THE WOODLAND
ALMANAC

www.woodlot.bc.ca Spring 2020

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The Adamson Family Innovations

by Lisa Marak

Every Woodlot Licensee in the province has a heart for the forest. They are managing a Crown resource for all of us, often under difficult circumstances. Mother Nature, trade disputes and regulatory changes all bring pressures to bear on our forest stewards.

They must constantly innovate and adapt to shifting conditions, creating new opportunities that are economically viable but also uphold the commitment they've made to create a resilient, healthy forest.

One woodlot family has done an exceptional job of upholding the values of the Woodlot Licence program, navigating the peaks and valleys with dedication and ingenuity. They've blended family and social license values with progressive thinking and business acumen, which is why they were given the 2019 Minister's Award for Innovation and Excellence in Woodlot Management at the Annual General Meeting in Smithers last fall.

Mark and Pauline Adamson studied forestry at UBC, earning their credentials as Registered Professional Foresters. Their career paths took slightly different, yet parallel routes. By the time they launched their own company – Mountain View Silviculture – in Smithers, they had a solid grounding in forest management, and motivation to leave their corner of the province's forests healthy and productive.

They acquired a parcel of private land and planted over 100,000 trees, adding a 400-hectare Woodlot Licence in 1997. It was a huge risk to take, but their experience in silviculture gave them the confidence to invest in this renewable resource.

They caught the attention of their peers – and the Ministry – because of their long term and innovative woodlot practices.

Constant investment in new, strategic

cont'd on page 7 ....

Trying Times

by Brian McNaughton

First and foremost, I hope this edition of the Almanac finds you and your families healthy.

There is no doubt, COVID-19 is going to impact Woodlot Licences (WL). It already has. For example, many WL holders have had to take steps to ensure spring planting was done safely, require crew members to travel to work in separate vehicles, set up wash stations, etc. But moving forward, what are the implications to WLs? Many ministry staff have been working from home and First Nations offices have been closed so there has been limited opportunity for required consultation. As a result, do districts have a backlog of applications and approvals to process? We also know that prior to the virus the forest sector was in a downturn. How will markets respond post virus? Will there be surge of permit applications and plan approvals from major licensees and others? Where will WL permits and plans fall on the priority list?

The Federation recently submitted a list of possible implications of COVID-19 on WLs to the ministry and asked for guidance/direction. In no particular order, the list included.

- Woodlot Licence replacements - WLs that did not receive a replacement offer from the minister in the 6-month period following the 9th anniversary of the licence as per *Forest Act*, section 46(1).
- WLP extensions/approvals - Situations where a WLP extension or approval of amendment(s) did not occur within the 2-year extension period.

Brian McNaughton, General Manager

- Cutting Permits - Issuance of 1 CPs and conventional CPs being delayed. FYI, the Federation sent a letter to Minister Donaldson suggesting that he consider using section 141 of the *Forest Act* to extend all WL 1 CPs for a year. The Minister did respond right away and advise he directed staff to look into our request.
- Cut Control - Situations where the virus prevented a WL licensee from harvesting and reaching 100% of their AAC. It's the Federation's position that WL holders should be given a change to harvest that volume.
- Operational deadlines & timelines; e.g. waste assessments & abatement, fire hazard abatement, free growing surveys, etc. - How does the ministry intend to handle missed deadlines? Will requirements be waived, or timelines extended?
- Cut Control Limit Exemption (CCLE) and AAC Uplift - Because of recent blowdown events, pest outbreaks and wildfires, quite a few WLs have been operating under a CCLE and AAC uplift. Some had an expiry date. Not all of the timber may have got harvested or some downed or decked wood may have got left in the bush. Licensees need to know if the authorization is going to get extended or a new one issued.
- Government Programs - For projects that were disrupted by the virus, will proponents be given an opportunity to complete them? Will additional costs imposed by the virus be recognized?

Right now, there are more questions than answers. The Federation continues to work with the ministry and will distribute guidance or direction when it's received. If you have any questions or suggestions regarding COVID-19 related implications to WLs, please let me know. In the meantime, if you have an overdue obligation or other problem situation due to COVID-19, talk to your District Manager. These are extraordinary times and reasonable people should be able reach reasonable resolutions.

Please be safe and stay healthy. ♦

The FBCWA has several 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. ♦

Considerations and Concerns

By Ed Hughes

Coastal Log Cost Survey

Ed Hughes, Coastal Timber Pricing Coordinator

A request was made in late April for Coastal Woodlot Licenses to complete a tenure management cost survey from Timber Pricing Branch (TP). The last time there was a request for a log cost survey for Coastal Woodlot Licensees was in 2004. The 2004 log cost survey was in support of the Low Volume Cost Estimate (LVCE), which is the Tenure Obligation adjustment (allowance) under section 5.2.1 of the Coastal Appraisal Manual, used in a full MPS appraisal. *(**Section 5.2.1 - Low Volume Cost:** A low volume cost of $8.98/m3 may be included in the tenure obligation adjustment where: a). the cutting authority area being appraised or reappraised is the subject of cutting authority issued under either a licence or its parent licence prior to subdivision that provides for an allowable annual cut of not more than 10,000 m3 of Crown timber, and b) the total net cruise volume of the cutting authority area is not more than 10,000 m3).*

Since 2007, following the implementation of our TAB rate system, the LVCE has only applied to a Woodlot Cutting authority that has an extended road amortization agreement (ERA), or is using Forest Enhancement funds. There are an estimated 20% of Coastal Woodlot Licensees that continue to have ERA's. I do not have access to the number of Woodlot Licensees who are using Forest Enhancement funds.

The TP branch request considered mandatory under section 136 - Records and Returns Forest Act, is being sent to Coastal Woodlot Licensees. A FLNRORD Official Government Notice (see page 5) describes what is being asked. The completion of a cost survey is the responsibility of individual Licensees. The FBCWA Directors are currently reviewing the cost survey requirements to understand the best methods of support for individual licensees.

The FBCWA directors and coastal association representatives have been updated since the initial request for a cost survey was made in late April. The due date for the cost survey has been extended from June 30 (initial deadline) to December 31, 2020, which provides time to work things out with TP branch. It is best for those Woodlot Licensees who are planning to complete the cost survey to contact me, so as to keep up to date with recommendations and support from the FBCWA, to ensure any survey is completed accurately and implemented equitably. There will be more to come over the next month or so.

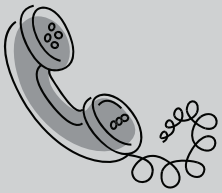
Coastal log prices since the Covid-19 pandemic

Log markets started to improve (as we had hoped during summer 2019) on the Coast between Sept 2019 through to March 2020. Average market values of our three main species showed slow gains between Sept 2019 and March 2020 (Western Hemlock $68 up to $75/$m_3$, Douglas fir $96 up to $113/$m_3$ & Western red cedar $192 up to $224/$m_3$) for one month average market values for "J" grade logs from TP branch records. The log market turmoil that occurred in the middle of 2019 began to stabilise, until the Covid-19 pandemic changed everything.

Since early March 2020 log markets have been impacted everywhere. Markets have become extremely sensitive and cautious. The highways have been almost absent of logging truck traffic. Marketing has been difficult with some mills flooded, while others shut down entirely, due to markets, transportation of products and many other factors.

