

# THE WOODLAND ALMANAC

Winter 2007

a joint publication of

THE FEDERATION OF BC  
WOODLOT ASSOCIATIONS



THE WOODLOT PRODUCT  
DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL

## Steaming into the future: AGM cited as “best ever”

by Deborah Greaves

Over 120 members and associates of the Federation of BC Woodlot Associations attended an annual general meeting and conference in Port Alberni to discuss their roles in the forest industry of the future.

Hailing from all over BC, many of the Federation members pronounced the 2007 AGM and conference the best ever. Highlights included a surprise flyover of the Mars flying tanker at a Christmas tree farm, a vintage steam locomotive train ride, and a poetry recital from atop a tree stump – in contrast with woodlot business decisions, resolutions and speeches from government officials.

Talks were given on September 28 and 29 by Larry Pederson, Deputy Minister of Agriculture and Lands; Jim Snetsinger, Chief Forester of the Ministry of Forests and Range; and NDP forest critic Bob Simpson.

The 800 BC woodlot licensees have coped with the same challenges affecting the bigger industry players over the past years, including windstorms that knocked out areas on the Island and the Coast, the mountain pine beetle infestation that has killed millions of trees and up to several decades of future harvest and profit, and what

many say are truckloads of time-gobbling government paperwork. Members have said that annual

allowable cuts need further restructuring by the provincial

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**Message from the President of the FBCWA****Wow, what an AGM!**

by *Cliff Manning*

With the AGM over, and as people get back to their normal routines just let me say – what a time was had!

The work of the FBCWA Executive and Directors continues along the slippery path of trying to resolve the ongoing saga of tabular rates. The work involved is far more complex than one could imagine.

For anyone watching from the sidelines, like myself, who has wondered, “Why is this talking so long?” or “Weren’t we asked to get on the bus, and did?” – rest assured that those working on this issue are probably more frustrated than you are! It remains a priority for the Federation and we will continue to devote time and energy to get this resolved.

At the AGM, MFR senior staff and the Federation agreed to embark on a business action plan process whereby Federation and MFR priorities will be examined, joint priorities determined, and tasks

assigned with timelines attached.

This was in response to a common understanding that some aspects of woodlot program business are taking far too long complete. We had our first meeting, got the first draft of the priority list, and are setting off to get the job done. You

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“ . . . we will continue to devote time and energy to get this resolved.”

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will be hearing more about this initiative in the future, as it was agreed we need to use the Almanac and website to keep FBCWA member in the know.

As President of the FBCWA, I would like to thank the South Island Woodlot Association for their hosting the 20<sup>th</sup> Annual FBCWA Annual General Meeting in Port Alberni.

It was a great success, very educational, and one that is hard to compare with.

In addition, I would like to thank the staff of the Ministry of Forests for their participation in our AGM, as their involvement is an integral part of the operation.

Special thanks go to Bob Simpson, NDP Forestry Critic; Jim Snetsinger, Chief Forester; and Larry Pedersen, Deputy Minister, Ministry of Agriculture and Lands, for their inspiring presentations.

At this point, I would like to thank those who have completed their terms in the Executive, as Directors of the FBCWA and those serving with the WPDC, namely Brent Petrick (now Past President).

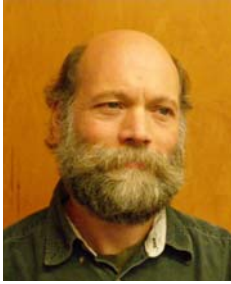
On behalf of the Executive and Directors of the Federation, I would also like to wish everyone a safe and happy Christmas season. ♦

## Thank you to our contributors for this issue

Alberni Valley Times  
BC Ministry of Forests and  
Range  
Larianna Brown  
Mark Clark  
Dean Daly  
Barb Dawson  
George Delisle  
Deborah Greaves  
Ron Greschner



Dave Haley  
Rod Krimmer  
Mike Larock  
Cliff Manning  
John Marlow  
Hazel Massier  
Kathy Mayes  
Brian McNaughton  
Shayne Morrow  
Steven Wright



by Mike Larock

I spent most of the day and evening extracting honey from frames and putting the hard-earned nectar from 300,000 honeybees into jars. Honey production was down this year for the apiary on the woodlot. But that is OK, it is another woodlot product that is quite enjoyable to work at.

I am amazed at the organization within the hive to achieve the goal of securing an entire winter's food and tending to several thousand brood. On sunny days I can sit right in the middle of the apiary without protection and watch the busy activity. The bees are completely fixed on the main goal. It all got me thinking about the role of the Woodlot Product Development Council and our focus for the coming year.

We were established ten years

## Message from the President of the FBCWA

### To bee or not to bee!

ago under the Farming and Fishing Industries Development Act (FFIDA). The Council was created to promote a positive image of the woodlot industry and its products, to educate people about the benefits of BC woodlots and small-scale woodlot management, and to support research programs for the development and enhancement of the woodlot industry in the province.

These are noble ideals, for sure. I was a voting licensee at the time, so I feel comfortable in saying that the creation of Council looks to have been a wise and forward-thinking move.

Today's woodlot challenges are immense. The widespread disaster occurring in our Interior pine stands and the future of that timber supply for woodlots tops the problems.

Issues related to this and other challenges require the combined resources of all our woodlots and our

government partner to help bring some answers to the forefront.

Council intends to begin the year by doing our best to strategically consider our role and what projects are necessary to implement for our licensees. We will continue to track our work and learn from what we are doing to enhance our efforts for the next time around.

We are fortunate to have a good relationship with the Federation of BC Woodlot Associations, and through their energy we collectively achieve our stated purpose.

With such a large number of individuals you'd think it would be difficult to move forward on a goal. Not so! We are a beehive of activity. If you think there is something that we should be doing, please contact our Council directors or send us an email through our website. ♦



## Letter to the editor

### Is SAFE certification really meaningful?

Editor:

Warning: This letter could be harmful to your WorkSafe attitude!

There is no argument against safety. Everyone wants to return home safely after a day's work. The question is, what is the best way to achieve this? Does SAFE Company certification have any real meaning or is it just window dressing to appear to be "doing something"?

Now that I am registered as a SAFE Company I have a thick binder that will help me develop safety plans, procedures, meetings, controls, inspections, records, and reports. Implicit in all of this is my personal liability should something

go wrong. It's enough to intimidate me into not hiring. So now I'm back to working alone. Is that safe?

Statistically, one of the most dangerous things I can do is drive to work. Now truckers' hours are reduced so they have to drive faster to get that last load to town. Is that safe?

A safe workplace is one in which the main focus is not on maximum productivity at the lowest possible cost. It is one in which the worker does not feel compelled to bend the rules or compete with others to earn a day's wages. It is one in which fair compensation is received for an honest day's work. It is one in which the

worker is included as a valuable part of a meaningful whole. Legislate that!

While I am on the subject, why do you suppose the WCB changed its name? I can see why some corporate CEO might want to downplay the compensation part of Workers' Compensation but what grammar school dropout came up with the name WorkSafe? Shouldn't that be Work Safely? The best we can hope for is to *Be Safe*, in spite of the rules.

Anyway, that's my two cents' worth.

Rod Krimmer

W0550 Cariboo ♦

*General Manager's report***Small tenures are the way of the future**

by Brian McNaughton

The Port Alberni AGM was not only an excellent forum for dialogue and to conduct Federation business, but also provided a nostalgic look back at BC's illustrious coastal forest industry.

From the steam train ride (and having WL stumpage revenues stolen by despicable band of outlaws) to the historic McLean mill site where we watched a load of logs delivered by a 1947 Hayes logging truck get dumped into the mill pond and the old steam sawmill in operation, it was step back into a bygone era.

However, the theme of the AGM was "Steaming into the Future – Ride the Woodlot Train," so on my long drive home to Williams Lake I couldn't help but think about what the future of BC's forest sector might look like and where woodlots and woodlot licenses might fit in.

