FEDERATION OF BRITISH COLUMBIA WOODLOT ASSOCIATIONS

THE WOODLAND
ALMANAC

www.woodlot.bc.ca Spring 2015

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"My forest smelled like a sawmill."

by Sara Grady

Paul Galliazzo remembers the sights, sounds and smells of his ravaged woodlot during the height of the mountain pine beetle infestation. The rolling hills outside Quesnel in BC's scenic Cariboo Country were a sea of red, dying pine trees. "There were so many beetles, you could almost hear them working away in the bark," says Paul.

When he acquired WL#1520 in 1998 there were scattered patches of red, infested trees. The focus was 'salvage logging'.

"We called it 'snip and skid'. You'd go into the bush with a can of spray paint, mark maybe 20 or 30 trees, build a long skid trail – sometimes as long as two kilometres – and pull out the dead wood selectively."

He and his fellow woodlotters thought they'd be able stop the beetle tide with their efforts, while still recovering some value from the timber. "By 2002 it became obvious we weren't making an impact, and we were cutting bigger and bigger blocks," he recalls.

By 2005 Paul and his counterparts in the Cariboo had lost the pine beetle war, their woodlots turned into "stump farms". He was fortunate: only one third of his 600 hectare parcel was wiped out – he had a good proportion of fir and spruce on his lot, along with aspen – and he managed to salvage most of the timber for a modest gain. But that wasn't a given in the early days.

"It was a bit of a struggle at first, but local mills made the effort to take the beetle-kill timber over the more appealing, green wood," according to Paul. "We've come a long, long, long way since then, it's remarkable what the mills can turn into lumber now," he says, "they're working with timber that's been dead for over 10 years."

Mills at 'pine beetle ground zero' have made adaptations to their equipment to accommodate the drier wood, finding ways to maximize the value from this degraded timber. And a thriving bioenergy industry has risen from the ashes of the pine beetle destruction.

Foresters in the region are now in "regeneration mode" – trying to get their woodlots back to the government-mandated "free to grow" conditions: the point at which a forest would return to its original, pre-

con't on page 4 ....

Leading the WILDlife!

by Brian McNaughton

A few weeks ago, Minister Thomson appointed Mike Morris, MLA for Prince George-Mackenzie as a parliamentary secretary and asked him to conduct a review of the requirements that are in place for managing wildlife habitat. From the Federation's perspective, this is a good thing. The world around the protection wildlife and its habitat has become extremely complex and, quite frankly, confusing.

There is an abundance of Federal and Provincial legislation including the Species at Risk Act (Canada), Migratory Bird Convention Act (Canada), Wildlife Act (BC), Forest Act (BC), Forest and Range Practices Act (BC) and the Land Act (BC). These Acts provide many tools for protecting wildlife and wildlife habitat including, but not limited to, habitat recovery strategies, habitat recovery plans, higher level plans, land use objectives, conservation strategies, wildlife management plans, general wildlife measures, and orders under the Government Action Regulations

Brian McNaughton, General Manager

for wildlife habitat areas, wildlife habitat features, ungulate winter ranges, species at risk and regionally important wildlife and ungulate species. In addition, FRPA and the WL Planning & Practices Regulation require a WL licensee to retain wildlife trees either individually or in patches.

The kinds of questions that the Federation is hoping Mr. Morris' review will address are:

- Which wildlife/wildlife habitat protection 'tool' is used in what circumstance?
- Since there are many different tools available under various legislation, who is coordinating the use all of these different options?
- How does the province integrate socio-economic consideration into the plans, strategies, measures and other actions intended to protect wildlife and wildlife habitat?
- Who does the assessments and how do impacts on AAC and delivered wood costs impacts get taken into account?
- Who assesses the cumulative impact of wildlife requirements on tenures?
- How are the cumulative impact on a tenure, such as a woodlot licence, tracked and compensated for?

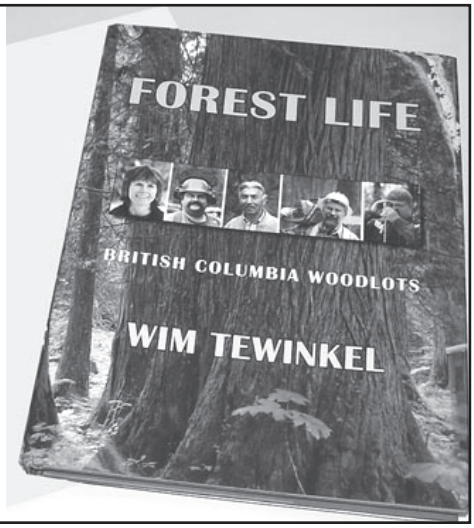
The Minister's Practices Advisory Council, of which the Federation is a member, will be meeting with Mr. Morris on April 13, 2015. The Federation is also planning to meet with Mr. Morris directly to ensure he is aware and well informed of the WL specific issues and concerns. This is an extremely important topic for woodlot licences. It is one thing if wildlife requirements can be met through good management, it's entirely another if land from a WL is rendered unavailable for timber harvesting. ♦

"Forest Life" makes a great gift

Are you looking for a great gift idea? Look no further! Forest Life: British Columbia Woodlots by Wim Tewinkel showcases and celebrates BC's woodlots, woodlot licensees, and their families.

Through beautiful photos and a few words, this book captures the seasonal beauty of coastal and interior woodlots and portrays the landscapes and diversity of our forests as well as the stewardship of those who manage them.

You can order it from www.woodlot.bc.ca for only $39.95, or woodlot licensees can buy it from their woodlot associations for only $20.00 ♦



FBCWA & WPDC Working Together

by Mark Clark

Mark Clark
President

I'm pleased to announce that the working agreement between the Federation and Woodlot Product Development Council (WPDC) has been extended for another two years.