During this April and May surprisingly the average market values have not been significantly reduced. It seems, since the beginning of the Covid-19 pandemic, supply has been curtailed to match with the reduced demand for logs, at least until the end of May. Whether this supply/demand adjustment will continue is uncertain.

There is no doubt that the rate of harvesting has been significantly curtailed. The larger logging contractors and forest companies have



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 ♦

BRITISH COLUMBIA
The Best Place on Earth

FLNRORD Official Government Notice Board

2020 Coast Crown Tenure Management Cost Survey for Coastal Woodlot Licensees:

The Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resources and Rural Development (FLNRORD) is requesting Coastal woodlot licensees to complete a cost survey.

A copy of the cost survey and other detailed information including submission dates can be found at: https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/industry/forestry/competitive-forest-industry/timber-pricing/coast-timber-pricing/coast-crown-tenure-mgmt-cost-survey. Please refer to the website from time to time for possible updates.

The FBCWA is currently reviewing cost survey requirements in order to best support licensees in their completion of the survey. Further information should be available around the middle of June.

put the brakes on harvesting. At a point in time, (early June), just before fire season, a prolonged shut down could result in an interesting fall market. With log inventory reductions, who knows what the new economy will provide. One thing for certain Woodlot Licensees can manage their log supplies in slow and steady increments, to respond to market changes.

Market Pricing System Advisory Committee (MPSAC)

The MPS Technical Sub-Committee has been involved with the coast log cost project initiative over the past few months. There are more than 100 cost saving initiatives being reviewed generally, with only a few that involve timber pricing. We are waiting for decisions on the Timber Pricing parts soon.

Due to my confidentiality agreement, I am not able to provide details on specific initiatives, other than to say there is a lofty goal to save $30/m3 from the coast log cost project. There have been considerable efforts by industry and government towards this cost cutting goal in recent months.

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 or by email at ed@huock.ca. ♦

Links of Interest

- Our own website: http://woodlot.bc.ca
- To help small and community forests attain FSC certification, FSC is modifying requirements for small and low intensity managed forests and for community forests that take into account the size, the intensity and the capacity of these operations. For more info: https://ca.fsc.org/en-ca/standards/small-community-forests/small-community-forest-standard-revision
- A new guidebook Adapting Community Tree Management to Climate Change has been developed by the Columbia Basin Trust. For more info: https://ourtrust.org/

Road Charges and Fees

by Debbie Zandbelt, RPF

Road Maintenance fees

Road charges and fees have become a point in need of clarification. Road use charges and Standard Road Maintenance Agreement fees fall into two categories: private land crossings and Crown land crossings.

1. Private Land crossings

When a new road, reconstructed road or structure on private land (and / or Schedule A Private land) is being built for Crown timber extraction the major tenure holder or industrial user (on an MPS appraisal) can submit a "request for approval of a road use charge" form to the MFLNRO Timber Pricing Coordinator and must receive a written approval of a road or land use charge from the Regional Manager. This road use charge is an appraisal deduction for MPS permits.

2. Crown Land crossings

Road management covered in Section 4.4 of the Interior Appraisal Manual includes any road maintenance agreement fees paid to the licensees. IE: This cost is included in Road management and is not a further deduction for MPS appraised permits.

When a woodlot licensee receives a request from an industrial user; including another tenure holder, to use a road on crown land (and/ or Schedule B land) under that woodlot's licensee road permit or cutting permit the following options can occur:

Debbie Zandbelt, RPF
Interior Timber Pricing
Coordinator

1) The woodlot licensee can charge a fee for use of that road. This fee must be "reasonable" and respect the current state of the road.

2) A FLNRORD District formula can be used to determine this rate. Common fees (Interior) are under $0.50 per cubic meter based on the cruise compilation or scale returns. The range of fee being charged is subject to the state of the road and how much work the tenure holder or industrial user must do to bring it to a hauling standard. i.e., If the major tenure holder completes substantial road maintenance (brushing, ditching, grading etc.) there may be no road maintenance fee. In other situations where the road is in haulable condition and maintenance is complete – then a fee is appropriate.

3) If the woodlot licensee and other tenure holder cannot agree, the other tenure holder can request a new RP be issued on the crown road in question. (The original RP will then get dissolved after obligations are done). In this situation the woodlot licensee would get no compensation.

4) The situation can be brought to the District Manager to then decide on a rate. District formula are often used if they have been drafted for the area in question.

5) If all other routes have been explored (e.g. by agreed process of dispute resolution) binding arbitration under the Arbitration Act can be used to resolve differences. ♦

2020 Woodlot Conference

The FBCWA Board of Directors has decided to cancel the 2020 conference this October as gatherings of 50 or more people are prohibited at this point due to COVID-19 and we do not see this changing by fall. It is unfortunate we will not be able to gather this year in a corner of our province to hear about current woodlot topics, get out on a fieldtrip and generally get together and have a good time. The conference always coincides with the Federation's Annual General Meeting, a requirement under the BC Societies Act. In its place the Federation will still be setting up an AGM in the form of a video conference. More details to come. ♦

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. ♦

planting of species that can compete with – and complement – natural vegetation and wildlife, as well as labour-intensive manual brushing, have resulted in consistently healthy, diverse and resilient forest landscapes.

Cooperation with environmental stakeholders, like the Nadina Natural Resource District and Skeena Stikine Natural Resource District that spearheaded the Telkwa Caribou Protected Area in 2015, ensure that the entire ecosystem doesn't just survive, but thrives.

Their pine, spruce and balsam sawlogs feed the local mills, their Christmas trees are a local favourite, and their firewood not only heats local homes but also reduces waste on their woodlot. Every valuable piece of fibre is put to good use.

They've both shared countless hours as volunteers with the Nadina and Bulkley Woodlot Associations, serving on the executive to champion issues impacting their industry. They've also invested time advocating for other small-scale forestry operations like the Wet'zinkwa Community Forest near Smithers.

The family has fostered educational opportunities on their woodlot throughout the years. Elementary school children were invited to plant trees (which Mark fondly observed that he had to replant some after the kids had gone home) and enjoy a weenie roast around the campfire. Children learned about the value of a managed forest...and how to put out a campfire safely. Highschool and college students are hired to plant, space and brush on their woodlot during the summer.

For years the family owned and operated their own equipment – their kids got unique life skills operating a feller-buncher, skidder, Bobcat and backhoe, as well as repairing the machines. While they now contract the services out, they remain committed to harvesting practices that minimize the environmental impact.

Mark and Pauline conducting fire hazard reduction work

School planting day on the Adamson woodlot

"Mark Adamson is willing to go above and beyond industry standard," says contractor Mark Groot. "His harvest strategies and management priorities show his commitment and longer-term desire to improving his woodlot for future generations."

Their woodlot has been a family affair from the very beginning. All of their children have spent time working on the woodlot, and each one has a road named after them. They've all chosen diverse career paths, some in mechanics, some in nursing or environmental studies, but they all share a common commitment to the communities in which they live and work, following their parents' example.

Mark and Pauline remain committed to the Woodlot Licence program – an area-based tenure that, in Mark's words, motivates a person to manage the forest more carefully.

"There should be 10 times the woodlots in our province," according to the Mark. As stakeholders in a community overseeing a resource that impacts people well beyond their immediate sphere, it is not hard to make a case for more people like the Adamson family taking care of this precious resource. ♦

Reminder to report your waste after harvest completion!!

