlots. Licensees would also like more frequent communication and more timeliness in dealing with requests and approvals. These responses have been shared with FLNRORD staff.

Respondents were asked to select up to four operational or administrative issues which concerned them. The most pressing were found to be First Nations consultation challenges, managing forest health concerns, and understanding regulatory changes. Those which concerned the least number of licensees were inadequate knowledge (i.e., available modelling tools, resources), finding qualified people to complete work, and stakeholder engagement and the public interest. See Figure 1 for full results.

Government initiatives which impact woodlots were also a concern for respondents. 26% indicated they are very well informed of government initiatives which may affect them, 67% moderately aware, and 6% not aware.

Respondents were provided a list of 26 government initiatives and asked to identify up to five that were the most important to them.

The initiatives that were most identified were:

- Greater Utilization of Forest Residuals, selected by 50% of respondents
- Interior Forest Sector Renewal, selected by 42%
- United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP), selected by 41%
- Forest and Range Practices Act, selected by 40%
- Wildlife Management & Habitat Conservation Review, selected by 35%

The initiatives that were identified as important by the fewest number of respondents were:

- Employment Standards Legislation, selected by 2% of respondents
- Environmental Assessments, Contractor Sustainability Review, and Employers Health Tax all selected by 6%

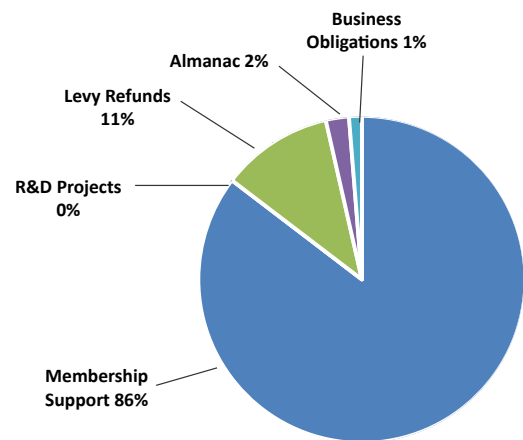
When asked if there was anything else that should be considered as a priority in delivering services a number of respondents took the opportunity to say thank you and to continue doing a great job.

As was requested by the overwhelming majority (81%), we will continue to offer this type of survey on an annual basis!

Individual comments and suggestions may not have been mentioned in this article, but they have been received and will be taken into consideration. Thank you to all members who took the time to complete the survey. ♦

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. ♦



15



Links of Interest

Our own website:
<http://woodlot.bc.ca>

What we heard on the Forest Health tour: Boundary Woodlot Association

Submitted by George Delisle W0411

On Sept. 16 & 17, 2020 the Boundary Woodlot Association (BWA) hosted a field trip with Deputy Chief Forester Shane Berg RPF, Forest Health Officer Tim Ebata, Selkirk District Forest Entomologist Marnie Duthie-Holt, Timber Tenures Forester Kathy Upward RPF, plus several FLNRORD staff from the district.

The purpose of the field trip was to discuss how we can get Forest Health needs to become one of the main guiding principles for all forest management activities and be embedded in all Natural Resource Management plans including rehab plans for wildfire areas and grazing tenures.

16 One of the issues affecting forest health in the Boundary District was the increase in Douglas Fir Bark Beetle and the lack of action on blow down that is increasing the beetle population. Part of the reason for this is the demise of the small scale salvage community in our district. Impediments to reviving an efficient

salvage program through out the Province were discussed; including the need to have a graduated stumpage system for smaller volumes to encourage people to go pick up this volume before the bark beetle flies from the downed timber. The Ministry indicated that they have heard similar complaints around the province.

Numerous discussion points included: high stumpage fees, excessive paperwork for small volumes, requirements for mapping and professional sign off, lack of a trap tree program, apparent lack of concern for bark beetle population build-up, fuel hazard build-up in the forest due to forest health issues, and lack of plans for restricted areas, such as recreational areas and parks that have insect outbreaks. This leads to dangerous safety hazards building up in public use areas which is very expensive to treat, as well as the loss of timber values and associated economic spin offs.