This means that the Federation, including your local WL Association, will continue to identify and address issues of greatest importance to woodlot licensees and the woodlot program while the WPDC will continue to diligently manage levy revenue and the investment fund. Extending this agreement re-affirms that the Federation and Council are working together on your behalf.

A special thanks to the Directors, Executive, and Council members who contributed their weekend in late March to this valuable process.

The list of priorities for 2015-16, as determined by the directors, is listed elsewhere in this edition of the Almanac. Please take a moment to have a look at the list, and let your local association know if there are items you feel need immediate attention.

Enjoy your summer, and be safe at whatever you are doing. ♦

► From page 1

harvest state without continued man-made intervention or silviculture measures.

For Paul, this means waging a new war, against the weed-like aspen on his woodlot. Through a great deal of trial-and-error, he's learned how to stop the aspen from choking out his spruce, pine and fir seedlings. Hiking through the forest with a specialized axe, Paul bends over the young aspen, making small scores in the bark. Too much damage to the tree and it sends out clones, or suckers. Not enough and the aspen grows up, dwarfing the slow-growing conifers.

Paul is optimistic about the recovery of his woodlot. To date he's planted approximately 190,000 seedlings – 50% pine, 30% spruce and 20% Douglas fir, at a cost in excess of $85,000 (without factoring in the "sweat equity"). He projects that in two years he'll have reached "free to grow", and in 60 years he'll have a healthy, thriving coniferous forest. That's a long time to wait, but as woodlotters will tell you, virtually everything they do "is for later." ♦

Woodlot Cut Control FAQs

by Debbie Zandbelt, RPF

Debbie Zandbelt, RPF
Interior Timber Pricing Coordinator

Greetings from the Okanagan, the snow is finally melting – I have been waiting a long time to write that!

The timber pricing portfolio always extends to various other related outlier topics when necessary and often in the end -result in timber pricing impacts on a woodlot. Cut Control is one of them. Holders of a woodlot certainly know what cut control is – so that does not need explaining. So I will respond to the "cut control most frequently asked questions".

Question 1 I want to buy another woodlot - will my cut go up? No not necessarily. It is likely the additional land must come with existing available cut for cut levels to increase. Depending on the new inventory information of the whole parcel of land – the harvest cut levels would then be recalculated.

Question 2 Do I have any cut left? Is my cut control letter right? I can't stress enough the importance to track and total the scale volumes as they cross the scale – keep those scale tickets! These totals will answer both of these two questions. Scale returns are the most solid piece of information you need to defend/ determine where you are in your cut level. Normally cut levels associated with your woodlot plan are reviewed and approved at the District level. The District contact will be able to gather information out of the Harvest Billing system (HBS) to sort through harvest volumes of the given year.

Question 3 Are waste assessment volumes added to the volume cut on my woodlot? Yes. Know the waste billings assessed when you finish harvest and use these totals to match the total volumes charges against your cut.

Question 4 Where do I get a cut control letter? This depends on where you are in the province. In the south the Southern Forest Region (Kamloops) sends out the letters. They are planned to be sent out in May for 2015. The contact there is Andrea Inwards 250-828- 4145. For the Northern Forest Region (Prince George) Diana Spelay (250-565-1422) is the Regional woodlot contact but if you have specific questions on cut control Chris Finke is the regional specialist. His contact information is 250-565-6163. In the Northern Forest Region the District woodlot staff prepare cut control statements and letters. Thus if you are looking for specific information in the North you may be re-directed to the District – however the Regional contact can give you the name for the district you are located within.

Question 5 What is a partition cut? Why are they used? In determining the cut levels for a woodlot the Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations may specify a portion of the cut that is attributable to certain timber types or species- this is a partition cut. These partition cuts are primarily used to identify and delineate high value or adversely marginal timber on the cut area. Preferred timber is typically of a higher value and/or in more limited supply and can be at risk of over-harvesting. The partition cut will therefore identify the upper volume harvest limit of preferred timber that the FLNRO decision maker considers for harvesting in a given area. Alternately there may be a partition cut of lower value timber. These timber types can have less desirable incentives to harvest, but are still considered in the overall timber supply. Therefore the cut levels may include a partition cut of lower value stands in order to balance the cut over the entire timber profile.

The topics chosen for the Almanac are often based on requests. A few enquiries have requested log market information. This is difficult information to forecast. Why? By the time this paper goes to print, depending on where you are and what log you are selling – the information would likely be out of date or not applicable to your situation. This is turn leads to inaccuracies to base economic decisions upon. Tabular stumpage rates are also commonly requested. With the electronic world around us- here is the link once again for the Interior Appraisal Manual. http://www.for.gov.bc.ca/hva/manuals/interior.htm

Hope you all have an enjoyable spring. If any questions, or further suggestions my contact information is Debbie@[redacted].bc.ca. ♦

The FBCWA has a number of items that would make great gifts for Friends, Family, Contractors and others on your list. Items in stock include Screen-printed logo on T-shirts and Coffee Mugs, Embroidered FBCWA logo on golf shirts, oilskin ball caps and knitted toques. Order through the WPDC coordinator, Cathy McClary. ♦

TAB Rates and Log Market Snapshots

by Ed Hughes

Ed Hughes, Coastal Timber Pricing Coordinator

Coastal TAB Stumpage rates as of March 1, 2015:
Coastal Woodlots TAB stumpage rates for 2015/16 have been provided (Table 1) effective March 1, 2015. This annual update to the Coastal Appraisal Manual under

Section 7.2 is noted as follows:
Except as provided for under section 7.2.1, the sawlog stumpage rate ($/m3) for each species of coniferous timber and zone harvested under a cutting authority issued under a community forest agreement or woodlot licence and their associated road permits will be:

Table 1:

Species	Zone	
	Northern Coast	Southern Coast
Balsam	$0.25	$0.43
Cedar	$0.35	$0.72
Cypress	$0.60	$2.06
Fir	$0.25	$0.64
Hemlock	$0.25	$1.57
Spruce	$0.25	$0.45
Other	$0.45	$1.08

The Northern Coast Zone is the Haida Gwaii Forest District, Coast Mountain (North Coast) Forest District and that part of the North Island-Central Coast Forest District within TFL 25 and all Crown land within the Mid-Coast Timber Supply Area boundaries.
The Southern Coast Zone is the Coast Area except the Northern Coast Zone.