New monetary FINES for non-reporting of your Waste Assessment are in place as of December 2019!

It is license obligation even if you have zero waste. Any questions contact your Timber Pricing Forester.

Debbie@woodlot.bc.ca for the Interior or Ed@woodlot.bc.ca for the Coast ♦

A Customized Approach

Caribou Herd Planning with Woodlot Licensees

Russ Laroche, RPF
Heather Wiebe
Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development

Woodland caribou herds, found in BC's mountainous mature forests, are an important part of the natural ecosystem and the rich biodiversity of the province. Unfortunately, due to significant changes within the caribou's preferred habitat over the last century, their population has declined from 40,000 to about 15,000, provincewide.

The Government of British Columbia is committed to a long-term, comprehensive, and science-based approach to caribou recovery, including, but not limited to, western science and Indigenous traditional knowledge. Through herd planning conversations with Indigenous communities, local governments, industries, and interest groups the Province shares information on the herd, factors that are limiting the success, and possible actions for recovery. In return we gather local information to deepen our understanding of woodland caribou and the multiple natural resource values of the citizens of BC.

On the evening of May 14 and May 20, 2020, conference calls were held with woodlot licensees, who have identified caribou habitat within their woodlot, to:

- introduce the topic of herd planning,
- discuss concerns, and
- identify recovery actions of interest to the licensees.

Of little surprise, licensees were most interested in any possible habitat recovery actions (habitat management, habitat protection, habitat restoration) that might impact their woodlot. Analysis provided by the FBCWA shows a low likelihood of impact to woodlots through additional protection of core caribou habitat.

During a follow up call on May 21 with FBCWA's general manager, Brian McNaughton, we concluded the most effective place to include woodlot licensees in herd planning would be in the scenario-building phase: if any of the scenarios could possibly affected a woodlot, BC will invite the licensee to review the scenarios and discuss the habitat management or habitat protection being considered.

It is not our intent to dissuade licensees from joining herd planning efforts in their area, but rather to be respectful of the time and energy of licensees and target their involvement where it would be most beneficial to all parties.

If you would like to be involved in your local herd plan discussions from start to finish, or have questions about this approach, please drop Heather an email heather.wiebe@gov.bc.ca.

For more information on the BC Caribou Recovery Program please visit: https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/environment/plants-animals-ecosystems/wildlife/wildlife-conservation/caribou/recovery-program ♦

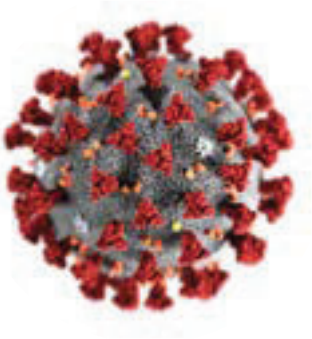
Image by C. Friedrichsmeier

FBCWA Note: An analysis by the FBCWA identified 100 Woodlot Licences (WL) with caribou habitat. Every effort was made to invite all 100 of these licensees to the conference calls noted above.; but the contact information could not be found for all. To check if there is caribou habitat on your WL, please go to the list of WLs with caribou habitat which can be found at https://woodlot.bc.c/species-at-risk/

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. ♦

A joint publication of the Federation of BC Woodlot Associations & the Woodlot Product Development Council



BC's Woodlots in the Time of COVID-19

by Lisa Marak

Spring is here, but it may not feel like a time of renewal at the moment for many of us. COVID-19 has changed so many aspects of our daily lives. We hope you, and those in your circle, are staying safe and healthy.

We're fortunate to live in a province that puts community first...you see it in BC's response to the COVID-19 outbreak, just as we see it in the way our province's resources are managed. We're grateful for the leading role our government has taken in flattening the curve and looking out for everyone's best interests.

As you know, many woodlots are places for more than just growing, harvesting and caring for the forest. They're the backyards of countless communities...a place where we work, play and learn.

While most of you are staying home and staying safe, some of you may still be enjoying our forests...and our work continues in BC's Crown forests. We're working hard managing our small woodlots to keep your forests safe and healthy. Being out in the forest offers many health benefits… and is a perfect place to practise social distancing. ♦

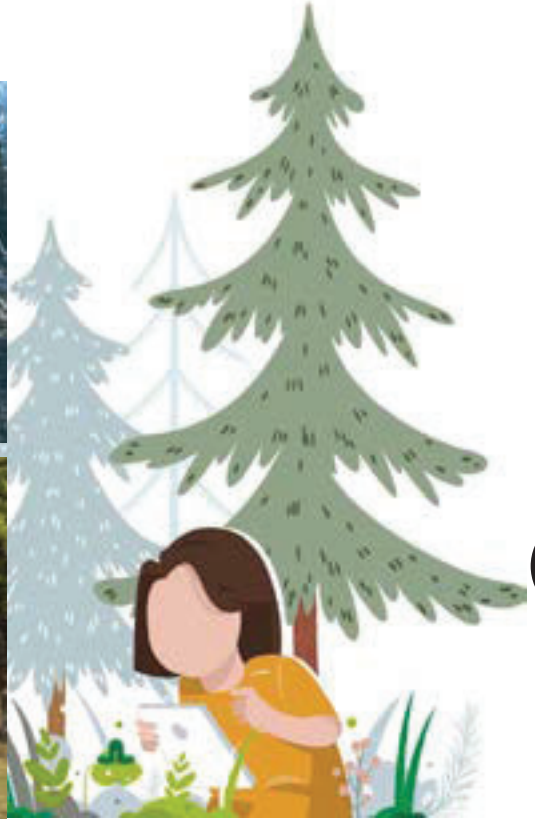
Video Contest Winners

Calling All Woodlot Kids!

Congratulations and well done to our April winners Sawyer and Sydney Seinen.

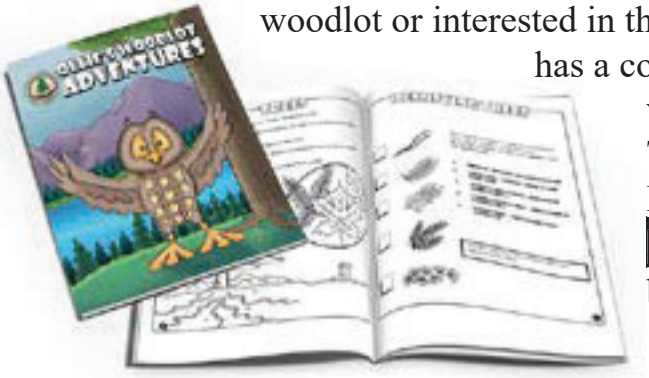
Check out their videos on our YouTube channel Woodlots BC
JUMP-DOG-STICK-BOY starring Sawyer Seinen
PINE vs SPRUCE starring Sydney Seinen

Contest runs to the end of June. For more details about the contest visit our website woodlot.bc.ca/education. ♦



Activity Book

Ollie's Woodlot Adventures takes you to a woodlot licence where you will learn about trees, the forest and how it is sustainably managed. An informative and fun resource and activity book for licensees to give students visiting a woodlot or interested in the forest. It even has a colouring page of a woodlot licensee. To order, contact Lisa Marak at [redacted]@woodlot.bc.ca. ♦



Woodlot Product Development Council:

At Work for the Benefit of Woodlot Licensees

The Woodlot Product Development Council (WPDC) is one of eight Industry Development Councils in British Columbia which are appointed under the authority of the Farming and Fishing Industries Development Act (FFIDA) to work on promotion, market development and research to benefit their industry.

