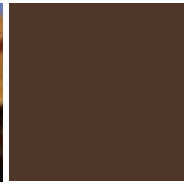
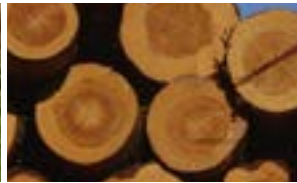




Forests in Good Hands

THE WOODLAND ALMANAC



www.woodlot.bc.ca

Spring 2021

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Woodlot 0848: Cooperation at its finest

by Al Waters

Bill Baptitse (the holder of W0848 in Quesnel), and his niece Shawna helped me and 2 other planters complete the planting of 4800 seedlings on one of the NSR openings on W0848. Bill is 70 years old and is a respected elder of the ?Esdilagh First Nation. The photo features Bill on the left and



Bill & Shawna Woodlot 0848

Shawna on the right who planted 480 excellent seedlings on her first day of planting. In the afternoon when Shawna's wrists were getting sore Bill helped her by creating holes with a planting shovel at the correct distance from naturals and newly planted seedlings.

W0848 was burnt extensively by wildfires in 2010 and again in 2017. The wildfires destroyed the natural regeneration on most of the cutblocks where there were free growing obligations and no surveys or RESULTS reporting had been completed on many of these harvest openings. The

Forest Service was rightfully going to cancel the Woodlot Licence for failure to report the establishment of free growing stands by the late free growing dates.

In an Opportunity to be Heard with the Quesnel District Manager, April Bilawchuk, RPF (another one of Bill's nieces and a highly skilled RPF), convinced

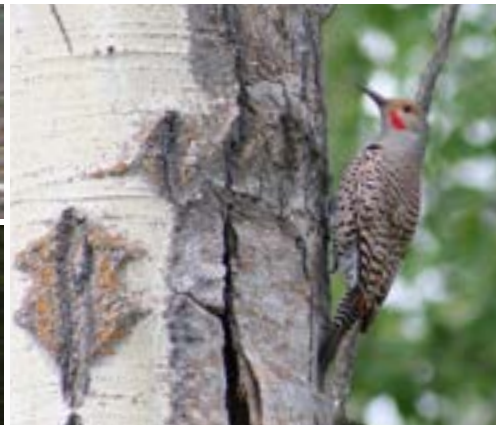
the District Manager to postpone the cancellation of W0848 on the conditions that silviculture surveys would be completed by August of this year and a plan prepared to establish free growing stands on all the areas where there are overdue free growing obligations.

We are very fortunate in Quesnel to have a very fair and reasonable DM, (Josh Pressey) and an excellent Woodlot forester (Nicole Strand), who both practice the spirit of helpful cooperation between

cont'd on page 7 ...



Forests in Good Hands



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FEDERATION OF BC WOODLOT ASSOCIATIONS

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

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FBCWA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Timber Pricing (Stumpage) Interior.	Debbie Zandbelt	debbie@woodlot.bc.ca	250-549-3089
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Woodlot for Windows.....	Mike Bandstra	mbandstra@forsite.ca	250-847-4822

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Timber Pricing Co-Chair	Coleen Maclean-Marlow	cmarlow@gicable.com	250-285-2520
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Safety.....	Ken Dodd, Rick Walters & Gary Hanson.....		

WPDC EXECUTIVE

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Vice President.....	Lee Pond, Nanaimo	leepond@hotmail.com
Treasurer	Gernot Zemanek, Canim Lake	gernotzemanek@gmail.com
Director.....	VACANT	
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: cjmclclary401@gmail.com • Publication # 40035578

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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

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Organizational Review: More than a Name Change

by Brian McNaughton

In my last GM's report, I discussed Minister mandate letters and highlighted that Premier Horgan had directed Minister of State Nathan Cullen to assess the benefits of creating a Ministry of Lands & Natural Resource Operations (LNRO). On March 17, 2021, I attended a session with Minister Cullen, Lori Halls (Deputy Minister, LNRO Secretariat) and other forest sector representatives.

Three (3) questions and a backgrounder entitled "Organizational Review by Lands and Natural Resource Operations" were distributed prior to the session.

The following excerpt from the backgrounder describes the project.

The Ministry of Forests Lands and Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development was established in 2010 to foster integrated decision making on the land. Much has changed in the last 10 years and in light of this Premier John Horgan has asked Minister of State for Lands and Natural Resource Operations, Nathan Cullen, to assess whether land use objectives that support economic activity, environmental sustainability, and reconciliation with Indigenous Peoples can be more effectively achieved through restructuring.

To undertake this work, the Lands and Natural Resource Operations Secretariat (Secretariat), led by Deputy Minister Lori Halls, was formed in



Brian McNaughton,
General Manager

January 2021. The Secretariat will take a thoughtful and inclusive approach to assessing the effectiveness of the current organizational structure, and in developing restructuring

options for the Premier's consideration. In doing this work, one of the options that will be considered is the development of a plan to create a new Ministry for Lands and Natural Resource Operations.

The three (3) questions and my responses on behalf of the FBCWA are as follows:

1. What is working well today in your interactions with FLNRORD and the natural resource sector ministries?

- FBCWA represents ~850 WL holders across BC.
- Organizational structure to facilitate interaction, discussion, problem solving, dispute resolution generally makes sense – Minister's Practices Advisory Council (FRPA), Chief Forester's Leadership Team, Provincial Forestry Forum, 3 Area (Regional) Operational Issues Forums and then in the case of WLs there is a Joint Working Group and BCWS engagement agreement. But, the mandates and terms of reference, including linking the different groups needs to be strengthened.

