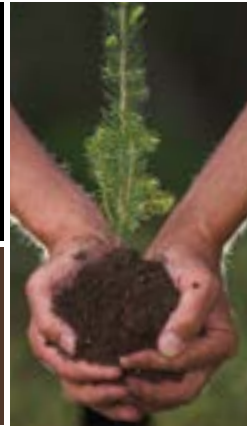




Forests in Good Hands

THE WOODLAND ALMANAC



www.woodlot.bc.ca

Fall 2021

IN THIS ISSUE

- 3 GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT
- 5 INTERIOR TIMBER PRICING
- 6 COASTAL TIMBER PRICING
- 7 WPDC AGM NOTICE
- 8 MINISTER'S AWARDS ANNOUNCED
- 10 PRESIDENT'S REPORT
- 11 LETTER TO THE EDITOR
- 12 SAFEWOODS
- 12 EXTRAORDINARY PROJECT PROPOSALS
- 14 E-BITS FOR YOUR TWO BITS
- 16 ANNOUNCING THE SMALL FOREST TENURE CAPACITY BUILDING PROJECT
- 16 WPDC DIRECTOR VACANCIES
- 18 EXTRAORDINARY PROJECT: CURRENT SILVICULTURE PRACTICES SURVEY
- 20 OLD GROWTH FOREST MANAGEMENT
- 20 R&D PROJECT FUNDING AVAILABLE
- 21 FBCWA EXPENDITURES 2020-21
- 21 GOVERNMENT NEWS RELEASE
- 22 2021/22 FBCWA PRIORITIES
- 24 THANK YOU TO OUR CONTRIBUTORS

Sahlstrom Family Legacy of Excellence & Innovation in Woodlot Management

by Sara Grady

If you are a woodlot licensee in the Kootenays, chances are good that you were gathered around a bonfire on Woodlot Licence 0403 in Castlegar on October 14th.

That's when Katrine Conroy, Minister of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development presented Greg and Bob Sahlstrom with the Minister's Award for Excellence and Innovation in Woodlot Management. They received honours for the South region, as well as the overall Provincial award.

It's a measure of the respect afforded to the Sahlstrom family that nearly every member of the West Kootenay Association took time to join the celebration. And, four generations of Sahlstroms were on hand to take part in the presentation, as well.

A legacy 70 years in the making

Bob and Greg's father, Carl Johann Sahlstrom – or Charlie (CJ) Sahlstrom as he became known in the community – started his Canadian journey in Alberta. He arrived from Sweden in 1917 and was a homesteader first on the prairies.

His travels took him to Castlegar, where he began a tradition of conscientious forest management that continues to this day.

Charlie had worked in forestry in Sweden, crossing the border into Norway to work in the privately-owned forests.

Greg describes his dad as a "tough



4 Generations of the Sahlstrom Family: Seated L-R Betty Sahlstrom, husband Bob, Yvonne Sahlstrom. Standing L-R Tyler (Bob's Grandson), Cash (Bob's Great Grandson), Kathy + Dan Sahlstrom (Bob's son), Dylan (Greg's Grandson), Brenda (Greg's daughter), Greg Sahlstrom

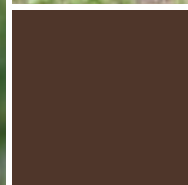
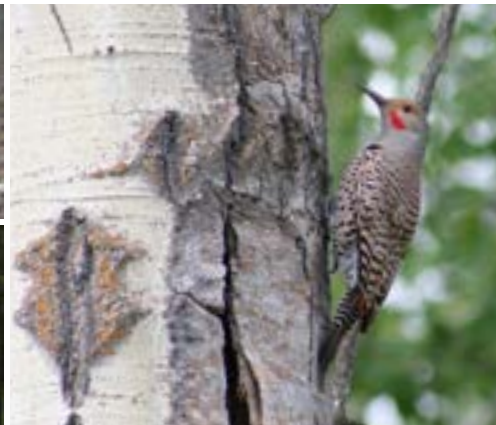
Swede" who was willing to do difficult work to carve out a living. In the early 1900s Charlie was logging on the west side of Castlegar, cutting railroad ties and trestle timbers by hand for the Grand Trunk Railroad. The logs would be brought out of the bush by a team of horses and a "Go Devil" – the sled devised to pull out massive loads of timber.

It was in Castlegar that Charlie met his wife, Gwen Killough. Born in Saskatchewan, she came from a forestry family; her brother Joe began his career as an Assistant Forest Ranger in BC and advanced to become a manager of timber licenses in the province. Greg surmises this

cont'd on page 4 ...



Forests in Good Hands



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■ General Manager's report

Modernizing Forest Policy in BC

by Brian McNaughton

The Modernizing Forest Policy in BC initiative is underway. The web portal for public input closed on September 3, 2021, and engagement sessions (2-hour virtual meetings) on the 20 guiding principles (intentions) commenced in late September. To date, the session topics have been mostly tenure related - apportionment, disposition, replacement, and attributions. Grade 4 credits and statutory decision maker discretion have also been discussed.

The sessions have been well attended. Usually there are between 40 to 60 participants, with ~2/3 being ministry staff. The various sub-sectors are well represented by major tenure holders, contractors, secondary manufacturers, and workers. Each session begins with a brief overview of the intention, followed by a summary of 'what was heard' during the public input phase, then an open discussion. Consistent



Brian McNaughton,
General Manager

with the province's stated objectives, First Nation and community interests are commonly top of mind.

The engagement session on statutory decision maker (SDM) discretion was particularly interesting and likely directly relevant to Woodlots.

Current legislation offers SDMs limited discretion or options when issuing a cutting or road permit. In most cases a SDM "must" issue, even when there are indications that issuing a permit would significantly impact a forest resource or value.

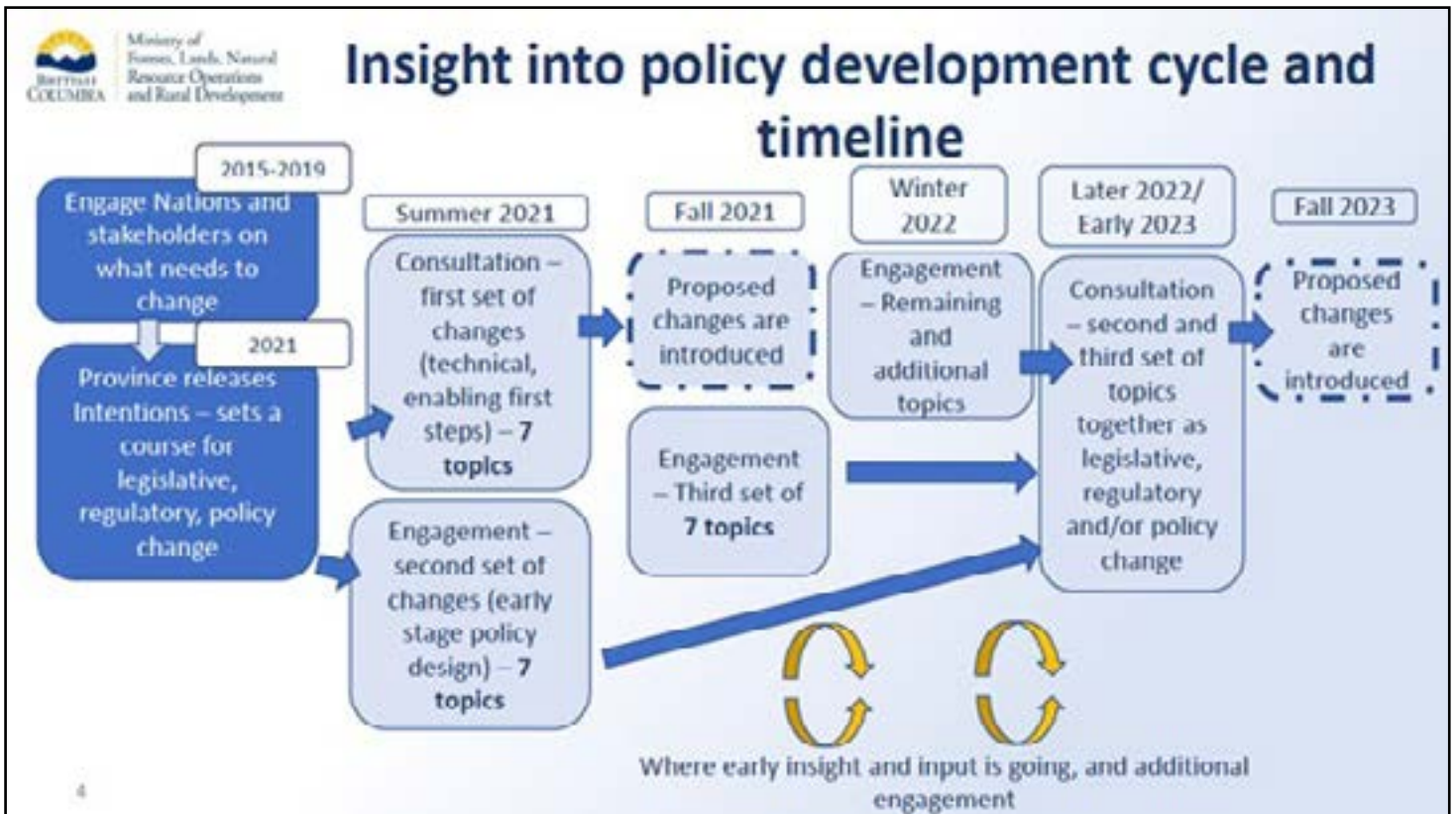
In the past Cutting Permits (CP) and Road Permits (RP) have been issued when it was not in the public interest to do so.