By the time I had survived getting out of Vancouver and reached Hope, I was convinced that the large tracts of mature timber (coast and interior) around which the current forest industry was built will continue to diminish as a result of insect infestations (mountain pine beetle), wildfires, land claim settlements, societal demands and other factors.

The forested land base will become quite fragmented, with the larger tracts giving way to smaller parcels of forests.

Future forests will be younger and society is going to demand better stewardship, more intensive management, and a greater level of care be afforded these small parcels.

Rural communities, including First Nations communities, are going to take an even greater interest in

what's going on around them and will want more of say in stewardship and management decisions.

Through the Fraser canyon and even before I got to Cache Creek, it was clear (at least in my mind . . . and remember, I was the only one in the vehicle, so this was based on a discussion with myself) that future new forests are going to be a challenge to manage and likely necessitate a whole new round of learning about ecological resiliency, biological diversity, mixed species management, and multi-aged stands.

The old standard approach of a "monoculture to meet free-growing" will be a thing of the past. New management will incorporate agroforestry principles where appropriate, in order to generate gains for agriculture and forestry from the same parcel of land.

Non-timber forest products will become part of the revenue stream as people look to bridge interim timber supply issues.

New products will rely more on fibre rather than solid wood, and the old adage that "we have to make more from less" will be even more true in the future than it is today!

Now heading north up Highway 97, it dawned on me that these smaller parcels of forests would be better aligned to small, replaceable, area-based – like woodlot licenses.

Who better to manage these increasingly complex forests with high societal interest than . . . woodlot licensees!

From the business side of the equation, more small tenures means more small businesses with innovative ideas, creativity in the marketplace, interest in non-timbered forest products, etc.

Gosh, it was all starting to come together!

The province needs to start rebuilding the small business component of BC's forest sector NOW as part of the transition to the future!

Of course this all made perfect sense, since the 2007 Small Business Profile for BC reported that (in 2006) that 98% of all businesses in British Columbia were small businesses and they contributed just under 57% of all private sector jobs.

It was a classic win-win – more small businesses and better stewardship of the resource with the added attraction that small businesses often grow into medium-sized, then large businesses!

Phew, by the time I turned in my driveway I was feeling pretty smug. In less than 650 kilometers I had figured out the future of BC's forest sector and how woodlots could steam into the future!

For a guy who is confronted by the challenges facing woodlots, woodlot licences and the woodlot program most days of the week, I found myself feeling quite optimistic about the future.

No tenure has a better track record than woodlots when it comes to adaptability, perseverance, the drive to survive, and how to make things work.

Thanks, South Island Woodlot Association! The AGM was thought-provoking in a fun and relaxed atmosphere, AND it made my drive home a lot more interesting. Great job and thanks to each and every one of you! ♦



*Interior timber pricing***November update for woodlot licensees**

by Dean Daly

**Interior tabular rates:**

Work related to development of a potential interior tabular rate model is continuing slowly.

In the meantime, the FBCWA and Ministry of Forests officials have met to discuss licensee winter priorities and possible timeframes for Interior Appraisal Manual amendments.

The FBCWA will notify licensees as soon as there is any progress or decision made regarding tabular rates.

**Market Pricing System implementation (MPS "A"):**

The MOF has announced to IAAC that the government intends to implement the full blown Market Pricing System (MPS "A") sometime between July 1, 2008 and July 1, 2009.

What this would mean is that the distributional effects (waterbed) on stumpage caused by the comparative value pricing system (current Interior Appraisal Policy Manual) would end.

Stumpage rates for each cutting permit would then be calculated using only the MPS formula of the day.

Overall for woodlots, neither the current form of MPS nor MPS "A"

adequately prices logs for independent log sellers.

Stumpage rates under MPS do not correlate well with actual interior log prices, and are too high in our current log markets. A different system which is fair for both log sellers and government is needed.

**Log grades:**

The MOF is concerned that interior timber stands are rapidly degrading due to mountain pine beetle damage, and that the percentage of Grade 4 timber is increasing to levels that compare to the old Grade 3 and 5 levels before April 2006.

This rapid decline in timber quality is generating lots of discussion regarding the potential need for further changes to timber pricing to prevent unintended sawlog stumpage impacts. Stay tuned.

**Estimating the log value of Interior timber stands:**

The MOF has initiated a discussion paper which outlines possible options for estimating interior stand values using the published BC Interior log market data. Given the complexity of maintaining the current system, government and industry are

discussing pros and cons of that approach.

From a wood-lot perspective, log market data would need to be regionalized, because regional markets vary significantly for a number of reasons, including log supply and demand, the number of independent timber buyers, the diversity of the manufactured products (peelers versus sawlogs versus OSB).

This system may hold the potential for independent log sellers to pay a stumpage rate which reasonably reflects our markets. ♦

For more information on this article, please contact Dean Daly, Interior Appraisal Representative:

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**Links of interest**

- *Cutting Permit and Road Tenure Administration Manual, Version 2:* [www.for.gov.bc.ca/hth/](http://www.for.gov.bc.ca/hth/)
- *Technical Report 042: Revisiting a Forest Extension Strategy for British Columbia: A survey of Natural Resource Practitioners and Information Providers*  
[www.for.gov.bc.ca/hfd/pubs/DOcs/Tr/Tr042.htm](http://www.for.gov.bc.ca/hfd/pubs/DOcs/Tr/Tr042.htm)
- One and three-month Coast & Interior log market reports: [www.for.gov.bc.ca/hva/timberp/amv.htm](http://www.for.gov.bc.ca/hva/timberp/amv.htm) ♦

## Coastal timber pricing portfolio

by John Marlow



Coastal timber pricing work during the summer/fall has been focused on two main topics: the Coast Appraisal Manual (CAM) rewrite and monitoring tabular rate discussions in regard to the implementation of an interior tabular rate system.

### Tabular rates

There has been no movement in regard to a tabular rate system on the Coast. We continue to monitor Interior efforts and, once a methodology is established for an Interior tabular system, a similar system will be reviewed for the Coast. Efforts to communicate with all coastal licensees will occur prior to any implementation.

### Coast Timber Pricing Advisory Committee (CTPAC)

We continue to hold a seat on this committee. The main focus of this committee is streamlining and improving the wording and procedures of the CAM. Issues under consideration include topics such as detailed engineering cost allowances, ecosystem-based management (EBM) allowances, appraisal risk ratings, call grade/net factoring, specified operations, etc.

The following three issues specific to the woodlot program were introduced at the last meeting:

1. Definition of destumping – The current wording of destumping in the CAM has caused some concern as being overly prescriptive. Revised wording has been presented by the FBCWA and has been e-mailed to Coast licensees for feedback.
2. Timing of election of fixed rate – There is concern that delays at the regional level have resulted

in stumpage rates different than the rate at the effective date.

3. Current Table (7-1) of CAM – A table of average Coast stumpage rates by district and species is included in the current CAM, and use of these table rates for cutting permits < 2500 m<sup>3</sup> is permitted under section 7.5 of the CAM. We are looking for clarification of the use of this section of the manual, should this be beneficial to licensees.

An e-mail on these three topics was sent to Coast licensees and association presidents; any comments from licensees would be appreciated.

If you have not received this information, contact myself or your association president.

### Appraisal Forecasting

#### Disclaimer:

The following estimates are based on current available Vancouver log market sales ending Sept 31, 2007, as well as future predicted log trends.

The three-month average Fd log prices have fallen dramatically over the last quarter and the current demand is weak.

The average grade H, I, and J Fd price is \$77.75, which is \$13.00 less than in July, and is the lowest Fd has been since Jan, 2004. Fd prices continue to fall.

This depressed log market has made business very difficult on the Coast, but it is a good time to apply for Fd cutting permits. Appraised stumpage rates have fallen substantially and are expected to continue to fall over the next quarter.

Cw prices have also fallen but to a lesser degree. The average H, I, and J are down about \$3.50 since

July, which would result in \$2.50 +/- decrease in stumpage. Prices are generally stable with a possible slight decrease expected.