2. What are the main challenges facing your organization in working with the government's natural resource sector ministries?

- FLNRORD is too big and lacks clear direction.
- It needs to be land uses (plural). In order to achieve multiple goals; i.e. economic, social and reconciliation, we need to be more open to multiple and integrated uses on the same land base.
- FLNRORD tends to operate in silos. Forest tenure holders are obligated to manage for multiple resources values but often end up dealing with ministry people who have a singular mandate, purpose and role.
- There is a lack of line authority and accountability within FLNRORD.

3. If you could change one thing, what would that be and why?

- A FLNRORD that more strongly supports and advocates for forestry, the forest sector and WLs.

It seemed pretty clear that changes are in the offing. What they might be, I can't say. But here's hoping the Federation has more discussions with the LNRO Secretariat and can help shape a better future for woodlot licences and other small, area-based tenures.

Wishing you a healthy and enjoyable summer. ♦



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 ♦

Progress and Changes

by Ed Hughes

Coast Low Volume and Woodlot Crown Tenure Management Cost Survey progress update

The coastal Low Volume and Woodlot Crown Tenure Management Cost Survey has been progressing towards a due date of June 30, 2021. Communications with Woodlot Licensees and their consultants has been ongoing. The FBCWA support document has been distributed to those Licensees who have requested the package. There have been ongoing communications with Timber Pricing Branch as this process evolves.

Many coastal woodlot licensees are in the process of submitting their costs for four years (2017-2020). The submitters are taking on an administrative exercise that will take time and efforts for which they have limited experience. As mentioned to me by one of the licensees, they have been ensuring that their field work and forest commitments are exemplary and now we have come to realize about tenure holder's obligations to maintain records and provide them on request.

TAB rate methodology changed March 1, 2021

A new method for calculating all tabular rates has been implemented in the March 1, 2021 amendment to the Coastal Appraisal Manual. The new method resulted in our TAB rate stumpage being reduced by approximately 50% of what was



Ed Hughes,
Coastal Timber Pricing
Coordinator

being projected in August based on the historic method. We are working closely with TP branch to ensure any additional changes do not negatively impact Woodlot Licensees.

Fibre Recovery Zones (FRZ) – Changes since the last issue of the Almanac for Coastal Woodlots

It was only 3 months ago that I reported on the FRZs, as they apply to Woodlots on the coast. The FRZ policies used a penalty approach which have been the topic of complaints since it was implemented, for many different reasons. Incentives were the preferred approach recommended by industry, but this option was not selected.

The utilization of waste has always been a common goal for industry and government, with a market driven approach the solution that should be at the very least tried. But now we have relief in the form of reversal of the decision to charge a penalty, in addition to just stumpage. We got news from Timber Pricing Branch in late March regarding the waste penalty policy changes within the Fiber Recovery Zones as follows:

The Coast version of the waste manual was amended effective April 1, 2021. As per section 7.4.1.2 (2) (iii), the waste rate for FRZ billing for a woodlot will be the waste rate multiplied by 1 (where previously the waste rate was multiplied by 3). Note

that this is based on initial submit date of the waste submission (7.4.1.2 (1) (1)), so woodlot submissions prior to April 1 will continue to be billed using the 3x rate.

The link to the manual is here:

<https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/industry/forestry/competitive-forest-industry/timber-pricing/forest-residue-waste/provincial-logging-residue-and-waste-measurements-procedure-manual-coast>

Market Pricing System Technical Sub-committee

The start up of the bi-weekly MPS conference calls will begin in June to complete the technical data for the update to the new Coastal Appraisal Manual (CAM) on December 15, 2021.

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. ♦

Be Prepared & Understand the Latest Policy Updates

by Debbie Zandbelt, RPF

As I am writing I had to look twice at the lumber market prices. \$1350 for SPF #2 (\$US) FOB Mill rate for random length lumber – WOW! Log prices are following at a remarkable rate. 2021 is a rocking market like many of us have never seen before. I think the lumber may be sold before it even gets off a green chain at the mill. The economics are there to be successful and woodlot licensees have responded with substantial harvest levels. Good job at being prepared! Along with being prepared goes knowing the latest updates to policy.

New Stumpage Rate Request Form

In January 2021, a new stumpage rate request form was created. In April 2021 it was updated again! All new submissions are required to be on the new form dated April 28, 2021 on the bottom of the first page. Please send me a quick note for a copy if you have not received it via your Association.

IAM – Tabular Stumpage Table Update

May 1, 2021 brought the bi-annual update to the Interior Appraisal Manual tabular stumpage rate data for Woodlots Table 6.2. Rates have increased with no surprise. When lumber markets increase so does stumpage. The table can be found at the following link on page 6-4. <https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/industry/forestry/competitive-forest-industry/timber-pricing/interior-timber-pricing/interior-appraisal-manual>.



Debbie Zandbelt, RPF
Interior Timber Pricing
Coordinator

Scaling Manual Update

Effective March 1, 2021 the BC Timber Scaling manual was amended to change the policy and process for interpretation of Interior Grade 6.

It is in Chapter 9 at the following weblink. I have forwarded the amendment and link to the Associations. Timber Scaling Manual - Province of British Columbia (gov.bc.ca).

Waste Manual Update

Effective February 1, 2021 Amendment 30 of the Provincial logging residue and waste measurements procedures manual takes force. This amendment was to extend the provisions for Woodlots and Community Forests to stay on the current methods of assessing waste. Note that this extension is only to March 31, 2022. rwp_amend_30.pdf (gov.bc.ca).