Questions arising to address some of these problems were:

- a) Should there be a plan in place to manage for bark beetles after small wildfires?
- b) Should a trap tree program be put in place in larger wildfire areas for several years after the fire to treat for forest health?
- c) Should the Protection Branch insert a Forest Health component into all fire rehab plans?
- d) Should clearcuts with susceptible species to bark beetles be required to have a trap tree plan for the spring preceding harvest and follow up with bark beetle traps for 2 years after harvest? If so, this needs to be an appraisal cost.
- e) What is the true cost to the taxpayer by not coming up with a better plan of attack than the current approach?

Forest health issues on private land was discussed. It does not make any sense to wait until a major problem before any thing is done. Currently the Ministry will not treat an insect problem on private land.

With so many experts in the field, there were more questions posed than



answers available:

- How do we ensure that slash on private land is dealt with in a timely fashion?
- How do we manage noxious weed problems?
- How do we deal with defoliators? Who should be doing the follow up?
- How do we protect special areas? Can we use harvesting practices to manage OGMA's, Mule Deer Winter Range and other restricted areas to make these areas more resilient to fire and blow down?
- How do we get the public to accept more harvesting in parks? We need to demonstrate that a good logging job can be done that the public will accept. This can be accomplished by a good job of partial cutting.
- How can we use harvesting practices to make our forests more resilient to forest fires, especially around the interface areas?
- How can we reduce the cost of treating fuel loads in the interface? The high cost of treating areas so far, is simply not sustainable. There is a better way.
- How do we ensure fuel loads reduction in the interface is maintained over time? Select harvesting on short re-entry cycles may be the most affordable way to do this.
- How do we get more blow down and damaged stems salvaged?
- Can we afford to lose this annual volume with the impending timber shortage?
- How or can we rebuild the "small scale salvage" community?
- What are the impediments to get more people involved in small scale salvage?
- What type of tenure may be required?
- How do we prevent people taking advantage of the program? A

- graduated stumpage system based on volumes will be the best way to prevent "Abuse" of the system.
- How can we get these types of treatment at a lower cost?
- Should we be eliminating any potential for timber production, or should we just lower the AAC in these types of treatments?
- What type of longer term maintenance is planned for these types of treatments?
- Can a short cycle harvest schedule maintain the reduced fuel loads that are desired but at a much lower cost to the taxpayer?
- What is the risk in trying to put fire back on the landscape?
- Should we have Fuel load management through partial cutting and short re-entry period harvesting?
- What is the value for keeping a certain level of crown closure? What are the benefits to wildlife and forest fire hazard reduction?
- Can we shorten the critical fire season through short re-entry harvest planning by maintaining a certain amount of crown closure?
- What is the information gap and what research information is required to identify the ideal crown closure? How fast does the crown closure regrow?
- How do we maintain this ideal crown closure?
- Can or should, we employ intermediate cutting practices to maintain OGMA's and Mule Deer Winter range in a healthy condition? What are the critical attributes in these areas?
- We need to be managing our parks for Forest Health in order to ensure the Parks last forever. We can not afford to just change the name from a Park to a Recreation Area after fire burns through it.
- We need to set these areas up so they can grow into big trees. Big

trees are what the public expect to see in restricted areas, but we are failing the province in that aspect for the long term.

- What other values can we expect from setting stands up for future high quality products? (increase economic activity, enhanced recreational activities, reduced fire risk, improved water management, reduced public opposition to harvesting, improved wildlife habitat, lower risk of erosion)
- In order to make this approach sustainable, what level of harvest and retention is required?

The discussions were lively and hopefully some good will come out of it. It sounds like the stumpage rate has been reduced some to encourage more salvage. Thanks for an informative and thought provoking tour. ♦



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. ♦

Management of Prime Contractor requirements and the Mitigation of Corporate Liabilities Related to WorkSafe BC Legislation

Produced by Safety Committee: FBCWA members: Ken Dodd, Rick Walters, and Gary Hanson

Introduction

Prime Contractor requirements in forestry settings are complicated and often poorly understood and have been mistakenly thought to apply only to British Columbia's Major forest tenure holders. Prime Contractor requirements apply to all multiple employer worksites (e.g., contractors and their sub-contractors), including those on Woodlots and Community Forests.