The province, Indigenous communities, the public, and the Forest Practices Branch have expressed the need for

enhanced stewardship and oversight of activities on public lands.

During the session, I reminded the group that the situation with Woodlots is different because, as per section 23 of the Woodlot Licence Planning (WLP) and Practices Regulation, a SDM need only inform a Woodlot holder of an unacceptable impact to a resource value and operations must cease immediately. Section 23 says if a Woodlot holder knows or ought to reasonably know that performing an operation will not achieve the results specified in the WLP or in the regulation, i.e., adversely impact a forest resource or value, then they must cease operations, inform the minister, and amend their WLP. This is one of the reasons why 1CP is so important to Woodlots. If a Woodlot licensee does have to cease operations in an area, then 1 CP provides the flexibility to move operations to another area. In other words, 1 CP facilitates and supports good forest management

cont'd on page 17



was how the family was led to the woodlot program.

Charlie and Gwen married in 1920 and homesteaded on a 10-acre plot that would later become part of the original woodlot license. They cleared the land by hand and horse, selectively logging and salvaging cedar from the swampy areas on the property for split cedar fence posts.

Unfortunately, Charlie met with a setback during the Depression. Having hauled loads of split rail fencing to a siding on the railroad, the prairie farmers who had agreed to purchase the load fell on hard times and backed out on the deal. The load was eventually burned, leaving Charlie with no income, and no product to sell.

It was likely events like this that gave Greg and Bob a keen eye for tracking market trends, an ability that serves them well to this day.

4

Farm Licence 0023

In 1952 the logging operations were expanded, and the Sahlstrom family acquired Farm Licence 0023. It was a combination of private and public land – 200 hectares of cedar, hemlock, larch and spruce.

Charlie purchased a mill, which he situated on the woodlot, and a truck – an old '35 International – in 1955. The family continued their selective logging, hauling timber out of the bush onto narrow skid trails and trucking them to their mill on the woodlot.

It's become common practice on the Sahlstrom's woodlot to keep the roads narrow, minimizing the impact on the terrain while still servicing the logging operations.

The mill ran successfully for three years. But in 1957 Bob went to school and began his tenure as a Forest Ranger, first in Elko, then Arrowhead, then Invermere. When the Ranger program was scaled back in 1960 he went back to school and became a teacher.

Greg was on his own career path as a mechanic, working first at the co-op, then opening his own shop. He



Woodlot Tour

would enjoy 40 years as a mechanic, and his skills came in handy with the machinery on the woodlot used for their harvesting operations.

Charlie passed away in 1959, leaving Gwen in charge of the woodlot, with support from her sons.

In the 1980s Bob and Greg renewed the license which was now a 600 hectare Woodlot Licence 0403 and the site of innovative forestry practices ever since.

A working forest and a working classroom

Anyone who knows about the Sahlstrom family also knows about Stu Deverny.

Now retired from teaching, he became one of the most respected and knowledgeable faculty members, heading up the School of Natural Resources at Selkirk College in Castlegar. He came alongside the Sahlstroms, and has helped manage their woodlot using the same commonsense, hands-on approach that Charlie promoted from the beginning.

Woodlot Licence 0403 has been an outdoor classroom for students at Selkirk College for decades. While the college has its own Woodlot Licence 0400, the Sahlstrom woodlot is closer to the college and more easily accessed.

This woodlot is used for field labs by the college's School of Environment and Geomatics (Forestry) because

of its location in the wildfire interface area, and its diverse ecosystem.

The stands of towering cedars on the woodlot are harvested for transmission poles. While Bob used to bring his tape measure into the bush to measure the circumference of the cedars, Stu and Greg go tree-to-tree and, if Stu wraps his arms around the tree and can't touch his fingers together, they know there's potential for a 60 foot pole.

The cedar stands aren't replanted. Instead, the Sahlstroms leave that part of their forest to regenerate naturally – a system of uneven-aged management in which each tree is harvested at the optimal time. Their selective logging practices create openings that are conducive to cedars and allow for some hemlock to grow, adding diversity to the area while not threatening the health of the cedars.

Tracking – and engaging – the forestry community

The Sahlstroms have made their woodlot an open classroom, and also a place for burgeoning foresters to practice their planting skills. Over the past 20 years they've hosted 13 crews from Selkirk College who've helped to regenerate their cutblocks.

Their wages go towards field trips for the students, giving them opportunities to experience forestry practices in other parts of the province.

Between the Sahlstroms and Deverny, WL0403 has been managed with a keen eye for market demand, but also with an understanding of the importance of biodiversity.

They've found a market for hemlock when demand for cedar was waning, and are patiently waiting for their spruce to grow into marketable timber. Every decision they make is tempered by an understanding of the changing demands of the mills in their area, and the sustainability of their part of the Province's forest.

They are exceptional forest stewards who exemplify the values of the Woodlot Licence program. ♦

The Conversation on Woodlot tabular stumpage rates continues!

by *Debbie Zandbelt, RPF*

I suspect most of the unease and questions on Woodlot stumpage filling my inbox have arisen from the publication Modernizing Forest Policy in British Columbia. It is a paper produced by the Ministry of Forest Lands and Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development (MFLNROD) otherwise known as the “Intention’s paper”. This paper is about the provincial government setting their intentions of updating select areas of forest policy. “Intention” number 18 is revising area-based tenure specific pricing policy. Woodlots were included in this grouping to harmonize the rate structures of Woodlots, Community Forests and First Nation Woodland licenses.



Debbie Zandbelt, RPF
Interior Timber Pricing
Coordinator

Advocacy for maintaining the stumpage rate calculation method currently used for Woodlots is my number one priority. It also is one of the top ranked priorities for all the Federations advocacy roles (if not first there too!). Thus, this paper has gained a deserving amount of attention at the FBCWA.

What are we doing about it?

Conversation on tabular stumpage is occurring on four different levels of government. At the detail level, table calculation methods and timelines to update this data set are being held with MFLNROD Senior Timber Pricing Foresters. At the Market Pricing System Technical Committee, I work directly with Senior Timber Pricing industry and government leads on various policy initiatives including how calculations are done for the salvage, right of way and district

average stumpage tables (and in turn the woodlot stumpage table). The Intentions paper added two additional levels of discussion to engage, hold conversations with, and to listen with the various stakeholder groups. BC government Intention #18 meetings on area specific tenure pricing are scheduled late in November. Lastly, the Union of BC Municipalities have added Forest Policy engagement to their list of advocacy roles. In early November local governments are seeking engagement from Municipalities on the Intentions paper and have included tabular stumpage specifically as an agenda item. Several municipalities have noted their interest in the pricing of woodlot and community forest tenures.

In the spring it will be time to get into the specific details – so stay tuned!

Waste Sampling

The waste sampling plan project hit a few bumps this year and we were not able to start surveys until late this fall. Limited work is still proceeding but as I type the snow is approaching and a few survey contractors are trying their best to fit at least one Woodlot into their schedule. The fires in the southern half of the province this summer put a kink into most folks work plans and we all are still trying to catch up!

Road Amortization Agreements

In September I sent out an email to the Associations to solicit information on any outstanding road amortizations under the authority of the Interior Appraisal Manual. If you know of

any Woodlot licenses with such an agreement in place, please contact me. These agreements may be topic of discussion soon so the more we know about what is out there, the better I will be able to represent you in the discussions.

Stumpage Rate Request Form Updated

Please note the updated stumpage rate request form dated July 1, 2021, is available from the MFLNROD FTP site.

[www.for.gov.bc.ca - /ftp/Rsi/external!/publish/Stumpage/Forms/](http://www.for.gov.bc.ca/-/ftp/Rsi/external!/publish/Stumpage/Forms/)

My contact info is always at the front of this Almanac or please feel free to contact me at Debbie@woodlot.bc.ca.



Links of Interest

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

■ Coastal timber pricing

Waste Survey Review, Woodlot Working Group, Lumber and Log Prices

by Ed Hughes

Waste Assessments - Update

The pilot project to conduct waste surveys on a sample of WL using the methodology major licensee survey methods is currently underway. The data will be used to compare WL waste levels to major licensees and district averages. This data is required to better understand and further discussions with Revenue Branch in order to come up with an accurate and affordable waste measurement and reporting methodology for WLs.



Ed Hughes,
Coastal Timber Pricing
Coordinator

the different policies and modelling required for approval by the Minister of the CAM. Proposed changes to the CAM are being discussed with the Coastal Woodlot Timber Pricing Working Group.

Lumber, Log and Stumpage values over

the past year

Lumber and log price changes have shown over the past year how different they are based on the value changes. The difference between lumber and log price changes over time is significant. The major difference is lumber prices fluctuate to a much larger degree than logs!