You-Tube Harvest Billing System Videos

The Federation has produced 2 YouTube videos to help guide Woodlot licensees through the Harvest Billing System to source data needed to manage your harvest levels. The first video was titled “How to Verify Your Cut Control” and the second video is now out and titled “How to Verify your Cut Control by Grade”. To find them click on the BC Woodlot

YouTube Channel link <https://youtu.be/MuqJ3UusNyc>. A companion guide has also been developed to assist you in following along with the video and can be found on the woodlot.bc.ca website at <https://woodlot.bc.ca/government-requirements-approval-info/#cut-control>. Thank you to Lisa Marak with the help on this project! She is our communication star!

Log Cost Survey

Our coastal woodlot licensees have been requested by Timber Pricing Branch to participate in a Low Volume Cost Survey. This license obligation comes with a reporting requirement for several years of cost data related to a woodlot’s expenses. Currently it is not a requirement for Interior Licensees. However, it does remind us of our obligations under the Forest Act (Section 136 and 142) to report if asked Total Delivered Log costs. This subsequently includes an obligation to track costs and keep records for 6 years after the date the record was created. Costs relating to planning, referrals, silviculture, roads, harvesting, and reporting is included. The message here is to be prepared. There are several methods licensees use to track costs and we are learning by supporting our coast licensees that documentation is the key to success. When an event happened, how many hours, and at what \$ rate. Keep a diary and know every hour counts.

If you need any assistance to locate any of the above items, my contact info is always at the front of the Almanac. ♦

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. ♦

Woodlot Product Development Council (WPDC)

Fiduciary responsibility to the members

The role and responsibilities of the Woodlot Product Development Council (WPDC or Council) may not be clear to many of its members – every woodlot licensee in BC. The intent of this article is to explain Council’s mandate.

Council is regulated pursuant to the Farming and Fishing Industries Development Act (FFIDA), the Woodlot Product Development Council Regulations and Orders in Council 1154 and 1155 (issued on September 16, 1998). Council is authorized to charge a levy to producers of \$0.25 per cubic metre of allowable annual cut under a woodlot licence. As contemplated by FFIDA, the levy is held by the WPDC in a corresponding fund (the “Council Fund”). Under FFIDA, Council is legally responsible and accountable to the Minister of Agriculture for the administration of the Council Fund. Simply, the management, administration and control of the Council Fund are vested in the WPDC.

The Council and the Federation of BC Woodlot Associations (FBCWA) are closely intertwined. Of note, the Council’s current Strategic Plan recognizes “the key business relationship where the Federation is the central vehicle for delivery of programs to meet Council objectives and support for services to all woodlot licensees consistent with the purposes of the Council”. Council’s strategic goals and priorities will be achieved primarily through a contractual business agreement with the FBCWA.

Under FFIDA, Council is limited in the Purposes for which it can expend the levy and may only “pay out of the Council Fund the amounts it considers appropriate to (a) pay an expense approved by the minister as

being necessary for or incidental to the administration of FFIDA in relation to the fund, or (b) pay to a person ... a sum to (i) benefit and promote the industry in British Columbia in respect of a commodity, or (ii) conduct or support research or educational programs in British Columbia in respect of the development and promotion of a commodity.”

The Development Plan of 1997 identifies that the primary purpose of the Council shall be to “benefit and promote the woodlot industry throughout the province of British Columbia” and that in pursuit of this overarching purpose, the Council will use the collected levy funds to:

1. *“Promote a positive image of the woodlot industry and its products.*
2. *Educate the general public and buyers about the benefits of B.C. Woodlots and small-scale woodlot management.*
3. *Initiate and support research programs for the development and enhancement of the woodlot industry in the province.”*

The Council mainly achieves these Purposes through an Agreement with the FBCWA, which defines the Budget and Work Plan (B&WP) process. The B&WP considers a broad range of information including annual surveys, FBCWA member and Council inputs including priorities expressed by the Council and FBCWA Directors.

The budget process defines realistic deliverables for the fiscal year based on the above information to guide much of the budget expenditure. In the end, a well considered and rationalized Budget and Work Plan is mutually agreed upon by both Boards and enacted by the FBCWA for the fiscal year.

The FBCWA is charged with using all available resources to achieve the approved B&WP through direction from their Board of Directors. The Council tracks specific deliverables through periodic reporting to assess portfolio achievement, changed circumstances and projects at risk in an attempt to provide any support required to achieve the stated deliverables of the B&WP. The Council strives to undertake its fiduciary responsibility using simple business concepts of rationalizing investment, tracking and accountability.

In summary, the FBCWA’s B&WP indicates deliverables approved for funding by Council, and the deliverables are the base for rationalizing, tracking and accountability.

This does not preclude the FBCWA from engaging in activities outside Council’s purposes. The FBCWA purposes are more numerous and potentially broader than those of the Council. While most, if not all, of the Federation’s purposes could encompass activities that also further the Council’s purposes, many could likely also encompass activities that are not directly tied to the Council’s purposes. The latter activities, therefore, cannot be funded by Council.

It is the role of the volunteer Board of Directors of the Woodlot Product Development Council to ensure legal and financial fiduciary responsibility to its 850+ members.

Should you have any questions, please contact any of the WPDC directors listed on page 2 of this issue of the Woodland Almanac. ♦

QGIS - Low Cost, Great Tool

by Tom Bradley

QGIS is an open source GIS package that is available for anyone to use.

