



Forests in Good Hands

THE WOODLAND ALMANAC



www.woodlot.bc.ca

Summer 2021

IN THIS ISSUE

- 3** GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT
- 4** COASTAL TIMBER PRICING
- 4** LINKS OF INTEREST
- 5** INTERIOR TIMBER PRICING
- 6** OBTAINING SEEDLINGS FOR WOODLOT LICENCES
- 9** EXTRAORDINARY PROJECT PROPOSALS
- 9** WHERE YOUR \$0.25 ANNUAL LEVY GOES
- 10** LISA MARAK RESIGNS
- 11** TOM BRADLEY RESIGNS
- 12** POST WILDFIRES AND PLANTING TIPS FOR WOODLOT LICENSEES
- 13** R&D PROJECT FUNDING AVAILABLE
- 13** WPDC DIRECTOR VACANCIES
- 14** MEMBER REFLECTIONS
- 14** NOTICES
- 15** WPDC AGM NOTICE
- 16** WOODLOT LICENCE JOINT WORKING GROUP
- 16** FBCWA VISION
- 18** SARAH FRASER ADDRESSES FBCWA SPRING MEMBERS' MEETING
- 19** GOVERNMENT NOTICE BOARD
- 19** WELCOME KAREN FORGE
- 20** THANK YOU TO OUR CONTRIBUTORS

A Logger's Bookkeeper

by Joyce Helweg

An old logger's bookkeeper is a harrowing job at best. The men have spent their lives doing the impossible with a minimum of help, supplies and sleep. They can fix a flat on their pickup in the dark, including pulling it off the rim, inserting a boot on the inner surface, exploding it back onto the rim using WD 40 and not even be late for work. The two things they cannot do is get a receipt from the point of purchase into the bookkeeper's hands, and learn a new numerical system within twenty years.

Normally the bookkeeper has the bases covered. They will set up accounts that only require a signature on purchase and rely on the business to send the invoice, purchase order and statement digitally or by mail. It is when the loggers wander off the beaten track and purchases items using cash at a supplier where there is no account, that they run into difficulties. The loggers know, somewhere in the back of their mind, between how many logs they skid that week and how to fix the transmission on the machine they are working, that the receipt must be saved. It is thrust into the purchase bag or carried in their hand to the pick up where it is routinely deposited 'somewhere' as soon as their hand reaches for the keys. It may go in the front



John Helweg supervising grandsons' planting

pocket of his worn jeans, be dropped on the floor of the truck, stuffed in the consul, tossed on the dashboard or placed on top of the sun visor where it stays until the next time the sun is in their eyes.

If the bookkeeper is the wife, she will check the pockets before doing the laundry and not wash the evidence down

the drain. The receipts in the truck may be retrieved when the truck is cleaned out to trade in on a new one. Ninety percent of the slips found would be for past years, already filed. The remedy for that is simple; get them to pay for everything with their visa card. Each month you will receive a simple accounting from visa, in chronological order.

Then along comes the Log Cost Survey. As important as this document is, loggers do not want to think about how many hours they spent doing a tail gate safety meeting, pulling a stuck machine out of the mud, remembering how long it took them to change a culvert, do a fire check or fall a danger tree. It was just something they did, without question, because it needed doing.

Being a wife, bookkeeper and bush flunky for my logger husband for over forty years, I finally found a solution; not perfect, but usable. Every year at Christmas, I bought him a little black book. It wasn't

cont'd on page 5 ...



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/Secretary | Nancy Pezel, Powell River | nancypez@telus.net |
| Director..... | Mark Clark, Prince George | markclarkrpf@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 |

FBCWA CONTRACTORS

| | | | |
|-------------------------------------|-----------------------|--|--------------------|
| General Manager..... | Brian McNaughton..... | gen_manager@woodlot.bc.ca | ... 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 | Karen Forge..... | kforge@shaw.ca | 250-246-0673 |
| 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 |
| Interim Director | Blain Arnett..... | arnettfm@shaw.ca |
| 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: Blain Arnett; Survey: Dean Daly & Blain Arnett; 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

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 | Jim Allen |
| 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
Keith Webber

facebook

www.facebook.com/woodlotsbc

Board Resignations, BC Forest Policy & Retired RPFs/RFTs

by Brian McNaughton

Lisa Marak & Tom Bradley Resign from FBCWA Board of Directors

Lisa Marak and Tom Bradley, two long time and well-respected Directors, resigned from the Board of Directors in the past couple of months. Lisa was first elected in 2005; Tom in 2006!

Lisa was also the Federation Secretary – an Officer of the Society. Last December, Lisa had notified the Board that she would be terminating her contract to provide Administrative Support to the Federation.

In addition to resigning as a director, Tom gave notice that he would no longer be continuing as the e-Business contractor, although he graciously said he would stay on until a replacement could be found.

Lisa and Tom were both dedicated volunteers who contributed much to the Federation. More information about their time as Directors and accomplishments can be found in articles elsewhere in this edition of the Almanac. Their many contributions over the years are much appreciated; and they will be missed!

Modernizing Forest Policy in BC (Forestry Intentions Paper)

On June 1, 2021, Premier Horgan announced a new vision for BC forests. The intentions paper is called Modernizing Forest Policy in BC and it can be found at: <https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/industry/forestry/competitive-forest-industry?keyword=f>



Brian McNaughton,
General Manager

[orestry&keyword=intentions&keyword=paper](#)

There are 20 policy intentions or guiding principles that cover a wide range of topics including changes to the forest tenure

system, improvements to the Forest and Range Practices Act, Interior Forest Sector Renewal, Coast Forest Sector Revitalization, and old growth.

The guiding principle that jumps off the page for Woodlot Licences is #18 - Revising Area-Based Tenure Specific Pricing Policy, which says:

“Currently there is a disparity between stumpage rates applied to Woodlot Licences, Community Forest Agreements, and First Nation Woodland Licences issued to Indigenous communities. We will harmonize the rate structures, consistent with our market-based pricing system, while being mindful that smaller tenure ownership is impacted by economies of scale.”

Other guiding principles have the potential to affect Woodlot Licences as well, such as improve accountability on tenure holders, modernize tenure replaceability provisions, re-integrating prescribed and cultural fire into forest management, minimizing slash burning, support silviculture and innovations in management, and review the cut control process. The extent to which Woodlot Licences are the intended audience has yet to be determined.

Developing and implementing policy changes is expected to take a few years – starting with engagement and consultation to get input and perspectives into policy design and implementation from Indigenous Nations, local government, the forest sector, and other stakeholders. The Ministry has grouped the guiding principles into three different sessions Summer (July/August), Fall (Sept to December) and Winter (January to March). Engagement on guiding principle #18 is slated to commence this Fall.

The Federation is in the process of conducting a SWOT (Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, and Threats) analysis on each of the guiding principles to help determine how best to represent Woodlot Licence interests. If you have any thoughts you want to share on this important initiative, please get in touch with me. If you wish to have direct input to government, please go to:

<https://forms.office.com/pages/responsepage.aspx?id=AFLbbw09ikqwNtNoXjWa3PfUCXc1zlhBqqrflRXEekFUOUxXT1dNOFI5TzdFMUuFTDZES01XOFY2Ni4u>. The portal is open for submissions starting July 14 and is anticipated to close September 3, 2021.