The rates have increased an average of $.24/m3. Not an average increase that any woodlot licensee has yet complained about to me. Good, but a little bit more detail might garner more interest. The rate changes have ranged from Cw (Western Red Cedar) within the south zone increasing from $.51/m3 to $2.06/m3 as the largest at $1.55/m3. A sizable increase more than matched by the AMV for our logs. Cy (Yellow Cedar/cypress) decreasing from $.38/m3 to $.25/m3 in the North zone, the only reduction.

Timber Pricing Important to Licensees:
It is interesting to note that the Almanac is the main means of communication to Woodlot licensees. The Almanac is one of the main ways for Woodlot Licensees keep up to date. It was also reported at the March Directors meeting that 77.7% of Woodlot licensees that get the Almanac read the Timber Pricing reports, the highest interest level of all the almanac articles. I believe that this equates to a continuation of stumpage being the most important issue for Woodlot licensees, since I do not believe it has anything to do with my writing skills!

It is not difficult to understand the importance, since our stumpage directly impacts how much we can afford to pay/invest. This continued interest level is interesting since there are no hot stumpage issues at this time. We continue to maintain/protect the many years of good work by the different individuals who pushed for our TAB stumpage system.

I encourage a phone call or email to discuss stumpage and Timber Pricing issues from coastal Licensees. Over the past few years while our stumpages have been held at manageable levels there has, in my opinion, been a trend towards licensees being lulled into complacency. Other concerns related to First Nations and Conservation issues have increased in importance. Since stumpage rates increased by only $.24/m3 (on average) there is no need to panic, but we need to look ahead, possibly only to March 1, 2016 (our next stumpage rate change). There are significant risks and pressures towards TAB rate increases, due to a number of factors, which as a group of licensees we need to consider.

In past articles I have outlined how our rates are determined annually. In future articles, I will attempt to show the influence of some of the variables that impact our stumpage. As a simple example, if we have Timber Sale bid prices that increase significantly (it is reported that TSL bids are increasing recently) our stumpage will be impacted. These bids can be the result of unusual bidding behaviours, which need to be explored, with impacts assessed. If Coastal Woodlot licensees can identify any irregular BCTSL situations, please send me the details. This could be the most important "little detail" that could help to offset the impact of high bid prices.

Director of Timber Pricing Retires:
Murray Stech announced his retirement at the end of February after 40 years (started Sept 1975) in government and 9 years as the Director of Timber

Pricing. Murray has been an excellent individual to work with in the Timber Pricing portfolio. On many occasions I have called or talked to Murray who has been informative, direct, reasonable and a calming influence in a difficult government division. The professionalism of Murray Stech has shone. I wish Murray good times in his retirement, and on occasion fishing in many of the streams that flow from woodlots on Vancouver Island

Grant Loeb and Keith Tudor will be sharing the duties as the acting Director. Grant for the month of March and Keith for the month of April.

Current Log Market Snap Shot:
I have asked Terry Basso (Probyn Log Broker – Campbell River) to provide market input for this issue. I will be asking different log buyers to provide a market snap shot for future almanac articles.

Western Red Cedar is at historic highs. Cedar harvest volumes are going down primarily due to a lack of log supply and available volumes from the timber harvest profile. The demand is strong, but how long high Cw prices will last is difficult to predict.

The different markets outside of Canada make for a good diversity of trends. The US market is steady, but has a surplus of logs. The improving US economy will continue to keep upward pressure on log prices. The China market is still going down, with large volumes of our mid to lower grades difficult to sell. This oversupply combined with a sluggish China economy equates to not much good news until late in 2015 at the earliest. Another impact is the Russian supply of logs (not tied to the US dollar) has decreased in price relative to BC logs. The Japan market is still not good. Long term prospects from Japan are neutral due to the ageing population as a result of the low birth rates over the past few decades.

Coast MPS Advisory Committees:
MPS advisory committee will begin its annual analysis in the spring, early summer. The committee does not have any meetings scheduled over the next few months.

Coast Timber Pricing Advisory Committees:
The next CTPAC meeting is scheduled for April 2015.

Flat Fee for Woodlot Waste:
A list of constraints to the implementation of the Flat Fee for Waste proposal is being complied. An implementation delay is still linked to the provincial waste review until September 2015.

New Appraisal Issues – Continuous communication
The Coastal Timber Pricing portfolio provides assistance to Woodlot Licensees upon request. If you have any concerns or issues I can be reached at 778-424-6129 or by email at ehughes2@shaw.ca. ♦

Spectrum
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VEGETATION MANAGEMENT
SOLUTIONS PROVIDER - SINCE 1986

Spectrum Resource Group is a vegetation management solutions provider working actively in forestry, oil and gas, utility and community resource industries across Western Canada. Spectrum specializes in reducing the spread of invasive and noxious weeds, maximizing crop-tree growth and survival, mitigating fire hazards, and providing for the security of assets.

