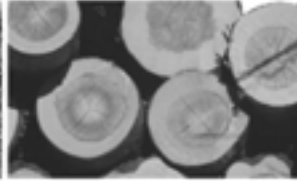




THE WOODLAND ALMANAC



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Fall 2012

Celebrating the Future: In Historic Fort St. John

IN THIS ISSUE

- 3 GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT
- 4 INTERIOR TIMBER PRICING
- 5 COASTAL TIMBER PRICING
- 6 AGM 2012 THANK YOU
- 7 AGM 2012 SPONSORS
- 8 AGM 2012 DIRECTOR WELCOME
- 9 AGM 2012 PHOTOS
- 10 AGM 2012 RESOLUTIONS
- 11 SCOTLAND ADOPTS BC WOODLOT MODEL
- 11 LINKS OF INTEREST
- 12 MY TWO CENTS WORTH
- 13 BOUNDARY WOODLOT FIELD TOUR
- 13 NOTICES
- 14 TOWARD MORE RESILIENT FORESTS
- 14 GOVERNMENT NOTICE BOARD
- 15 MINISTER'S AWARD
- 16 WOODLOTTER'S TRICKS OF THE TRADE
- 17 MEMBER REFLECTIONS
- 18 AGROFORESTRY INDUSTRY DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVE
- 19 UBC STUDENTS AT QUIZ BOWL
- 20 THANK YOU'S

By Sara Grady

The true meaning of life is to plant trees, under whose shade you do not expect to sit.

- Nelson Henderson

Twenty-five years after the first gathering, Fort St. John once again played host to the Federation of BC Woodlot Associations as they joined the Woodlot Product Development Council for

their Annual General Meetings, and the patented Peace Country hospitality was in full swing. It was a lively event, complete with cowboy poets, skeet shooting and some unexpected entertainment from the Federation fold. Dubbed "Back to the Future", the weekend provided myriad opportunities to acknowledge past accomplishments, and glimpse future potential.

The Woodlot Product Development Council presented a moving Stewardship video saluting the efforts of Julia Kowalsky, schoolteacher-turned-woodlot-licensee

after the passing of her husband Cliff. The true spirit of the Peace River region came shining through as Julia expressed her tremendous gratitude for the unwavering and patient support fellow foresters

provided as she struggled to learn the business that had been her husband's passion. She mused about writing a book one day, "Woodlots for Widows & Dummies", but in the meantime she's motivated to continue

managing WL 1923 with her son, Stephen, to preserve it "for my grandchildren, and my great-grandchildren, and generations to come."

A member of the future generation was represented, and a poignant connection was made between present and past, when Keynote Speaker Janice Burns, daughter of woodlotter Gary Burns and recent Forestry graduate, pointed out that she and the Federation were born in the same year! During her engaging address she spoke about the tremendous respect her fellow

con't on page 15





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FEDERATION OF BC WOODLOT ASSOCIATIONS

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Back to Our Future

by *Brian McNaughton*

Special thanks to Dave Peterson, Assistant Deputy Minister & Chief Forester for making the long trek from Armstrong to Fort St. John to make a presentation on behalf of the Ministry of Forests, Land & Natural Resource Operations. Minister Thomson would have liked to attend but we understand he was committed to a family function. However, he did send along a note congratulating the Federation on its 25th year of providing service and support to woodlotters across BC.

Dave noted that 2012 not only marks the 25th year of the Federation, but it's also the 100th birthday of the BC Forest Service, 65th anniversary of BC Woodlot Licence Program, and 15th year of the Woodlot Product Development Council. "Back to the Future" was a fitting title and theme for this year's AGM, as was hosting it in Fort St. John which was the site of the Federation's inaugural meeting. Jeff Beale and his organizing committee did a wonderful job. There was just the right mix of business and fun, which included a trap shoot, riverboat tours and a visit to a local woodlot.

Dave remarked that the longevity and continuous expansion of the Woodlot Licence Program over the years is a testament to the value of woodlots and the good working relationship between the Ministry and Woodlot Licensees. He said the Federation's role in consolidating woodlot business under one voice makes it much easier for the Ministry to understand and address the needs of the program and licensees. Dave also noted that, looking forward, it's quite conceivable that woodlot licenses could play an even more prominent role in BC's forest sector. The



Brian McNaughton,
General Manager

recently completed report of the Special Committee into Mid-Term Timber Supply includes recommendations calling on the Minister to consider more area-based tenures and it's now up to the

Federation to ensure that the value and importance of woodlot licenses remain in the forefront of the Minister's mind, as well as other elected officials.