As sellers of logs, woodlot licensees need to be wary of stumpage rates determined based on lumber (and end products) vs log values. An article in the Fall 2021 issue of the Truck Logger's magazine by Mike Greig

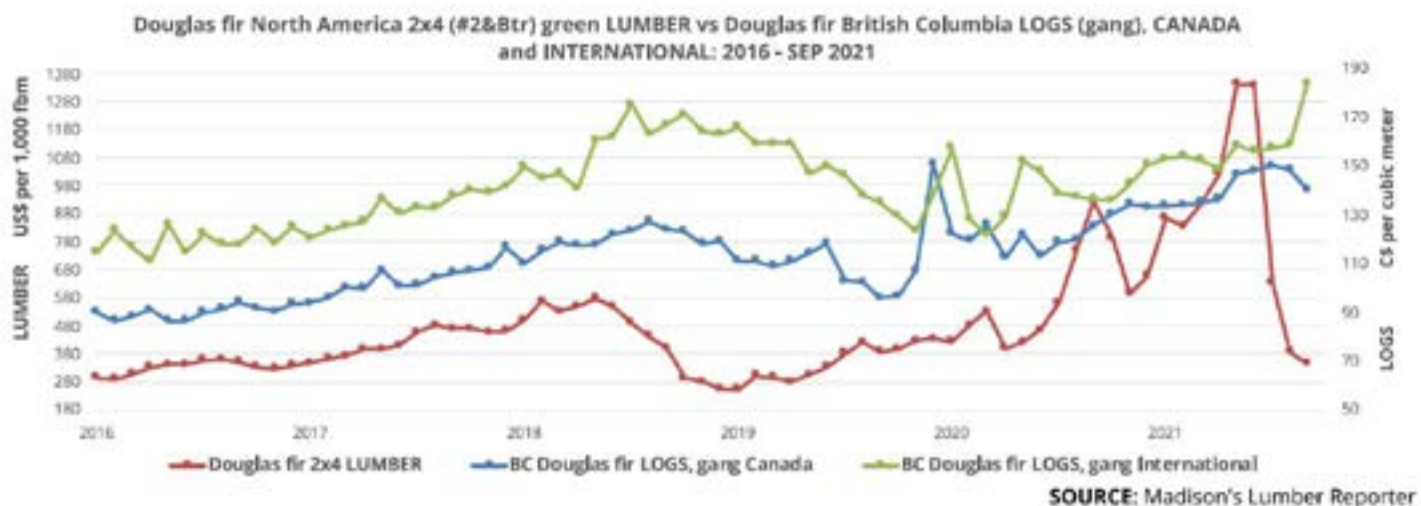
entitled "Stumpage: What's Changed" provides an excellent description of how our stumpage methods have changed over the past year. Mike's article is well worth the read to get updated.

Currently, there is pressure from industry and government to make stumpage more responsive to market conditions; in other words, to address the disconnect or lag between lumber prices and fully appraised stumpage rates. The lag between lumber prices and stumpage results in one being low when the other increases or visa versa. Both trends result in harvesting responses (rapid stops and starts) that impact how the majors and any tenure holder who complete a full MPS appraisal is likely to operate.

Woodlot Licensees primarily sell logs. The prices of logs over the past year have increased by approximately 20% (or \$20/m³) for our major species

cont'd on page 7

NORTH AMERICA 2x4 LUMBER VS BC COAST LOG PRICES 2016 - 2021



Fd and HemBal, while Cw (a minor species) by approximately 25% (or \$100/m3). This is compared to the lumber prices for 1000fbm going up from \$580 in the last quarter of 2020 to \$1370 in the second quarter of 2021 and now down to \$370 in the third quarter of 2021 (Madison's Lumber Reporter graph).

This huge swing in lumber prices (>250%) has and will be followed with a lag, by a similar trend in stumpage rates, which in the final quarter of 2021 sits at record highs. It is expected that stumpage rates will follow the lumber price decrease through early 2022. There is pressure to reduce the lag, and some are recommending down to a monthly basis, for some licensees.

Coast Low Volume and Woodlot Crown Tenure Management Cost Survey

The low volume cost survey submissions have not been compiled to date. No new information has been provided on Coastal Woodlot submissions.



AGM IMPORTANT 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 has mailed the annual report and voting process to all woodlot licensees. **Please submit your vote by November 25, 2021.** 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. ♦

Fiber Recovery Zones

At the time of writing this article the decision on extending the exemption from coastal Fiber Recovery Zones (expires on Nov 30) has not yet been made. The exemption is expected to be extended, so for any waste surveys completed after December 1, 2021, it is important to check for an extension to the exemption to be aware of the penalties (or not) prior to completing

and submitting the waste surveys.

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. ♦

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NEWS RELEASE:

Minister's Awards for Innovation and Excellence in Woodlot Management Announced

October 11, 2021

Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development

Note: The following are excerpts from three news releases regarding the Minister's Awards for Innovation and Excellence in Woodlot Management announced on October 11, 2021.



Sahlstrom photo: From left Brothers, Greg and Bob Sahlstrom, Forests Minister Katrine Conroy, West Kootenay Woodlot Association President Tom Bradley and Stu Deverney

Sahlstrom woodlot licence receives minister's overall provincewide award

CASTLEGAR – Robert (Bob) and Greg Sahlstrom are being recognized by the Province through the 2020 Minister's Award for Innovation and Excellence in Woodlot Management for the South area.

They are also the recipients of the overall provincial award.

"I am pleased to announce Bob and Greg Sahlstrom as the top overall provincial woodlot licence award recipients for 2020, which is well deserved after the Sahlstrom family's 70 years of managing their woodlot license area," said Katrine Conroy, Minister of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development. "They are dedicated to

maintaining a productive and diverse woodlot operation and generously share access to the property for their local community to enjoy."

Woodlot Licensees are small scale forest managers who strive to take a hands-on approach to natural resource management. Timber is harvested in a manner consistent with principles of stewardship and sustainability. Each year the Minister of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development recognizes three woodlot licensees that exemplify excellence in woodlot management. Licensees are recognized, for excellence in "Basic and Incremental Forestry," "Sales, Marketing and Utilization" and being a "Good Woodlot Citizen."

Woodlot licence W0403 is in the Selkirk Natural Resource District, and it has been managed by the Sahlstrom family since 1952 with the woodlot business a part of this family for decades, as they homesteaded the area in the late 1920's.

This woodlot is in one of the most productive and diverse areas in the Southern interior, and the Sahlstrom's management strategy is to enhance this productivity and diversity. Forest health and diversity includes cedar, birch and aspen and managing private land containing transmission-sized cedar poles. The Sahlstroms keep road construction narrow to minimize their footprint and to provide access to suppress potential fire-related incidents.

This woodlot is used for field labs by the Selkirk College School of Environment and Geomatics (Forestry) because it is in a wildfire interface area and the woodlot has a diverse wildlife ecosystem. The Sahlstrom's give back to their community by employing local harvesting and reforestation contractors and making the woodlot available for mushroom and berry

pickers, snowshoers and mountain bikers.

"The long term stewardship approach to managing their woodlot is an excellent example of innovation, diversity, high utilization standards and contributing to the local community - all core values of BC's woodlot licence program," said Jeff Beale, president of the Federation of British Columbia Woodlot Associations. "We are proud of the Sahlstrom family dedication to natural resource management and their long history as good woodlot citizens."



Ben Wilson with Skidder-seeder direct seeding blocks

BURNS LAKE – Ben Wilson is being recognized by the Province through the 2020 Minister's Award for Innovation and Excellence in Woodlot Management for British Columbia's North area.

"I am pleased to announce Ben Wilson is a woodlot award recipient for his commitment to his community and First Nations capacity building," said Katrine Conroy, Minister of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development. "Ben is a great example of what the woodlot program can be for small innovative rural operators who use every ounce of fibre harvested

to maximize the efficiency of the woodlot.”

Ben Wilson holds Woodlot Licences W0117 and W0950 in British Columbia’s Northern Interior. Wilson was selected as a recipient because he has an innovative approach to optimizing timber use and silviculture reforestation. He has successfully partnered with a local nursery to improve transport and planting efficiencies, as well as rehabilitate severely fire-damaged stands. Wilson markets his harvested timber to all the local mills, which enables him to maximize utilization for a broad spectrum of timber products, while also minimizing site debris to reduce fire risks.

Wilson leaves logs at the side of the road for his community to heat their homes. Wilson is also committed to building and maintaining local First Nations capacity and relationship building by directly employing several local workers, two of whom work full time, and supporting their career development. He donates to local causes including the LINK (food bank / community support) and the Burns Lake Minor Hockey Association.

“Congratulations to Ben Wilson. It hasn’t been an easy road for him rehabilitating one woodlot heavily impacted by wildfires and acquiring a second woodlot requiring extensive silviculture work, but they are proof of what can be accomplished with some ingenuity and determination,” said Jeff Beale, president of the Federation of British Columbia Woodlot Associations. “I would like to thank him for his diligent salvage program cleaning up extensive areas of dead and downed pine in interface areas, particularly near the Village of Burns Lake”

MAPLE RIDGE – The British Columbia Institute of Technology (BCIT) Forest Society, led by instructor Jonathan Smyth, is being recognized by the Province through the 2020 Minister’s Award for Innovation and Excellence in Woodlot Management for the Coast area.