Hw prices continue to remain stable with some demand for Hw gang and pulp.

Due to the generally lower log prices of Hw, stumpage rates at Hw cutting authorities remain generally low, and the presence of Hw in a CP continues to help keep stumpage rates low. This trend is expected to continue.

If there are stumpage issues that should be discussed at the CTPAC meetings or if clarification of issues is required, I can be reached at [jmarlow@oberon.ark.com](mailto:jmarlow@oberon.ark.com) or (250) 285-2544 (Rockview Resources Limited). ♦

## Purpose of the Woodlot Product Development Council

The primary purpose of the WPDC is to ensure that levy fees are spent on woodlot licensee priorities that will benefit and promote the woodlot industry throughout BC.

Funds are collected through the powers granted to the Council under the *Farming and Fishing Industries Development Act*. ♦

AGM



FEDERATION OF BRITISH COLUMBIA  
WOODLOT ASSOCIATIONS

in partnership with the  
**South Island Woodlot Association Host Committee**  
 thanks our sponsors for their generous support of our AGM and Conference  
 held in Port Alberni, September 27<sup>th</sup> to 29<sup>th</sup>

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The AGM received extensive media coverage

AGM

Moving towards small forestry



Shayne Morrow News reporter

We'd better get to like our forestry operations in small doses, because that appears to be the way the industry is going, whether we like it or not.

I managed to spend some time at a couple of woodlot tours and at the public open house for the Federation of BC Woodlot Associations convention, which took place at Glenwood Centre and thereabouts from Sept. 27-30.

It's important to acknowledge up front that woodlots and communities are not going to supply

also venturing its way through the "industrial" sector. Since MacMillan-Bloedel divested its operations to Weyerhaeuser and Pacific Paper (remember them?) in 1999, those blocks and chunks have been successively divested to smaller and smaller corporate entities, who have successfully contracted out more and more of their field operations to even smaller companies.

When everybody was working, the logs kept flowing to the mills, and the small operators were able to push a little harder thanks to the "flexibility" imposed in the last contract settlement.

But as the ongoing Steelworkers strike has revealed, those small wood contractors have also been saddled with many of the responsibilities that devolve to successful companies, such as the requirement to continue paying benefits.

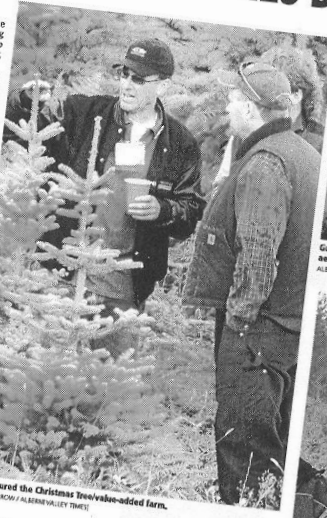
In short, the breakup of the entry into smaller and smaller units has proven to have a serious downside to both workers and the small operators who hire them.

LOCAL WOODLOT TOUR FEATURES DOUBLE ATTRACTION

ALBERNI VALLEY TIMES / MONDAY, OCTOBER 1, 2007 3

SHAYNE MORROW BY TIMES

How often do you get the chance to watch a Leacock Award-winning author and a Mrs water bomber drop in the same afternoon? Well, actually, it was a bit of a surprise cooked up for Woodlot guests who took in the tour of Greenmax Resources on Friday, as part of the Federation of BC Woodlot Associations annual general meeting, over the weekend. The woodlot is located at the regional airport.



Guests at the Greenmax Resources tour didn't realize they were in for a surprise aerial fire suppression demonstration by Cessna Flying Tanker. (SHAYNE MORROW/TIMES)

As a bit of an innovation, guests of the Christmas tree value-added firm on day-wagon, with the help of Phosphoramide, of the BC Forest Service, who referred to a barn, smoking burn pile nearby.

Near the end of the tour, the visitors heard about fire control from Bob Collins, and assisted by members of the Vintage Tractor Club.

They didn't realize that AGM organizers had arranged with Condon Flying Tankers to provide a surprise fire suppression demonstration.

But first, they were treated to a live log burn, Boom & Bust, from Collins, who, in a past was a logger, not refer to forest industry economic. It's a bit of a mix of unrequited love, of using much dynamite.

"They warned me I may be preempted," Collins noted in his preambles, before launching into the side-splitting log burn.

to the Future — A Chief Forester's Perspective, featuring provincial Forester Jim Smeckinger, plus accounts, however, none of the three, who now serves as deputy minister of Agriculture and Lands.

Saturday night featured Opposition forestry critic Bob Simpson. By all accounts, however, none of the three, who now serves as deputy minister of Agriculture and Lands.

Nationally-known humorist Bob Collins takes to the stump to deliver his Friday afternoon. Collins, SHAYNE MORROW/ALBERNI VALLEY TIMES

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Woodlot conference garners high marks

The B.C. Woodlot Federation annual general meeting was a huge success, said Shawn Flynn, who's the director of the South Island Woodlot Association and one of the

dropped in for at least one of the activity-filled days last weekend. "We more or less fed them and looked after them for the whole time," Flynn said, and participants were amazed how the whole community

train trip, McLean Mill and the water bomber drop were highlights. "Those are completely unique and spectacular to this community," Flynn said.

Thursday and Friday combined woodlot tours with sightseeing which continued on Saturday. "I was surprised that

their AGM. Over the weekend, attendees raised \$3,000 for a forestry scholarship through a silent auction, Flynn said.

Flynn and a delegation of 20 people spent a full year organizing and he said at least another 100 people lent their efforts to host the woodlot operators for a conference that association members said

Is there a way out of forests for B.C.?

VICTORIA — Each time I get a chance to fly around B.C., I'm astounded by the speed and scope of change.

Last week's holiday trip from Vancouver Island through the Lower Mainland and into the South Okanagan was no different. Statistics say tourism is declining, but just continued to bustle with camera-clicking tour groups, business terminals as people look for advantage of sunny days of summer.

Southwest-style condos spring up around the golf hills overlooking the sparkling lake. Already established winery in B.C. The car radio brings news that Weyerhaeuser is closing its Okanagan Falls mill. The dollar's recent surge was the final nail for industry that remains the number one or number two source of income for three quarters of B.C. communities.

Meanwhile, Western Foresters to put up the decision to forest up for sale brought the expected chorus of complaints from landers growing used to using this private land for surfing and recreation. The economy will benefit and public access will no doubt remain as it's developed.

Convention a perfect way to solicit public input

Members of the public took the opportunity to check out the Trade Show at Glenwood Centre on Thursday, Sept. 27, of the Federation of BC Woodlot Associations annual general meeting.

Visitors were also treated to a picnic breakfast on the lawn of the public house of Lake Country. For many, it was a chance to look at the state of the local forestry industry's future.

For Port Alberni Community Forester, the convention was the perfect way to solicit public feedback about the future of the industry.

"We're not going about three years ago," Bishop said. "This will be our first public information session, our first public information session, our first public information session."

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News from the Alberni Friendship Centre

Elizabeth Tan for those who know me. I am the Program Rep on the board of the Friends and thoroughly enjoying working with the Elders, Parents Advisory Council, Youth Council, Kneewas, Children's Brighter Future and Cultural Events.

Elizabeth Tan Port Alberni

Full steam ahead for Port Alberni

Last weekend Port Alberni hosted the BC Woodlot Association's AGM and it was a rousing success. According to some, it was the best Woodlot Association AGM they had ever attended. On Saturday the Industrial Heritage Society invited the majority of the participants

to the #7 steam train to the Glenwood Mill, learning to fire the locomotive. This is a ground-breaking initiative, both on our part, and

Port Alberni hosts woodlot conference

The foresters are expected to attend the Woodlot Association's annual meeting in Alberni from Sept. 27-30.

Workshops and meetings will address the issues affecting woodlot licensees and private forest landowners including species at risk, fire protection and recreational use.