Stand Tending
- Manual Brushing
- Aerial and Ground Herbicide Application
- Basal Bark Application

Reforestation
- Tree planting

Administration
- Pesticide Management Plan creation
- Woodlot License and Management Plans
- One Cut Permit Applications
- RESULTS data entry
- Mapping / GIS services

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Director's Meeting Highlights

Richmond, BC • March 7-8, 2015

A joint meeting with Federation and Council Directors was held on March 7 & 8th in Richmond, BC to develop a work plan and budget for spending of the Woodlot Levy in 2015/16. An integral part of the exercise is to set priorities for the upcoming year. This is accomplished by reviewing accomplishments and progress made during the past year, then getting input from a variety of sources including the Federation committees & contractors, the Ministry of Forests, Lands & Natural Resource Operations, woodlot licensee Questionnaire responses, AGM resolutions and the Woodlot Product Development Council. Much of the discussion that occurred involved both the Federation and Council directors so, at the end of the day, the work plan developed is in the best interest of Woodlot licensees and the Woodlot program, and meets acceptance to both the Federation and Council.

One of the highlights of the meeting was the guest speaker. Neil Edwards, FLNRO, spoke on the recent Supreme Court of Canada's recent decision regarding the Tsilhqot'in land claim and how that is changing the way the Province is conducting its business. There was a good discussion about how woodlot licensees might be affected, including the processing of cutting permits and woodlot licence plan approvals.

In addition, all of the Federation directors who were in attendance gave a report on their Association's activities. By and large there was positive news on log markets, most reporting stable prices or small upward trends in prices.

Lastly, the WPDC and FBCWA signed an extended agreement for the Federation to continue to be the central vehicle for delivery and progress of the Purposes of the Council for the next two years. ♦

Ever wonder what a cubic meter of wood looks like? Just ask these Grade 9 students in Port Alberni!

WOOD SOURCE BC

WoodSourceBC.com is BC's online wood marketplace! Connect with over 350 members searching for an opportunity to buy and sell more wood products and services than ever before. WoodSourceBC.com is a free tool AND it's easy to use. Create your profile and start listing items for sale, items you want to buy, and searching for new business opportunities. Over 95 listings posted this last quarter. Join this growing network today. Visit www.woodsourcebc.com. ♦

Please note:

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

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.

FBCWA Priorities

March 8, 2015

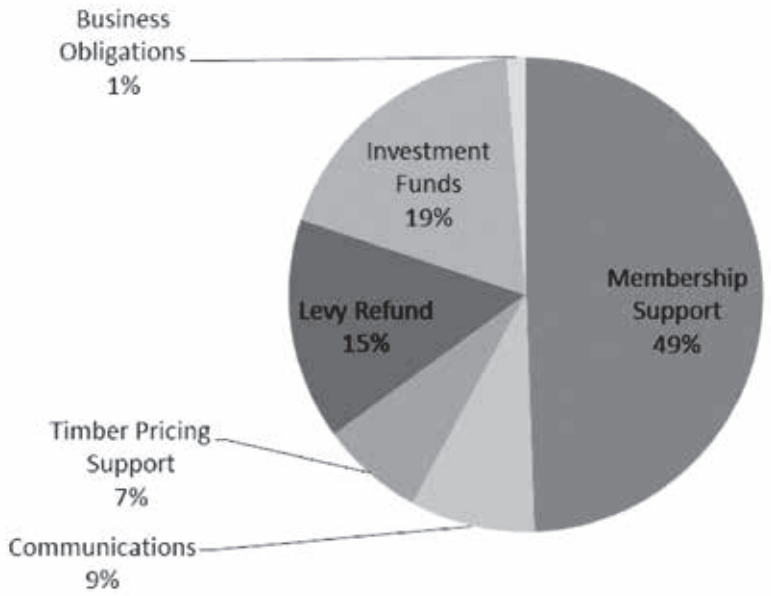
Actively Being Managed	Action as time permits	Maintenance Mode
Safety	Forests for Tomorrow & other funding	Include incremental silviculture in WLPPR
Licence Authority to include plans & permits	Tax reform - silv savings plan	Woodlot 4 Windows support
e-FM & systems issues	Seek FFT & other program funding	Economic Development
Natural Resource Road Act	Undercut carry forward	Forest Services Providers Protection Act
Association Building	Natural Resources Permitting Project	Private Land Withdrawal
Inventory Standards	Training (Freedom to manage)	WL Estate Planning
Stumpage	Fire Prevention/protection	
Communications & PR	Rewarding volunteer efforts	
Admin Streamlining	FLNRO communications with WLs	
Professional Reliance/Qualified Persons		
Open Burning Smoke Control Reg.		
Species at Risk		
Resolutions		
Waste & Residue		
WL Program Growth & Improvements		
First Nations - consultation, info-sharing & title		
WLP Extensions		

Notes:

- Re: e-FM & systems issues: Includes RESULTS, free-growing declarations, NRRA, WASTE, NRPP, reporting WHFs, etc.
- Re: Admin streamlining: Include updating the WL document & WL Consolidation Guidelines (particularly clarifying how cut control is to be handled).
- Re: WL Program Growth & Improvements: Differences in administration between districts and fewer, less experienced WL Foresters.

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. ♦



RESULTS Compliance in the Headlights

by Tom Bradley

One of my jobs as the e-FM Guy is to talk to FLNRO about their concerns re: Woodlot compliance with reporting obligations. In other words, our RESULTS compliance.

Please take note: FLNRO interest in this subject has increased in the last 6 months.

On their internal conference calls, the FLNRO District Woodlot Foresters have raised concerns that our reporting on 1 CP permits is not up to standards. FLNRO is data mining to try and quantify the matter. Initial results in February 2015 found 20 of 1 CP permits that expired in 2014 that show volume billed against the timber mark but have no Openings reported to RESULTS. It suggests something got logged without being reported (yet).

This is not proof of non-compliance. The harvest openings could be all reported to RESULTS by the deadline - April 30 2015; it could be an analysis shortcoming; or it could be a data entry error…since the roll out of 1 CP had some information management hiccups.

But it is a clear message that RESULTS compliance is being studied.