Retired RPF &/or RFT cannot legally practice professional forestry

Did you know that a retired Registered Professional Forester (RPF) or Registered Forest Technician (RFT) cannot engage in the practice of

cont'd on page 9

Exemplary Record-keeping Now and into the Future

by Ed Hughes

Coast Low Volume and Woodlot Licence Crown Tenure Management Cost Survey

The Coastal Low Volume and Woodlot Crown Tenure Management Cost Survey deadline for submission of June 30, 2021 has now come and gone. Since the request was made in April 2020, many coast Woodlot licensees have invested significant time and efforts to provide Timber Pricing Branch with cost data for four years from 2017-2020. While I am not able to confirm the exact number, based on communications with coastal Woodlot Licensees, many have said they submitted survey information. Thank you to those who participated.

The obligation to collect and retain 7 years of financial information, then report when requested, has provided an important reminder. Although another full Low Volume Cost Survey request for the coast isn't expected anytime soon, Woodlot Licences might be required to report on some of the gaps for specific costs if they arise. All Licensees are advised to prepare for periodic cost survey requests in the future. Keeping organized records of operational and planning costs using an experienced bookkeeper is suggested.

Appraisal Manual (CAM)

Bi-weekly conference calls of the Market Pricing System (MPS) Sub-



Ed Hughes,
Coastal Timber Pricing
Coordinator

Committee to update the coastal CAM by December 15, 2021 have begun.

Coast Woodlot Timber Pricing Working Group

As a result of changes being made, and anticipated to, Woodlot

Licence stumpage procedures, I have put together a Coast Woodlot Licence Timber Pricing Working Group, to work through timber pricing matters as they come up. Members of the group are John Gregson, Kevin Webber, Wolfram Wollenheit (all presidents of the Coastal Woodlot associations), John Iacoviello, Howie Griessel and John Marlow (who have significant Timber Pricing experience and expertise).

The first important task for the group is to have input into the new Coastal Appraisal Manual (CAM). In addition, the group will pay close attention to amendments to CAM which are made periodically during the year, or specifically on dates like March 1, when annually our new TAB rates are set for the following year.

Coastal Waste Manual Update

For various reasons, the approval and implementation of the new or amended Coastal Waste manual has been delayed. The current waste manual is still in effect.

I have been advocating to leave the existing system in place permanently as most waste surveys on the coast are done using either full or parent block survey methods. Both survey methods are affordable and provide reasonably accurate data.

Discussions with Timber Pricing Branch are on-going, and I will keep you informed of any new developments.

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. ♦

4



Links of Interest

- Our own website: <http://woodlot.bc.ca>
- BC Government: <https://www2.gov.bc.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. ♦

Stumpage Rate Determinations, Waste Assessments and Softwood Lumber

by Debbie Zandbelt, RPF

During the last few months, the calls received from woodlot license holders have given me insight to the hesitant time it is for market loggers. Most recently with woodlot owners now looking at burnt wood but also with those looking to log with the volatile log prices and increasing tabular stumpage rates. It is inevitable that the November 2021 stumpage rate table in the Interior Appraisal manual will increase. It is extremely hard to predict by how much – but most crystal balls indicate any increase you see in November will likely occur again in May of 2022.

August 1 stumpage

redeterminations are complete

Reminder that those of you with existing cutting permits you should have your August 1 stumpage rate redetermination. The rates will match the July 1, 2021, Interior Appraisal Manual Table 6.2 rates for your selling price zone. If they do not, it is time to review with your local Ministry of Forests Lands and Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development, woodlot forester or give me call if any clarification is needed.

Waste Assessments for Woodlots

There is unfortunately no progress on this forefront. The plan to survey sample woodlots from around the province using the methods currently approved for the major tenures was put on hold temporarily. The fire activity in the south half of the province has used consulting forces from the coast to the north redirecting a huge portion of the consulting workforce. I still hope to make these surveys happen this fall when more folks become available. Industry is still raising several critical issues



Debbie Zandbelt, RPF
Interior Timber Pricing
Coordinator

related to the waste system and the broader impacts to cut control and stumpage payments. We are part of those discussions and continue to push forward for a fair system for

woodlot licensees.

Softwood Lumber

It is to our benefit that Woodlot licensees are not directly involved in the administrative review related to the Softwood Lumber file. However, do remember the Countervailing and Anti-dumping duties are of course currently still in effect. The litigation process is still ongoing through NAFTA (and the new Canada US Mexico Agreement) and the WTO. In March of 2021 the US Department of Commerce initiated the third administrative review (referred to as AR3) of the countervailing and anti dumping orders. The period of review for this review will include the calendar year of 2020.

My tasks include representing you the woodlot licensee on various committees' province wide. In the timber pricing world, it is the Southern Regional Appraisal Advisory Committee (RAAC) or the North Regional Appraisal Advisory Committee (NRAAC) where timber pricing foresters keep up to speed on current issues and upcoming priorities. Feel free to give me a call anytime if you would like more detail on timber pricing topics. My contact info is Debbie@woodlot.bc.ca or 250-549-3089. ♦



easily found and not in regular stock at the office supply store, but if I searched diligently, I could get one online. The key was knowing the stock number. Brownline Weekly Day timer CB303 ASX, 4 3/4" by 2 7/8", fit perfect in the work shirt pocket. It was light enough to not cause the pocket to protrude and there was still room for a pen to tuck neatly in beside it.

Once I figured out the shorthand notation method my husband used and applied any required conversions, I could complete his aviation log book, his medical records, Statistics Canada crop survey, accident report for the broken windshield and the Road Tax Fuel exemption report. I could find the serial numbers for the farming and logging equipment, phone numbers of anyone he had spoken to in the last year, logging road channel numbers, hours to bill out for equipment rental and enough information to complete a Log Cost Survey for the woodlot.

Had I been really smart, I would have made a notation in the book of my birthdate and our anniversary before dropping it into his stocking on Christmas Eve! But really, there wasn't any need. The lady from the flower shop would call him on the two-way radio and remind him each year!. ♦

Obtaining Seedlings for Woodlot Licences

by Sabina Donnelly

When planning reforestation to establish a free-growing stand, woodlot licensees have two main options for obtaining seedlings. Each option has advantages and disadvantages. Regardless of which method licensees choose, they are responsible for following the Forest and Range Practices Act (FRPA)¹ Regulations and Standards, specifically the Chief Forester's Standards for Seed Use².

For many years, Geographic Based Seed Transfer (GBST) was the sole seed transfer system that was used. GBST limits seed transfer based on longitude, latitude, elevation, and Seed Planning Zone. In 2018, Climate Based Seed Transfer (CBST) was introduced into the Chief Forester's Standards for Seed Use. CBST is an important climate change adaptation strategy to promote healthy, resilient, and productive forests and ecosystems through the matching of seedlings/seedlots to future (projected) planting site climates. During a transition period, licensees have had the option to select seedlots using either GBST or CBST. On June 18th, 2021 the Chief Forester, Diane Nicholls, released a memorandum³ to inform seed users and producers of the intent to amend the Chief Forester's Standards for Seed Use to complete the transition to Climate Based Seed Transfer (CBST) and remove the Geographic Based

Seed Transfer (GBST) option as of August 2022 (prior to the beginning of the 2023 sowing season).

1. Order seedlings to be grown at a commercial forest seedling nursery

By ordering seedlings specifically for your woodlot, you can obtain the correct species and stocktypes for your site and ensure that the seedlings have been produced from seed or vegetative lots that are suitable for your planting site.

When ordering seedlings, lead-time is required to grow the seedlings in the nursery before they will be ready for planting. Typically, seedlings should be ordered in September to November of Year 0, sown at the nursery in February/March of Year 1, and will be ready for planting in the spring of Year 2 (see Figure 1). Therefore, ordering seedlings and arranging a contract with a commercial forest nursery will require some time and planning to ensure that quality seedlings are produced from suitable seed. Ideally the ordering of seedlings should be planned so that the seedlings are available for planting shortly after harvesting or site preparation. On sites with competing vegetation, this is critical for optimum seedling survival and growth.