The Ministry is committed to making the woodlot licence program administratively more efficient. To that end, Dave announced that the Ministry has embarked on a streamlining initiative and invited the Federation's participation. Of course the Federation is very interested in administrative streamlining! Since the AGM, the Joint Working Group (Ministry and Federation representatives) held a conference call to review the Ministry's list of potential topics and action points. District staff was asked for their suggestions, which were augmented by ideas from the regions and Victoria. From the Federation's perspective, the list is quite comprehensive but could be improved by looking at the continuum of WL work and removing overlapping or related tasks. For example, does it make sense that there needs to be a waste assessment and fire hazard assessment, or could they be merged into one? Another important aspect of streamlining is whether or not the expanded use of professionals or other qualified persons will actually reduce workload, lower costs and improve management? I'm sure you will be hearing more about this project over the next few months, and probably year(s). If the

project gets into changing legislation and/or regulations, which may well be the case, then that will take some time. For your information the Federation representatives on the Joint Working Group are Mark Clark, Cliff Manning, Tom Bradley, Coleen Marlow and yours truly. Please contact me, or one of the other committee members, if you have an idea about how best to streamline WL administration.

Perhaps the highlight of AGM was the keynote address by Janice Burns. Janice recently graduated from UBC Forestry. She was the recipient of the Gordon Baskerville Award for her academic and citizenship achievements and was awarded the Canadian Institute of Forestry Gold Medal, which recognizes outstanding scholarship, sportsmanship and citizenship. Janice grew up in a woodlot family. Her father, Gary, holds W498 near Slocan, BC and her great-grandfather was awarded the first tree farm license in BC's interior. Janice was born the same year the Federation was created! Of all the good messages Janice delivered, it was her opening comment that hit home most with me - that she and her fellow students would love to have their own woodlot licence! As much as we all get caught up in today's issues and tomorrow's challenges, it was refreshing to be reminded that a WL is a good thing and that there are a lot of people who would love to have one. It was also a good reminder that there are young people waiting in the wings to be tomorrow's woodlotters.

Thanks again to the Peace River Woodlot Association for organizing and hosting a fun and memorable AGM. ♦

Timber Supply and Tab Rates

by Blain Arnett

*** (Please see important notice at bottom of article) ***



Blain Arnett,
Interior Timber Pricing
Coordinator

I hope everyone has been enjoying the fine autumn weather. This time of year is perfect for walking through your plantations to assess tree growth, survival and brush competition (there are no bugs and you can get exercise doing some brush saw work). It is important to have a good idea what kind of brushing treatments are required (manual?) (aerial?). There is only a short time to address brush before it becomes a difficult and expensive problem.

At the AGM in Fort St. John I found the field tour where we visited a variety of aspen/spruce brush problem sites very interesting and informative. Thank you to Jim, Wilf, Jeff and the AGM host committee for organizing a warm and friendly meeting. Good memories were made by the skeet shooting “Woodlotters”, seeing the world’s largest BBQ cooker, and a surprise performance by our own singing lumberjack - Sandy Long (sign him up for next year!).

Effective July 1, 2012 the Tab Rates in Table 6-2 by forest zone are (\$/m3):

North Central: 0.79 Balsam, 2.24 Fir, 0.64 Pine, 1.05 Spruce

North East : 0.25 Balsam, 0.29 Pine, 0.35 Spruce

North West : 0.25 Balsam, 0.33 Cedar, 0.27 Hw, 0.77 Pine, 0.37 Spruce

South East : 0.86 Bal, 1.73 Cw, 1.24 Fd, 1.13 Hw, 1.29 Lw, 0.94 Pl, 0.91 Sw

South West : 0.97 Bal, 1.17 Cw, 1.40 Fd, 0.77 Hw, 1.30 Pl, 0.89 Sw

All existing Tab Rate cutting permits had the stumpage rates redetermined on August 1, 2012 with the above rates, and will have these rates fixed until July 31, 2013. If you are applying for a new permit your rates are those noted in the manual at the time of approval. New rates are expected in October 2012, and will be applied only to new permits.