A $0.25/m3 WPDC levy paid by woodlot licensees forms part of their $0.60/m3 annual rent. Holders of the following forms of agreement are required to pay annual rent to the B.C. government:

- Community forest agreement
- Cutting permit issued under a supplemental forest licence
- First Nations woodland licence
- Forest licence
- Timber licence
- Tree farm licence
- Woodlot licence

On October 3, 1997, the BC Ministry of Forests and the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food jointly issued a news release entitled "Woodlot owners' council set up to develop industry". The establishment of the Woodlot Product Development Council (WPDC) was a culmination of five years of hard work by woodlot licensee volunteers and government staff around British Columbia. The "Final Development Plan for the British Columbia Woodlot Product Development Council" prepared in February 1997 was, and continues to be, the guiding document for the establishment and operations management of the Council.

All 851 woodlot licensees in BC are members of the WPDC. Members elect woodlot licensees who voluntarily serve on a seven-member Board. Within the Board, elections are held for the positions of President, Vice-President, and Treasurer. The remaining Board members are Directors and for continuity they include the Past-President. The purpose of the WPDC Board is to govern under the following four points: provide leadership/direction; monitor oversight/compliance within their fiduciary responsibility; set limitations/rules; and promote positive relationships with members and stakeholders.

To monitor effectiveness, the Board continually asks: Are we meeting our goals and are we following the rules?

Every five years, the Board reviews and updates its Strategic Plan. The current plan is for the period 2019-2023. The Plan has five strategic goals with strategies to meet its purpose to benefit and promote the woodlot industry. The WPDC Board subscribes to the principle of continuous improvement.

The primary contractor to deliver the stated purpose and goals of the WPDC is the Federation of British Columbia Woodlot Associations (FBCWA). The WPDC prefers to work with the FBCWA to deliver our goals and priorities in unison with the FBCWA stated priorities (see page 20) where they overlap. Periodically, the WPDC will implement member requested projects to achieve goals and/or priorities that do not fit within the stated priorities and work plan of the FBCWA. The priorities for the WPDC generally focus on four main areas: Member Support and Communication; Timber Pricing Support, Woodlot Administration and Relationship Building.

The WPDC Board has a contractual business agreement with the FBCWA. Each year, the FBCWA develops a Budget and Work Plan which is discussed and reviewed by a Budget & Work Plan Committee, consisting of members defined by each party, including the President and Treasurer of each organization. The Committee jointly recommends the budget and work plan for acceptance with each respective Board. In general, the final approval of the operational aspects of the work plan lies with the FBCWA, while considering input provided by the WPDC. Approval for the spending amount rests within the fiduciary responsibility of the WPDC Board. The work plan includes key deliverables with timelines and deadlines identified. Progress on the deliverables and funding allocations are tracked on a monthly and quarterly basis throughout the year.

To ensure the WPDC meets both its fiduciary responsibility and purpose to benefit and promote the woodlot industry, the WPDC Board follows several levels of rules, including BC Laws, FFIDA, Regulations, internal policies, principles, and guidelines.

Each Board member strives to uphold the values of honesty, transparency, accountability, and respect when meeting the goals and following the rules of the WPDC. They are here to support all members and welcome any feedback. Their contact information is on Page 2 of the Almanac.

For more information please visit the WPDC page on the Website: www.woodlot.bc.ca. ♦

Woodlot Product Development Council

Extraordinary Project Proposals:

The Board of Directors for the Woodlot Product Development Council (WPDC) is commencing a pilot 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 total 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: cjmcclary401@gmail.com
Phone: 250-961-0271 ♦

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: cjmcclary401@gmail.com. ♦

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 July 31, 2020. 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 or a woodlot licensee can sponsor an applicant who has no direct family connection. In cases where the woodlot is not owned by an individual, one applicant per woodlot is eligible to apply in any given year.
3. Applicants must be planning to attend a post secondary institution, including a trades school, within 24 months of the application deadline.
4. Preference will be given to students in grade 12 and recent high school graduates.
5. Preference will be given to students entering a forestry-related program. Students entering other areas of study are welcome to apply, knowing there is preference for forestry related study.
6. **Two scholarships, one for $2,000.00 and one for $1,000.00 will awarded to the top two ranked applications.**
7. The awards will be payable on receipt by the FBCWA of documentation confirming registration into the institution for post secondary education. This generally occurs in mid September.
8. Essays, letters and photos from applicants, particularly the successful applicants, may be printed in the Almanac. Video, audio and photos may be posted on our website and/or social media sites.
9. The decision of the Awards Committee is final.
10. The Award Committee of the Federation of B.C. Woodlot Associations will be empowered to:
    a) grant this award at its discretion;
    b) withhold this award in any year if there are no eligible applicants, or for any reason deemed good or advisable.

IMPORTANT

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. Create a 2-3 minute video that illustrates why you think Woodlot Licences are unique and how they benefit your 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 nancypez@telus.net with a subject heading of FBCWA Scholarship Application

Applications must be received by July 31st, 2020

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 2020-21: _____

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

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

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

New Fire Hazard Assessment Template for Woodlot Licence Harvest Areas

by Alan Waters, RPF# 1495

Many woodlot licensees are strong on field work, and less so in completing government paperwork. So it comes as no surprise that Forest Practices Board audits have shown that although the vast majority of woodlot licensees do an excellent job of fire hazard abatement, some do not complete a written fire hazard assessment for each area they harvest. To help woodlot licensees who are not forest professionals complete their own fire hazard assessments, your Woodlot Product Development Council funded a project to produce a simple and efficient fire hazard assessment template.

As part of this project I prepared a document entitled ***"Fire Hazard Assessment and Abatement on Woodlot Licence Harvest Areas"*** to explain the legal requirements for completing fire hazard assessments on woodlot licence harvest areas and suggest best practices for associated fire hazard abatement. The fire hazard assessment template and accompanying report is professional advice under the Foresters Act. The report has been signed by me as a Registered Professional Forester. By signing the report and template, experienced woodlot licensees who are not forest professionals can fill in the template in accordance with the instructions to produce fire hazard assessments for harvest areas on their own woodlot licences. The woodlot licensee who uses this template is still ultimately responsible for accurately assessing the information they enter into the template and for recommending fire hazard abatement treatments that will

effectively reduce the fire hazard and protect nearby values at risk from wildfire. There is no way my signature as an RPF on the blank template can certify the accuracy and suitability of individual fire hazard assessments for areas I have never seen.

This process of using a fire hazard assessment template designed by a forest professional is described on page 10 of the BC Wildfire Service's 2012 publication ***"A Guide to Fire Hazard Assessment and Abatement in BC".*** This document indicates:

"Qualified holders may retain a forest professional to develop an assessment strategy or operating procedure for assessment of fire hazard at the site(s) of their industrial or prescribed activity within their operating area(s) or they may also use this guide."