Pronunciation? I say Q G I S. Not claiming I am right!

Why would a WL holder be interested in this tool? I have two good reasons: e-FM submissions and ortho image maps.

Making ortho image maps of your WL to use with mapping software like Avenza in your phone is “instant gratification”.

Q has a crazy good ortho image interface that can toggle between Bing and Google imagery or your own imagery (think drone). You can easily create an Avenza map for your phone or tablet using Q, and go to work in your WL with a real time “You are here.” marker on the ortho image. You can capture waypoints and/or tracks of planned or completed developments. If you have other data of interest or can get it (VRI polygons, UWR polygons, streams, contours, slopes) you can add that to the map in your phone as well.

I wrote a How To guide to do this last winter. It can be found at:

<http://www.woodfor.com/QGIS/>

e-FM submissions require spatial data



Tom Bradley

of opening, standards units and forest cover polygons. Most of us start with a shape file for the spatial data, which we feed to the e-FM submission creation software of our choice. I advocate for WLGML to create

submissions because it is free and works. But you need that shape file to play! So where does it come from?

I tried to develop a method to create shape files with free tools some years back, and the best I could manage was horribly complex and not always successful. Fail.

Then I found QGIS. QGIS is fully able to create and edit shape files of planned or completed harvest operations. I will not say “It is easy.”, because all spatial data work is fussy. And the GIS learning curve is pretty steep. But once you learn how to make it do basic tricks like “create shape files of my block”, you know how to do it.

To get QGIS, web search for it and then download the “stable version” for your operating system. QGIS is not “free”. You can use it no charge, but the people who have worked on developing it since 2002 ask that you think of them and send money if you find their product useful. ♦

► From page 1 —

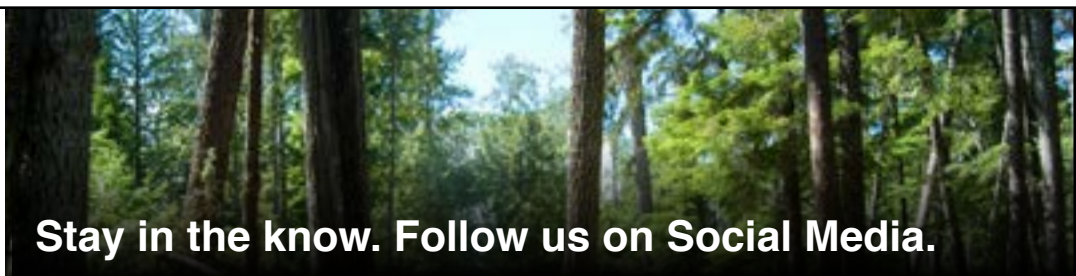
Woodlot Holders and the Forest Service that was envisioned as an essential ingredient in the original design of the Woodlot Program.

The rush decision to spring plant a very NSR cutblock on the WL 848 was designed to demonstrate to the Forest Service the serious intent of the ?Esdilagh First Nation and Bill Baptiste to rectify the reforestation challenges on W0848. This planting would not have been possible without the generous support of West Fraser Mills, who procured suitable seedlings for the area. ♦

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



Forests in Good Hands



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Scholarship Award Information and Application Form

RULES & REGULATIONS

1. Applications for this award must be received on or before July 31, 2021. Late applications will not be considered.
2. Applicants must be a direct family member of a woodlot licensee or private landowner who is a member of the local Woodlot Association and/or the FBCWA or a woodlot licensee can sponsor an applicant who has no direct family connection. In cases where the woodlot is not owned by an individual, one applicant per woodlot is eligible to apply in any given year.
3. Applicants must be planning to attend a post-secondary institution, including a trades school, within 24 months of the application deadline.
4. Preference will be given to students in grade 12 and recent high school graduates.
5. Preference will be given to students entering a forestry-related program. Students entering other areas of study are welcome to apply, knowing there is preference for forestry related study.
6. **Two scholarships, one for \$2,000.00 and one for \$1,000.00 will awarded to the top two ranked applications.**
7. The awards will be payable on receipt by the FBCWA of documentation confirming registration into the institution for post secondary education. This generally occurs in mid September.
8. Essays, letters and photos from applicants, particularly the successful applicants, may be printed in the Almanac. Video, audio and photos may be posted on our website and/or social media sites.
9. The decision of the Awards Committee is final.
10. The Award Committee of the Federation of B.C. Woodlot Associations will be empowered to:
 - a) grant this award at its discretion.
 - b) withhold this award in any year if there are no eligible applicants, or for any reason deemed good or advisable.

IMPORTANT – FORMAT OPTION!

Incomplete or late applications will not be considered. Please complete the application form and include:

1. Woodlot Licensees are independent log sellers. **Beyond sawlogs and pulp logs, what economically viable value added-products could or should be produced from a woodlot licence to better utilize the forest resource in an environmentally sustainable way?"** Provide a one-page (approximately 500 - 700 word) type-written essay **or** create a 2-3 minute video that answers this question. Applications are scored out of 100. Five bonus points will be given to video submissions.
2. A letter describing the reasons which you feel qualify you for this award. Your letter should also include a detailed description of your experience in forestry, particularly on woodlots. Your letter may include information about your various interests and extra curricular activities.
3. Two letters of reference from previous or current teachers or employers,
4. A copy of your **most recent** report card, and
5. A recent photo of yourself.