Woodlots vary greatly in size, ownership and legal status. They can be forest lands managed by individuals, groups of individuals, First Nations or public institutions. The City of Port Alberni is about to start up a community forest which will fall into the woodlot category and Coan, Jack McLeman will represent the city at the conference.

The woodlot weekend will coincide with National Forest Week (Sept. 23-25) so organizers have events scheduled for the public and delegates from the woodlot association to combine the two.

'A' hosts woodlot conference

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'We're encouraging everyone to come to that'

Shawn Flynn

to each pancake with Smokey the Bear at 10 a.m. The first 20 customers get a free breakfast and after that the charge is \$3.25.

The rest of the day is dedicated to a Forest Sector Display People will have an opportunity to meet with artisans and industry representatives. Education, business and

sample of the fire's dogged assault on our dreams

Related story, page 9

was diagnosed as dyslexic, reading problems introduced V sign and victory with his fingers. So, I

enter — President Vancouver Island Heritage Society Port Alberni

enter — President Vancouver Island Heritage Society Port Alberni

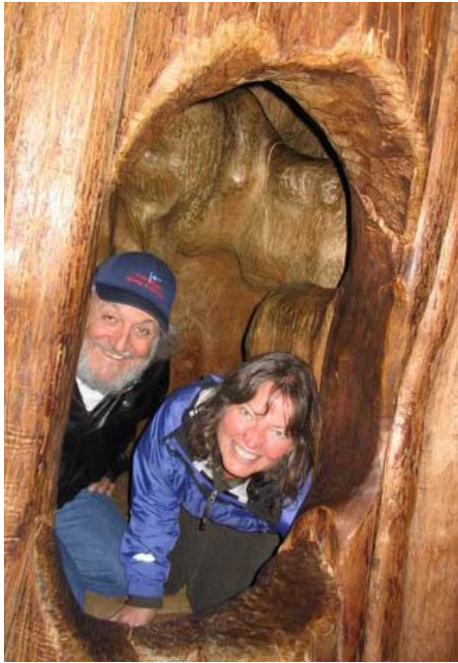
enter — President Vancouver Island Heritage Society Port Alberni



AGM

A

Photos contributed by Mark Clark, Barb Dawson, Hazel Massier, and Brian McNaughton.



“Kudos to Shawn and Dave and the entire organizational team.”  
— AGM attendee



“Loved the mill tour because that is so Port Alberni, so wherever the next meeting is, then something of local flavour would be great! And hey, it rained, too, and Alberni does that *very well!*” — AGM attendee







AGM





## AGM

## Silent Auction sets new record!

The silent auction at the AGM in Port Alberni was a huge success and raised \$3748 for the FBCWA scholarship fund — a new record!

Local woodlot associations and

individuals contributed many beautiful and unique items from their own geographic areas. Thanks to Barb and Sid Dawson for coordinating the auction. The gorgeous slabs of

wood that became the tabletops for the display items were supplied by Greenmax Resources. Starting in 2008, the FBCWA will double the scholarship amount to \$1000. ♦



Photo: Barb Dawson

*Miles Fuller and Brian McNaughton present outgoing FBCWA President Brent Petrick with tickets to a Canucks game of his choice. The tickets were generously donated by Jim and Bea Robson.*

## Welcome to new directors

At the Annual General Meeting in Port Alberni, both the Federation and the Council welcomed new directors to their executives.

These volunteers work very hard on behalf of all woodlot licensees.

**FBCWA Executive for 2007/08:**

Cliff Manning	President
Brent Petrick	Past President
Miles Fuller	Vice President
Kathy Mayes	Treasurer
Lisa Marak	Secretary
Don Rosen	Director
Nancy Pezel	Director
John Massier	Director
George Delisle	Director
Tom Bradley	Director

**WPDC Executive for 2007/08:**

Mike Larock	President
Paul Galliazzo	Past President
Ainslie Jackman	Vice President
Steven Wright	Treasurer
Wilf Chelle	Director
David Zirnheldt	Director
Jeff Mattes	Director

The WPDC executive especially wishes to thank outgoing director Donald Kirk for his contributions to

the Woodlot Product Development-Council. ♦



Photo: Cathy McClary

*WPDC Past President Paul Galliazzo thanks outgoing WPDC Director Donald Kirk (right) for all his contributions to Council over the years.*

**FBCWA Business Resolutions****AGM**

20<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting  
Port Alberni, BC  
September 27-29, 2007

*Note: The resolutions below were presented to the general membership and voted on by delegates at the AGM on September 29, 2007. The FBCWA Directors considered, reviewed and voted on the resolutions at their meeting on September 30, 2007. The outcome of both sessions appears below each resolution.*

**Resolution #1**

Whereas:

- Woodlot Licenses, particularly those with accelerated rates of harvest to salvage MPB infested timber, face operating years with an imbalance of revenue and expenses, and
- Revenue Canada does not permit the deferral of revenue in any given year to a different year or years when allowable expenses are occurring;

The Executive gives consideration to:

- Preparing and submitting to Revenue Canada a request that will facilitate the deferral of revenue to years when silviculture and other costs are occurring.
- Investigating and concluding whether the FBCWA position on this issue is enhanced by aligning or coordinating a submission with other provinces
- Reporting back to the membership on action and correspondence on this issue preferably before Spring 2008 and no later than AGM 2008.

Moved by: David Mayer

Seconded by: Steven Wright

Membership: Passed

Directors: Passed

**Resolution #2**

Whereas:

- For the past 8 years the membership of the Stuart Nechako Woodlot Association have annually put forth resolutions with respect to the mountain pine beetle epidemic;
- The Province has not recognized the potential of the Stuart Nechako WA resolutions;
- Membership of the Stuart Nechako WA is not satisfied with the actions of the government with respect to the mountain pine beetle epidemic;

The Executive gives consideration to:

- Pursuing all avenues of informing the public of British Columbia, either through media or legal action, the neglect of the government to live up to their obligations as set forth in the Ministry of Forests and Range Act, specifically, *s.4 Purposes and Functions of Ministry*.
- *Caveat*: Pursuing actions to inform the MFR that the Federation believes it has failed to meet its obligations as set forth in the MFR Act, specifically, *s. 4 Purposes and Functions of Ministry*; and to
  - Advise the public, and
  - Pursue remedial action via appropriate avenues such as the Forest Appeals Commission, Forest Practices Board, ombudsman, or legal, if necessary.

Moved: Mark Churchill

Seconded: Mark Clark

Membership: Passed

Directors: As written: Defeated;

With Caveat: Passed



(Continued from page 13)

### **Resolution #3**

Whereas:

- The current Forest Service policy requires millions of tonnes of waste material from logging operations to be burned each year, resulting in large releases of carbon;
- Woodlot licensees currently have large areas of non-merchantable beetle killed pine stands that are not marketable for sawlogs;
- The current Forest Service Waste and Residue Policy, Scaling Policy and Timber pricing policies inherently discourage any secondary use of these materials;
- More action is needed to encourage the utilization of these materials

The Executive gives consideration to:

- Requesting the Forest Service amend the various procedures that would allow the full use of these materials without additional sawlog based stumpages, levies or scaling.

Moved: Mark Churchill

Seconded: Mark Clark

Membership: Passed

Directors: Passed

### **Resolution #4**

Whereas:

- There are numerous woodlots that have been rendered unmanageable and unsustainable by the invasion of the mountain pine beetle;
- The Schedule A private lands of these woodlots have had all of their immature and non-merchantable Pine infested by the mountain pine beetle;
- These once productive Schedule A land plantations are now not contributing to AAC or carbon sequestering and licensees are not financially able to reforest these areas

The Executive gives consideration to:

- Requesting the Forest Service to allow the removal of Schedule A lands from woodlots that have been infested by the mountain pine beetle.