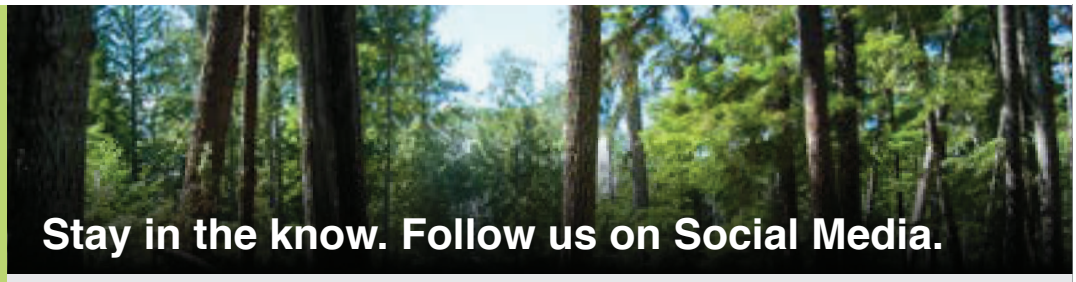
A qualified holder as defined in Section 1 of the Wildfire Regulation includes a woodlot licensee who has paid their annual rent.

The fire hazard assessment template has been reviewed by several woodlot licensees, industry foresters and the Association of BC Forest Professionals and is believed to be suitable for guiding licensees through an assessment of the fire hazard on typical woodlot licence harvest areas. The document and fire hazard assessment template are available on the WPDC page of the website www.woodlot.bc.ca.

Anyone who has questions, requires clarification or has suggested improvements to the fire hazard assessment template can call Alan Waters RPF at 250-747-0649 or email: alanwaters@quesnelbc.ca. A woodlot licensee who is not a forest professional and wants to modify the template may email me and I will review and confirm the modifications, (at no cost), if I feel the modifications are acceptable. Alternatively a woodlot licensee who is not a forest professional can use their local professional forester to prescribe a modified version of the fire hazard assessment template that the woodlot licensee can then use to assess the fire hazard on their woodlot licence harvest areas. ♦

Please note:

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



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Woodlots BC
Learn about WLs and past stewardship recipients

Cutting Permit Postponement

Not Planning To Harvest Timber On Your WL Anytime Soon?

If you don't think you will be doing any timber harvesting on your WL in the foreseeable future, you might want to consider applying for a Cutting Permit (CP) postponement. The Forest Act (section 58.21) and Cutting Permit Postponement Regulation allow a WL licensee to apply to postpone operations under a cutting permit for up to 2-years.

Postponing the operation of a CP essentially shifts the active period of the CP for the postponed timeframe, postponing the expiry of the CP term and prohibiting the exercise of any rights during the period of postponement.

Excerpt from the Cutting Permit & Road Tenure Administration Manual, August 2015.

Key things to know about a CP postponement:

- 1 CPs are eligible.
- A WL licensee must apply to their District Manager.
- Decision making has been delegated to District Managers.
- Postponement may be for up to 2-years.
- No rights granted under the CP may be exercised during the period of postponement; i.e. a licensee must not harvest or transport timber, or construct on-block roads.
- A licensee remains liable and responsible for all legal and licence obligations that were incurred as a result of operations that took place prior to the postponement being approved.
- To recommence operations before the term of the postponement is up, a licensee must apply to the DM to rescind the postponement.

Example: A WL licensee has 6 months remaining on the term of their CP. The licensee applies for and receives approval for a 2-year postponement. When the 2-years is up, or the postponement has been rescinded, there will still be 6 months remaining on the term of the CP.

When considering whether or not to apply for a postponement, be sure to consider any cut control implications; i.e. if a postponement will result in <100% of the volume in the current 5-year cut control period from being harvested.

If you are going to apply for a CP postponement, it's recommended that you do so right away in order to 'save' the time remaining on the CP. Contact your District woodlot staff for guidance or if you have any questions. ♦

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. ♦

A joint publication of the Federation of BC Woodlot Associations & the Woodlot Product Development Council

How to Identify Missing Forest Cover Spatial Error

by Tom Bradley

Tom Bradley

In the last Almanac I wrote about the "missing forest cover spatial data" RESULTS error. A large number of the errors have been caused by well intentioned folks trying to edit forest cover attributes (species, age, ht, stems/ha, etc) using the RESULTS web interface, and doing so incorrectly. Last article covered "How to do it right".

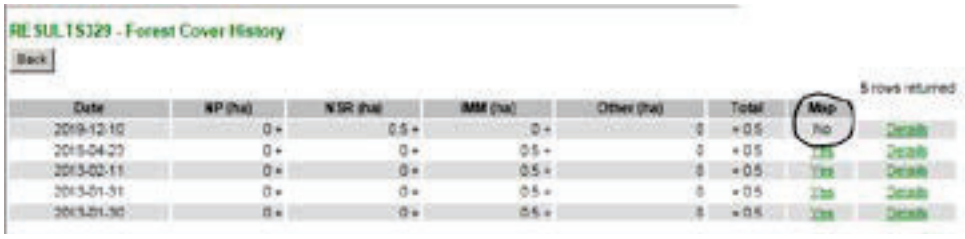
But there was an unresolved issue. As I said at the time:

"To the best of my knowledge today, it is not possible for a Woodlot Licence (WL) holder or service provider to check if the "broken link" problem affects your WL. We are working on this, and if we do find the way, I will share it."

Thankfully, I stumbled over "the way" this winter. Very simple, like all riddles when you see the answer.

Go to the RESULTS320 - Forest Cover Summary page, which you get to by clicking the large <Forest Cover> file tab at the top of the main RESULTS opening interface screen. (see Dia. 1)

Now, click the green <Forest Cover History> link on right side of screen. The forest cover history records open up. The Map column on the right says this unit has no map. Meaning no spatial data. It had a map (aka forest cover spatial) for many years, but on 2019-12-10, the map became extinct. Why? Well, I deliberately went in through the Web interface and made one of those incorrect forest cover attribute edits during research. I "broke the link". (see Dia. 2)



Dia. 2

So, I can see there is an error: no map, meaning no forest cover spatial data.

To fix, I create and upload a valid XML/GML forest cover data submission, with spatial data of course, to RESULTS. If there is no change in spatial data, I can just edit the attribute data entries in my last valid XML/GML submission to meet my needs.

After a few minutes, the Forest Cover History changes to "Yes". (I have seen instances where the change takes a day to take effect. Could be cached data somewhere in the chain.) (see Dia. 3)

There is now valid spatial for the forest cover submission, and as long as the forest cover attributes I reported are correct, my RESULTS forest cover reporting for this opening is compliant with the reporting requirements.

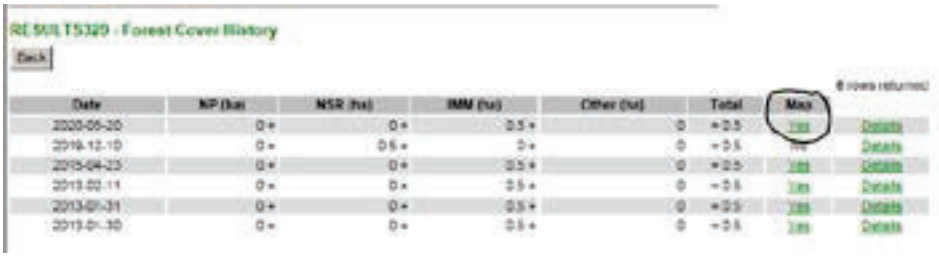
If you have taken advantage of the RESULTS web interface to edit forest cover attributes, I urge you to take the time to verify that there is valid forest cover spatial data linked to all your reported openings using this method. If the answer is "No", either undertake repairs yourself with an XML/GML submission through ESF, or discuss with your service provider.