Jonathan Smyth, President, BCIT Forest Society and Instructor

“I am pleased to announce BCIT is a woodlot award recipient for their commitment to developing future forestry industry leaders,” said Katrine Conroy, Minister of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development. “The dedication and enthusiasm for embracing new sustainable forestry practices demonstrated by lead instructor Jonathan Smyth will ensure our forests will be enjoyed for generations to come.”

The BCIT Forest Society holds the woodlot license W0007 in Maple Ridge, which it operates as a non-profit society with all proceeds going back to offer bursaries and scholarships to educate forestry students, including members of the Katzie and Kwantlen First Nations. As an instructor at BCIT and president of the BCIT Forest Society in Maple Ridge, Jonathan Smyth, is forging the way for future sustainable approaches to forestry involving the entire community. Smyth has created synergies with local mills, operators, adjacent tenure holders, and non-forest interest groups, to create a community-based integrated plan for Blue Mountain, while employing students and First Nations.

Smyth is dedicated to continuously researching new approaches to forest management to educate the province’s future forest workers. As a long time, Scout volunteer, Smyth gives kids hands-on experience in the woods teaching them about natural history

while hiking the area. Some innovative uses for the woodlot fibre harvested includes First Nations harvesting of medicinal and ceremonial plants and bark stripping, cedar used for bike and hiking trail features and greenery used by movie crews.

“I’m incredibly proud of the dedication and positive impact this year’s Coast award winner has demonstrated over the years to provide benefits to BCIT’s Forest and Natural Areas Management program and its many students, the surrounding community and the local forest,” said Jeff Beale, president of the Federation of British Columbia Woodlot Associations. “Congratulations to the BCIT Forest Society for this well-deserved award, and kudos to Jonathan Smyth, the driving force behind the woodlot and program.”

The Province is recognizing three woodlot licensees and an overall provincial winner for innovation and excellence in woodlot management. This year’s recipients include:

- Sahlstrom Enterprises – provincial and South area
- Ben Wilson – North area
- BCIT – Coast area, with recognition of manager Jonathan Smyth

Award winners receive a signed, framed certificate of recognition from the minister and the recipients also take home \$2,500 each for their Area awards, with an additional \$2,500 going to the top performer provincially.

The awards are funded by the Province of British Columbia and administered by the Federation of BC Woodlot Associations. Since 2010, the annual awards recognize a woodlot licensee representing each of the Coast, South and North areas, along with an overall top performer. Award winners are nominated through official submissions received by the Federation of BC Woodlot Associations.

cont’d on page 10

■ President's report

I'm Baaaccckk ...!

I am very happy to return to the President's role with the Federation of BC Woodlot Associations (FBCWA). I truly believe that through cooperation, concerted effort, and some good clean fun, we can benefit the woodlots of BC.



Mark Clark
President

There has recently been some friction concerning the budgeting process between the Federation and our principal funding partner, the Woodlot Product Development Council. In this regard, we have struck two Joint Executive Committees. The first will review in detail the current contractual Agreement between the FBCWA and Woodlot Product Development Council (WPDC) and make recommendations for improvements. The second committee will review the communications between the groups, with an eye to streamlining and improving the types of information that both parties need to meet both their fiduciary responsibility and to maintain administrative efficiency. The committees are asked to report by Jan 1 2021.

We have also initiated some joint

Governance Training, to help our directors and members understand what the role of volunteer board members on not-for-profit and corporate organizations, should be. This is planned for mid January 2022.

I am writing this just days after the Old

Growth Deferral Process was announced. Most of us have heard the Chinese Curse "May you live in interesting times". But the second part of that same curse says, "May the government be aware of you", followed by "May you find what you are looking for". We've got the first part covered, the second is a work in progress, and we truly hope to get to the third stage soon! The Old Growth topic will be reviewed in detail in a special edition of the Almanac, planned for mid December.

We've got great staff and contractors, great volunteers, and a fabulous resource to manage. And look for some Association-level funding opportunities soon, to pull that all together. Let's get it done. ♦



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. ♦

10

► From page 9

Quick Facts:

- Woodlot licences are small, area-based tenures managed by individuals, partnerships, or First Nations.
- Licence holders are granted exclusive rights to manage Crown timber within the woodlot licence area and must manage any private land contribution according to provincial forestry legislation including the Forest Act, Forest and Range Practices Act and the Wildfire Act.
- While any amount of private land can be included in the woodlot licence area, the maximum amount of Crown

land attributable to a Woodlot Licence is 800 hectares on the Coast and 1,200 hectares in the Interior.

- British Columbia has 848 issued woodlots. Each woodlot generates jobs in planning, harvesting, road construction and maintenance, reforestation, silviculture, and small-scale timber processing.
- Woodlot Licences contribute to approximately two percent of the provincial annual allowable timber harvest.

Learn More:

B.C. Woodlot Licence program:
<https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content?id=53FB3BF3DEC3447C9BFE3A3068AE3A48>

Federation of B.C. Woodlot Associations: <http://www.woodlot.bc.ca>

Contact:

Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development
Media Relations 250 356-7506
Connect with the Province of B.C. at: www.gov.bc.ca/connect. ♦

Old Growth Deferral Across B.C.

To: Executive Directors of the FBCWA

Re: Forwarding the Notice organizing BC Rallies against the deferral of Old Growth across B.C.

We are disappointed that the Federation of British Columbia Woodlot Associations (FBCWA) forwarded a notice by email to its members across BC regarding the organization of Rallies against the deferral of Old Growth in BC. The email stated that *“The Federation does not take an official position regarding the rally and believes it’s up to each licensee to decide whether to support or not.”*

However, this was an inappropriate action which belittles the integrity of the Federation. The FBCWA should not be an information conduit for any such group. Even with a disclaimer statement, the very act of being willing to pass this type of information on inherently implies some level of support for the event.

The Federation did not forward any such notice in favor of protecting Old Growth across BC because as stated by one Director, the Federation has not received any requests from any organization to do this. Therefore, is it okay to pass the notice on because they were asked by one individual who appears to be supported and sponsored by Inland Truck and Equipment? We see this as an illogical and non-sensical rationale. For whom else will the Federation do this? Apparently, the next organization that asks.

We need to support the protection of as much Old Growth across BC as required for the future well-being of the people of BC and support the government in this endeavor as deemed appropriate in the public interest for all people of BC.

We, and other woodlot licensees, have had and continue to have, the right and privilege to hold and manage a small but important part of BC’s forests via our woodlots. We need to support, respect and honor this right and privilege. Woodlot licensees have benefited financially from such right and privilege. Few others in BC have had similar opportunities.

Potential Old Growth areas have been identified on our woodlot. If it is in the best interests of the people of BC who own these resources to have these areas fully protected then so be it, and that is what we will support.

From our understanding of the Old Growth protection process, this is what may happen:

1. Full and informed consent and collaboration with the Indigenous groups across BC.
2. Ground-verification of map notations of potential Old Growth areas.
3. Licensees with potential Old Growth areas that are determined to be suitable areas (i.e., size, location, health, etc.) for

preservation, will be notified.

4. Areas that are designated for protection and removal from the woodlot, may or may not affect the Allowable Annual cut (AAC) i.e., some, most, or all of the Old Growth areas may already be in Wildlife Tree Retention Areas (WTRA) or inoperable areas.
5. If significant areas of the Timber Harvesting Land Base (THLB) are affected then the AAC contribution of these areas will be determined and the licensees compensated.
6. A new AAC determination process may be necessary for the THLB reduction.
7. The THLB area lost may be replaced with a suitable alternate area.
8. Other options will be considered and applied in collaboration with the individual licensees.

Our two-bits worth.

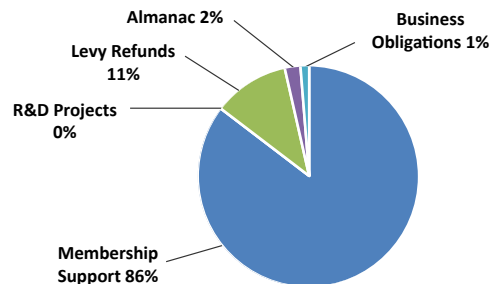
Thank you,
Fred and Jane Marshall
Woodlot Licensees W0470 ♦

Note from the FBCWA: Just as Fred & Jane have done in this letter to the editor, each Woodlot licensee has the right to formulate and express their views on old growth and the government process that is currently underway. The Federation distributed by email the notice about the rally for information and with the intent that Woodlot licensees can decide for themselves if they wish to participate. 689 of BC’s 848 WLs have some proposed old growth deferral area. The Old Growth topic will be reviewed in detail in a special edition of the Almanac, planned for mid December.

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. ♦



Given the severity of the recent fire season, the FBCWA Safety Committee is reprinting the bulletin below that originally appeared in 2017.