You must be prepared to make payments for: seed costs, seed services performed at the Tree Seed Centre, a seedling contract with a nursery, and

cold storage and/or transportation costs for the seedlings once produced.

2. Purchase surplus seedlings from a major licensee or the Ministry of Forests, or seedling overruns from a commercial forest seedling nursery.

By purchasing surplus or overrun seedlings, you may be able to obtain seedlings for your site within a shorter period of time. This can save you some time in meeting your regeneration obligations if you were not able to order seedlings prior to harvest.

However, there is a significant risk that the surplus seedlings you acquire and plant do not meet the FRPA Regulations and Standards. The seed or vegetative material used to grow the seedlings may not be suitable for your site, according to the Chief Forester's Standards for Seed Use⁴.

When purchasing surplus seedlings, the costs for the seed, seed preparation, growing the seedlings at the nursery and cold storage may be rolled into one price. A single purchase price for surplus seedlings can be more straightforward than several payments associated with ordering seed and growing seedlings at a nursery. However, if the seed or seedlings that are planted do not comply with the FRPA Regulations and Standards, the requirement to produce a free-growing stand may not be met, which could mean costly

6



Forests in Good Hands

Stay in the know. Follow us on Social Media.

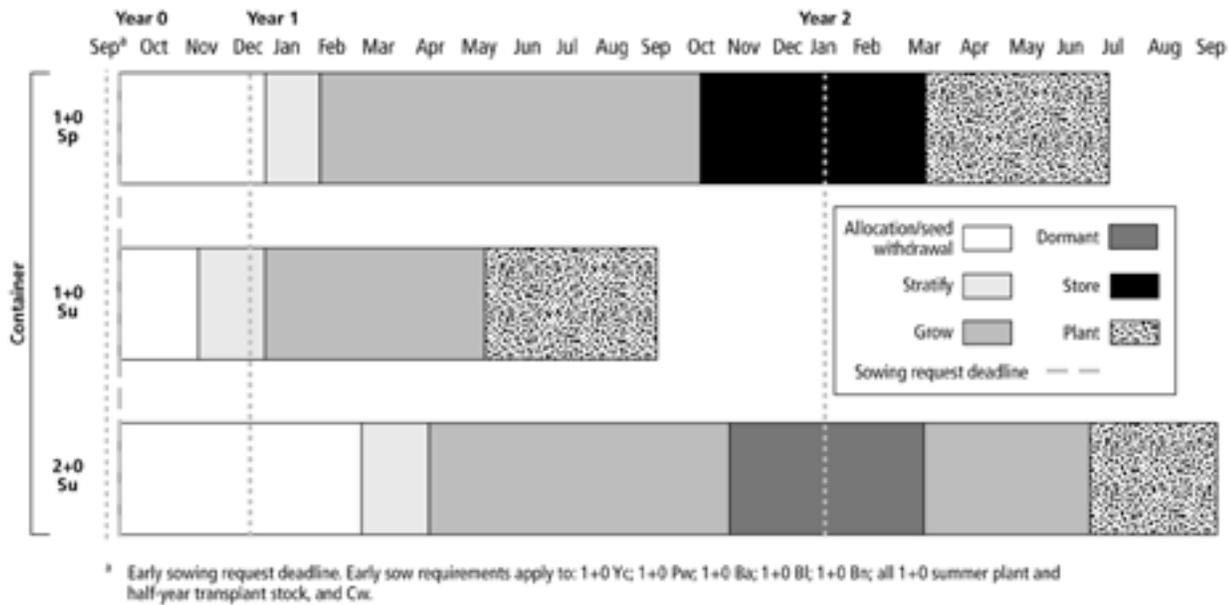
 @woodlotsbc
Get the latest news

 @woodlotsbc
Follow us

 Woodlots BC
Learn about WLs

 BCWoodlots
Check us Out

Figure 1. Seedling request timing for seed preparation and nursery production of 1+0 spring stock, 1+0 summer stock and 2+0 summer stock. Seedling requests should be initiated in the Fall of Year 0.



re-planting.

The intention of this article is to explain how to order seedlings to be grown at a commercial forest nursery (option A). However, there are precautions you can take to ensure that you are in compliance with the Standards if you follow option B. These will be discussed later in this article.

Following are the steps for ordering seedlings. Figure 1 shows the standard time frame for each of these steps.

1. **Obtain a BCeID** by following the steps on the BCeID website⁵. Then request access to SPAR⁶.
2. **Determine the species, stock type, container type, stock age, year and season of planting most appropriate for your site.** The publication Provincial Seedling Stock Type Selection and Ordering Guidelines or a forestry consultant with silviculture experience in your local area should provide you with the assistance you need to make these decisions.
3. **Determine the quantity of seedlings of each species required.** If regeneration or

leave trees are not present on the planting site, use the target stocking standards in the silviculture prescription or site plan for the area, to make your calculations. The number of tree seedlings to order per hectare may need to be reduced below the target stocking standard to take into consideration leave trees, existing planted trees or natural regeneration that may be present or anticipated.

4. **In SPAR, enter a Seedling Request for each species required.** For assistance with SPAR and the Seedling Request entry process, contact the Forest Improvement and Research Management Branch (FIRM). For entry of a request, you will need the following information:

- ◆ Woodlot License Number and Client Name
- ◆ Mean latitude and longitude of woodlot
- ◆ Mean elevation of planting site (from your site plan or silviculture prescription)
- ◆ Biogeoclimatic zone (from your site plan or silviculture

prescription)

- ◆ Species of trees you would like to order
 - ◆ Quantity of seedlings for each species to be ordered
 - ◆ Stocktype and container type for each species
 - ◆ Stock age, planting year and season
 - ◆ Preferred seedlot numbers (where the woodlot licensee owns seed).
5. **Review the suitable seed and/or vegetative lots available.** When a Seedling Request is entered in SPAR, a list of suitable seedlots is generated. If you do not have access to SPAR, the Forest Improvement and Research Management Branch contact will email a list of suitable seedlots. There may be situations where no surplus seed is readily available if it is all held in reserve by ministry, licensee or private seed dealer owners. In this situation, you can contact the seedlot owner to inquire about purchasing some seed.

cont'd on page 8

6. Arrange a contract with a commercial forest nursery. Contact commercial forest seedling nurseries to obtain quotes for your seedling requests. A list of nurseries is available from Forest Improvement and Research Management Branch. Some B.C. forest seedling nurseries have a standard contract that they can use for small orders. You will need to consider price per seedling, payment schedule and availability of cold storage facilities at the nursery if you have ordered spring plant stock. You should also consider the cost of shipping the seedlings if you can not arrange for pickup from the nursery. When negotiating the contract, ensure that you have an agreement regarding the quality of seedlings to be delivered (height, general health, etc.). To view the seedling specifications used for MR seedling contracts, check out the BC Timber Sales Seedling Services website⁷ and refer to the links provided under *Selecting the right seedling*. This website also includes a list of typical seedling prices in the *Commercial Equivalent Rate* table.

7. Approve the seedling request(s) in SPAR. Once the status of a seedling request is set to “approved”, the Tree Seed Centre will withdraw the seed from storage at the appropriate time, prepare the seed with a pre-sowing treatment (stratification or pelletization), and ship the seed to the nursery in time for the nursery’s sowing date.

8. Receive and pay invoices for seed costs (from the Ministry of Forests or private owner) and Tree Seed Centre services. For

more information on the Tree Seed Centre services, refer to the Tree Seed Centre website⁸.