The complex nature of the Prime Contractor process and the common misunderstandings related to its application can have implications for worker safety implications and lead to Woodlot Licence and Community Forest Agreement holders being exposed to potential corporate liabilities. The intent of this document is to identify the primary liability risks

associated with the Prime Contractor process and to provide an overview of measures that can be taken to mitigate those risks through the application of procedural controls at various stages of the process.

In broad terms there are four stages in the Prime Contractor process where the application of procedural controls would both increase worker safety and reduce the Tenure holder's liability risk, particularly as it relates to the enforcement of the Workers Compensation Act and its regulations. These four stages are:

1. Prime Contractor suitability and assessment
2. Communication of Prime Contractor responsibilities
3. Pre-Work meeting and the communication of worksite safety information
4. Periodic monitoring/inspections and implementation of corrective actions as identified.

Prime Contractor Agreement

The best place to start is to understand the purpose and role of a Prime Contractor, as provided for by the Workers Compensation Act (Part 2, Division 4, Section 24). Prime Contractors are the directing contractor, or persons, in a multiple employer worksite, who are responsible for the coordination of safety activities for all companies operating at the worksite. These responsibilities are transferred to a contractor, or person(s), through a Prime Contractor Agreement (PCA), reviewed and signed by the Prime Contractor and by the Owner of the workplace (Woodlot Licence or Community Forest Agreement holders are considered to be the Owner).

It is the Owner's responsibility to develop or use an appropriate PCA package that defines the responsibilities and reporting requirements of both the Owner and Prime Contractor. Without a signed

Dunkley LUMBER LTD. QUALITY IN EVERY DIMENSION

For the sale of your SPF Sawlogs, contact our Log Buyer today.

Trent Gainer
Direct: 250-998-4231 Cell: 250-569-7207
Email: tgainer@dunkleylumber.com

PCA in place, the Owner remains responsible for coordination of safety activities for all companies. This process will be expanded further in this document.

Prime Contractor Suitability

It is not enough to simply develop or utilize an existing PCA and have it signed by a contractor; the Owner must ensure that the Prime Contractor is qualified to undertake the role. The Owner must confirm that the contractor, through a combination of education, training and experience and the hazards involved has the capacity and means to control the hazards.

Confirming a contractor's suitability to act as the Prime Contractor is best accomplished through an assessment process. This process can be made more efficient if coupled with upfront prequalification requirements identified in the contracting process.

The assessment should address the full range of work activities being undertaken on site and should confirm that the Prime Contractor has the knowledge, capacity, and control to successfully coordinate the safety activities. The Prime Contractor must understand the applicable WorkSafe BC legislation related to the Prime Contractor role, as well the safety rules for all activities undertaken at the worksite. A Prime Contractor also must be knowledgeable about the work, the skills and processes needed to safely do that work.

If the designated Prime Contractor is not qualified to fully carry-out the Prime Contractor obligations, it is the Owner's responsibility, and they may be liable should safety related incidents occur. Similarly, if there is no PCA in place, the Owner assumes the responsibility of coordinating the safety activities for all companies. If the Owner is fulfilling the Prime Contractor role, they are subject to the same Prime Contractor qualification requirements as the contractor. If the Owner lacked the requisite qualifications to be the Prime Contractor, then the same liabilities

would exist, should inspection orders be written or if safety related incidents occur. It should be noted that, if neither the contractor nor the Owner are fully qualified for the role of Prime Contractor, then another party meeting the qualification must be employed to fill the role.



Communication of Prime Contractor Responsibilities

In addition to ensuring that the Prime Contractor is knowledgeable about all of the work activities to be undertaken (as evaluated via the contractor assessment), the Owner must ensure that the Prime Contractor recognizes their responsibility to allocate sufficient time and resources to ensure that their Prime Contractor responsibilities are fully exercised.

In addition to having the required capacity, the Prime Contractor must also have sufficient control of the worksite to maintain effective coordination of safety activities. The Prime Contractor must be guided by the authority given by the PCA and further supported by the Owner through the Owner's communication with other contractors - making sure they are aware of both the role and authority of the Prime Contractor.