The July 1, 2012 Appraisal Manual, Section 2.3 (3), introduced an important change to woodlot MPS permits

(those with road cost agreements), new permits will be on variable rate stumpage only, adjusted quarterly, and can not have the rate fixed. Existing MPS permits remain the same until they expire.

*** Important Notice ***

The Ministry of Forests is implementing a new policy that changes how stumpage notices will be delivered. Stumpage notices will be available by e-notification only, licensees must provide an email address in order to receive the notices. As of October 31, 2012 you will no longer receive a written notice about your stumpage. “To continue having notifications sent to you, you must respond to: FORHVAP.GASHELP@gov.bc.ca with your client number and contact names with e-mail addresses you would like associated.”

The Federation will provide Woodlot Licensees with more information about this policy change very soon.

If you have any questions or comments, I can be reached at 250-964-4105 or at greggcreek@shaw.ca. ♦

FBCWA Vision

Woodlot holders/owners will participate in a healthy and diverse forest industry with woodlot licenses and private forest lands, making significant contributions to local communities and providing a sustainable supply of forest products. The FBCWA will have a voice in forest and economic policy. BC's woodlots will be models of forest management excellence, and world-renowned for their social, economic, recreational, cultural, and educational contributions to rural communities. ♦

Changes to Market Pricing & Stumpage Notices

by Ed Hughes

The AGM in Fort St John had good representation from Coastal Woodlot Licensees, especially considering the distance and expense involved. The opportunity to discuss Coastal Stumpage issues with Woodlot association directors confirmed that Woodlot Licensees continue to be satisfied with current Timber Pricing (Stumpage). The slow and steady improvements, to Woodlot operations, since the collapse of the coastal log market a few years ago will continue to be helped by stumpage stability.

Although there are no significant stumpage changes being proposed that might impact Coast Woodlots, we continue to be involved on a number of different fronts. The main involvement has been within the Coastal Timber Pricing Advisory Committee, the Extended Road Amortization Working Group and the MPS Technical Subcommittee.

Some of the Coastal stumpage highlights are noted as follows:

Market Pricing Equation Formula Changed

The Market Pricing System (MPS) Technical Subcommittee meetings were completed over the summer. The FBCWA held a seat on this committee, although the majority of the discussions were between Industry and Government executives. All members were required to sign confidentiality agreements, limiting our ability to communicate with our members. Fortunately Brian McNaughton, Blain Arnett and myself could discuss issues as they related to MPS for Woodlots.

The final outcome of the new formula was approximately a \$1/m³ increase due to the formula changes (TAB rates would then increase by 30 cent/m³ and MPS by \$1/m³). This formula increase came at the same time as an average market value



Ed Hughes,
Coastal Timber Pricing
Coordinator

decrease of \$1/m³, so at this time the outcome is neutral.

Coastal Timber Pricing Advisory Committee

The Coastal Timber Pricing Advisory Committee (CTPAC) did not meet over the summer, and is

having a meeting on September 24, 2012. These meetings are primarily related to MPS items that are technical and very specific. CTPAC action item that could have impacts on Woodlot Licensees is concerning potential changes to the Extended Road Amortization policy.

Extended Road Amortization Issues

We are having our first meeting (planned for Oct) with the working group to deal with Extended Road Amortization (ERA) issues. The early meeting planned for June was postponed. The FBCWA has a seat on this working group, due to the importance of ERA's to roughly 30% of Coastal Woodlot Licensees. Any potential woodlot impacts or concerns related to this issue will be relayed to those Licensees. The working group will be dealing with ERA's and some other road related issues. I will work closely with Brian and Blain on any potential impacts to Coastal Woodlots. Any comments from Coastal Licensees will be welcomed. My contact information is noted below.

Coastal Appraisal Manual (CAM) Changes To Road Permit Wording

The new wording resulted from a need to use the CP issue date for better administrative control. The new wording in CAM is "The sawlog stumpage rate for a road permit is calculated using the procedures in section 7.3 until a cutting permit

has been issued with tabular rates as specified under section 7.2(1)(a). Stumpage rates for road permits will also change to tabular rates on that date."

Stumpage Rates Now Only Available On The Internet (or by asking)

The past practice of receiving your stumpage notice in the mail will no longer be completed. One of the alternatives for confirming your stumpage rate is to go to the link noted below, which includes all the stumpage rates by timber mark. <https://www15.for.gov.bc.ca/hbs/opq/timberMarkQuery.do>.