Post Wildfire Operational Safety Bulletin

As we move into fall/winter, after a summer filled with devastating wildfires, new hazards have risen within the new landscape of many woodlots and community forests in British Columbia. These new hazards affect all phases of forestry from planning to post harvesting. Some of these hazards include; unstable trees, unstable ground, air quality, increased blowdown and hot spots. The Woodlot License & Community Forest Agreement Safety Committee has developed a resource of additional considerations when working on land that has been affected by wildfires.



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 ♦

Planning Phase	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop wind protocol to address blowdown hazards • Guide the development of harvest plans (and tree retention potential), consider undertaking a field review to assess general tree stability • Keep up to date on potential new restrictions, regulatory changes • Give extra consideration to slope stability, assess steep slopes that may have been compromised/unstable ground • Use extra caution during bid tours and all assessments as hazards are unknown • Consider clear cuts vs partial cuts to decrease the chance of reoccurring fires and/or blowdown • Determine potential access issues due to damaged roads/bridges/culverts • Determine the scale and intensity of the fire and if its fully out • Identify a refuge area for field crews to address risk during wind events • Consider widening road right of ways to remove trees that will be hazardous during operation
Development Phase	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop wind protocol to address blowdown hazards • Conduct a recce to determine if plans are viable & identify hazards • Use extra caution during general hazard assessment/ overall site assessment as hazards are unknown i.e. ground stability • Determine appropriate natural drainage as organics and infrastructure (i.e. culverts) may have been destroyed/damaged during the fires
Harvesting Phase	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop wind protocol to address blowdown hazards • Remove danger trees concurrent with harvesting. Trees planned for retention must meet Wildlife/Danger Tree Assessment Protocol • Consider development of an air quality protocol to address ash and debris as well as hot spots still producing smoke, respirators might need to be worn • Limit hand falling as unstable trees and ground could affect safety • Assess ground stability due to compromised root bed and soils • Machine operators should use extra due diligence when navigating around trees, as a slight bump could cause them to fall
Post Harvesting Phase	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop wind protocol to address blowdown hazards • Consider development of an air quality protocol to address ash and debris as well as hot spots still producing smoke • Subsequent operations such as site prep, planting, brushing and spacing should be preceded by the removal of any dangerous trees. Trees planned for retention must meet Wildlife/Danger Tree Assessment Protocol

Additional resources can be found at:

<https://www.for.gov.bc.ca/hfd/pubs/rsi/fsp/Misc/Misc071.pdf>

http://www.forrex.org/sites/default/files/forrex_series/FS19.pdf



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LiDAR Data: Free or Not?

by Tom Bradley

After a long wait for the process, site, and legals to be finished, some LiDAR data is available for public download from a BC govt website. This is LiDAR that is owned or partly owned by the Provincial govt.

I am not going to try to give you the web address - it is one of those long ones full of punctuation. Two possible ways to find the site:

- 1) Go to the BC Data Catalogue and search for “LiDAR”.
- 2) Google “BC LiDAR”

In either case, select the option that points to “LidarBC - Open LiDAR Data Portal”. This opens a bog standard data warehouse page, with a set of links at bottom of page under Resources, including another link to “LidarBC - Open LiDAR Data Portal”. Click Access/Download to open that link.

This should open a lovely scrolling web page with great color imagery and lots of information about LiDAR and examples of you can do with it. Very cool. Whatever. Half way down the long page one finally gets to How To Use LiDARBC’s Open LiDAR Data Portal. There is info on how to work the cool widgets the page designers are very proud of, but the bottom line is: (1) Zoom to your area of interest on interface map. (2) Look for LiDAR data. (3) Download.

Where is this infernal interface map to get to data? Top of page. There is a Discovery and Download tab. Click it.

(To say I hate the multilayered links and the Explore and Discovery design



Tom Bradley

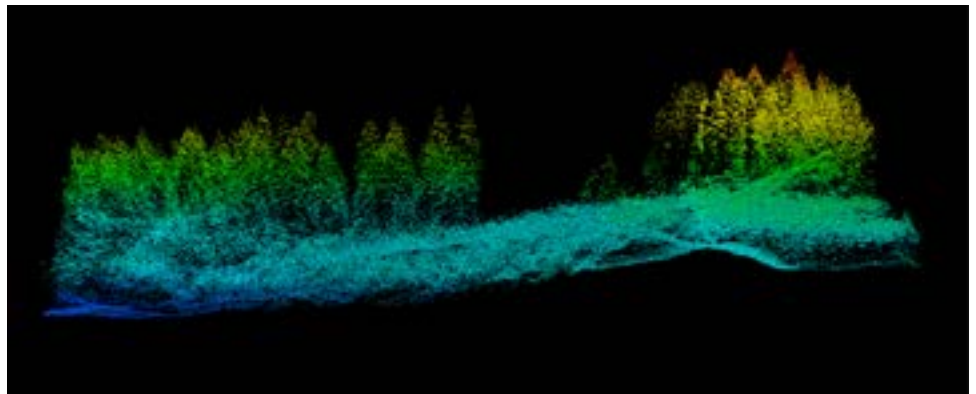
concept is far too gentle. I am a busy person. I am not here for play. I want data, EFFICIENTLY. I am obviously old.)

Interface map opens. May take a while. Eventually you see a nice shaded relief map of

BC, with some blue themeing. There is a lot of BC; not so much blue. The blue is areas with SOME LiDAR data available from this site.

Possible types of data include Digital Elevation Models, Digital Surface Models and LiDAR point clouds.

- Digital Elevation Models are used to create very accurate slope and contour maps, which are loved by all layout foresters.
- Digital Surface Models are (generally) a model of the tops of things.



Tops of buildings, trees, bare hills. DSM - DEM = Canopy Height Model. More candy for foresters.

- LiDAR point clouds are the raw data set, and are not much use to most folks. Great data to have access too, though.

If one glance is all you need to say, for example, “I am in Dawson Creek and there is no LiDAR here for anywhere within 300 km of Dawson Ck.”, well,

time to go elsewhere.

If you end up at “Maybe?”, then zoom in to where your WL is. Or where you think it is.

Thus far, I can find no way to do the most useful user interface thing: Upload spatial of my area of interest and have the map zoom to it. ILRR, iMAP and CAD can do that. LiDAR access? Nope.

Anyway, zoom in. Zoom WAY in. The data footprint layers do not show up until you are zoomed in pretty tight.

First thing you may notice is that the available data tends to follow valley bottoms. Why? A lot of this LiDAR was acquired by govt partnerships interested in municipal affairs and planning. They scanned the settled areas. Your WL could possibly be by-catch, though.

Now we get to misinformation. The site shows the extents of LiDAR data as rectangular boxes, based on predetermined map sheets or tiles. It looks like there are big rectangular tiles of LiDAR to be had. What it ACTUALLY means if “There is some LiDAR data within this map sheet.” Could be the entire rectangle. Could be 200 meter strip on one side.

Example:

The pale fill says that a DEM is available for mapsheet 82F063. I can tell you from experience the only data actually available is for the area of darker shading.

How to find out? If the available data might cover your WL, download it and see.

See? Well, get your GIS service provider to look. Or, download QGIS and get a shapefile of your WL and load up your WL and the DEM and see. Maybe go the next step and learn how to make a percent slope data set in Q.....

No Free LiDAR for Me

Given the patchy coverage and emphasis on settled areas, it is entirely possible this free LiDAR does not cover your WL.

Other potential sources of existing LiDAR data include forest licensees and local government. Experience shows that these owners may find it more hassle than it is worth to cut out and supply others with LiDAR data.

The simple way is to get LiDAR is to pay for it. Best way to do this is to join an existing "acquisition program" and piggy back. It costs to move a LiDAR scanner to an area. If you are only paying customer, well, you get to pay all of that mob cost. If you are part of a gang of six... you get the picture.