To ensure that all key components related to safety are addressed, a complete description of the scope of responsibilities and reporting requirements of both the Prime Contractor and Owner are critical. In the absence of clearly defined responsibilities, it is possible that key components related to site safety

may be neglected. Such neglect may increase the Owners exposure to penalties, fines, or liability. The Owner must ensure that the PCA, at a minimum, address both Owner and Prime Contractor responsibilities, communication protocols and frequency, multiple employer

coordination, and reporting requirements. A checklist, to be completed by the Owner, is a good way to ensure that issues related to Owner and Prime Contractor responsibilities are not overlooked. There are good examples of both PCAs and Prime Contractor worksite checklists that can be used directly by the Owner or modified to address tenure specific requirement (see links at the bottom of this document).

Communication of Worksite Plans and Site Hazards

As provided by the Workers Compensation Act (Part 2, Division 4, Section 25), the Owner must ensure that the land and premises being used as a workplace are provided and maintained in a manner that ensures worker health and safety. This Section also states that the Owner must provide, to the Prime Contractor, information known to the Owner that is necessary to identify, eliminate and control hazards to the health and safety of workers. Without the adequate communication of site level plans and site hazards to the Prime Contractor, it is possible that key components related to site safety may be neglected. Again, the failure to provide all known information to the Prime Contractor will increase the Owners exposure to penalties fines or liability.

The Owner must undertake a comprehensive pre-work meeting with the Prime Contractor where information compiled from site plans, hazard assessments, and related best practices is transferred to the Prime Contractor. Similarly, the Owner must inform the Prime Contractor of all

cont'd on page 21

FBCWA Scholarship Winner for 2020

By Nancy Pezel

We are very pleased to announce that Adam Flett is the \$2000 winner of our annual award given to students who are related to a woodlot licensee &/or a Private Forest Landowner or are sponsored by a woodlot licensee and are attending or planning to attend either a post-secondary institution or a trade school, preferably in a forestry-related area of study. This year we tried something new, applicants were asked to create a 2-3 minute video that illustrates **why you think Woodlot Licences are unique and how they benefit your community**. Although we only received one application, Adam did a great job on his video and is a very deserving recipient.

Adam is the son of Aaron Flett, W1480, Peace River Woodlot Association. Adam graduated from high school in 2020 and is currently enrolled in the Natural Resources and Forest Technology program at the College of New Caledonia in Prince George. With interests in many outdoor activities and work experience on his father's woodlot, Adam's goal is to become a Professional Forester like his father. Watch Adam's video to see why he thinks Woodlot Licenses are unique and benefit his community and check out the nice cabin he built with a couple of friends. <https://youtube/TsImcz6IIIns>

The funds for this annual scholarship award was generated through past "Silent Auctions" at the FBCWA AGMs. Thank you for your continued support of the FBCWA Scholarship program! ♦



20

2021 SISCO Winter Workshop
goes virtual on
April 6-7, 2021

For more information,
visit www.siscobc.com

changes to site hazards or work plans that might affect their coordination of the safety activities. The transfer of new information should be recorded as part of the ongoing administration of the tenures safety management system.

Information provided to the Prime Contractor should include both spatial and aspatial material and be provided in readily usable formats (digital and/or hardcopy) as necessary for the specific activity(s) being undertaken. Using an Owner/Prime Contractor pre-work checklist is a good way of confirming that all the information related to work-site plans and site hazard information has been passed to the Prime Contractor.

Periodic Monitoring/Inspections and Follow-up

The owner, or their designate, should undertake a periodic written assessment of the discharge of the Prime Contractor's responsibilities as outlined in the Prime Contractor Agreement. The periodic assessments based on worksite inspections should look to confirm that worksite operations are consistent with the Safety Program and its safety systems and that activities are compliant with the Workers Compensation Act. Additionally, the inspections should ensure that proper tracking and communication related to the Prime Contractor safety assessment of equipment, facilities and supplies is being undertaken for all Prime Contractor and sub-contractor on site

operations.