Return to: Federation of B.C. Woodlot Associations
Attention: Nancy Pezel, Treasurer
304-4510 Willingdon Ave.
Powell River, BC V8A 2M8

Or send it digitally to nancypez@telus.net with a subject heading of FBCWA Scholarship Application

Applications must be received by July 31st, 2021



Scholarship Award Application Form

Name: _____

Address: _____

Telephone: _____

Educational Information:

Currently enrolled in: _____

Post Secondary School you plan to attend: _____

Program you will be registered in for 2021-22: _____

Relationship/connection to Woodlot Licensee or to private land owner for Woodlot #:

(ie; daughter of Joe Smith, Woodlot #2345) _____

Woodlot Licensee/Private Land Owner to whom you are a direct family member or sponsored by, has been a member of which woodlot association and for how many years?

Please include information on volunteer work, extra curricular activities, membership in school and community organizations, sports, interests, hobbies etc as well as employment information. (you may use another sheet if you need more room or if it's more convenient for you) _____



BRITISH COLUMBIA

The Best Place on Earth

Contacting Woodlot Licensees Efficiently

FLNRORD staff are often challenged to contact and broadcast operational and administrative updates/responses to Woodlot Licensees in a timely manner. There are approximately 848 licences in the province, and we are looking for ways to create contact efficiencies for District, Area and Forest Tenures Branch staff. As you may imagine, given the number of woodlot licensees provincially, effective communication can pose unwarranted challenges for District staff.

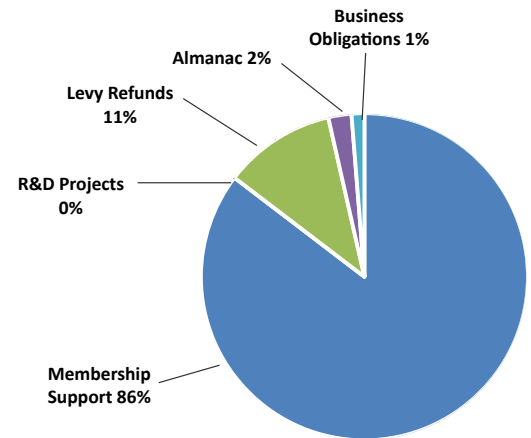
CLIENT is the system used by Timber Pricing Branch that populates our Forest Tenures Administration (FTA) where we track licences, allowable annual cut, replacement, and all other aspects of tenures administration. Contact information is a critical aspect of CLIENT and FTA, and we find that, specifically, [current] email contact information is lacking in many instances. In this electronic age, email contact is the easiest and most efficient manner of reaching out.

Over the course of the next several months, District staff will be populating CLIENT with updated contact information. We will be entering the email address of the legal licence holder(s) and it is the licensee's responsibility to contact the District office if there is an update to an email address.

Please be prepared for District staff to reach out to you—we will engage with the Federation via our Joint Working Group to determine what type of information should be communicated, and there is no intention to overwhelm your email with unwanted information. We appreciate your input and look forward to making communication with woodlot licensees a more seamless and efficient process. It is our belief that this will benefit District staff and licensees equally. ♦

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. ♦



Notices:

- Price of lumber Podcast: <https://podcasts.apple.com/us/podcast/why-the-price-of-lumber-has-soared-day-after-day-after-day/id1056200096?i=1000518629853>
- BCIT is offering two new courses in May: RENR1011 Introduction to Field Identification of Native Trees and RENR 1012: Introduction to Field Soil Classification and Assessment. For more information: <https://www.bcit.ca>

Current Silviculture Practices Survey/ Recommendations Summary

by Andrea Lang

Editor's Note: The Woodlot Product Development Council (WPDC) funds Extraordinary Projects, in addition to the joint annual Work Plan delivered by the Federation of British Columbia Woodlot Associations (FBCWA). Projects must demonstrate that they that will benefit woodlot licensees and promote the woodlot industry.

This summer, starting in May, the WPDC has funded a project to document current silviculture practices for Vancouver Island woodlots (CWHxm and CWHvm BEC subzones) and recommend best practices for woodlot licensees for silvicultural investment for increased productivity and good woodlot stewardship. Extending the project to

the interior and other parts of the coast would be an option to consider based on the results.

Project success will be improved if a large number of licensees respond to an email survey expected to be sent out in May. The survey will gather some silviculture practices data and find licensees interested in hosting a visit to their woodlot for a more detailed interview and to record of what has worked and the not so successful trials. The email survey will be designed to be easy and quick to fill out! Promise! A phone conversation would be an option to get it done.

Results will be published in the Almanac as well as being available on the website. They will include the creation of an ecologically

based silviculture decision tree incorporating the information collected and applicable research to guide silviculture investments and increase productivity of woodlot tenures. Other benefits will be improved awareness about good silviculture practices both for licensees, and government funded programs and hopefully a mechanism to increase sharing of information among licensees in the future. The information could be used to support public confidence in the woodlot tenures.

Huock Resource Consultants Ltd. Located on Vancouver Island will be carrying out the project. Please contact us at andrea@huock.ca with any questions. Looking forward to hearing from you in the survey. ♦



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. ♦

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 ♦



Retaining Trees Safely in Harvesting Operations

submitted by
Gary Hanson, FBCWA Safety Committee

Background

There are a variety of reasons why the retention of trees in a harvest setting is desirable, such as the provision of wildlife habitat, the maintenance of stand level biodiversity or the retention of trees with cultural value. The desire to retain trees does not remove the **Employer** from their responsibility to comply with Occupational Health and Safety requirements to ensure the health and safety of workers at the worksite ¹.