Dia. 1

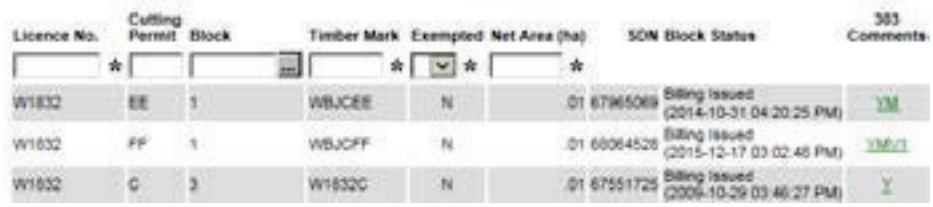
Waste Reporting Change

Two changes in waste reporting procedures have come to my attention recently. I need to revise the "e-Waste Reporting for Woodlots Users Manual", but here is advance notice.

(Want a copy of this e-Waste reporting



Dia. 3



Dia. 4

for WL manual? Google Woodlot Waste to find it.)

First change: decks of abandoned logs ("too few logs to make a load" usually) are no longer reported as a separate imaginary tiny Block with a benchmark of 0 m_3/ha. See the screenshot of reports for "blocks" with 0.01 ha Net Areas below. This approach is OUT. (see Dia. 4)

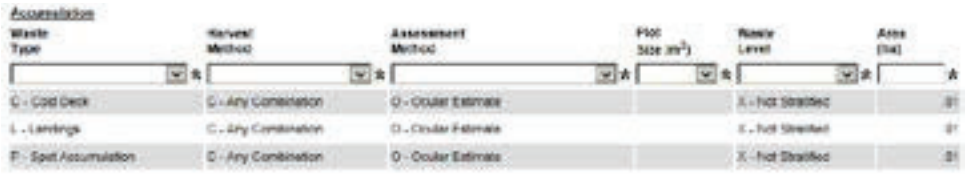
The volume in the abandoned log deck is now reported as a separate waste accumulation within the harvested block. I use "Cold Deck" as the accumulation type. Example of reporting in Diagram 5.

BTW, the "Spot Accumulations" above are piles created by fire hazard abatement piling.

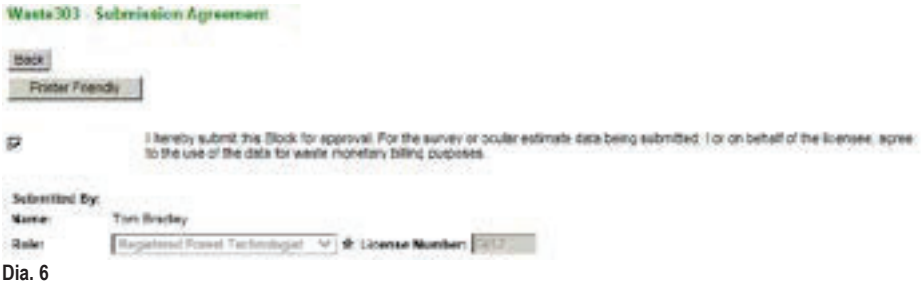
Second change: We no longer use WACO, WASI and WANI as the Waste Surveyor Licence Number in the Waste 303 Submission Agreement screen if you are not a licensed waste surveyor.

If you did the waste survey as a forest professional, put your RPF or RFT number in the License Number field. (see Dia. 6)

If you did the waste survey as a woodlot agreement holder using the provisions of "Provincial Logging Residue and Waste Measurement Procedures Manual - Coast, Woodlot Licences, and Community Forest Agreements" Section 3.3 Para 4, just leave the Licence Number field empty.



Dia. 5



Dia. 6

New WLGML Manual

By the time you receive this Almanac, or very soon after, Version 4 of the WLGML manual will be posted on the web. The manual is a How To guide to e-FM spatial submissions for woodlots. It covers CP and RP submissions to FTA, and RESULTS reporting submissions. Google "WLGML" to find it.

Ver 4.0 streamlines content, adds an active link table of contents, and catches up with changes in procedures and changes in my knowledge since Ver 3 was published back in 2016.

Here to Help

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

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. ♦

BC's Woodlot Program

Commentary by Fred Marshall

The BC Woodlot program is a unique and very popular one that conveys the right and privilege to its owner(s) to manage a parcel of Crown land including the forests thereon and the other natural resources associated with them. This compendium of resources often includes water, fish, wildlife, firewood, non-timber forest products, recreation, aesthetics and a myriad of ecological goods and services.

The main objectives of the woodlot program were to:

- increase opportunities for small-scale forestry in British Columbia
- increase the amount of private forest land being managed on a sustained yield basis
- increase the productivity of small parcels of forested land
- promote local employment opportunities especially in rural or semi-rural areas
- promote excellence in forest management

The maximum amount of crown land in a woodlot licence is 1200 hectares in the interior and 800 hectares on the coast. In addition, a woodlot licence may include some private land. At present there are approximately 855 active woodlots in British Columbia with an annual allowable cut (AAC) of ~1.579 million cubic meters annually; or ~2.3% of the provincial AAC.

Is the woodlot program living up to its expectations? In some respects, yes; however, in far too many respects---NO!

As per the above, the inherent objectives of the woodlot program were to provide unique parcels of forested Crown land to local, rural residents to manage in an exemplary manner. Such vision

included managing socially and/or environmentally challenging parcels that otherwise would have received little or even no management (e.g. those located in or close to urban areas or landlocked via private access or in a sensitive watershed or view-scape). Profits would accrue to a relatively high number of local residents who would spend their woodlot earnings in the local community via the development of up to 2,000 woodlots. The initial woodlot tender processes gave a higher rating to those who lived closest to the woodlot.

The vision also included:

- Increased and accrued advantages of improved management of the associated private land parcels. All woodlot award processes give higher rankings to those with the most private land.
- More small-scale forest tenures provide more opportunities for small wood- manufacturing facilities to purchase logs suitable to their mills.
- Placing more of BC's timber in small, independent holdings answered, albeit in a relatively small way, the US SLA claims that insufficient timber in BC was sold by competitive bid.

In many respects, the stated objectives of the woodlot program are being met. However, many negative aspects of the program are all too evident and growing.

These include:

- The removal of private lands from woodlots with most woodlots now consisting solely of Crown land which may not be as well managed as they were as part of the woodlot.
- Several entities (i.e. an individual, and/or companies owned by that individual or entity now own several woodlots). For example, one entity presently owns 10 woodlots, another owns 6 and several own 2-3 woodlots.
- Many of these owners live 100 or more kilometers from their woodlots and hence cannot manage the areas as well as local residents.
- The net profits made from these woodlots now accrue to an entity often far-removed from the communities where the woodlots are located.
- Owning a larger number of woodlots inherently dissipates the personal time, money, and effort the owners can give to their woodlots.
- Mimics the syndrome of fewer and fewer forest companies owning most of the provincial AAC.
- Over 50 years ago there were hundreds of smaller wood-processing facilities in BC with crown tenure. However, the provincial government allowed large companies to buy the owners out, closing the mill and using the AAC to support their own mill.
- The Government then bought back several million M_3 and redistributed the purchased quota to BCTS, new woodlots, community forests and Woodland Licences. The rationale behind this buy-back was to diversify

forest tenures so more timber was sold competitively to satisfy the US Fair Lumber Coalition to ally the imposition of duties on lumber shipped to the US.