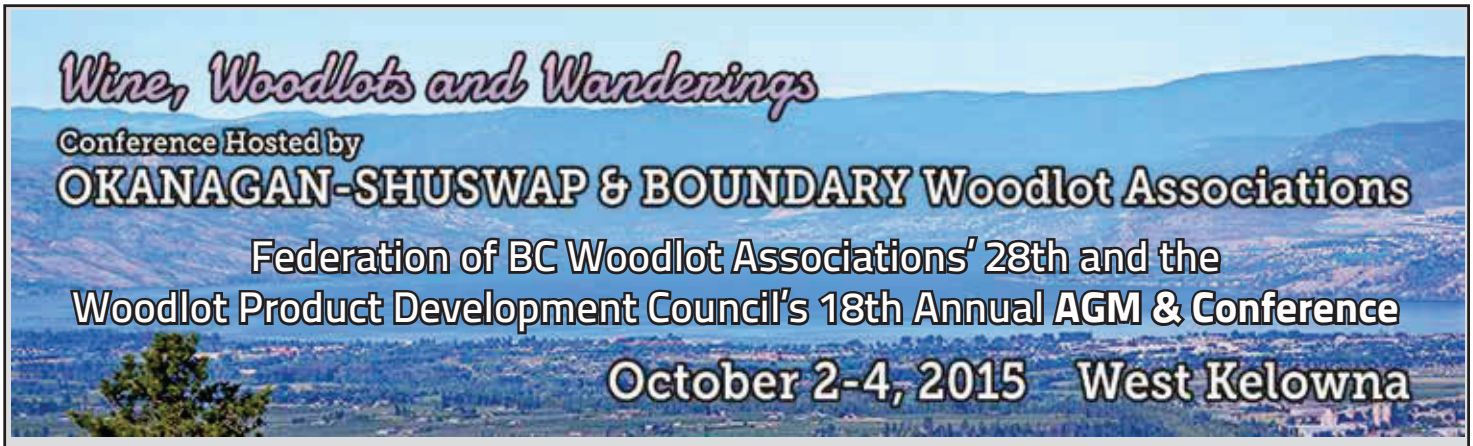
(Just to review: You may report a 1 CP harvest to RESULTS whenever you deem a block to be done. You must report all your harvest under that 1 CP to RESULTS by April 30 of the calendar year following the expiry of your 1 CP.)

The same analysis also found 5000 conventional CP woodlot blocks that a) are known to FTA, b) have not been reported to RESULTS, and c) show harvest volume on the timber mark in HBS. Initial review shows that many of these are blocks where no harvesting has been done yet (mark applies to multiple blocks), blocks that should have been cancelled in FTA, or old blocks where the initial reporting failure may rest with FLNRO. But some are also clearly current Licensee failure to report.

And finally, a friend of mine is going to meet with the DM today to discuss his non-compliance with WLPPR Section 76 - Reports. C&E formally filed a RESULTS non-compliance action against him in January. He had indeed let things slip. We had planned to fix up his RESULTS in Jan/Feb this year, and in fact did so, but C&E ran out of patience just as we started work.

Take Home Message: Get into RESULTS and check your records. Are all of your harvest blocks in there? All your planting, surveys, treatments and other activities? Is there forest cover for every opening, even if it is just "NSR"? Are your milestones declared?

And if you do not know how to check this stuff, or don't want to, you need to hire someone to do it for you. Talk to your local association for suggestions. It can be money out for harvest long done, and very frustrating, but there is no alternative. Ignoring the matter is not a viable option. ♦



at the Holiday Inn West Kelowna, BC (2569 Dobbin Road)
Watch for registration information www.woodlot.bc.ca

Woodlot Licence and Community Forest Agreement Safety Committee to address unique needs of its members

by Dustin Meierhofer

Following several months of industry input and feedback, the Federation of BC Woodlot Associations and BC Community Forest Association are working to improve safety on woodlot licences and community forests by establishing a Woodlot Licence/Community Forest Agreement Safety Committee.

The committee will focus on matters that further support improved safety performance within woodlot and community forest operations. It will look at developing new and expand existing actions that target the specific needs and challenges of the small to medium sized tenure holders. The BC Forest Safety Council (BCFSC) will support the committee in achieving its objectives.

BCFSC Director of Transportation and Northern Safety, Dustin Meierhofer, said the development and implementation of safety management processes, initiatives and resources are always most effective when built and owned by those directly involved in and responsible for activities that have the potential to harm workers and/or the public.

"The formation of this committee is a positive step in that direction and compliments the good work both the community forests and woodlot owners have completed in addressing safety to date," Meierhofer said. "We know that some of the safety issues that woodlot license and community forest agreement holders face are unique. Activities such as securing services, general forest operations, and supervising contract fallers, are often done on an infrequent basis, which creates some significant challenges."

"This is about the people directly responsible for operations driving the best, most practical safety initiatives forward," he added.

The first meeting of the committee was held in January with a second meeting in Feb of this year and topics of discussion included:

* responsibility for safety
* options and processes for hiring qualified contractors, role of prime contractor and contractor and subcontractor responsibilities including part-time operators
* safety management system due diligence
* public safety awareness and education re trail use, firewood collection, road access and use, radio use, signage, road maintenance and conditions, and road deactivation, etc.
* accountability versus liability
* available safety tool kit resources
* impairment
* certification options for new woodlots
* best options for securing input and feedback from community forest and woodlot owners/operators to facilitate timely and relevant working solutions to emerging safety challenges.

The founding committee members are:

- Bill Golding – Wetzin'kwa Community Forest Corp.
- Dave Lasser – Sunshine Coast Community Forest
- Shawn Flynn – Woodlot Owner/Nanoose Bay
- Mark Churchill – Woodlot Licensee/Vanderhoof
- Gary Hanson – Woodlot Licensee/Smithers

For more information on this group, how to participate, and to share any safety concerns that you would like to see the group consider, please contact the BC Forest Safety Council at toll-free 1-877-741-1060 or email meierhofer@bcforestsafe.org.