Moved: Mark Churchill

Seconded: Anne Davidson

Membership: Passed

Directors: Passed

### **Resolution #5**

Whereas:

- The current stocking standards in most ecosystems do not recognize deciduous as an acceptable species;
- Coniferous species appear to be susceptible to beetle infestation even at free growing sizes;
- Districts appear to be unwilling to approve any amendment to the stocking standard to allow for deciduous species as provided for in the WLP approval process.

The Executive gives consideration to:

- Requesting the Forest Service to amend the stocking standards to reflect the obvious need for woodlot managers to be able to include deciduous species (*and other suitable species*) in the long term AAC and commercial viability of the woodlot.

Moved: Mark Churchill

Seconded: Anne Davidson

Membership: Passed with wording modification in italics

Directors: Passed ♦

## Woodlot donation fires McLean Mill steam donkey project

**AGM**

*by Shayne Morrow, Alberni Valley Times*

A \$1,000 donation from the BC Federation of Woodlot Associations will be directed towards restoring the 1929 steam donkey at McLean Mill.

Representing the association, which held its annual general meeting in Port Alberni in September, Greenmax Industries owners Sean Flynn and Dave McBride made the donation at the mill.

"When we had our AGM, our guys from the Interior were so excited with what they saw at McLean Mill, they came to us and asked how we could give something back as a group," McBride said.

As part of the convention, visitors visited the mill via the Alberni Pacific Railway, a trip which included a train robbery by the notorious

Beaufort Gang.

McBride said the donation was directed towards the Industrial Heritage Society and the Beaufort Gang, made payable to McLean Mill National Heritage Site.

"We asked members (IHS and Beaufort Gang) where the money should go, and all parties agreed that the full amount should go towards restoring the steam donkey," McBride said.

McLean Mill manager Neil Malbon said the restoration is part of a long-term plan to increase the amount of demonstration logging at the national heritage site.

The steam donkey was purchased by the McLean family in 1944, and was used up until 1972.

"It last ran at Steam Expo in 1986, and it's been well-preserved," Malbon said. To date, the donkey site has been prepared adjacent to a potential spar tree.

"We had the boiler hydro-tested in 2005, and it's in pretty good shape," Malbon said.

The boiler will need to be re-certified before firing it up, but IHS members feel the running gear should be in good shape, he said.

"We'd like to set up a demonstration high-lead system, to move some logs," Malbon said. "We'll have all the equipment on hand to be able to do stump-to-dump heritage logging demonstrations." ♦



*Dave McBride (centre) and Sean Flynn (hard hat) present a \$1000 cheque donated by the FBCWA to the McLean Mill National Heritage Site in Port Alberni. The funds will help restore a 1929 steam donkey.*

## WPDC financial projections

by Steven Wright, WPDC Treasurer

Modified version of the Sep28 2007 AGM presentation

The increased harvest mostly associated with the mountain pine beetle (MPB) epidemic has changed the revenue stream of the WPDC. The data presented is a simplistic projection of future revenue, levy fund and expenses. The projections are for showing general trends, not exact dollars.

We can estimate the amount of wood available for harvest. We cannot predict what each WLL AAC will be, as market conditions and personal reasons change the AAC and subsequent revenue for the WPDC.

The projections are based on many assumptions. The main assumptions are: No new woodlots, 4% return on investment, mid-term spending \$340,000, mid-term harvest of 0.7 million m<sup>3</sup>, some wood-

lots will be surrendered. Any one factor can change the projection. The projections are based on data available March 31, 2007.

The revenue of the WPDC comes from the \$0.25 m<sup>3</sup> levy collected by the government from the annual rent for AAC and then forwarded to the WPDC.

This money is used to finance activities for the WPDC and the Federation of British Columbia Woodlot Associations, as directed by members, the directors and legislated requirements.

The MPB epidemic is expected to reach its peak in 2012. The peak for WLs is expected in 2010 due to their locations.

The current total AAC of woodlots associated with crown licenses is 2.9 million m<sup>3</sup>. The 'normal' AAC is 1.23 million m<sup>3</sup>. The mid-term projected harvest is 0.7 million m<sup>3</sup>.

The good news is that the WPDC has been putting this extra revenue in a fund for future uses. There may be some new woodlots awarded. New uses for this dead pine might reduce the fall down effect of the harvest. We hope to exceed the 4% return on investment.

The bad news is the poor economic conditions at a time of increased volume being available.

The reduced AAC caused by the MPB epidemic is 70 years or longer. This is beyond the range of any fortune teller (A clairvoyant told me the future is cloudy and uncertain).

The charts on the facing page show a projection to 2017.

The expenses are expected to exceed revenue in 2009/10. When this happens, decisions will have to be made to reduce expenses or start using the levy fund to finance operation or a combination. ♦



BRITISH  
COLUMBIA

### Cut control changes for woodlot licensees

by Ron  
Greschner

The Best Place on Earth Subsections

75.4 (4.1) and (5.1) have been added to the *Forest Act*. This now gives the woodlot licence holder the option of terminating the cut control period at an earlier date than five years.

To exercise this option, the licensee must deliver a letter to the Regional Executive Director between the last anniversary date of the beginning of the cut control period for the licence (i.e. January 1<sup>st</sup> for most licensees) and 6 months after that date.

Cut control years will continue to commence and end as usual. All other rules and conditions for cut control continue to apply.

You may have heard this referred

to as the "re-start" provision. What this does is allow a licensee more flexibility to align their harvesting operations with market conditions.

For example, if a licensee was at the end of their third cut control year, and the market suddenly improved, under the old cut control provisions they would have only two more years worth of volume to capture that market.

Under the new cut control re-start provisions the licensee could end their cut control after the third year and re-start a new five-year cut control period, so they would now have five years worth of volume in the improved market.

If you have any questions regarding the re-start provision, please contact your local district office, or call me at (250) 371-3794. ♦

### New template now available

The revised template (Nov 15, 2007 version) is available on the website of Resource Tenures and Engineering Branch at [www.for.gov.bc.ca/hth/woodlots/woodlot-licence-management-plans.htm](http://www.for.gov.bc.ca/hth/woodlots/woodlot-licence-management-plans.htm)

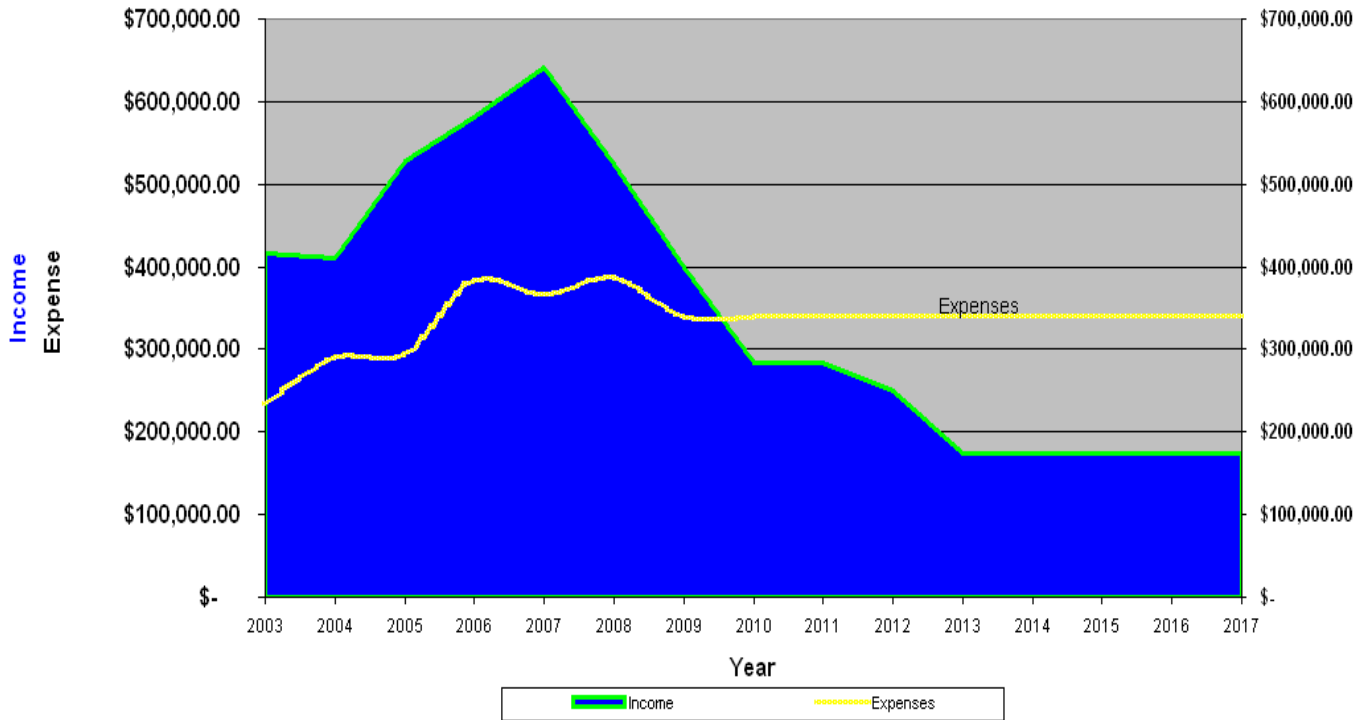
This template for the Woodlot License Plan provides further guidance regarding the following:

- Wildlife tree retention strategy
- Cultural heritage resources
- Invasive plants
- Natural range barriers

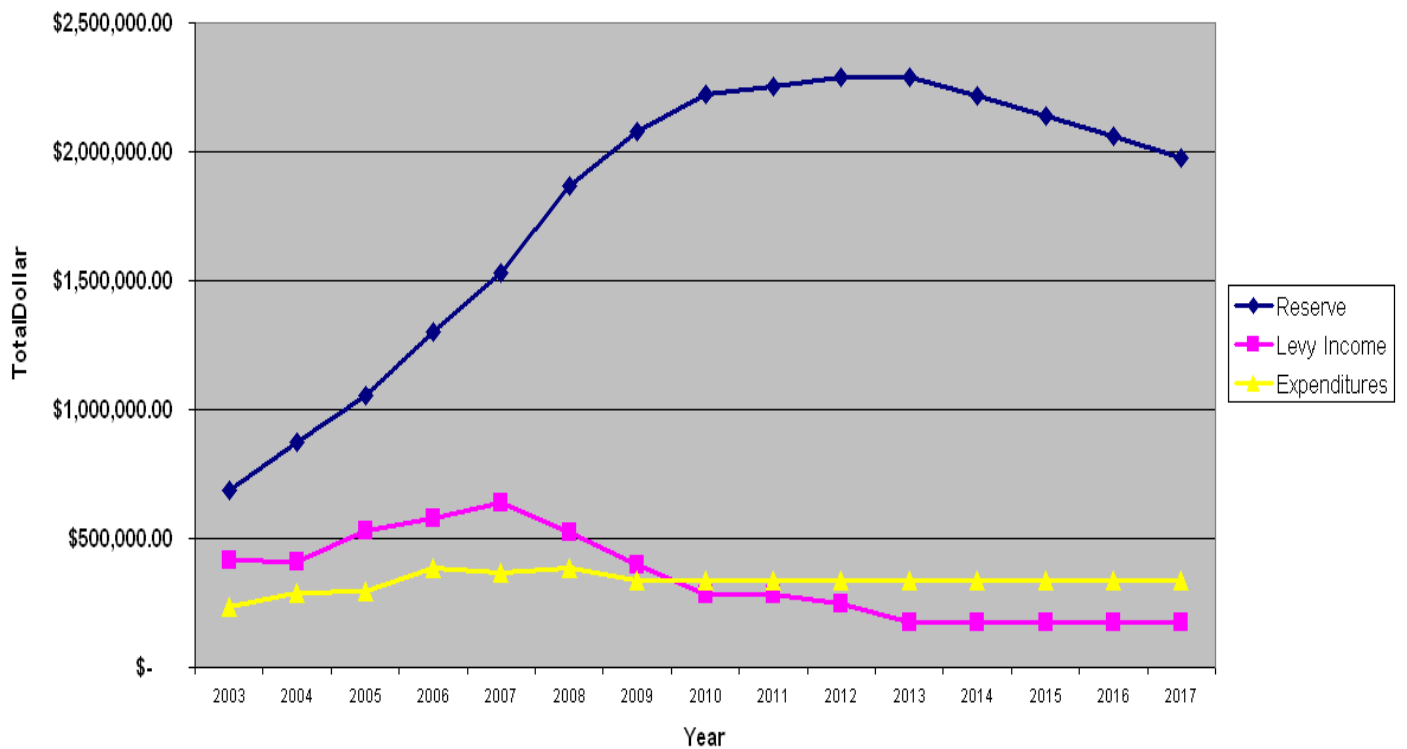
While the template is not mandatory, it does provide administrative guidance to MFR staff, woodlot license holders and their consultants. ♦

# WPDC financial charts

Woodlot Income Levels - Projected to 2017  
Expense level



Reserve, Levy Income and Expenditures





FEDERATION OF BRITISH COLUMBIA  
WOODLOT ASSOCIATIONS

**Federation of B.C. Woodlot Associations  
Scholarship Award  
Information and Application Form**

RULES & REGULATIONS

1. Applications for this award must be received prior to April 23, 2008. Late applications will not be considered.
2. Applicants must be direct family member of a woodlot licensee or private land owner who is a member of the local Woodlot Association and/or the FBCWA.
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 entering a forestry-related program. Students entering other areas of study are welcome to apply, knowing there is preference for forestry related study.
5. The award of \$1,000.00 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.
6. Essays and photos from applicants, particularly the successful applicant, may be printed in the Almanac.
7. The decision of the Awards Committee is final.
8. 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 extracurricular activities.
2. A one-page (approximately 500- 700 word) typewritten essay titled "Woodlots, Family Forests." This is an open-ended topic, for you to decide how to approach it.
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: Mrs. Kathy Mayes, Treasurer  
2772 Ridgeview Drive,  
Prince George, British Columbia  
V2K 4M9

Or send it digitally to [kmayes@mag-net.com](mailto:kmayes@mag-net.com) with a subject heading of FBCWA Scholarship Application

***Applications must be received by April 23, 2008***





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 2008-2009: \_\_\_\_\_

Relationship to Woodlot Licensee or to private land owner for Woodlot #

(e.g., daughter of Joe Smith, Woodlot #2345) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

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

\_\_\_\_\_

Please include information on volunteer work, extracurricular 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.)

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

## Profile: Passionate forester Shawn Flynn

By Deborah Greaves

A couple of decades ago, forester Shawn Flynn found he'd become just as interested in planting new trees as he'd been as a younger man learning to cut down mature ones. His own land at Nanoose Bay on Vancouver Island is a testament to the many possibilities of a drastic, old-fashioned clearcut.

It didn't take much for Flynn to turn a denuded hillside property into a haven for young trees. All he needed for the transformation from logged-off dirt to a new tree community was love, sweat -- and years.

Flynn's own land is an outdoor classroom at the School of Possibilities: along with its now-tall indigenous trees there are a number

of species that aren't supposed to be able to thrive on Vancouver Island.

"Profit-driven management of our forests is management for the short term," Flynn said while guiding a

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"We should celebrate  
the social values of  
woodlots . . ."

---

tour of the breathtaking reforested property he and his family have called home for many years.

Currently the president of the South Island Woodlot Association, Flynn feels that many owners of forested lands and forestry "power brokers" aren't interested in investment for the long term.

He worries that the notion of sustainability has fallen from popular culture.

"Ironically, domestic and foreign investors are profiting from this short-term gain approach. In the 1990s and since 2000, forest sector businesses have become more acquisitional and profit-oriented."

That's not the way it used to be, Flynn says.

In the 1970s and '80s, provincial managers looked upon the woodlot program as an investment in the future.