While some may disagree, many are disappointed in the direction of the BC woodlot program is going. This direction is inherently much different than the vision held by the founding members of the Federation. If the consolidation of woodlots continues, most of the original intentions, objectives and rationale for the program in the first place will be lost.

What are your thoughts? Is the Woodlot consolidation process a good one? Or, should it be stopped with the original intentions being reaffirmed and upheld? If the people of BC were aware of the direction the woodlot program was taking; would they approve of it?

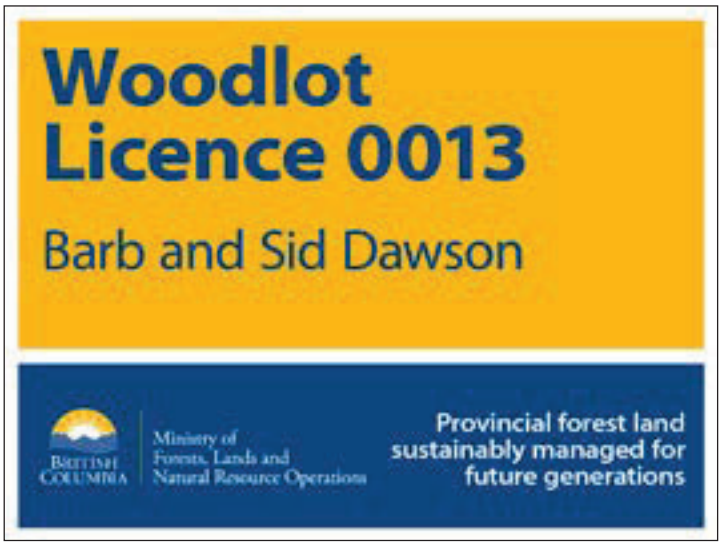
In my opinion, the Federation, in collaboration with FLNRORD, should evaluate this consolidation dilemma and determine what the best future for the program is. The consolidation process should not be allowed to continue without a well-informed basis on which to base such a decision. The general public should be a part of this evaluation; I doubt they will support further consolidation and may not look favorably on increasing the number of woodlots in BC. What a shame.

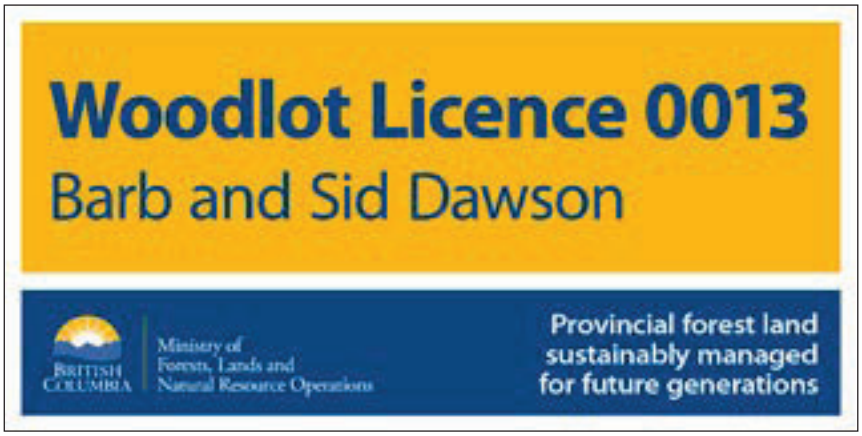
Concentration of BC's AAC in a few industrial giants has not been good for BC; similarly, and ditto for the consolidation of the BC AAC allocated to woodlots. ♦

FBCWA note: The state and direction of the Woodlot Licence program is a standing topic between the Federation and FLNRORD, including meetings with Minister Donaldson in October 2019 and John Allan, Deputy Minister in March 2020. Also, all Woodlot Licence awards and transfers must comply with the Forest Act and be approved by the ministry. The Federation is not aware of any laws being broken.

Woodlot Licence Signs

Having a sign on your woodlot has many benefits – it promotes social licence and the woodlot program, provides awareness of a managed crown forest and identifies who is managing this small forest tenure.





If you are interested in putting up a woodlot licence sign the Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations has created two templates with the following specifications:

Recommended Sizes:
- 48 in x 36 in (4 feet x 3 feet)
- 96 in x 48 in (8 feet x 4 feet)

Colour Standards:
- Gold: CMYK 0/30/100/0; or Pantone 130
- Blue: CMYK 100/67/0/23; or Pantone 288

Font Standards:
The corporate font that should always be used is Adobe Myriad Pro.

The templates must be used with Adobe InDesign publishing software (nothing older than Adobe InDesign CS5). Adobe Myriad Pro may be purchased online at www.adobe.com/type or from Adobe Customer Service at 1-800-682-3623. These typefaces are available from other reputable font vendors as well.

Printing Standards
All printing of government signage (including these) must be printed with Paula Peterson at Queens Printer. It is core government procurement policy that all printing be managed through Queens Printer (QP). ♦

FBCWA 2020/21 Priorities

(FBCWA BoD accepted - March 14, 2020)

TOPIC	HIGH	MEDIUM	BEING MONITORED
Government Initiatives	• Old Growth Review* • Chief Foresters Leadership Team • Species at risk* • Follow up re Minister's messages about WLs	• Wildlife Habitat Improvement*	• Interior Forest Sector Renewal* • Coast Revitalization* • Land Use Planning* • Private Forest Land Mgmt
Legislation, Regulation & Policy	• FRPA*- incl WLP streamlining • Big Trees* • Lobbyist Transparency Act	• DRIPA implications to WLs	• Professional Gov Act • Bill 22 • OBSCR • Glyphosate
FBCWA Business	• 2020/21 Budget & Work Plan • Association Building (FBCWA EPP) • Revise Communications Plan - address branding, promotions, swag & social media • Election Messaging • Director Development & Succession	• BCWS Engagement Agreement • Explore liaison with FN Leadership Council	• Union of BC Municipalities • Coast/Interior representation
Extension	• Reference Guide (WL manual)	• Improve website's utility • Pilot test podcasts & videos	• Create 'app'; e.g. CP checklist
WL Joint Working Group	• WLs exceeding cut control • WL undercutting • Approving FSPs over WLs • Must approve RPs for non-WL holders	• MP handbook revisions • Accumulating WLs • FLNRORD communications with WLs	• 1 CP road reporting • WL attrition • Advance admin streamlining
Timber Pricing	• WL Waste Assessment methodology		• Fibre Recovery Zones • Log exports • Tab rates
E-Business	• W4W upgrades	• Revise/update WLGML Manual	
Safety Committee	• Promote safety		
Government Programs	• Pursue WL funding from gov't program(s)		
Practicing Good Management	• Establish Forest Mgmt Committee • Promote innovation		• FPB audits & investigations
Fair & Reasonable Admin		• FLNRORD support for WLs	• Advance admin streamlining
WPDC - FBCWA Business	• Priority setting • Reporting • FBCWA EPP Management		
WPDC EPPs			• Succession Planning • Mixed-wood Mgmt.
WPDC Special Projects	• Fire Hazard Assessment method		