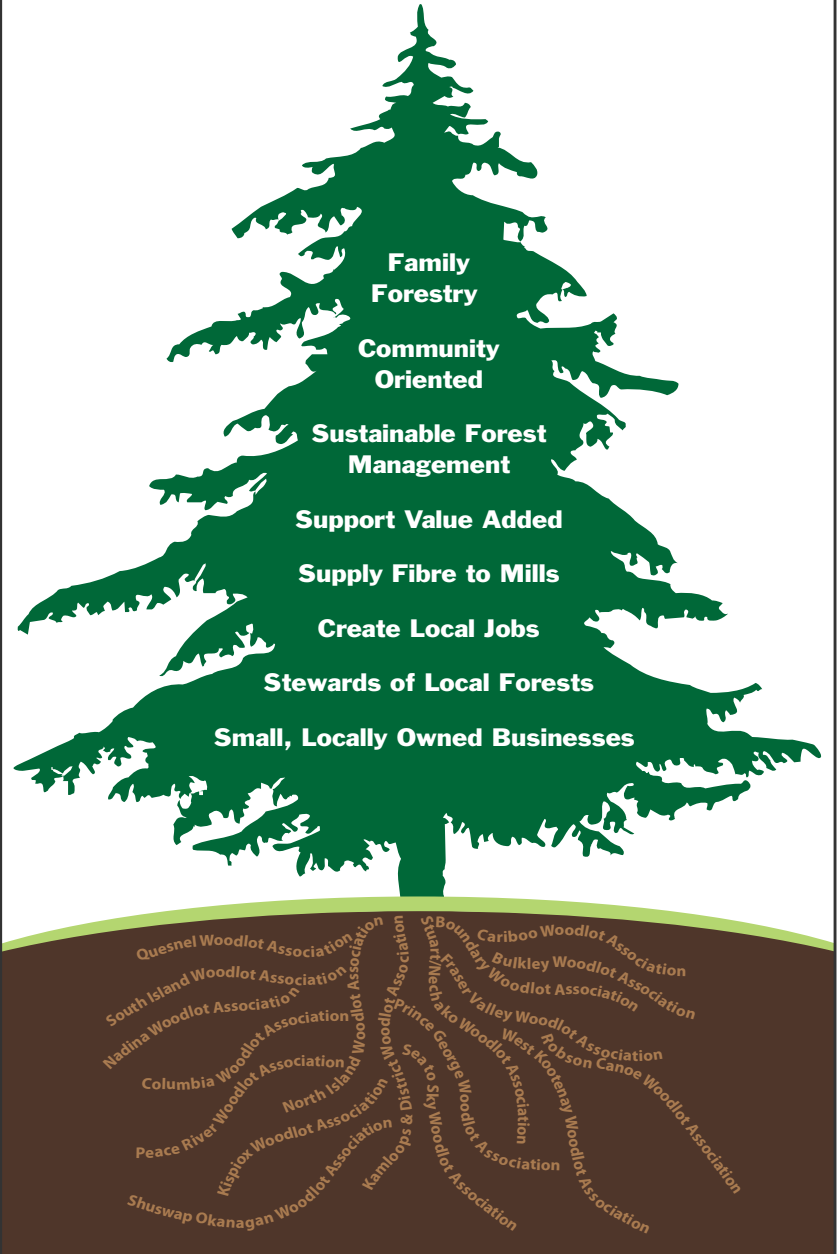
There are also drone based LiDAR acquisition services springing up. Potential great fit for 600 to 1200 ha projects.

Final note: not all LiDAR is equal. No point in looking free LiDAR in the mouth too much, but when it is your hard earned cash, best to pay attention. Scan density, returns per square meter and scan angle all affect data quality and what can be interpreted. Do you want to fly leaf off or leaf on? Do you want ortho imagery with that LiDAR? Could be a great choice to talk to your mapper / analyst before you sign up to buy some LiDAR. ♦



FEDERATION OF BRITISH COLUMBIA
WOODLOT ASSOCIATIONS

Rooted in Our Communities



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 ♦

Announcing the Small Forest Tenure Capacity Building Project

by Corrine Tessier

Woodlot owners, community forests and other small tenure holders can look forward to a new initiative aimed at strengthening their capacity to optimize log product value, utilize and minimize waste, and increase harvesting efficiency.

Thanks to seed funding from Nakusp and Area Community Forest, and research funding from the Woodlot Product Development Council (WPDC), the research portion of the project will commence by November 2021. A volunteer steering committee, led by Woodlot licensees Brent Petrick and Hugh Watt, is providing leadership. An experienced forestry expert will prepare a snapshot of the available wood, what is currently being done with it, what more could be done, and what is needed to facilitate market and product expansion. Potential opportunities that emerge from the research will be supported to move forward to fruition.

This support could take the form of connections to potential business partners, business case preparation, product expertise, financing, training, and more. Already, numerous supporting organizations are following our progress, and The Regional District of Central Kootenay-Area K has stepped up with a financial commitment to the project. A key part of the work is building a network of participants and resources that can facilitate ongoing collaboration, and lead to greater revenue and jobs for our local communities.

To ensure practical relevance, the Kootenay Boundary catchment area is the focus of this project, but if the model is successful, it can be utilized in other regions of BC. The steering committee encourages woodlot owners in this region to participate in interviews when contacted by the researcher.

For more information, contact Corinne Tessier, project coordinator: tessiercl@me.com. ♦



WPDC Director Vacancies:

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

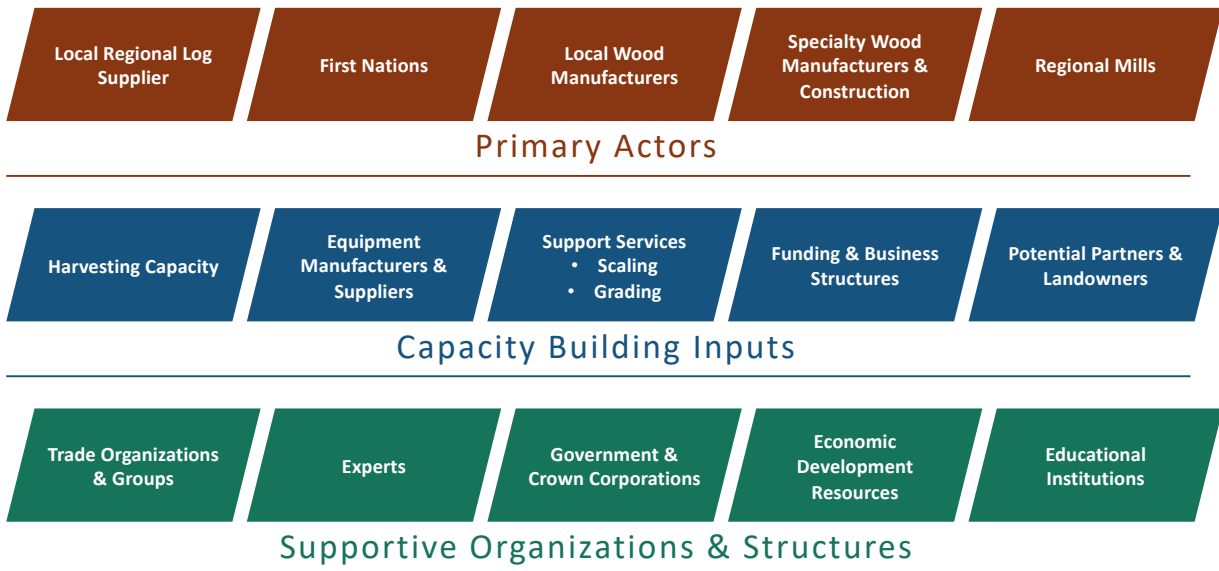
Volunteer Directors are needed to sit on the Board for 2-year terms. Annually the Board needs to fill 3-4 positions.

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. ♦

16

Small Forest Tenure Capacity

Network Map



► From page 3

and practices; and is administratively efficient!

I also expressed concern that this guiding principle appears to be a major culture shift within the ministry. It used to be a District Manager's (SDM) job was to work with tenure holders to develop CPs & RPs that were 'resource acceptable' and in the public interest so they could be approved. A DM was responsible for ensuring the benefits associated with harvesting the Allowable Annual Cut (AAC) set by the Chief Forester and apportioned by the Minister were being fully realized. Instead of a guiding principle about granting discretionary authority to not issue permits, it seems to me that there needs to be a guiding principle to address what needs to be done to get CPs & RPs issued!

The Modernizing Forest Policy initiative is a Federation priority; and is expected to be so for the next couple of years. The initiative's timeline is as follows:

FRPA Amendments (Bill 23)

Bill 23 – the Forest Statutes Amendment Act, 2021 – was introduced to the legislature on October 20, 2021. It includes proposed amendments to FRPA including Forest Landscape Level Plan and Forest Operation Maps – neither of which apply to WLs but of which a WL holder should be aware.

More information about Bill 23 can be found at:

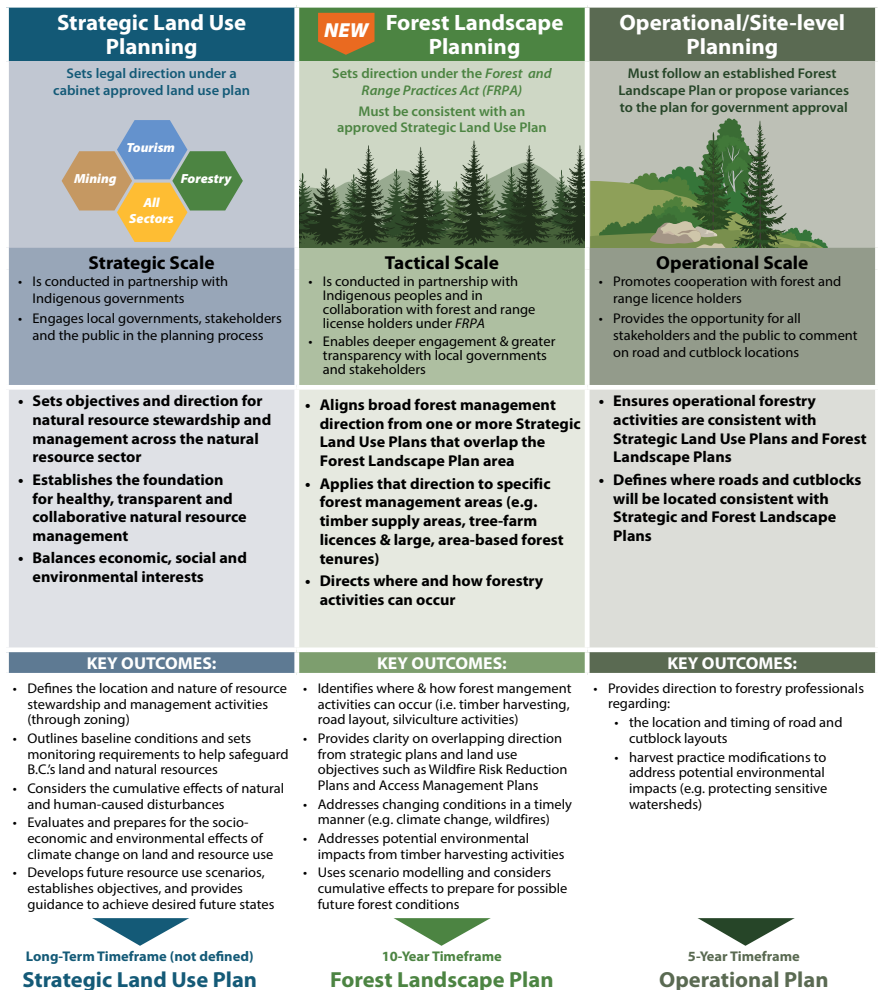
- New FRPA landing page: Forest & Range Practices Act (FRPA) - Province of British Columbia (gov.bc.ca) (includes links to the proposed legislation)
- Link to Bill 23: <https://www.leg.bc.ca/parliamentary-business/legislation-debates-proceedings/42nd-parliament/2nd-session/bills/first-reading/gov23-1>
- Press release: Revamped forest policy puts environment,