This is one of a series of Spotlight on safety columns produced for the Woodland Almanac by the BC Forest Safety Council. If you have a suggestion or would like to see a particular safety topic covered, please let us know. BSFSC has a team of safety advisors with more than 100 years of combined forestry and safety experience to provide trusted guidance and advice in all safety matters. Email safetyadvisors@bcforestsafe.org or call toll-free: 1-877-741-1060. The BCFSC is here to support industry achieve excellence in health and safety for all forest operations and their workers. ♦

Want trusted safety advice?

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Contact your woodlot safety experts.
Email safetyadvisors@bcforestsafe.org or
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www.bcforestsafe.org

BC Forest Safety

FEDERATION OF BRITISH COLUMBIA
WOODLOT ASSOCIATIONS

Scholarship Award
Information and Application Form

RULES & REGULATIONS

1. Applications for this award must be received on or before April 24, 2015. Late applications will not be considered.
2. Applicants must be a direct family member of a woodlot licensee or private land owner who is a member of the local Woodlot Association and/or the FBCWA. In cases where the woodlot is not owned by an individual, one applicant per woodlot is eligible to apply in any given year.
3. Applicants must be planning to attend a post secondary institution within 24 months of the application deadline.
4. Preference will be given to students in grade 12 and recent high school graduates.
5. Preference will be given to students entering a forestry-related program. Students entering other areas of study are welcome to apply, knowing there is preference for forestry related study.
6. **Two scholarships, one for $2,000.00 and one for $1,000.00 will awarded to the top two ranked applications.**
7. The awards will be payable on receipt by the FBCWA of documentation confirming registration into the institution for post secondary education. This generally occurs in mid September.
8. Essays or letters and photos from applicants, particularly the successful applicant, may be printed in the Almanac.
9. The decision of the Awards Committee is final.
10. The Award Committee of the Federation of B. C. Woodlot Associations will be empowered to:
    a) grant this award at its discretion;
    b) withhold this award in any year if there are no eligible applicants, or for any reason deemed good or advisable.

IMPORTANT

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

1. A letter describing the reasons which you feel qualify you for this award. Your letter should also include a detailed description of your experience in forestry, particularly on woodlots. Your letter may include information about your various interests and extra curricular activities.
2. A one page (approximately 500- 700 word) type-written essay titled ***"If I am the licence holder of a woodlot, what steps and management decisions would I take in order that my woodlot can be the greatest benefit to my community."***
3. Two letters of reference from previous or current teachers or employers,
4. A copy of your ***most recent*** report card, and
5. A recent photo of yourself.

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

Or send it digitally to islandswest@shaw.ca with a subject heading of FBCWA Scholarship Application

Applications must be received by April 24, 2015

FEDERATION OF BRITISH COLUMBIA
WOODLOT ASSOCIATIONS

Scholarship Award Application Form

Name: _____

Address: _____

Telephone: _____

EDUCATIONAL INFORMATION:

Currently enrolled in: _____

Post Secondary School you plan to attend: _____

Program you will be registered in for 2014-15: _____

Relationship to Woodlot Licensee or to private land owner for Woodlot # (ie; daughter of Joe Smith, Woodlot #2345)

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

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

WPDC 2015-2016: Operating Budget

The Woodlot Product Development Council conducts work that meets Council's purposes to benefit all woodlot licensees with funding supported by the woodlot levy. The following amounts are approved for the 2015-2016 Work Plan. The WPDC is working towards a sustainable Work Plan of $346,000 by 2020.

PORTFOLIO	BUDGET	PORTFOLIO TOTAL
WPDC Business		**$ 58,350**
Directors' Expenses (Includes Travel Expenses for 7 Volunteer Directors)	$ 16,000	
Administration (Includes Accountant and book keeper fees, storage fees and insurance)	$ 7,350	
Coordinator Contract (Includes Fees &Travel Expenses for Cathy McClary)	$ 35,000	
Questionnaire (Includes publication and distribution of 866 questionnaires to woodlot licensees)		**$ 500**
Annual Report (Includes production and distribution of joint annual report with FBCWA))		**$ 750**
Woodland Almanac (Includes production and distribution of Almanac four times per year, offset by ad revenues)		**$ 9,000**
Woodlot Stewardship Recognition (Includes production of video featuring local woodlot licensees in AGM location)		**$ 4,500**
AGM (Includes the registration brochure, AGM coordinator contract and support to host association)		**$ 8,400**
R & D Proposals		**$ 5,000**
Contractor Delivery (FBCWA) (See work plan approved in the FBCWA Operating budget on opposite page)		**$ 296,550**
TOTAL		**$ 383,050**

Links of Interest

- British Columbia Trees App: http://abcfptrees.com/appsplash/
- Our own website: http://woodlot.bc.ca
- Woodlot Safety Program: Safety info & Tools – Resources Packages: http://www.bcforestsafe.org/safety_info/resource_packages.html
- The Working Forest newspaper offers an e-newsletter and a newspaper on small-scale forestry across Canada: www.workingforest.com ♦

FBCWA 2015-2016: Operating Budget

The FBCWA is the Primary Contractor Agency to complete work on behalf of the Woodlot Product Development Council with funding supported by the woodlot levy collected from all woodlot licensees. The following amounts are approved for the 2015-2016 work plan.