9. Make contact with the nursery during the growing season. You should contact the nursery some time during the growing season to ensure that your seedlings are growing well and that they expect to produce the amount of seedlings requested. If the nursery informs you that they may produce more seedlings than you ordered you are not obligated to purchase the surplus seedlings but there may be other woodlot licensees who want to purchase the seedlings.

10. Make arrangements for delivery or pickup of your seedlings from the nursery or the cold storage site, then plant your seedlings!

If you plan to use Option B, ie. purchase surplus seedlings from the Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development, or a major forest licensee, or seedling overruns directly from a commercial forest nursery:

1. Follow steps 2 and 3 as described above.
2. Ensure that the seedlot(s) used to produce the seedlings are suitable for your planting site. If you have access to SPAR, you can enter your planting site parameters on the Suitable Seed/Vegetative Lot screen to search for a list of suitable seedlots. Suitable seedlots are those that meet the Chief Forester’s Standards for Seed Use⁹. If you do not have access to SPAR, contact Forest Improvement and Research Management Branch for assistance. You will need to provide the following information on your woodlot: planting site

mean latitude, longitude and minimum and maximum elevation.

3. Check on the quality of the seedlings and ensure that the price is fair. If possible, go to the nursery to check on the quality of the seedlings in person, prior to making an agreement for purchase. Check the website links listed in item 6 above for seedling stock specifications used by the Ministry.

4. Make arrangements for delivery or pickup of your seedlings from the nursery or the cold storage site.

For assistance and information, contact:

Sabina Donnelly,
Seed Resource Specialist
Forest Improvement and Research Management Branch
Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development
Phone: 778-974-4810
Cell: 250-893-1481
Email: Sabina.Donnelly@gov.bc.ca. ♦

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



1 <https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/environment/natural-resource-stewardship/laws-policies-standards-guidance/legislation-regulation/forest-range-practices-act>
 2 <https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/industry/forestry/managing-our-forest-resources/tree-seed/legislation-standards/chief-forester-s-standards-for-seed-use>
 3 https://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/farming-natural-resources-and-industry/forestry/tree-seed/chief-forester-s-standards-for-seed-use/memos-and-letters/264958_cbst_transition_memo.pdf
 4 <http://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/industry/forestry/managing-our-forest-resources/tree-seed/legislation-standards/chief-forester-s-standards-for-seed-use>
 5 <https://www.bceid.ca>
 6 <http://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/industry/forestry/managing-our-forest-resources/tree-seed/seed-planning-use/spar/spar-access-requirements>
 7 <https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/industry/forestry/bc-timber-sales/contracting/seedling-services>
 8 <http://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/industry/forestry/managing-our-forest-resources/tree-seed/tree-seed-centre>
 9 <http://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/industry/forestry/managing-our-forest-resources/tree-seed/legislation-standards/chief-forester-s-standards-for-seed-use>

Woodlot Product Development Council Extraordinary Project Proposals:

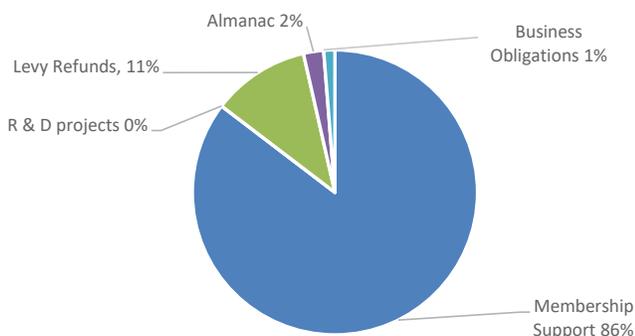
The Board of Directors for the Woodlot Product Development Council (WPDC) has an initiative to allocate funds to Extraordinary Projects that are not included in the joint work plan with the Federation of BC Woodlot Associations (FBCWA). Eligible proponents must be one of the following: Woodlot Licensee, 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 ♦



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. ♦



■ E-Bits for Your Two Bits

While the E-bits for Your Two Bits is a regular feature in every issue of the Almanac, it is noticeably absent in this issue. We look forward to reading it again in the Fall issue. ♦

► From page 3 —

professional forestry? According to Mike Larock, RPF, ABCFP Director of Professional Forestry, “To do so is considered an infringement on the practice of professional forestry; an illegal act under the Professional Governance Act; and subject to penalties, fines (as high as \$200,000), and possible jail time (maximum two-years).”

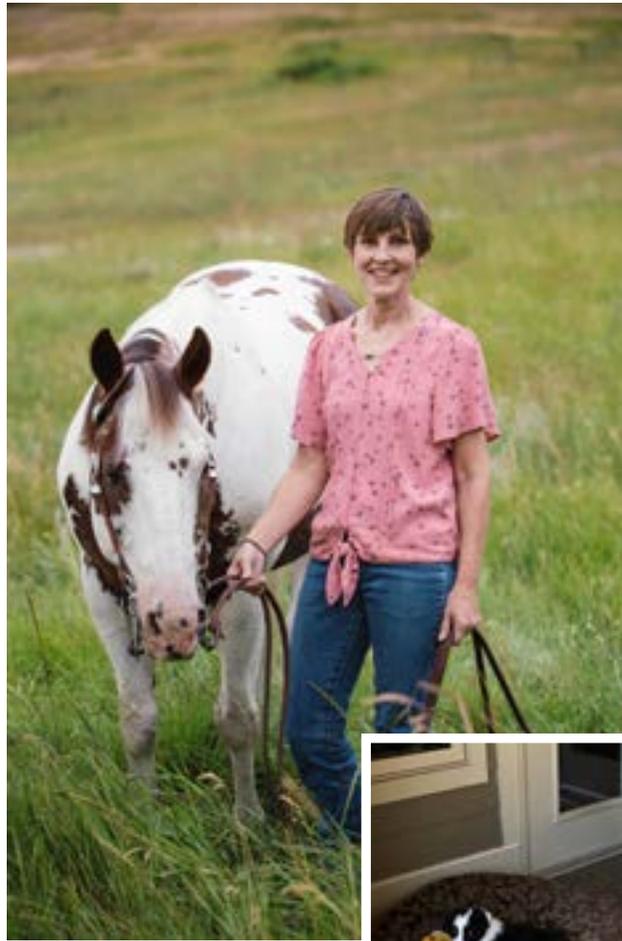
So, if you are a retired RPF or RFT who is still managing their own Woodlot Licence, offering professional services to other Woodlot Licence holders, or contracting out to make a little extra cash in retirement, you may want to reconsider or get in touch with Mike.

Note: The above noted quote is excerpted from Mike’s article entitled Infringement on the Practice of Professional Forestry: Important Information about Retiring from the Profession which can be found in the Summer 2021 edition of the BC Forest Professional (the Association of BC Professional Foresters’ publication). It’s an excellent article and well worth a read. ♦

Lisa Marak Resigns from FBCWA Board of Directors

by Brian McNaughton

Before Lisa ever thought of getting involved with the Federation, I remember talking to her. It was shortly after she had returned home to assume responsibility for her family's ranch and woodlot after her father had passed away. She knew lots about ranching but not much about forestry or managing a Woodlot Licence (WL). What impressed me at the time was how determined she was to learn and be able to manage the WL herself. And let's be clear, her WL wasn't a nice quiet forest nestled in the backwoods. Nope, it was located on the outskirts of Kelowna, overlooking the city!