*Notes: *relates to retaining WL THLB.*

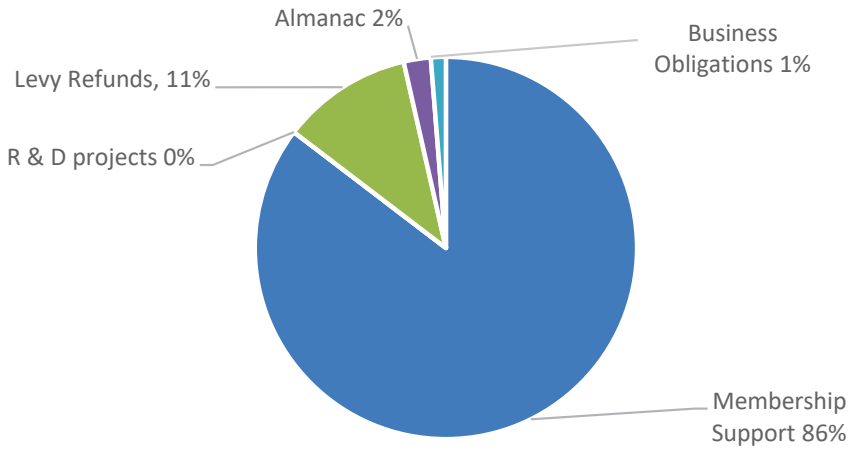
2020/21 Budget/Comparison

(Accepted by WPDC Board of Directors June 4, 2020)

REVENUE		2019 YTD Mar 2020 (unofficial)	2020 proposed	Comments
	Levy	402,916	391,669	2020 based on 3 payments in 2019 & Q4 2018
	AGM/Conference	16,780		
	Almanac ad	486	500	
Total		**420,182**	**392,169**	
EXPENSES				
	Accounting	1,796	10,200	2020 to include review engagement
	AGM/Conference	21,652	8,500	
	Annual Report		700	
	Coordinator Fees	33,991	35,000	
	Directors Meetings & Expenses	6,826	18,000	
	FBCWA Contract Delivery	340,535	489,448	
	Insurance	1,539	1,524	
	Levy Refunds	43,225	40,000	
	EPP	23,149	100,000	$50,693 committed
	WL Survey	972	1,000	
	R&D	825	5,000	
	Storage	1,827	1,827	
	Woodland Almanac	10,605	9,500	
Total		**486,942**	**720,699**	
INVESTMENTS		**3,497,000**		

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. ♦



Working Towards Successful Fire Management on Woodlot Licences

Editor's note: With a passion for forest fire prevention and suppression, Al Waters aka "Eddy Matches", has prepared a template for woodlot licensees to use when completing fire hazard assessments. A notice about the template is on page 14. The template can be found on the WPDC page of the website www.woodlot.bc.ca

Below is his personal account of his life's work around forest fire prevention and suppression.

Frank Boucher III, grandson of the famous Chief of the Lhtako Dene Nation. Frank (a former faller) is bucking dead pine and Douglas-fir blowdown into pulp logs and piling branches along a trail so they can be removed with the quad or side by side. We have been unable to burn this debris in hand piles since the prohibition on open burning since April 16th. Not being able to burn has added significantly to the cost of this Forest Enhancement Society project.

I have over 45 years of forest fire prevention and suppression experience in BC. My first job in the forest industry was on a fire suppression crew in 1974 in 100 Mile House where I was promoted to sub-foreman half-way through the summer. During that summer I worked closely with some very dedicated fire suppression people including Paul Pushkin and Mike Cleaver, who both went on to become Forest Service District Managers. However, the gentleman I admired most during that summer was a semi-retired Fire Warden named Harvie who shared his decades of practical firefighting knowledge in a friendly and inspirational way. Harvie left me thinking that when I am semi-retired, I want to be a Fire Warden and help the Forest Service carry out fire prevention and suppression. Wanting to help the Forest Service carry out fire prevention and suppression is a feeling I have maintained throughout my career and still hold very strongly to this day.

Throughout my 16 year career with West Fraser , I was in charge of fire prevention, fire suppression, fire preparedness and fire hazard abatement. In this capacity I supervised , organized, and maintained West Fraser's firefighting staff and equipment. We pioneered and successfully executed all season broadcast burning of up to 2,000 hectares per year. We were an efficient, dedicated, and effective fire management team.

More recently, I have been using donated surplus fuel to burn old landing slash piles and other slash accumulations on Crown and private land and/or help the people responsible for these slash accumulations get them burned safely. I have been doing almost all of this work free of charge, at my own cost.

In the winter of 2018, I attended a two day FireSmart training course in Prince George so I could become a local FireSmart representative for the community of Kersley and to assist the overall FireSmart efforts of the City of Quesnel. In the winter of 2018/2019, I assisted with the United Way Fire Mitigation Project by providing advice, burn fuel, and one of my drip torches so woody debris could be burned rather than hauling it to a landfill. Over the summer of 2019, I was in charge of the United Way Fire Mitigation Project in Quesnel and we treated a record 49 properties between May 15th and August 20th. In addition, my corporation carried out certified falling of trees that were close to buildings using a Captain winch to provide directional control.

I rented my 14 foot dual axle dumping trailer to the United Way and negotiated an agreement so we could transport the woody debris to Pacesetter Mills where it could be chipped into hog fuel for the pulp mills in

Quesnel. I also employed my motorized extension pole pruner, chainsaws, brush saws, quad and other equipment to greatly improve the efficiency of the operation. Other than my trailer I received no compensation for the use of my personal equipment.

From my decades of experience, you can see I am extremely passionate, and action oriented towards successful forest fire management and minimizing the destruction of forests and personal or community property by wildfire.

After months of careful thought and discussion with experienced professional foresters who hold woodlot licences and work for major licensees , my suggested approach for WL holders is not consistent with the methodology suggested in the 2012 Guide to Fuel Hazard Assessment and Abatement in BC. However, my suggested fire hazard assessment template does not contradict the legislation.

James George, (nephew of former actor Chief Dan George from the Malahat Band). James is a certified faller with over 35 years of experience, a faller supervisor and danger tree assessor. He is the most productive and ingenious forestry worker I have ever had the privilege of working with.

We are moving ladder fuels and pruning branches down to a WL road using a 4 foot by 8 foot box on top of the side by side, loading this debris in a dumping trailer to take it to Pacesetter Mills in Quesnel to be ground into hog fuel and separating rails for local rancher to take away.

The Guide allows other professionally developed approaches to completing a fire hazard assessment. When I worked for 5 years as the Senior Woodlot Licence Forester at Tenures Branch in Victoria, I made a very concerted effort to write legislation, policy and guidelines that was streamlined and simpler for woodlot licence operations because woodlot licences are a unique tenure.

My template deals as much with best practices for fire hazard abatement as it does with fire hazard assessment. This is because prompt and successful fire hazard abatement treatments are far more important in preventing devastating wildfires than measuring the number of tonnes/hectare of fuel on a harvest area. Most woodlot licensees have invested substantially to acquire these small tenures, cherish the opportunity to manage a small parcel of Crown forest land close to where they live. The very last thing they would want to see is their licence destroyed by wildfire. Some woodlot licensees may need extension services or help to promote better fire hazard abatement on their harvest areas. The intent is to provide convincing arguments why excellent fire hazard abatement should be a high priority for every woodlot licensee.

My ultimate goal, with respect to Wildfire legislation, is to replace the requirements for both fire hazard assessments and fire hazard abatement with a single practice requirement for prompt fire hazard abatement on woodlot licence harvest areas. ♦

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 [redacted]@gmail.com.