Managing Forestry Activities on Provincial Public Land in British Columbia

Strategic Land Use Planning, Forest Landscape Planning and Operational/Site-level Planning are used together to direct forestry activities and guide stewardship of B.C.'s public land and resources.

Each type of planning has a valuable and complementary role in managing forestry activities to advance reconciliation, strengthen the economy, address climate change and enhance sustainability.

Forest Landscape Planning is being introduced to help translate high-level strategic land use planning direction to specific forest management areas and bridge the gap between Strategic Land Use Planning and Operational/Site-level Planning.



17

people first | BC Gov News

To better understand the linkages between Strategic Land Use Planning, Forest Landscape Planning and Operational Site Level Planning, please see the graphic entitled "Managing Forestry Activities on Provincial Public Land in British Columbia." ♦

The Province has introduced legislation that will make B.C.'s approach to forests more focused on sustainability, return more benefits to people and local communities, and position B.C. to take full advantage of future economic opportunities through long-term planning. Amendments to the Forest and Range Practices Act, introduced on Wednesday, Oct. 20, 2021, by Katrine Conroy, Minister of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development, build on government's vision of how B.C. cares for its forests. This legislation complements ongoing work to preserve old growth and supports smarter management of forests, ensuring that public benefits are the priority. To read more, see the following link: <https://news.gov.bc.ca/releases/2021FLNRO0087-002004>

Extraordinary Project: Current Silviculture Practices Survey

by Andrea Lang

A silviculture practices survey was sent out to the woodlot licensees on Vancouver Island in May. There were 40 survey responses tallied, 31 for woodlots in the CWHxm, and 9 for woodlots in the CWHvm. Field visits were made to 20 of those woodlots. We'd like to thank all the participating licensees for generously sharing information about their woodlots and for the time spent discussing forestry. One woodlot had been managed for 70 years by the same family. The rest ranged from 7 to 34 years of woodlot management. Many had been owned by the same licensee since the woodlot was issued.

The survey included some general questions about each woodlot and more specific questions about harvest, site prep, planting practices and silvicultural operational trials or new practices (attached survey form). There are detailed reports for each section of the survey in the Silviculture Survey Results document. This article is an overview.

On completion of all the surveys, the results indicated that there is incredible diversity in the way that people manage their woodlots. Each licensee has priorities that were built on their woodlot location, previous forestry background experience, ongoing experiments throughout their woodlots, the ever-changing forest inventory and government legislation and policies. Because of this, woodlot licensees perform excellent adaptive management creating specialized management techniques for the specific constraints that are found on their woodlots. The general trend from the woodlot tours and surveys was that licensees are extremely diligent with regards to basic silviculture obligations

and are concerned about woodlot productivity. In many cases they target their problem sites first to start the regeneration phase with a healthy new forest of preferred and disease resistant species. Most have realized how to take advantage of all the area that has been allocated to them and use silviculture practices to nudge the forest into a healthier state than before they began managing the area.

TESTIMONIALS

"It was a pleasure to be part of this project combining youth, experience and a bunch of practical Woodlot holders in a beneficial result!" - Ed Hughes

"Thank you for the opportunity to do this project. It has been very interesting, and a real valuable learning experience for Tom." - Andrea Lang

"Is it possible to use the data from the silviculture practices summary project for my undergraduate thesis this coming spring?" - Tom Younger

We found that the silviculture survey results for the north island woodlots demonstrate that the following excerpts from FBCWA 2007 Report on BC's Woodlot Licence Program are still true in 2021, and the evidence is there on the ground to prove it.

- Each licence holder or woodlot owner is distinct and applies knowledge acquired in his or her lifetime differently. A diversity of holders leads to a diversity of management approaches which is advantageous, particularly where the management approach has been adapted to the woodlot's

setting, such as in community watersheds, high recreational use area, viewsapes, urban-wildland fire interface zones, or community green space. Different approaches lead to a diversity of forests and stands, as well as high levels of stand complexity.

- A neighbourly approach that leaves a light footprint on the land is a characteristic of BC's woodlot licences,
- To combat the effects of global warming, the scientific community is calling for more diverse and resilient ecosystems; i.e., a woodlot style of management where ecosystems are under the care and attention of a practitioner who will nurture, not just grow, future forests
- Despite constant and ongoing changes within the forest sector in recent years, the one constant has been the fact that woodlot licences continue to provide the kind of socio-economic benefits and environmental management expected by the people of BC from its forest resources.
- Given this demographic (note that 93% of licensees were over age 40 in 2006), the number of woodlot licences passed onto future generations within a family or to outside third parties is expected to increase. Solid extension and outreach services are going to be needed to ensure that new and younger licensees are well equipped to manage their woodlot licences.

The survey provided some interesting examples of how management has evolved over the last 30 years, and, as inventories age, how the management is adjusting to fit. Many of the

CWHxm woodlots that started with inventories of stands around age 60 that were suitable for partial cutting methods are now dealing with much bigger trees, where clearcuts with or without retention may be the best operational choice. Acceptance that Douglas fir grows better in openings of at least 1 hectare has been gained through trials, although there is room for discussion on the drier sites. Deer and elk are now the biggest obstacles to regeneration in many areas and may still be expanding the area they impact. The information gathered can help licensees to check if they are in a minority in terms of their practice and to reach out to others for advice if they'd like to try something new.

Many woodlot owners have shown interest in performing more enhanced silviculture on their woodlots provided that some funding is available and application processes are easier. Several licensees took advantage of pruning funding when it was available from the government. Aerial fertilization is a treatment that many were considering, and a few have been able to piggyback onto the Forest Carbon Enhancement/Forests for Tomorrow projects. Licensees that fertilize their forests stand to increase their productivity by approximately 30m³/ha on medium Douglas fir sites over an 8-10 year period.

The silviculture decision tree idea was

modified to produce a chart comparing high gain silviculture to moderate or low silviculture investment to help guide licensees' choices. The land alone provides so many variables, not including the weather, browse issues, and licensees varying objectives and constraints that a simple flow chart was unworkable.

The survey does show that there are generally agreed on best practices. The survey information provides evidence of most used practices and different methods that have been tried. There is room to increase productivity by wider use of genetically improved stock, and more fertilization, but the diversity of land and management objectives makes suggesting everyone do the same thing counterproductive. The adage to "not put all your eggs in one basket" comes to mind. The anecdotal evidence for success on trials is usually mixed. Documentation of trials is generally not a licensee priority, over the obvious field results that can be seen on the ground.

Instead of a prescriptive approach to silviculture perhaps embracing the value in the diversity of woodlots terrain and management, and the independent nature of many licensees may provide a successful approach. It is recommended that the WPDC consider funding projects by distributing an amount yearly to one or two licensees (coast and

interior) to assist in costs to carry out an innovative project on a small area (hectare of land), within some operational trial guidelines and methods. Documentation and sharing of information would be required as part of the reward. Over time this would help build the knowledge base and would be useful for the woodlot federation in terms of public perception. The silviculture survey proved that over 70% of licensees surveyed are performing experiments on their woodlots so imagine what woodlots stand to gain if they were well documented. The challenge of climate change and increasing droughts and fires will require some innovative approaches, and the small areas involved provide a much lower risk if there are failures. All this information can be used to advocate for more funding from the government to allow woodlots to showcase good forestry and the social and economic benefits it can provide on a small landbase, near a community.

Most licensees are looking to learn from others' practices. Beyond hiring a woodlot forester to provide extension services, it seems the responsibility is on licensees' efforts to stay informed. Attend woodlot association meetings, read the Woodlot Almanac and tour other woodlots! ♦



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. ♦

Old Growth Forest Management

by Emma Neill

On November 2nd, 2021 the Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development (the Ministry) released the results of the Old Growth Technical Advisory Panel (the Panel) to the public of British Columbia, and announced its intention to work in partnership with First Nations to defer harvest of ancient, rare and priority large stands of old growth within 2.6 million hectares of B.C.'s most at-risk old-growth forests.