Started in 1948, with the first Vancouver Island woodlot licenses awarded primarily in the 1950s to local farmers, the woodlot program was intended as a democratic plan for the

management of forests in perpetuity.

Local families with their own lands nearby were licensed as stewards of selected sections of forest and in return, were beneficiaries of the sale of the timber on those woodlots.

Since 1979, the woodlot program expanded. Several hundred woodlot licenses have been awarded since, varying greatly in size, ownership and legal status. These can be for forest lands managed by First Nations, by public institutions, groups of individuals, and even just one person.

More than 20,000 non-industrial private landowners in the province have forest holdings greater than 20 hectares that are not woodlots in the program.

Like woodlot licensees, many of these private landowners are farmers, orchardists or ranchers. Woodlot licensees tend to be local, and come from a wide variety of backgrounds and occupations.

Some are people who have forestry training or experience as consultants, and decided to get directly involved by tending woodlots of their own.

Despite a period of expansion of the woodlot program that resumed in 1994, Flynn wonders if Ministry of Forests personnel failed to visualize woodlots as viable, serious forestry businesses. He feels that despite their long-term value, woodlots are not adequately supported by the government.

"There are between eight and ten thousand people in BC associated with the woodlot program," says Flynn, "yet less than fifty government staff serve the needs of the program."

He can't help wonder if that's partly due to the sustainability of the



Photo: Deborah Greaves  
*Shawn Flynn, President of South Island Woodlot Association, stands up for a tree grown on his own property in Nanoose Bay.*

small woodlot program being out of sync with current societal values.

Meanwhile, some First Nations groups are taking on the challenge of managing woodlots near and around their lands, with consultants like Flynn, operating as Greenmax Resources, assisting.

The Hupacasath First Nation is one of seven First Nations woodlot licensees among the twenty-two licensees on the South Island.

Flynn continues to work with the Hupacasath First Nation in the Alberni Valley, which has just seen its second harvest.

The Hupacasath, says forest manager and band councilor Warren Lauder, is in the woodlot business for the future—for the benefit of their children.

That's obviously music to the ears of a forest consultant like Shawn Flynn.

"The woodlot program fosters social values and benefits that some people forget about," Flynn says.

"Woodlots provide green space, walking, bike and horse riding trails, and improved air quality. The forest cover helps stabilize climate conditions.

Harvesting the logs is an economic asset to the local community, with a variety of related small businesses doing business close to home."

All these benefits to communities with woodlots are added to the aesthetic values and lately-proven human health advantages: it's physically and mentally good for people to see growing trees near where they live.

Like any other modest-sized local

businesses, it's surprising how much economic activity surrounds each woodlot licensee. Truckers, fallers, silviculture workers, equipment suppliers and service providers each play a role.

Roads and sometimes bridges must be built, trails maintained for the public, seedlings planted and supervised, and harvested trees hauled out and transported to a

challenges from their urban and industrial neighbours, to continue to manage their lands well.

"We should celebrate the social values of woodlots," Flynn says, "and the many reasons that doing things right is the right way to do things." ♦



Photo: Deborah Greaves

*Young trees are flourishing on Shawn's woodlot: all it took was blood, sweat and years. Woodlots promote sustainable harvesting — replanting is part of the commitment.*

variety of mills.

Because trees harvested from locally managed woodlots are often cut in small, specific quantities, the logs tend to find their way to more specialized mills to be turned into value-added products.

Flynn remains concerned that our largely city-based culture is presently somewhat insensitive to the benefits of managing forests as precious, long-term investments.

He hopes that events such as the AGM that took place in Port Alberni earlier this fall will help woodlot licensees, despite the many



## Woodlots measuring up to sustainable forest management

by Larianna Brown

Many people believe that small-scale forestry means better forestry, in terms of the ecological impacts to the forests and the social implications to the communities they operate in.

In the summer of 2005 a study was conducted to determine to what extent woodlot licenses in BC apply sustainable forest management principles. Results indicate that the average woodlot operator undertakes a number of voluntary measures that often surpass provincial requirements intended to institute ecologically sound and socially responsible forestry.

Additionally, current administrative requirements continue to be onerous and costly for license holders, forcing many to choose between making a profit and implementing sustainable measures.

Of the 813 woodlot license holders at the time, 211 woodlot operators completed the mailout survey. This provided a 25.9 % response rate, which is considered high enough to assume the survey results represent the views and experiences of woodlot license holders throughout the province.

The study identifies general characteristics of woodlot license holders and the benefits licensees believe small-scale forestry provides. Additionally, a set of sustainable forest management indicators was used to assess the efforts operators make to implement sustainable forestry on the ground.

Based on license holders' comments and experiences, the study provides a set of recommendations to modify provincial regulations and policies to encourage more sustainable management on woodlots.

### Who are woodlot license holders?

Woodlot license holders are predominantly middle-aged, with approximately 87 % between the ages of 40 and 60. Roughly half of woodlot operators have held their license between 6 and 10 years, awarded under the expansion of the woodlot license program in the late 1990s.

License holders have a wide

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“ . . . the average woodlot operator undertakes a number of voluntary measures that often surpass provincial requirements.”

---

range of educational experience, with roughly half holding a bachelor's degree, and 11 % holding a graduate degree. Many license holders have studied forestry and/or work in the forest sector.

Roughly one third of respondents are registered professional foresters, and 44 % of licensees have a forestry related job. Interestingly, only one third of all respondents identified woodlot management as their main job.

### What benefits do woodlots provide?

The most significant benefits of woodlots perceived by license holders are diversifying forest tenures on Crown land, contributing to local economies, and the sustainable management practiced by licensees intimately connected to their forests.

Further benefits included managing for wildlife and providing more local hands-on control over

public forest resources.

In addition, woodlots are viewed as providing an opportunity for families to work together as forest stewards and for being accountable and approachable to their local communities.

### How do woodlots measure up?

Licensees appear to value a diverse set of management objectives that reflect the long term comprehensive approach of sustainable forest management. An examination of woodlot license holders' performance against a number of sustainable forest management indicators suggests that the average woodlot license holder attempts to implement sound forestry on his or her woodlot.

Ecological indicators: Between 2000 and 2004, 65 % of license holders surveyed had set aside areas reserved from harvesting beyond legal requirements; 75 % of those who have old growth on their woodlots take special measures to protect old growth trees and stands (again, surpassing regulations); and 58 % of respondents applied silviculture treatments beyond regulatory requirements.

Unlike the majority of industrial forestry, woodlot operators apply diverse harvesting measures. The most dominant include clearcutting with reserve (28 %), selective cutting (23 %), clearcutting, (19 %) and patch cuts (14 %).

Approximately 94 % of license holders spend an average of 12 hours a month walking through their forests undertaking the informal monitoring that they believe significantly contributes to how they manage their woodlots.

Social indicators: When making management decisions, licensees



consider the interests of a number of stakeholders, the most valued of which are local MoFR district managers and neighbors.

Most license holders exceed provincial regulations regarding the methods used to inform the public about woodlot operations, with 80% of respondents using informal conversations. Other forms of disseminating information include field visits, educational tours, and public meetings.

**Economic indicators:** While the majority of woodlots turn a profit, the small size of these tenures significantly limits the amount of income they generate. As such, although 85 % of respondents reported making a profit from 2000-2004, only 75 % reported relying on woodlot income for 75-100 % of their income.

In addition, there is likely extreme variation in the profits license holders enjoy, based on the significant range in reported annual operating costs from < \$10 000 -- > \$75 000.

Woodlot operators appear to be interested in diversifying the forest products they sell. Approximately 75 % of respondents stated they were or may be interested in managing for non-timber forest products, should they become regulated.

Survey results suggest that woodlots appear to fall short of meeting two sustainable forestry indicators. The first involves recognizing and proactively consulting with First Nations regarding their rights to traditional lands and resources.

Two thirds of license holders do not recognize these rights, and 39 % of operators believe consultation requirements should not be required of woodlots.