Conclusion

As outlined earlier, the complex nature of the Prime Contractor process and the common misunderstandings related to its application can have implications for worker safety and lead to Woodlot Licence and Community Forest Agreement holders being exposed to potential liabilities. Often, these liability risks are tied to the omission or execution of some key aspect of the Prime Contractor process. The process controls, identified in the document, aid the Owner in confirming and recording information related to contractor qualifications, identification of Owner and Prime Contractor responsibilities, the transfer of site plan and hazard information and ongoing communication.

The following summary of actions is required by the owner to address worker safety and mitigate risks related to safety incidents or violations of safety legislation.

1. Develop or use an established PCA that identifies the complete set of responsibilities of Owner and Prime Contractor.
2. Undertake a written assessment of the contractor's experience, capacity and knowledge and use a Prime Contractor Pre-qualification checklist to ensure that the contractor is qualified for the role of Prime Contractor.
3. Use a checklist for the initial pre-work meeting with the Prime

Contractor to confirm that the Prime Contractor knows their responsibilities as described in the PCA and that they are given the requisite authority to execute their responsibilities. The checklist will also be used to ensure that information related to existing site plans and site hazards is passed to the Prime Contractor.

4. Record the transfer of any new information to Prime Contractor as part of the ongoing administration of the tenure's safety management system.
5. Carry out regular inspections and monitoring to ensure that the Prime Contractor is fulfilling their obligations as outlined in the PCA. Follow-up if those inspections identify corrective actions are necessary. Links and Information

**Note: Visit the following website to download the Prime Contractor Guide (http://www.bcforestsafe.org/files/tr_pdfs/rpkg_prm_cnt.pdf) for examples of:*

- a. *A Prime Contractor Agreement form*
- b. *A Prime Contractor Pre-Qualification Checklist (Contractor/ Owner assessment)*
- c. *A Prime Contractor Worksite Checklist*
- d. *A Prime Contractor Pre-Work Form*
- e. *"Frequently Asked Questions" about Prime Contractors* ♦

MEMBER Reflections

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.

Woodlot Licence Transfer, Succession and Tax Planning Guide:

Questions and Answers arising after Posting the Guide

The following are Questions and their Answers that have come forward after the Guide was posted online in November 2020:

1. *Transferring a Woodlot Licence held in Joint Tenancy*

Question: The Guide does not deal with a Woodlot Licence held in joint tenancy. Joint tenancy is different than tenants in common as ½ of a joint tenancy cannot be willed and transferred to a third party, but instead goes to the surviving joint owner. The name of the deceased joint tenant is simply removed from the licence document and the remaining owner (licensee) carries on. Is that correct?

Also, does the document deal with the situation where the Will beneficiary is not the joint tenant, and should the Ministry not be transferring a licence on request of an executor?

Answer: When there is a joint tenancy there is no actual transfer. The Woodlot Licence should just be changed to the name of the surviving joint tenant upon proof of the other party dying.

The second part of the question with respect to the Will was covered in Module 3 under the “Woodlot Licence Transfers that are Exempt” section. To elaborate, the Holder’s share of the Woodlot Licence will be transferred to the executor to hold on the deceased behalf. Any transfer after that point will follow the standard woodlot transfer process (even if someone is named in the Will). The question of whether the Woodlot Licence can be transferred to the person named in their Will is dependent upon the transfer process. It would be up to the Holder and their lawyer to have discussed some of this before drafting the Will (i.e., trying to ensure all permits, land tied to the WL, etc. transfer to the beneficiary as well).

2. *How does the CCA apply to the \$ paid for purchasing a Woodlot Licence?*

Question: Does the Guide provide an example detailing how the Capital Cost Allowance would apply when a Woodlot Licence that was purchased previously is now being transferred (i.e., sold)?

Answer: The Guide briefly mentions this situation in Module 4 under the “Sale of a Crown Woodlot Licence owned personally” section by stating: “The licence has no cost basis unless the Woodlot Licence was purchased.”, however, there is no specific example in the Guide how this would be calculated upon sale. Instead, it was decided that this type of specific questions should be directed to the Holder’s Tax Specialist. ♦

22



IMPORTANT NOTICE: Purchasers of Private Managed Forest Land

BC Assessment is committed to providing, fair, accurate and reliable assessment services and property information for British Columbia. As part of honouring that commitment, we are providing this Important Notice to Purchasers of Private Managed Forest Land to ensure they are aware that:

- The land may be assessed at a higher value to account for the economic benefit of timber previously harvested on that land; and,
- Exit fees, as administered by the Managed Forest Council, may be charged if the property is removed from managed forest land class.