Contacting myself or your local Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations is the other alternative.

Communications Regarding Coastal/Interior Timber Pricing Issues

Since replacing John Marlow over the past year I have found working with Blain Arnett, Coastal Association Directors, Woodlot Licensees and other FBCWA individuals to be rewarding. I communicate on a regular basis with Timber Pricing Branch, who continues to maintain a good working relationship with the FBCWA. Industry representatives have been also been very cooperative, maintaining an open and productive relationship with our woodlot group.

New Appraisal Issues – Continuous Communication

The Coastal Timber Pricing portfolio provides assistance to Woodlot Licensees upon request.

If you have any concerns or issues I can be reached at 778-424-6129 or by email at ehughes2@shaw.ca. ♦

2012 AGM: Thank You!

By Cathy McClary
WPDC Coordinator

Dear Readers,

I am truly blessed to work for two such outstanding organizations! One of my roles as the WPDC Coordinator is to assist local associations with hosting the Joint Annual General Meetings of the Federation of BC Woodlot Associations

and the Woodlot Product Development Council. Each year I get to visit another part of this beautiful province and work closely with the volunteers on the AGM Planning Committee. And this year was no exception!

A tip of my 'white cowboy' hat to the members of the AGM Planning Committee who successfully hosted the meeting in Fort St John in September! Just a few short months ago, I attended the inaugural meeting of the Association of Peace River Woodlot Associations. The Peace region has had a local woodlot association for 25 years but a few years back, the original association became inactive. A few select individuals believed in the future of woodlots in the Peace and decided to start a new association this year. So, in addition to hosting the AGM, the newly formed group is working hard to rebuild their own membership.

For those of us who attended the AGM, we were treated to some wonderful northern hospitality! The event was informative and fun. Many of us were introduced to new events like trap shooting and cowboy poetry. We enjoyed food grown by locals including bison, chicken, corn, salad greens and berries. Whether we were riding in a river boat or walking the land, the field tours showed us some amazing countryside.

For those of you who were not able to join us, I'd like to introduce the members of the Committee and the hats they wore during the planning process:

- Jeff Beale, AGM Chair. When you wear the Chairperson's hat, you must ensure that everything comes together successfully in the end. And by all accounts it did!
- Chris Maundrell, Facilities and Catering. Chris negotiated an affordable rate for accommodation at the host hotel, the Northern Grand Quality Inn.
- Dave Landry, Sponsors,



2012 AGM Committee

Auctions, Finances & Mail Outs. Dave wore many hats. At every meeting, however, Dave would say "I will help out if I can but I am not sure this old body of mine will hold out". However, reporting back on each meeting, the things he agreed to do all got done. Dave mailed all licensees in the Peace to inform them of the newly formed association and to invite

them to meetings. Dave was instrumental in getting the items for both the Silent Auction and the Live Auction to help raise funds for the newly formed group. By being well known in the community, Dave and others managed to bring in sponsorship from 35 local businesses!

- Julia Kowalsky, Movie Star and Social Convener. Julia was featured in the Stewardship DVD viewed at the AGM and distributed to all local woodlot associations afterwards. (If you haven't seen it, ask to borrow it from your local directors.) Even after a hip operation in the summer, Julia kept on hosting many of the meetings at her house and took the notes to make sure we did what we said we were going to do. Julia worked with members of the local potters' guild to have commemorative 25th anniversary coffee and beer mugs made. (I still have a few left for sale if you want one!)
- Stephen Kowalsky, Trap Shoot Organizer. Stephen and Dave Landry worked with the local Rod and Gun Club to host the Trap Shoot Competition. For those of us who entered, we used 5 different guns to shoot at little flying targets. Harder than it sounds! In his spare time, Stephen makes medieval weapons out of metal. He donated a couple for the auctions so now his 'works of art' are in woodlotter's hands somewhere in BC.
- Wilf Chelle, Woodlot Ambassador. Over the past few years, I think Wilf personally invited everyone who was at the AGM to come to the Peace. He probably walked so many miles to bring in local sponsors that he might need a new pair of boots! Wilf is a lifetime member of the FBCWA and an ambassador to the entire woodlot program.
- Jim Collins, Field Tours, Sponsors, Calming Influence and PR. Originally Jim wanted to have 3 field tours, including a river boat tour to the Site C dam site,



a tour of the Self Sustainable Hutterite Colony and the traditional woodlot tour which he hosted on his woodlot. Unfortunately we did not have enough people and had to drop the Hutterite tour. When the committee needed encouragement or a calming influence, big tall gentlemanly Jim was there with his quiet demeanor. After one meeting, Jim took me to the local Fall Fair. I think everyone there knew Jim and his wife Bonnie, who took home several ribbons for her entries in the horticultural categories.