Woodlots also clearly fail to meet the management objective of marketing a diversity of forest products, with over 98 % of timber harvested from 2000-2004 sold as

round logs.

Further, the fact that only 6 % of harvested timber is sold to value-added manufacturers and less than 4 % is processed on site suggests that license holders lack access to value-added processing facilities and markets.

### What are the challenges?

Licensees identified the following factors as barriers to implementing more sustainable forestry practices:

1. Increasing administrative costs and declining control
2. Forced to choose profits over ecosystem-based forestry
3. Inappropriate regulations, such as electronic submission requirements
4. Limited marketing opportunities
5. Unpredictable stumpage rates

### Recommendations

In order to tackle these challenges, woodlot licensees offered the following recommendations pertaining to provincial woodlot regulations:

- Make electronic document submission optional
- Introduce cost-saving incentive-driven requirements that reward licensees who implement ecologically and socially responsible forest management
- Modify MoFR outreach services to acknowledge the unique challenges of small scale forestry
- Provide concessions to licenses with significant mountain pine beetle kill
- Encourage the use of on-site mills
- Increase marketing opportunities through lumber brokerage firms and product cooperatives
- Replace or revise the current stumpage system

The findings of this research suggest that if appropriate revisions are made to woodlot regulations, the expansion of the woodlot license program will encourage more sustainable forest management of Crown land throughout the province.

*Note: The author would like to thank all license holders who participated in the survey for their contribution. Due to funding restrictions we were unable to send a copy of the final report to all participants. If you would like an electronic version of the final report, or if you have any questions regarding the findings, please contact Larianna Brown at 604-718-7740 or [lbrown@sparc.bc.ca](mailto:lbrown@sparc.bc.ca) ♦*





## Canadian Federation of Woodlot Owners National Woodlot Meeting

*By Cliff Manning*

I was asked to represent the Federation at the national meeting of the Canadian Federation of Woodlot Owners in Quebec City on September 19 – 20, 2007.

The meeting was a small part of the Carrefour de la Recherche Forestière 2007, or Cross Roads in Forest Research 2007. The last national woodlot meeting was held in Vernon in 2005, in conjunction with our FBCWA AGM.

This national meeting was sponsored by Le Federation des Producteurs de bois du Quebec, through Jean-Pierre Dansereau, the Director General, who represents Quebec.

Woodlot representatives from Alberta, Manitoba, Ontario, Quebec, New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, PEI,

and BC attended this meeting. This was an opportunity to give reports on our provincial woodlot federations; and in the case of BC, both Crown and private land woodlots.

Across Canada, it's estimated that there are over 450,000 woodlots, with BC being the only province with a Crown woodlot tenure.

The national meeting was chaired by our National President, Peter DeMarsh. Topics of discussion included

- Ecological goods and services
- Private woodlot strategic initiatives
- Woodlot certification systems
- Carbon credits
- National forest strategy – Objective 7
- General business meeting

A field tour was conducted on September 20<sup>th</sup> by L'Agence des Forêts Privées de Quebec, where we observed the active harvesting operations and management of a private woodlot. This woodlot was in the rural interface of Quebec City.

If you would like further information, please contact me.

Copies of the document "Woodlot Management to Obtain: Certification, Compensation for Enhanced Forest Related Environmental Goods & Services and Carbon Credits" by Tony Rotheringham are available from Cathy McClary. ♦



*Representatives from across Canada — BC, Alberta, Manitoba, Ontario, Quebec, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, and PEI — gathered in Quebec City to attend a national woodlot meeting September 19-20.*

## Fall planting -- is it for you?

By George Delisle

In the past, fall planting earned a bad name due to poor results, and was replaced with spring and summer planting in most of the province (the coast still fall plants, I am told).

Is it time to have a second look at fall planting considering that the nurseries have a much better understanding of the culture for growing seedlings than in the past? They also have much better facilities to manipulate the seedling environment to harden off seedlings for frost hardiness.

Some experimenting with planting in the end of September/early October over the past four years has been yielding some very interesting results in caliper and volumes of root development.

The results from 1+0 (one-year-old) greenhouse-grown stock showed very little difference from summer-planted stock; however, the results from 2+0 outgrown (i.e., not grown in a greenhouse) have been phenomenal.

These experimental blocks are in the southern interior and were site-prepped to mix the organics with the

mineral soil two months prior to planting.

Over 50,000 seedlings have been planted on various slopes and aspects, with very encouraging results. The BEC zones were IDFdm-1 and MSdm-1. The elevation ranged from 900 meters to 1200 meters.

These outgrown seedlings have no cold storage costs and no greenhouse heating costs, so are a much “greener” approach to reforestation. They also do not lose their first year (nursery) needles and are completely adjusted to the photoperiod for the following spring.

The cost to produce these trees is roughly the same as one-year-old greenhouse-grown seedlings. The size is also the same.

The species experimented with were Douglas fir, lodgepole pine, spruce, ponderosa pine, and western larch.

The larch was the only one that did not respond very well compared to the other species. This was likely due to the nursery having to treat them so badly to keep the height growth down.

The stock size was 410s and

412s. No root bounding or frost heaving problems were noted. The caliper was over double and the root development volume was approximately ten times greater than 1+0 greenhouse seedlings planted on the same block the following spring. There was no root growth in the fall they were planted—all of it came the following spring.

Perhaps it is time for more people to try this approach to see if it will get similar results in other parts of the province. Given the caliper gains on these trees, they should be able to withstand a lot more snow press and vegetation press. They will also be ideal for brushy sites.

The main downside to this approach is that they have to be ordered two years in advance, which requires more planning and risk management (i.e., will the block be logged on schedule?) It appears that the benefits are worth the risk.

If there is enough interest, a field trip could be arranged to view these plantations. For more information, please phone George at 250-446-2213. ♦

### AGM mmm-memories . . .

AGM



Photo: Barb Dawson

*From barbecued salmon to a bountiful buffet, the delicious West Coast food at the AGM was enjoyed by all.*



## FBCWA and Prince George WLA support ForesTree Fest

A plaque was produced to commemorate the conclusion of the City of Prince George's ForesTree Fest.

The mountain pine beetle made its way to Prince George in 2000, and by 2003 parks were being logged. The City removed over 500 logging truck loads of pine killed by the pest from parks and greenbelts

between 2003 and 2007.

In 2005 the ForesTree Fest committee was formed and replanting city parks began immediately.

Starting in honour of the city's 90<sup>th</sup> anniversary and continuing for three years, volunteers and sponsors helped plant more than 6360 trees in 20 parks around the city in an event

called ForesTree Fest. The Prince George Woodlot Association provided volunteer time and effort on the organizing committee.

The Federation of British Columbia Woodlot Associations also made a financial contribution of \$500 to the initiative. ♦

### *Please note:*

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



## AGM

*(Continued from page 1)*

government to reflect changes in the forests and licensee circumstances pressed upon them by weather, fire, beetle infestations, and market fluctuations.

Drastically affecting all Interior and Northern Interior woodlot individuals and groups, the current situation was addressed on behalf of all woodlot licensees in their area by three licensees from Vanderhoof who were nominated for stewardship awards.

Celebrated for their dedication and hard work for the Vanderhoof Forest District Association throughout several years of unprecedented forest infestation and tree mortality were Mark Churchill, Peet Vahi, and Anne Davidson.

Small in numbers but often significant in location, woodlot licensees are licensed to manage tracts of Crown land forest that are frequently located near subdivisions, industrial areas, parks, ranches, and heavily used trails.



*Mark Churchill, Anne Davidson, and Peet Vahi were featured in the Woodlot Stewardship Recognition Program. Left to right: Mark and Anne with WPDC Director David Zirnhelt, WPDC President Paul Galliazzo, and WPDC Coordinator Cathy McClary. Missing from photo: Peet Vahi*

Representing just one per cent of the forest industry, woodlot licensees usually manage their woodlots as small businesses, are directly and personally involved with their

communities, and harvest trees more selectively than large forestry companies. ♦



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