Lisa & Chico

Lisa asked questions, lots of questions ... good questions. She took courses, attended workshops, and sought knowledge from others. Through determination and hard work, she accomplished what she set out to do. She learned how to manage and administer the WL. But whenever Lisa talked about it, she always gave credit and expressed appreciation for the FLNRORD district staff, local consultants, other Woodlot licensees and the Federation who were there to support her. When she did decide to let her name stand for election to the Federation Board of Directors, I recall her saying that a major motivation was to make sure that other Woodlot licensees who found themselves in a similar situation got the support they needed!

Lisa was elected as a Director and Secretary of the Federation in October 2006. She submitted her resignation on June 23, 2021.

Lisa accomplished much in her 15 years as a Director and Secretary. Federation meetings and conference calls were always well organized, venues were perfect, minutes

and notes articulate, and records meticulously kept. She was always the friendly voice on the other end of the phone, ever helpful; and if a person had a question, she would make sure it got answered...promptly!

A particularly notable accomplishment is that Lisa chaired the Constitution and Bylaws Committee which guided the Federation's transition from the old to new Societies Act. Committee members were Nancy Pezel, Tom Bradley and Gernot Zemanek. Figuring out the legislation, making sure the Federation complied with all requirements, drafting bylaws that Member Associations could agree with, and educating directors and members was a complex and daunting

task. Without Lisa's leadership, the transition wouldn't have been nearly as smooth as it was.

Lisa was always a calm, reliable director. Her views were always logical and well thought out. She was a lay person on a Board



Kona & Tucker

dominated by professional foresters and technicians so brought a unique and valuable perspective to any discussion. Lisa never lost sight that the reason for her being a director was to support and serve the needs of woodlot licensees. The Federation is much better off because she was on the Board of Directors for such a long time, much poorer because of her resignation, but fortunate she is still the Communications contractor.

Lisa – THANK YOU! Not just for all the things you did but for being such an awesome person. And thank you Rob (husband), Matt & Jessica (children) for supporting Lisa for all these years. You truly are a Woodlot Family! Personally, I'm going to miss Lisa at Board meetings, but will take solace knowing that she is probably spending that time out riding Chico (her horse) with Tucker and Kona (her dogs) running alongside. ♦

Tom Bradley Resigns from FBCWA Board of Directors

by Brian McNaughton

Tom Bradley was first elected to the FBCWA's Board of Directors in October 2006. He submitted his resignation on May 20, 2021.

From day 1, four (4) things stood out about Tom.

1. His desire to always do what was best for woodlot licensees and the Woodlot Licence Program.
2. His knowledge about governance – how it worked, how to make it work, and how to make the Federation better because of it.
3. His understanding of legislation and policy; and a strong desire to make them better.
4. He was a computer geek. OK, OK, I say that with the utmost of respect. It's a polite way of saying that he understood all that computer related stuff – reporting, mapping, etc. that was just coming into vogue at the time.

Tom's contributions as a Federation Director are many, too many to list, but here are a few of his notable accomplishments.

He was a member of the Constitution & Bylaws Committee, along with Lisa Marak (chair), Nancy Pezel & Gernot Zemanek, which transitioned the Federation from the old to the new Societies Act. His expertise and past experiences on other Boards was invaluable when it came to drafting Bylaws and understanding the implications of various sections of the Act to the Federation.

In late 2016, the Forest Practices Board decided to take a close look into how woodlots were being managed and selected 12 Woodlot Licences in the Kootenay Lake TSA to be the subject of a special investigation. Over the next 2 years, Tom worked diligently with the Board's lead investigator to ensure the investigation not only resulted in a fair assessment of the situation but provided recommendations that would be beneficial to all Woodlot Licences. His work didn't end when the report was released. He then pursued the recommendations, the improvements to the program. He did so via various avenues, for example, Resource Practices Branch to deal with free growing and RESULTS reporting issues and the Woodlot Licence Joint Working Group for tenure related matters.

Tom has been a valued member of the Woodlot Licence Joint Working Group for many years. Tom either led or was instrumental in many of the group's accomplishments; and his contributions weren't limited to stocking standards, partial cutting, and RESULTS reporting. He was an integral to the production of numerous handbooks and other guidance/extension materials including the 1 CP Administration Manual, guidance to get a second 1 CP, road reporting, Timber Resources Inventory Handbook, and RESULTS Information Submission Specifications – Woodlot Licences (RISS-wl) just to name a few.

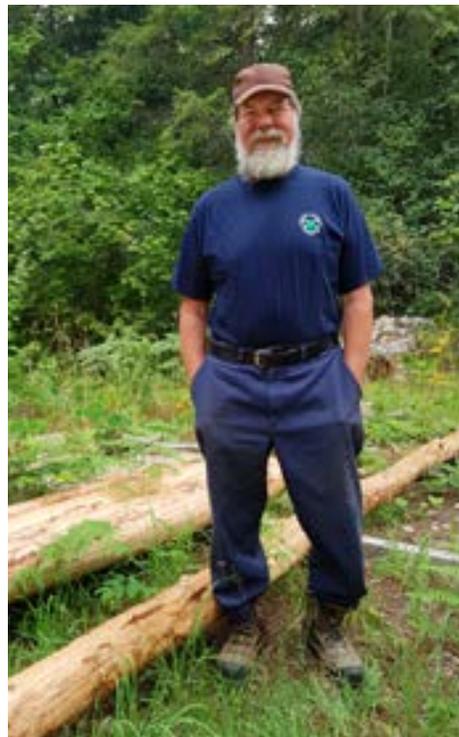
Tom was also instrumental in the success of Getting RESULTS, the Federation led project to improve Woodlot licensees reporting. His Almanac articles on RESULTS and other e-business are renowned for providing important information and key tips for help licensees with this aspect of their business.

Tom has provided valuable information, data, maps and analyses that helped Directors understand issues and make informed decisions on a wide range of topic such as species at risk, WLs impacted by wildfires, smoke sensitivity requirements (Open Burning Smoke Control Regulation), commercial thinning opportunities, etc.

More recently, Tom has been working with Brian (FBCWA GM) and staff from the Office of the Chief Forester on the FRPA improvements initiative that is currently underway. Key aspects of the work include pursuing changes to the Woodlot Licence Planning & Practices Regulation that will improve woodlot management and gain greater certainty for the issuance of cutting permits (including 1 CPs) and road permits. This work is about to take on even greater prominence because "Continuing to improve the Forest and Range Practices Act" is one of the guiding principles in the modernizing BC forest policy initiative recently announced by Premier Horgan.

In addition to all of his contributions and accomplishments, Tom is a terrific person. He is easy to approach and talk to, always willing to help, and thoughtful – strong attributes that will be sorely missed.

Tom - Thank you! And thank you Jo for supporting Tom in all of his Federation and Woodlot endeavors. You two make a great, great team! ♦



Tom Bradley



Post Wildfires and Planting Tips for Woodlot Licensees

by Sara Grady and Dale Likes

Wildfire season is taking its toll on our forests, and we're not out of the woods yet.

As of the end of July, over 3000 firefighters were battling 277 wildfires in the province. The blazes have already claimed 340,000 hectares of forest, with no signs of slowing down.

BC's woodlots have also suffered significant losses. While it is difficult to assess wildfire damage while they are burning, the current best estimate as of August 4, 2021 is 13 Woodlot Licences and just under 5,000 hectares have been impacted.

Post wildfires, there will be much work to salvage any timber and rehabilitate the burned areas. Replanting has always been a priority for woodlot licensees – they're required to restock cutblocks so that the forest returns to its original state quickly – but it will be a bigger task over the next few years.

An unseasonably hot, dry spring and extreme summer were already threatening new plantings around the province. With another month to

go and no sign of sustained rain or lower temperatures, it's going to be a rough ride for woodlots who recently planted.