PORTFOLIO	BUDGET	PORTFOLIO TOTAL
FBCWA Business		**$ 205,850**
Administration (Includes Bank charges, Insurance, FBCWA travel, Honoraria and Director Meeting expenses)	$ 48,350	
General Manager (Includes Fees, Expenses, Tech & Training for Brian McNaughton)	$ 139,250	
Admin Support Contract (Includes Fees, Travel & Disbursements for Lisa Marak)	$ 12,000	
Bookkeeping Contract (Includes Fees and Disbursements for Heidi Denney)	$ 6,250	
Timber Pricing		**$ 29,000**
Interior Timber Pricing Contract (Includes Fees and Travel Expenses for Debbie Zandbelt)	$ 14,500	
Coast Timber Pricing Contract (Includes Fees and Travel Expenses for Ed Hughes)	$ 14,500	
National/External Affairs (Includes CFWO dues)		**$ 1,500**
E-Business		**$ 26,200**
E-Business Contract (Includes Fees, Travel Expenses and Disbursements for Tom Bradley)	$ 19,200	
Woodlot for Windows Contract (Includes Fees for Mike Bandstra)	$ 7,000	
Communications & Public Relations		**$ 32,500**
Communications Contract (Includes Fees, Travel Expenses and Disbursements for Lisa Marak)	$ 18,750	
Communication Activities (Includes Woodlot Communicator, Website, Trade Shows, Press Releases, Profiles, Promotional Materials, Education Program and Special Projects)	$ 13,750	
Committees, Projects & Contingencies (Includes CFPA SARA Working Group)		**$ 1,500**
TOTAL		**$ 296,550**

MEMBER *Reflections*

Woodlot 0024: Sharing Family Traditions

Contributed by Mike Gogo

Woodlot 0024 was established in approximately 1980. It consists of 3 land parcels. Approximately 100 acres private portion located on Nanaimo River Road which consists of 90 acres of good sized, fast growing Douglas Fir and approximately 10 acres of Douglas Fir, Balsam Fir and Noble Fir Christmas Trees. This is an excellent growth site as it is well hydrated from natural run-off from the mountains behind it. We have a one hectare reservoir on site which we have used in the past to extinguish a lightning fire on adjacent Crown land. We are presently attempting to add another 100 acres of our private land onto the previous mentioned land. There are two Crown parcels approximately 350 acres on the Malahat and approximately 650 acres on Shawnigan Lake. The Shawnigan parcel is somewhat fragile to winter run off so we have constructed the roads in a manner to alleviate any potential sediment problems that may occur. All lands are up to date on thinning, weed tree removal and reforestation.

To complement our AAC we have 2 bandsaw mills, trim saws and an edger. Approximately half of our production is sold locally to home owners and building supply outlets. We manufacture band sawn and planed products. The other half is exported to the USA and elsewhere. The sawdust is provided to hobby farmers and agriculturists. The edgings and slabs are sold within the community as firewood. During the last decade we have reduced our carbon footprint by 80% by changing over to more efficient power sources. Low income families are offered firewood at the mill site at no cost. Our family has always had and maintains a close friendship with the local Bands.

Both private and Crown portions are made available to bike clubs, salal harvesters, hikers and hunters. Christmas Trees are sold locally at our 2 locations and we provide approximately 1000 trees (wholesale) to local independent stores from Parksville to Duncan. During the last 10 years we have developed an excellent program that has 14 local schools participating. The students sell a voucher card to their parents and friends and when this card is presented and gathered by our sales staff the school receives 20% of the gross sales. This program has expanded by approximately 15% annually providing an excellent source of income for local schools. Also one of the building supply stores that we provide trees to uses the tree sales as a charity drive. Our family has run this lumber operation since 1897 and we have sold Christmas Trees on a continuous basis since 1929. I am a Director of the South Island Woodlot Association and attend in excess of 90% of the meetings and functions. The home farm, 160 acres, my residence, has a 25 acre wetland reserve. We have 5 generations currently working on the woodlot. ♦

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 cjmcclary401@gmail.com.

FBCWA Vision

Woodlot holders/owners will participate in a healthy and diverse forest industry with woodlot licenses 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. ♦

Logging at a Glance on the big Island of Hawaii

by George Delisle

On a recent trip to the big Island of Hawaii a large log yard full of logs was observed. We stopped at the Hawaii Forest Service station to inquire about the story behind the log decks near Port Kawaihae, which is a deep sea port on the West side of the island. We later tracked down the active logging show.

Here is what we learned:

The logs are giant eucalyptus trees from a large (13,000) acre private land holding that used to be sugar cane plantations on the rain forest (East) side of the island. The sugar cane was pulled out and the soil was starting to erode from all the rain (up to 200 inches/year) so 15 years ago eucalyptus trees were planted. The stand density appears to be about 8 feet apart. The stands are now between 100 and 150 feet tall with a diameter range of 8 inches to 24 inches. The average piece size is about 16 inches at the butt. The reforestation is relatively easy. The eucalyptus coppices off the stump and in one growing season, the regen is over ten feet tall and no cattle to trample the trees. Some spacing is required due to a number of sprouts off the same stump. That is it, come back in another 15 years, and start again. It is no wonder we can not compete on the world market for fibre alone. When you see this, it reinforces why we need to remain focused on wood quality, not fibre, in Canada.

Due to the rapid growth, the wood strength is very poor. The better wood is shipped to China where it is peeled for veneer and used for the inner core of plywood that is used mainly for concrete forms. The tops and smaller diameter wood, (less than 8 inches) has been cold decked in the bush with the hope that a bio-energy plant is soon to be built. We visited a specialty mushroom farm that used some of the poor quality eucalyptus wood as the growing medium that was mixed with corn meal and wheat bran and put in small jars. The top of the jar was then inoculated with mushroom spore and grown for three weeks. They harvested about 5000 pounds/week with most shipments going to Japan.