This article is intended to examine the legislative requirement and introduce various planning considerations for the safe retention of individual trees in forest harvesting operations. Despite wide differences in the complexity of harvest operations, due to terrain, harvest system, topography and planned levels of tree retention, the application of safety legislation remains the same, specifically, that

all dangerous trees must be removed concurrently with harvesting operations (or sooner).

The Wildlife/Danger Tree Assessment process discussed in this article is part of a broader process that applies to the full range of forestry activities (levels of disturbance); however, this document applies only to harvesting.

Applicable Legislation

The WorkSafeBC requirements for dealing with dangerous trees are described in Section 26.11 of the Occupation Health and Safety Regulation.

Specifically; if it is known or reasonably foreseeable that work will expose a worker to a dangerous tree,

- the tree must be felled, or
- a risk assessment must be undertaken by a person who has completed a training program suitable to the Board ².

Key Definitions

Dangerous tree: Is a live or dead tree that is a hazard to a worker due to any combination of the following

- its location or lean,
- its physical damage,
- overhead conditions,
- deterioration of its limbs, stem or root system.

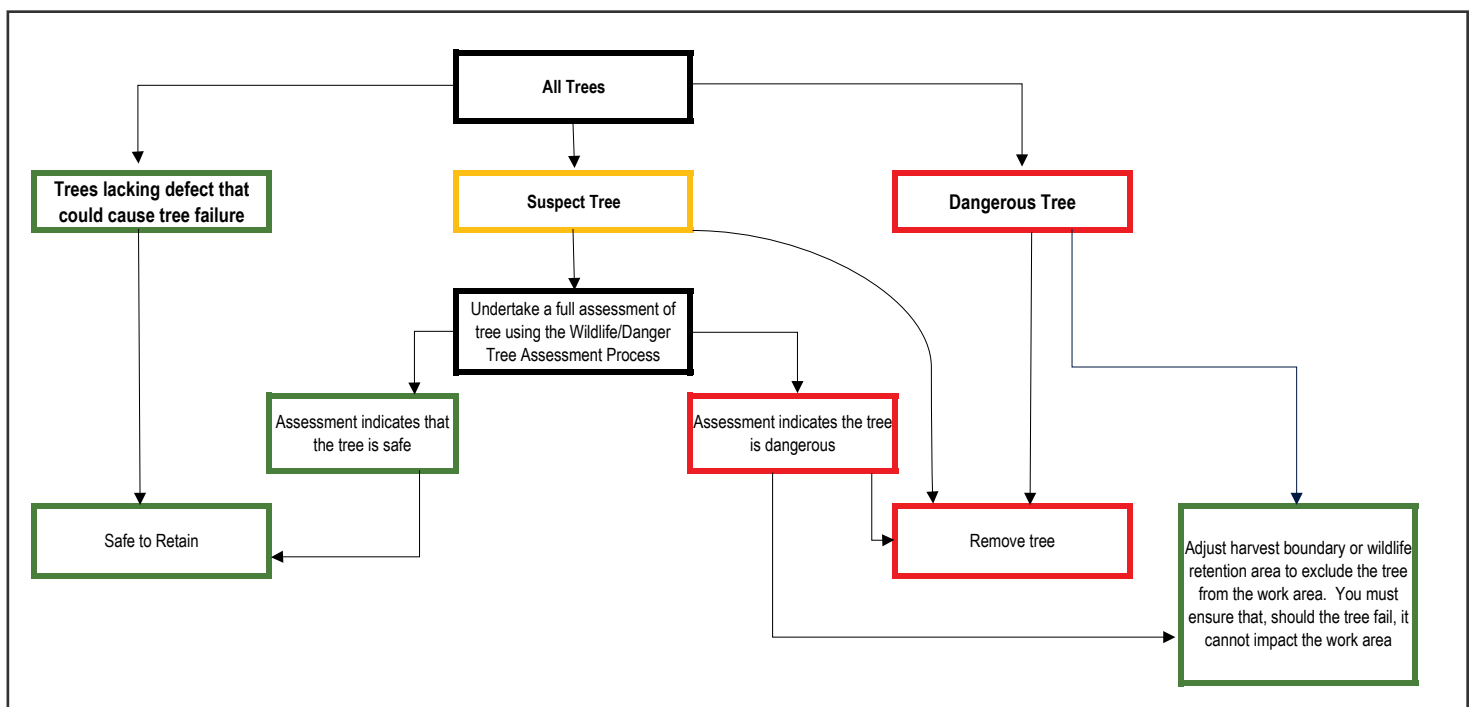
Note: The term snag is no longer a suitable definition of a dangerous tree.

Suspect tree; Is any tree, live or dead, with a visible defect which could cause failure of the tree, either whole or in part. Suspect trees require a visual inspection and site assessment by a certified Danger Tree Assessor in order to determine whether they are dangerous for the type of work being undertaken (in this case harvesting).

Note: All suspect trees must be regarded as dangerous until proven otherwise

Safe Tree; Is a tree, live or dead, that lacks any defect that could cause tree failure, or a tree that has been

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evaluated by a certified Danger Tree Assessor and have been deemed safe.

Safe Tree Retention Process

(see flow chart page 12)

The key take-aways from the following flow chart are;

- all safe trees can be retained if desired,
- all dangerous trees must be removed or safely excluded from the harvest area by altering block boundaries or wildlife tree retention areas,
- all suspect trees must be regarded as dangerous until an assessment by a certified Wildlife/Danger Tree Assessor indicates that they are safe to retain.