Finding seedlings will be a challenge...this year's seed crop is falling victim to the fires, as well.

It's important, now more than ever, that re-planting is done as soon as possible and carefully for the maximum success rate. And retired silviculturist and woodlot licensee Dale Likes, RPF, has produced a "manual" that will help fellow woodlot owners ensure that success.

Likes manages Woodlot License #1559 just east of Bear Lake along with his partner, Russ Martin. He enjoyed a 40-year career with Northwood Pulp & Timber/Canfor as a forest technologist, laying out cutblocks, supervising planting, harvest and road engineering.

While the scope of his job was broad, his main interest was silviculture, prompting him to earn his RPF designation in 1992. Over the course of his career, he saw planting scenarios played out on a large scale and came to understand the factors

that led to robust seedling health...and failure.

TREE SEEDLING SURVIVAL TIPS

According to Likes, seedlings are three communities working together for overall success.

"Roots collect the water and minerals required for growth and send it to the tops of the seedlings. The tops of the seedlings turn these minerals, combined with carbon dioxide, into sugars – photosynthesis – and send them to the roots."

"This transportation system is critical to the communication between tops and roots. Stress causes breakdowns in these community systems and any loss of efficiency affects the entire seedling. Repair of these systems is very time and energy consuming. The short growing season of conifers leaves little time for failure."

"To begin, one should choose the best seedling for the site."

Site selection is important, naturally, but in the wake of wildfires, the choices are limited. While a healthy, slow burning fire will leave minerals

in the soil that encourage growth, the fast-and-hot burning infernos like those we're seeing this year actually rob the soil of moisture and nutrients. This leaves a very inhospitable site for new seedlings.

Proper handling of the seedlings then is crucial. Likes points out that planters should avoid:

1. **Jarring:** never drop seedlings. Jarring has different impacts depending on the phase status of the seedlings. To be safe just don't drop them at all.
2. **Temperature variation:** during transit and field caching he recommends keeping them stored cooler than +10C and warmer than -2C.
3. **Duration in transition:** seedlings should be in closed boxes. Rotate stock on a "first in – first out" basis and strive to plant seedlings within seven days from site arrival.
4. **Sunlight on roots:** avoid exposure of white root tips to sun as much as possible.

Planting spot selection is critical in determining growth potential. Choosing terrain, or microsites, carefully increases success. Ideally, the site will provide effective soil



Dale Likes

oxygen, temperature, drainage, moisture and minerals to support growth on a timely basis. Remember, little root growth occurs at soil temperature less than 10C.

However, those woodlotters impacted by intense wildfires won't have the luxury of selecting optimal planting sites in a post-wildfire environment. So, Likes has also highlighted some common planting mistakes that impede the success rate of new seedlings.

1. **J-roots:** any bending of the plugs

root system seems to reduce root growth for prolonged periods.

2. **Compression of plugs:** prevents root growth on the compressed surfaces.
3. **Inadequate closing of hole surfaces:** a vapor seal of 5cm is required to prevent the seedling root system from drying out.
4. **Deep planting:** seedlings require no more than a 1cm cover of organic material.
5. **Drowning/Asphyxiation of roots:** occurs wherever roots are in water during the growing season.

Likes urges his fellow licensees to dig up any failed seedlings they find to assess what went wrong... and to consult with other foresters or colleagues if the cause isn't clear to them.

The forestry sector will have a tough hill to climb when yet another destructive wildfire season ends. With guidance from veteran foresters who have the benefit of experience and technical knowledge, our woodlots will recover in time from these extreme conditions. As long-term, area-based tenure holders, licensees know pretty much everything you do on your woodlot is for later. ♦

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. ♦

The Woodland Almanac is always looking for creative submissions for “Member Reflections” related to small-scale forestry. We’d like to hear from you on stories from the woodlot or see your photos from the block. “Member Reflections” can also be used to share obituaries on licensees who are no longer with us. If you’d like to submit an article or photo, contact Cathy McClary at cjmccclary401@gmail.com.

Woodlot 1413: A Labour of Love Engaging Optimum Silviculture Practices

by Al Waters

On Woodlot Licence 1413, I logged my first cutblock between December 2012 and March 2013. The photo of Michael deBlois was taken on July 15, 2021; a few weeks before I sold the Woodlot licence. Since I purchased the Woodlot in November of 2012, I didn’t have a chance to order seedlings before logging so my wife and I personally planted about 700 overrun spruce PSB 512 and 600 Douglas-fir PSB 410 seedlings in the brushiest areas of the cutblock in the spring of 2013. We came back in the summer of 2013 and manually brushed these seedlings. The remainder of the 10.6-hectare cutblock was planted in the spring of 2014 by John Mills, the preferred local planting contractor who has been planting most of the woodlots in Quesnel for decades. In the photo, Michael deBlois, a tree planter with over 25 years of experience planting for John Mills, is standing in front of pine, spruce and Douglas-fir seedlings he planted on this cutblock 8 years ago. Both John Mills and Michael deBlois planted for Cottonwood Reforestation for many years. For decades, Cottonwood Reforestation owned by John and Hazel Massier, planted millions of trees for West Fraser in the Quesnel Lake area



Michael deBlois standing beside trees he planted 8 years ago on W1413.

producing plantations of superior quality.

It is this same extra care and attention to the quality of workmanship that is possible during all aspects of forest management on a Woodlot that makes working on Woodlots so rewarding. Prior to planting the cutblock, the heaviest slash accumulations were piled with an excavator and burned to minimize the future fire hazard. The cutblock was planted to 1800 seedlings per hectare at the optimum time in April when the snow had just melted and the frost was out of the ground. The thawing of the frozen seedlings and stock handling were managed to perfection and planting quality was excellent. The seedlings were all grown from seed orchard seed of the highest genetic worth available and were grown at nurseries that have a proven track record of

growing superior seedlings to contract target specifications, (not minimum specifications). The cutblock has an ecological classification of SBSdw2/01 with a site index around 20 to 21 meters for pine, spruce and Douglas-fir. I personally backpack sprayed the brushiest parts of the plantation with glyphosate herbicide in 2014 and 2015 to control aspen competition and achieve free growing requirements in 9 years from the commencement of harvesting. My objective

in managing the Woodlot was to consistently demonstrate what can be achieved when optimum silviculture practices are carried out. ♦

Notice:

The interim commercial thinning guidance for the Interior of British Columbia, released by the Office of the Chief Forester, in May 2021 is available. For more information visit: <https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/industry/forestry/managing-our-forest-resources/silviculture/stand-tending>



2021 AGM NOTICE

Due to the ongoing uncertainty around the global COVID-19 pandemic, the Woodlot Product Development Council (WPDC) will not be conducting their Annual General Meeting at a physical location in 2021. Similar to 2020, the WPDC Coordinator will mail the annual report and voting process to all woodlot licensees in the fall sometime between September and October. To ensure that the WPDC meets its quorum, the Board will require votes to be returned from 5% of the membership or 43 woodlot licensees.



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 ♦

15


Dunkley
LUMBER LTD. **QUALITY IN EVERY DIMENSION**

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

Direct: 250-998-4201

Woodlot Licence Joint Working Group (WL JWG)

by Patrick Russell, Manager, Forest Tenures Branch & Brian McNaughton, General Manager, FBCWA

The Woodlot Licence Joint Working Group (WL JWG) was established in June 2008 by Doug Konkin who was the Deputy Minister, Ministry of Forests & Range at the time. Doug wanted to create a forum for the Ministry (Forest Tenures Branch) and Federation to work collaboratively to resolve administrative issues of importance to the WL Program. The WL JWG has stood the test of time - 13 years and still going strong. That's pretty impressive when you think about how many government initiatives or Ministers of Forests have come and gone during that time.