There appears to be some controversy over the energy plant, as some people do not want it on the island because of the pollution. The locals say that it is mainly new-comers that are opposed to it. This is a little hard to understand as they are living on an island that has an active volcano that is spewing million of tons of pollution into the air every day. On many days, it creates a heavy cloud cover that is called "Vog" that covers the mountain tops. What a small energy plant could possibly add to such an enormous pollution source is difficult to comprehend. Considering that most of their energy needs have to be imported, one would think that any renewable energy source would be welcomed. There are two small Hydro projects that generate electricity. Other energy sources are some wind turbines at both ends of the island and some solar power. The largest contribution from solar is used for heating water for domestic use. All new construction has to be equipped for solar water heating.

Back to the logging. The logging contractor (Mike Brandeberry) was from mainland USA, but has had a connection with the Prince George area where he had a large timber sale a number of years ago that he had exported.

The logging equipment is standard industrial forestry type (feller buncher, grapple skidders, log loaders and log processors with a specialty head that peels the bark at the same time as delimbing). The logs are processed into short logs around 24 feet long and are supposed to be loaded with the small end facing out so they can be scaled while they are still on the truck. The hauling is done with standard highboy highway trailers (40 to 48 foot) with solid stationary bunks. They haul about 30 cubic meters to a load depending on the trailer. Hauling distance was about 50 miles. When the truck arrives at the log yard by the port, each log is tagged and scaled for Scribner scale and entered into a data logger. One scaler works at each end of the trailer as there are two bundles/trailer. In about 10 minutes the load is ready to be removed and sorted by diameter into 3 size sorts ready to be hauled to a ship at the port once there is enough wood in the yard to fill up the Chinese ship.

There are numerous small one and two man sawmills scattered around the island that utilize mainly road right of way and subdivision clearings and storm damaged hard woods, but no major sawmills. The one owner operator that was visited, did it as a hobby as he was a landscaper and arborist, so he has access to all the wood he could handle. He ran a Lucas circular saw mill with a slab attachment as well as a Norwood band mill cutting mainly short chunks of hardwood for table tops and benches. He employs two people on the sawmill side. That is logging at a glance in holiday heaven when it is winter here. I will have some photos to show you at the AGM this fall. Hope to see you there.

Cheers ♦

Woodlot Licensee Annual Questionnaire 2015 Findings

Thank you to the 105 woodlot licensees who took the time to respond to the 2015 questionnaire. Your responses were summarized and presented to the FBCWA/WPDC Directors at their Budget meeting in Richmond on March 7-8, 2015. Below are highlights from the responses received. Additional information can be found on the FBCWA website.

Woodlot locations:

- Coast 14%
- Northern Interior 34%
- Southern Interior 52%

Demographics:

- 72% are between 50-69 years old
- 82% are the original woodlot licence holder
- 71% have had their woodlot licence for at least 16 years
- 53% have their woodlots registered as a limited company

Woodlot Business:

- 90% only sell logs and wood fibre
- 53% administer and manage their own woodlots
- 71% hire foresters
- 34% are interested in attending a workshop/course put on by the FBCWA on the use of professionals within the woodlot licence sector
- 16% use a written contract when hiring professionals to do woodlot work
- 46% would use a contract template if it was available, for retaining a professional consultant

FLRNO relationships

- 54% know who to call in their District Office for a question or issue to discuss
- 43% routinely communicate with District Staff
- 63% receive timely communications from their District Office

FBCWA and Local Woodlot Association relations

- 89% belong to a local woodlot association
- 54% believe their local woodlot association has represented their interests or addressed an issue with the District Office
- 70% rely on their Woodlot Association to receive relevant information regarding the management and administration of their woodlot licence.
- 82% receive timely communications from their local Association

Member Support and Communications

- 50% would be more inclined to attend an Association meeting if the General Manager and a local executive member of the FBCWA and/or Council Director attended
- 90% receive FBCWA/WPDC information by reading the Almanac
- 78% rely on other licensees for information and support
- 78% read the Timber Pricing Reports in the Almanac

WPDC Financial Management Policy:

- 82% agree that levy revenues collected in excess of Council/FBCWA annual work plan requirements will go to the Investment Account

Sample of suggestions for other Funding Opportunities:

- Encourage young entrepreneurs to utilize products from woodlots
- Help with intensive management opportunities
- Develop a Woodlot User's Manual outlining obligations
- Support for training courses
- Support for students ♦

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. ♦

Letter to the Editor

Hello Council Members:

I have completed the transfer of my half of Woodlot 1479 to my partner Dave McBride. Dave and I formed our partnership (Greenmax Resources) in 1995 to compete for woodlots that were advertised in the fall of that year. We were lucky enough to be selected for Woodlot 1479. Over the years we did many things with our partnership: Lots of woodlot stuff like third lift pruning, Aerial fertilizer, lots of tours & woodlot operations including skyline logging, skidding, hoe-chucking, salvage logging Cedar and Fir poling, visits with Ministers of Forests, negotiations with about 8 District Manager's and so it goes. Dave will be carrying on the woodlot activities for a little longer. I will be around teaching and maybe doing some forestry work.

Regarding the Council I will be stepping down from these responsibilities. I have enjoyed my time with the Council and the Federation before that. I will remain as South Island President for one more term.

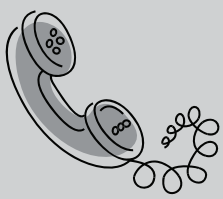
Thanks again
Shawn Flynn RPF

Editor's Reply: Shawn, we are very appreciative of the contributions you have made over the years for the betterment of the woodlot world. You have shared your love of forestry with folks of all ages. Your legacy lives on in the "School of Common Sense", with unique memories from past AGM field tours and those fortunate enough to have received one of your famous "fish"carvings. We trust you will continue to believe in the message of "make sure to include some fun" as you move on to new ventures! ♦

This knife was found embedded in a Douglas fir tree logged in 1993 in a remote woodlot in the Cariboo. The estimate for when the knife was stuck in the tree is circa 1890.

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. 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 ♦



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 ♦