Private managed forest land and harvested timber are valued on the basis of legislated rates prescribed by BC Assessment through regulation each year and given Class 7 – Private Managed Forest Land. This property class is valued on a two-part basis, as detailed in Section 24 of the Assessment Act:

- Bare land value, which incorporates such factors as soil quality, accessibility, topography, parcel size and location; and,
- Added value of the timber on the land, which becomes assessable when it is harvested:
 - o For example, timber harvested in the 2017 calendar year will show as added value on the 2019 Property Assessment Notice. For property



BC ASSESSMENT

taxes payable in the summer of 2019, part of the value may also come from the harvesting of trees two years previously, i.e. timber harvested in the 2017 calendar year.

Prospective purchasers of property classed as private managed forest land are advised to enquire about previous timber harvesting on the property and its potential property tax implications.

Exit fees may be incurred for properties removed from managed forest land class. The exit fee is intended to encourage long-term participation in the Managed Forest Program and is applied to property that is removed from managed forest land class prior to fifteen years enrolment. These fees are administered by the Managed Forest Council. For more information on exit fees, please visit the Managed Forest Council website at mfcouncil.ca or call (250) 386-5737.

For information on Managed Forest Land classification or details regarding your Managed Forest property assessment, please contact us at:

BC Assessment – Managed Forest
400 – 3450 Uptown Blvd
Victoria, BC V8Z 0B9
Email: managedforest@bcassessment.ca
Phone: 1-866-valueBC (825-8322), Ext 00225 ♦

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>. ♦

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. ♦

S-100A Annual Safety Refresher Course / Online

Corporate & Individual Registration

Visit our official website at:

www.firesafetraining.com

250-372-0097 or Toll Free 1-800-372-0244

WHMIS is Also Available Through Our Website
Recognized, 2 Day S-100 Courses Available



West Fraser

LOG PURCHASE TEAM

Contact one of us for your sale of
Sawlogs, Peelers, Pulp and Biomass

CHETWYND	Clay Bassendowski	250-788-4451
FRASER LAKE and FORT ST. JAMES	Erin Burdikin	250-699-6738
100 MILE HOUSE and KAMLOOPS	Greg Spence	250-706-8141
QUESNEL, PRINCE GEORGE and MACKENZIE	Scott Turton Greg Scott Brian Inwood	250-255-7342 250-983-3103 250-991-9159
SMITHERS, HOUSTON HAZELTON, TERRACE	Chris DeHoog	250-847-6506
WILLIAMS LAKE	Rob Sutton	250-392-1393

“DESPITE THE FORECAST, LIVE LIKE IT’S SPRING.”

Lilly Pulitzer



Thank you
to our contributors for
this issue:

Tom Bradley
George Delisle
Ken Dodd
Sara Grady
Gary Hanson
Ed Hughes

Brian McNaughton
Nancy Pezel
Rick Walters
Al Waters
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:

Business Card (print or website)	\$ 50.00
1/8 page (print or 3 month revolving banner on website)	\$ 80.00
Quarter page	\$135.00
Half page	\$175.00
Full page	\$250.00

There is a 10% discount for ads appearing in two or more issues. A complementary annual subscription is mailed to all advertisers.



FEDERATION OF BC WOODLOT ASSOCIATIONS
381 Pheasant Road • Williams Lake, BC, V2G 5A9
Tel: (250) 398-7646 • Toll-free: 1-866-345-8733
Fax: (250) 398-7642 • E-mail: gen_manager@woodlot.bc.ca
www.woodlot.bc.ca

WOODLOT PRODUCT DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL
THE WOODLAND ALMANAC
PO Box 23011 • Plaza 33 Postal Outlet
Kelowna, BC V1X 7K7
Tel: (250) 961-0271 • E-mail: cjmclary401@gmail.com