So, what are the WL JWG's secrets of success? First, it's a joint committee. Members from the Ministry and Federation believe in the WL Program and are committed to it. Second, it has Terms of Reference that focus on issues that are within the group's control to address such as providing interpretations regarding legislation and regulation, improving business practices, dispensing advice to ministry staff and guidance to WL licensees. Topics outside the WL JWG's purview get referred to the correct Branch or agency and the WL JWG monitors the progress, e.g., issues involving stocking standards or free growing requirements get referred to Forest Practices Branch, species at risk to the correct agency or team, and stumpage concerns to Timber Pricing Branch. Third, the members establish an annual work plan that is reasonable and realistic.

Over the years, the WL JWG has led or been integrally involved in making many changes that improved the WL Program and/or made life easier for Woodlot licensees such as:

2021 WL JWG MEMBERS

| | |
|--|---|
| <p>FLNRORD Patrick Russell, co-chair Emma Neill Geoff Klassen Randy Aitken (Coast) Dave McArthur (South) Katelan Estetter (North) Alan Gilchrist (DSN) Julius Huhs, Resource Practices Branch</p> | <p>FBCWA Brian McNaughton, co-chair Tom Bradley Tyler Hodgkinson Mark Clark Brian Amies Kevin Webber</p> |
|--|---|

- Management Plan handbook
- WL Inventory handbook
- Private Land Removal
- Consolidation of 2 WLs
- WL Transfers
- W4W improvements
- 1 Cutting Permit
- Administrative streamlining
- Simplified road reporting
- Etc.

The current members of the WL JWG are listed in the side bar text box.

The priorities for 2020/21 are:

1. Addressing WL specific COVID-19 issues or concerns.
2. Review and update the WL Reference Guide as required.
3. Monitor WL transfer applications and push for a WL Transfer guide.
4. Finalize and release a bulletin on the options available to address a WL's cut control limit for timber at risk, i.e., wildfire damaged timber, beetle attack, blowdown, etc.
5. Improving FLNRORD communications with WL licensees.

Don't be surprised if the priority list changes to include some projects to do with the recently released Forestry Intention Paper! ♦



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. ♦

Fisher: A Growing Concern for British Columbia Forest Managers

by Scott Yaeger, M.Sc., R.P.Bio.
Fisher Conservation Program Lead | Species
At Risk Recovery Branch
Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource
Operations & Rural Development

The fisher, a housecat-sized member of the weasel family, is taking on a far larger presence in the minds of forest managers given that its populations are in decline. Loss of habitat from resource development, wildfires, and salvage harvest pose the main threat to the species, but where habitat has been damaged trapping is also an issue. Fisher habitat is found in productive low- and mid-elevation forests, which overlaps with the timber harvesting land base and many other forest ecosystem values. To address concerns, the provincial government is working with forest managers on increasing priority stewardship activities.

Fortunately, information and tools to support forestry professionals to voluntarily incorporate fisher habitat considerations into planning at the stand level is available from the Fisher Habitat Extension Program (www.BCFisherHabitat.ca). Watch this six-minute video to learn about some of what's available: [<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=odi94Ues20s&t=7s>] and contact Scott Yaeger (Scott.Yaeger@gov.bc.ca) or Rich Weir (Rich.Weir@gov.bc.ca) to request support for your specific operational requirements or to schedule a free

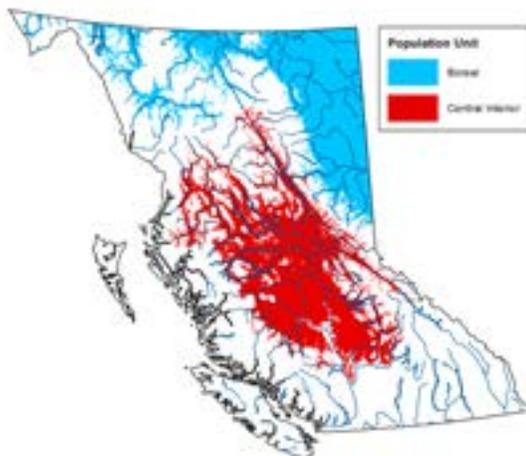
training session.

Also know that population-level decision support work is underway to develop tools for incorporating fishers into landscape-level planning and in early 2021 the Province of BC launched a fisher management and recovery planning process.

Why the elevated concern about fisher?

Recent research identified two genetically distinct populations in BC, including the “Boreal Population” that is part of a continuous population that extends eastward across Canada, and the “Central Interior Population”, which is only found in BC.

Fishers, including the Boreal population, have been blue-listed (special concern) since 1992. In 2020 the Central Interior population was elevated to red-listed (endangered) by the BC Conservation Data Centre



because population numbers are low (estimated at 300-500), declining in number, and the threats are high.

The Central Interior population is on a trajectory to be listed under the Federal Species at Risk Act (SARA). Fishers are part of a provincial-federal pilot project that will be testing the process and options to inform federal legal listing decisions and outcomes. The pilot project is an opportunity to implement proactive conservation actions and demonstrate that there would not be additional benefits to listing on Schedule 1 of SARA.

What are some key forest management challenges that will be addressed through management and recovery planning?

Fishers require tree cavities in large diameter trees to raise 2-3 kits and primarily den in cottonwood (> 90 cm dbh) and aspen (> 40 cm dbh). They are wide-ranging forest-dependent species with female territories from 30-50 km² and male territories from 100-200 km². Their prey is diverse, and they benefit from a mosaic of forest landscapes and age classes so they can tolerate some disturbance, but the rate of harvest and landscape-level change, including due to climate change, are significant issues.

More information about the fisher management and recovery planning process will be coming in early September 2021. ♦

Sarah Fraser, ADM, FLNRORD Addresses FBCWA Spring Members' Meeting

by Brian McNaughton, FBCWA General Manager

The FBCWA Members' Spring Meeting was held virtually (via ZOOM) on Saturday, June 19, 2021. Thank you to Sarah Fraser, the new Assistant Deputy Minister of the Rural Opportunities, Tenures and Engineering Division, Patrick Russell & Emma Neill, Manager & Senior Timber Tenures Forester, Forest Tenures Branch respectively for giving up their Saturday morning to attend.

Sarah addressed the members and had some notable remarks that are worth sharing.