The Panel's independent report and associated maps take an ecological based approach to delineate areas of ancient and rare old forested ecosystems, as well as areas that contain the biggest old growth trees. The Panel recommended prioritizing deferrals in 2.6 million hectares

of these forests and government agreed with this recommendation. These areas may be deferred from harvesting pending mutual agreement between the Province and the First Nation rights and title holders. Where agreement to defer harvesting is reached, a deferral decision will be communicated to the licence holder.

Identified areas are subject to on the ground verification during the government-to-government process and through engagement with licensees. Once there is agreement with First Nations on the need for a deferral, licensees may wish to voluntarily defer harvest in some areas which have been identified for deferral while long term solutions are developed. The mechanism for this is for licensees to amend any Cutting Permits to exclude areas of critical old growth. This can be initiated through the standard CP Amendment process as outlined in the CP RT Admin Manual (gov.bc.ca). The licensee may also have the option to amend the Woodlot Licence Plan to include old growth as an area that will not be harvested, this does not require a CP Amendment.

Should a licensee not wish to amend permits or plans, government has other options, including initiating "Designated Areas" under the authority of Part 13 in the Forest Act. A Designated Area effectively stops any timber harvesting immediately and provides government opportunity

to enable specific provisions relating to forest management – such as opportunity to salvage. A Designated Area does not trigger any compensation mechanisms, unless it is in place for a period that exceeds four years.

The deferrals are intended to be a temporary pause that give time and space to develop a new approach to old growth management in BC. The 14 recommendations in the Old Growth Strategic Review set the framework for how government will be engaging with First Nations communities, tenure holders and the public to develop this new approach. Any decisions related to longer-term protection will depend upon outcomes of this collaboration.

Licensees will have been invited to attend virtual technical sessions during the week of November 8th. Staff at Forest Tenures Branch are looking to support the Ministry's District and Regional staff through the implementation process and will be addressing this issue through our Joint Working Group with the Federation of British Columbia Woodlot Associations and representatives of the Woodlot Product Development Council. Additional information on the Old Growth initiative can be found here: <https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/industry/forestry/managing-our-forest-resources/old-growth-forests>. ♦

20

Please note:

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



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>. ♦



News Release

Woodlot Licensees should watch for new Guidance to be released in November 2021 – **“Management of Cut Control on a Woodlot Licence Due to Timber and/or Forest Resources at Risk”**. This new Guidance will replace the previous guidance developed largely to address cut control associated with the catastrophic mountain pine beetle (MPB) epidemic:

“Guidance When Dealing with a Catastrophic Event Necessitating Increased Harvesting on Woodlot Licences – September 2009”;

Guidance Document to Deal with the Two Available Options Regarding Overcut Carry Forward Volumes of Timber Harvested as a Result of Catastrophic Events on Woodlot Licences – June 2011”;

Advisory Bulletin 2017-01: Managing Catastrophic Events in Woodlots”.

These documents proved, at times, to be confusing

for both staff and licensees as pointed out by the Forest Practices Board’s 2019 Special Investigation. Additionally, given the current ‘climate’, there continues to be a need to address a more fulsome suite of attributes (insect, disease, fire, wind) culminating in timber and/or forest resources at risk.

Forest Tenures Branch (FTB) and the Federation of British Columbia Woodlot Associations (FBCWA) worked jointly to produce this latest guidance that is steered by cut control provisions within the Forest Act. The updated Guidance outlines options and implications for woodlot licensees where timber and/or forest resources are at risk. The document outlines the importance of communicating with District staff prior to considering cut control options. Additionally, these options remain at the discretion of the District Manager and should never be assumed to be approved. It includes an application form for a cut control limit exemption (CCLE) as an appendix. ♦

FBCWA Expenditures 2020-21

The following table summarizes the FBCWA expenditures under the WPDC-FBCWA Agreement in the 2020/21 fiscal year. Funding for the activities listed came from the levy collected by the WPDC. The report was included in the Annual Report 2020-21 presented to the members at the 34th Annual General Meeting in Richmond on October 2, 2021. The publication contained an error and is reprinted here with the revised and corrected amounts.

Activity	Approved Budget April 1, 2020	Expenditure to Year-End March 31, 2021	Balance at Year-End March 31, 2021	% Spent
Administration	\$219,475	\$179,055.98	\$40,419.02	81.58%
Timber Pricing	\$74,000	\$68,522.20	\$5,477.80	92.60%
E-Business	\$90,523	\$19,040.42	\$6,482.58	21.03%
Communications & Public Relations	\$43,950	\$40,939.00	\$3,011.00	93.15%
Contingency Funds	\$61,500	\$525.00	\$59,500.00	0.85%
TOTALS	\$489,448	\$308,082.60	\$114,890.40	62.94%

2021/22 FBCWA Priorities

FBCWA Priorities approved by the Board of Directors on November 8, 2021.

The priorities will form the basis for the Federation's preparation of the 2022/23 Budget & Work Plan.

The Old Growth topic will be reviewed in detail in a special edition of the Almanac, planned for mid December.

Topic	High	Medium	Monitor
Government Initiatives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Modernizing Forest Policy* • Old Growth • Species at Risk 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CF Leadership Team 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cost Driver Initiative • Managed Forests' assessments
Legislation, Reg & Policy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lobbyist Transparency Act • FRPA 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Professional Governance Act • Glyphosate
FBCWA Business	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Association Building • First Nations Relations • COVID issues/concerns 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BCWS Engagement Agreement • Phishing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • UBCM • Coast/Interior representation
Extension		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Financial record keeping 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Create CP checklist app
WL Joint Working Group	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WLS exceeding cut control • WL undercutting • Commercial thinning • Decid on MPB logged sites 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Accumulating WLS • FLNRO comm with WLS • Non -WL RPs on WLS 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Approving FSPs over WLS • Educating new WL staff
Timber Pricing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tab Rates • WL Waste assessments 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fibre Recovery Zones
E-Business	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • W4W upgrades 		
Safety Committee	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Committee support 		
Gov't Programs		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • LBI/FFT • FES BC 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gov't program \$ for WLS
WPDC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work collaboratively to improve business relationship 		

*Addendum to FBCWA 2021/22 Priorities for Modernizing Forest Policy in BC

High	Medium	Monitor
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tab Rates 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strengthen Compliance & Enforcement 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enhanced revenue oversight for log exports
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Decision Maker Discretion 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minimize slash burning 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tenure replacement provisions
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Silviculture & Innovation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prescribed Fire & Cultural Burning 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tenure disposition considerations
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Old Growth Deferrals 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Forest Tenure Opportunities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clarify compensation for lost AAC
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strengthen C & E 	

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. ♦



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to our contributors
for this issue:



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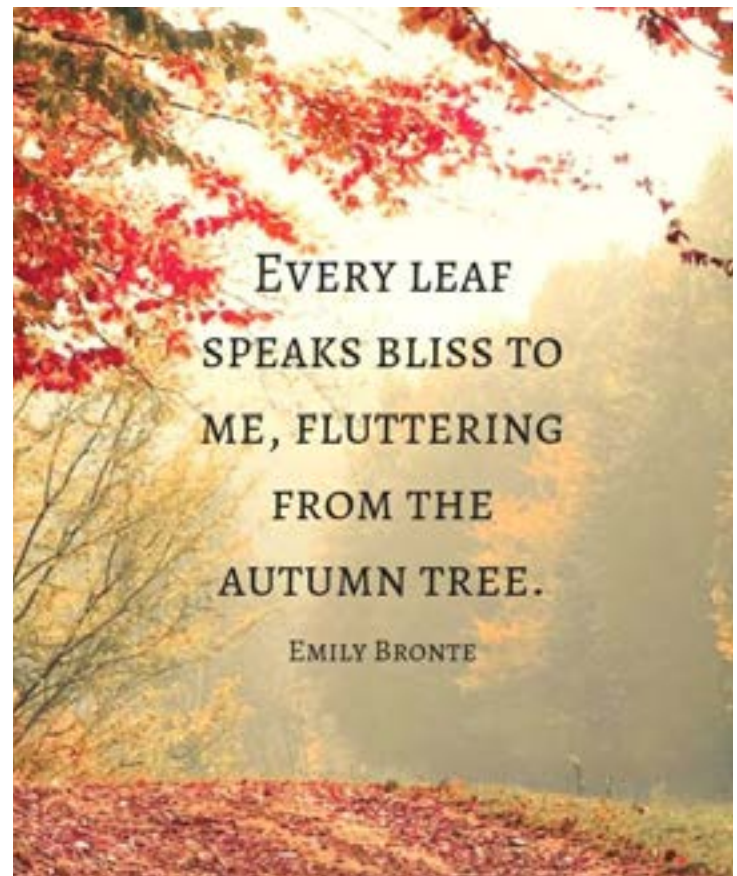
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As a service to FBCWA members, the Woodland Almanac will make space available for non-commercial ads, free of charge. Commercial advertising space is also offered to enterprises at the following rates:

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