Work Site Perimeters

The Treatment Zone is the active harvest area plus the first 5 metres adjacent to the harvest boundaries. In the Treatment Zone, Wildlife/Danger tree assessments are required on all suspect trees, if the option to remove them directly is not undertaken. In cable harvesting operations the Treatment Zone also must include all guy-line, tail hold anchors, backspar trees and tiebacks.

The Perimeter Zone consists of the area within 1.5 tree lengths of the Treatment Zone. This area would include the block perimeter as well

as the perimeter of any Wildlife Tree Retention Areas. All highly unstable trees within the Perimeter Zone that could reach the work area must be removed.

Other Considerations

High density sites

In areas where there is a high density of dead or damaged trees, such as prior burns or areas with significant levels of insect and disease, it may not be realistic to assess each tree for hazards. In this case, WorkSafeBC may allow work in the area without felling or assessing all the dangerous trees, provided that a detailed sampling of dangerous trees is undertaken by a certified Wildlife/Danger Tree Assessor and comprehensive risk assessment is prepared and hazard mitigation strategies developed.

This option is a complex process and requires significant up-front planning and communication with WorkSafeBC Officers.

Use of Guarded Machinery

The removal of all dangerous trees, concurrent with harvesting, is still a requirement when machines are guarded with Falling Object Protection Systems (FOPS). A specific engineering certification indicating that the machine's guarding is sufficient to protect the operator from the tree, and a variance to WorkSafe Reg. 26.11(1) are required to permit machinery to work

around dangerous trees.

This variance process is a complicated and costly process and requires significant lead time to complete.

Re-assessment Restriction

The Wildlife/Danger Tree Assessment process should be conducted as close to the harvest time as possible to ensure that stand conditions have not changed since the time of the initial assessment.

A re-assessment of trees deemed safe in the original assessment must be undertaken if there has been any of the following;

- intervening winter,
- major disturbance event, or
- change in activity (level of disturbance)

Summary

This is the first in a series of articles related to harvest safety in partial cutting operations. This article was intended to provide an overview of the considerations and requirements for identifying safe trees for retention in a harvesting setting. Future articles will deal with issues ranging from harvest planning and engineering to ground-level operational considerations.

For a more detailed information on individual tree retention, please refer to the [Wildlife/Danger Tree Assessors Harvesting and Silviculture Course manual](#). ♦

1 See Section 21 of the Workers Compensation Act

2 The Forest Harvesting and Silviculture Module of the Wildlife/Danger Tree Assessors Course (WDAC) is recognized as the provincial Standard of Care for identifying, assessing and controlling exposure to dangerous trees.



Links of Interest

- Our own website: <http://woodlot.bc.ca>
- BC Government: <https://www2.gov.bc.ca>
- BC Community Forest Association: Community Forest Indicators 2020 report: <https://bccfa.ca>

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.

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>. ♦

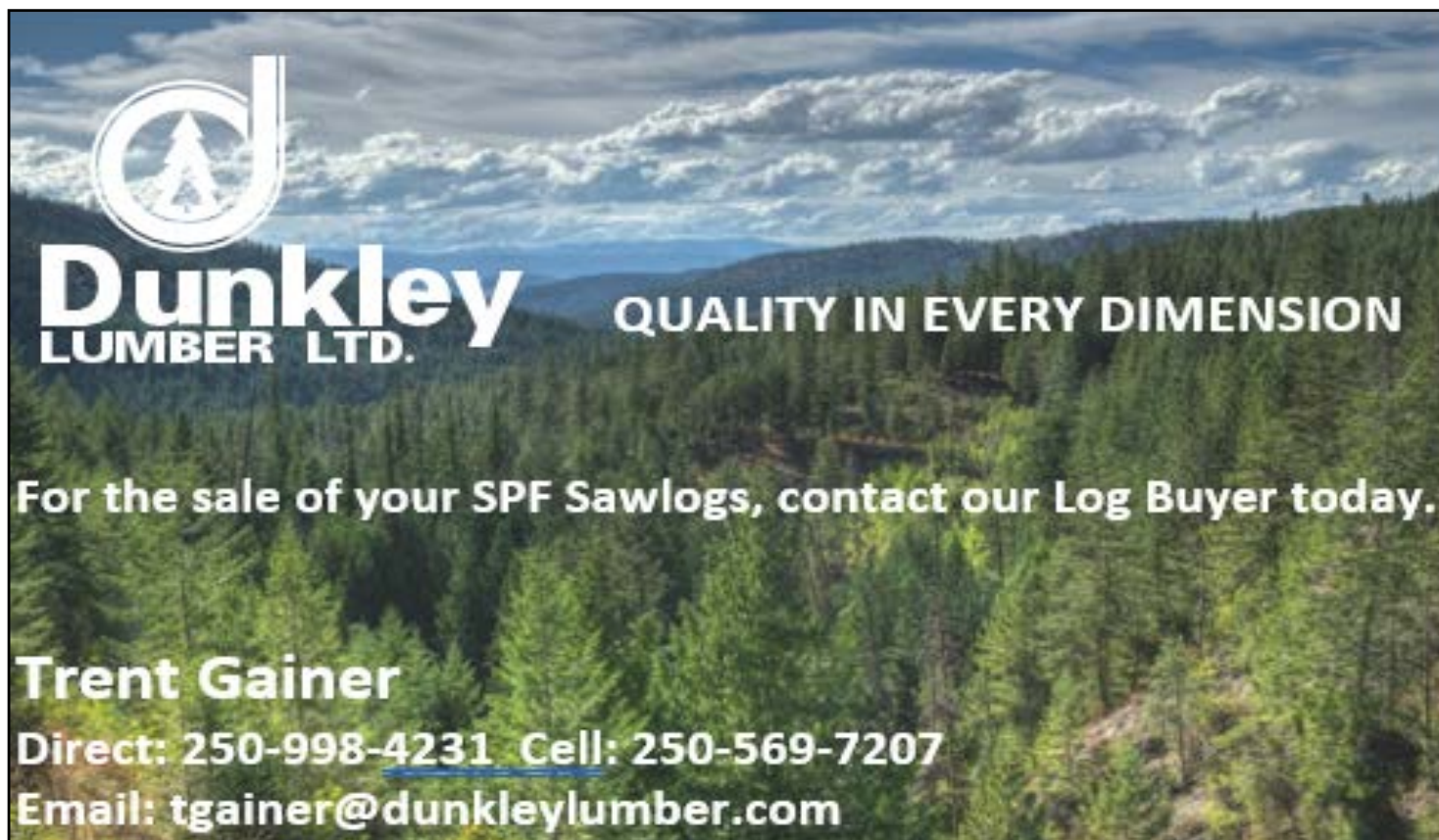
WPDC Director Vacancies:


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. ♦

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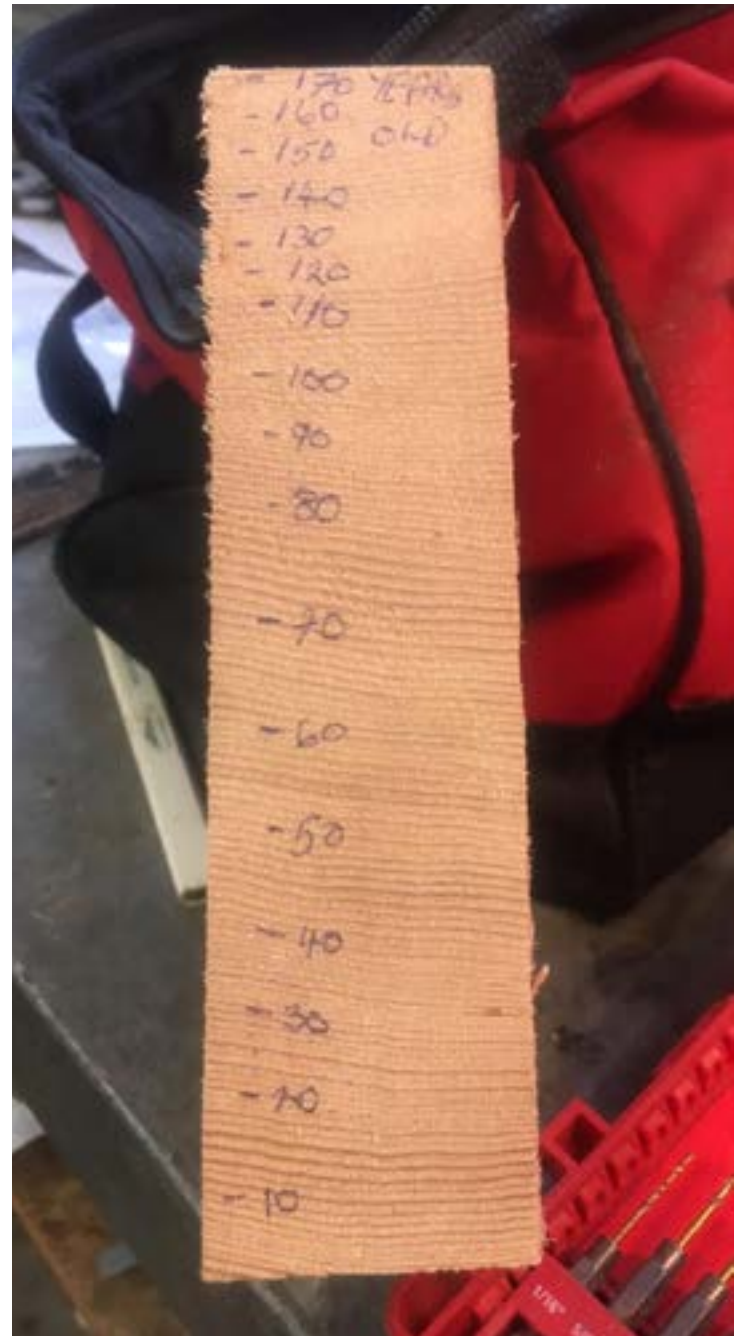

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Erratum Notice: The first Woodlot Program Report in over a decade was mailed to every Woodlot Licensee in March. Unfortunately, the table on page 2 had a misprint. See below for the correct version.

Region	# of WLs	Area (ha)			AAC (m3)		
		Private land	Crown land	Total	Private land	Crown land	Total
Coast	122	4657	63,577	68,234	24,901	337,741	362,642
N. Interior	327	19,371	212,683	232,054	24,482	477,031	501,513
S. Interior	401	33,830	249,718	283,548	35,342	523,579	559,921
Total	850	57,859	525,978	583,836	84,725	1,338,351	1,423,076



Shawn Flynn is working with 4 classes of Grade 1-2 students in Nanoose this year. Teaching them in a visual hands-on approach, the children will know their trees and woods by Graduation in June. Practicing counting and learning ages of trees, one young student got all the way up to 170 before she lost her nerve!



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Thank you
to our contributors for
this issue:

Tom Bradley
Gary Hanson
Ed Hughes
Andrea Lang

Brian McNaughton
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:

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