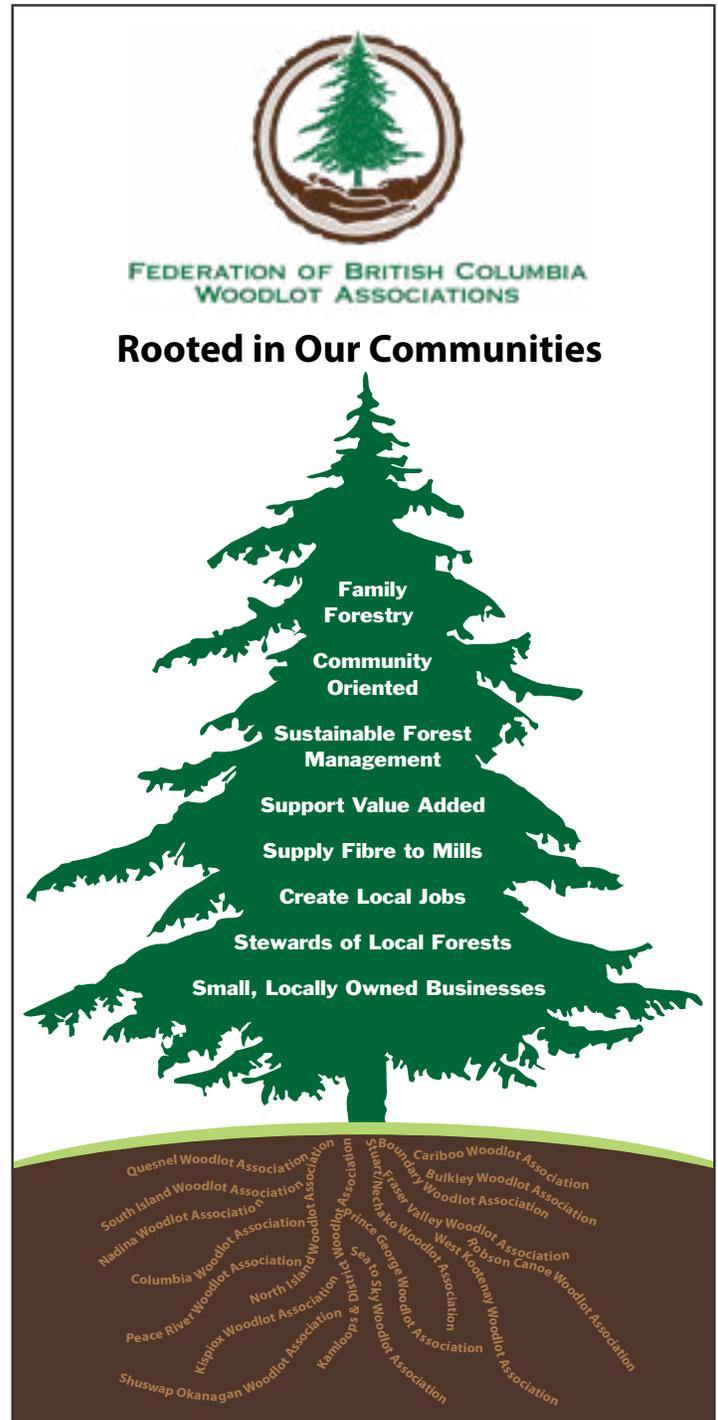
Modernizing BC Forest Policy - Sarah noted that most of the guiding principles in the intentions paper are linked directly with the goals stated in the ministerial mandate letters sent out by the Premier last November. While the details regarding engagement with the forest sector have yet to be worked out, Sarah felt the Federation was well positioned given that is represented on the Minister's Forest & Range Practices Advisory Council, Chief Forester Leadership Team, Operational Issues Forums (coast, north & south) and the WL Joint Working Group.

WLs Exceeding Cut Control - The ministry is aware that there are an increasing number of WLs exceeding cut control, i.e., overharvesting. Not all infractions are minor. Some involve significant volumes of timber. Sarah noted that the ministry is investigating and will likely be taking remedial actions - AND that could involve changes to tab rates and 1 Cutting Permits. She asked for WL licensees to be diligent and avoid exceeding their cut control. (Note: See the letter on this topic to WL licensees from the Chief Forester elsewhere in this edition of the Almanac.)

Certainty of Operations - Sarah acknowledged that the ministry is aware that in some areas of the province WLs are having difficulty getting Cutting Permits and Road Permits due to varying and changing expectations with respect to information-sharing with First Nations. This concern was expressed by the Federation in a letter dated April 26, 2021 to Rick Manwaring, Deputy Minister, FLNRORD. Rick assigned the file to Sarah and Sarah advised that she has asked her staff in Forest Tenures Branch and Indigenous Relations Branch to work with their colleagues at the Ministry of Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation to investigate, come up with options to resolve the issue, and report back to her by September 2021. Updating the Woodlot Licences: Information Sharing and Consultation with First Nations bulletin (May 2016) to better reflect the spirit and intent of the Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act is one option under

consideration.

Following Sarah's remarks there was a lively discussion with members asking questions &/or raising concerns ranging from the transfer of WLs to achieving social licence. Patrick, Emma and I took notes. These topics raised will be reviewed by the WL Joint Working Group. Ending on a positive note, Sarah said that BC's WLs have a very bright future! ♦





REF: 266094
To all Woodlot Licence holders

July 27, 2021

It has come to my attention that an increasing number of Woodlot Licensees are harvesting over and above their allowable annual cut (AAC) during the cut control period or, in other words, exceeding their cut control limit. Some by a nominal amount (1 or 2%) which might be explained by the margin of error with respect to grading or scaling but other cases are much more significant (greater than 120%). This over-harvesting suggests either a lack of due diligence in monitoring or a purposeful decision by the licence holder to ignore their obligations under the Forest Act.

No matter the amount, exceeding cut control is a contravention of the Forest Act and responsible parties are subject to penalty. I can assure you that the Ministry executive is aware of this situation and that my colleagues in Forest Tenures Branch, Timber Pricing Branch and Compliance & Enforcement are investigating the incidents and will be taking the necessary steps to address the non-compliance.

A woodlot's AAC establishes the sustainable level of timber harvesting for that tenure area, consistent with the principles of good forest management and stewardship. From my perspective, exceeding cut control threatens the sustainability of the tenure, and calls into question the professional practices historically demonstrated by the woodlot community. I expect District Managers share this view and, in cases where serious overharvesting has occurred, will give consideration to requiring the woodlot licensee to submit a Management Plan so a new AAC can be determined.

The woodlot program has been long recognized for its exemplary stewardship, innovative and sustainable management and its ability to garner social licence so integral to managing public forest land. By and large, most woodlot licensees live up to the tag line "Woodlot Licences: Forests in Good Hands!" I'm asking all woodlot licence holders to live up to that standard and manage your woodlot's AAC within the cut control limits.

Diane Nicholls, RPF
Assistant Deputy Minister, Chief Forester

Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development | Office of the Chief Forester | Mailing Address: PO BOX 9352 Stn Prov Govt Victoria, BC V8W 9M1 | Tel: 778-974-5811 | Website: www.gov.bc.ca/for

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. ♦



Welcome Karen Forge Administration Support Contractor

Karen lives in the Cowichan Valley on Vancouver Island with her husband Glenn. They have two grown adult children.

Karen has recently retired after 32 years in the Forest industry. She started her career with MacMillan Bloedel working at their Chemainus Sawmill Division in Administration. She then moved on to various roles within the company including Safety, Environment and Ability Management.

In her spare time, you'll find her working in her garden or hiking the trails. ♦





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 |
| WILLIAMS LAKE | Rob Sutton | 250-267-3086 |
| 100 MILE HOUSE and KAMLOOPS | Malcolm Sutton | 250-302-1219 |
| | Tyrell Law | 250-706-8141 |
| QUESNEL, | Scott Turton | 250-255-7342 |
| PRINCE GEORGE | Greg Scott | 250-983-3103 |
| and MACKENZIE | Brian Inwood | 250-991-9159 |
| SMITHERS, HOUSTON HAZELTON, TERRACE | Chris DeHoog | 250-847-6506 |

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

FOR SALE

565 acres of timbered private land 30 km west of Prince George. Easy road access and ideally suited to woodlot use with a mixture of mature and immature timber. Option to log timber on adjacent private land.

For further information on pricing, VRI cruise details, etc., please email Don at dgschwartz@shaw.ca

20



Thank you
to our contributors for
this issue:

Sabina Donnelly
Sara Grady
Joyce Helweg
Ed Hughes
Dale Likes

Brian McNaughton
Patrick Russell
Al Waters
Scott Yaeger
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.

Selling 600 hectare woodlot in northeastern BC (Peace River south area)

Management plan, license plan,
cutting permits all in place and current.

Contact Greg 250-219-4734

“Summertime
is always the best
of what might be.”

-CHARLES BOWDEN



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