- Diane Kitt, AGM Coordinator. Thank goodness, the Committee had the foresight to hire Diane. Fort St. John is known as the Energetic City. I like to call Diane the energetic lady! For 7 months, she kept everyone on track and made sure all the details were addressed. As if that wasn't enough in itself, Diane

created the centerpieces, picked the berries and made the yummy cheesecake that we all enjoyed at the BBQ.

A tip of the hat goes out also to Peter Sanders and Hans Scholz, whom I will call the Historical Advisors. Peter chaired the inaugural meeting 25 years ago and was a guest speaker at this AGM. Hans helped coordinate the original meeting. Both Peter and Hans provided valuable assistance during the planning of this meeting.

In the FBCWA annual report, it states "The success of the Federation is built on the volunteer efforts of its members". How true!

P.S Hope to see you next fall at the 2013 AGM hosted by the North Island Woodlot Association! ♦



FEDERATION OF BC WOODLOT ASSOCIATIONS 2012 AGM HOSTED BY ASSOCIATION OF PEACE RIVER WOODLOTS

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*Message from the Honourable
Steve Thomson
Minister of Forests, Lands and
Natural Resource Operations*

As Minister of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations I am pleased to congratulate the Federation of British Columbia Woodlot Associations' 25th

anniversary and the Woodlot Product Development Council's 15th anniversary being celebrated during this year's joint Annual General Meeting.

I think it is excellent that the Federation and Council are celebrating these milestones together in Fort St. John, where the Federation was formed in 1988.

Woodlots have and will continue to support one of our key forest sector strategy goals of supporting prosperous rural communities by providing for local employment opportunities, and promoting excellence in resource management on public and private land.

I would also like to thank the Federation and Council for their constructive, positive working relationships with government, their efforts to improve and streamline woodlot management practices, their help in advocating for the needs of woodlot holders, and for providing much needed extension services to their members.

Thank you for the opportunity to acknowledge the Federation and Council, and I look forward to more years of positive working relationships.

Sincerely,

Steve Thomson
Minister of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource
Operations



FBCWA and WPDC Welcome New Directors

With the FBCWA, there were seven executive committee positions up for election: 5 were for 2-year terms and 2 for 1-year terms.

Nancy Pezel, Cliff Manning, Tom Bradley, Miles Fuller and Wolfram Wollenheit have all been re-elected.

George Delisle was re-elected to a 1-year term as was Jeff Beale from the Association of Peace River Woodlots. Jeff is new to the executive committee - so welcome!

Shawn Flynn, who was the FBCWA Vice President, decided not to let his name stand. However, he was elected to the Woodlot Product Development Council.

So members of the Federation's Executive Committee are:

- Mark Clark, President
- Lisa Marak, Secretary
- Miles Fuller
- Cliff Manning
- Nancy Pezel
- George Delisle
- John Massier
- Tom Bradley
- Wolfram Wollenheit
- Jeff Beale

The Executive Committee will vote in a Vice President and Treasurer during next month's conference call.

We are pleased to announce that the Council welcomes 3 new directors to their Board.

The Board of Directors includes:

Denise English, President
Shawn Flynn, Vice President
Ken Pedersen, Treasurer
Jim Collins, Director Peace
Ken Devick, Director South
Rod Blake, Director South
Jerry Benner, Director Coast

We thank outgoing directors Mike Larock, Steven Wright and David Zirnelt for dedicating 6 years on the Council's Board. ♦

AGM Silent Auction

Thank you to the 29 people/organizations that donated items to the Silent Auction at the AGM. As a result of the bidders' generosity, \$1,507 was raised for the FBCWA Scholarship fund.



The FBCWA has a number of items that would make great gifts for Friends, Family, Contractors and others. 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. ♦

2012 Resolutions

Note: Due to time constraints, the FBCWA executive were not able to discuss all the resolutions at their meeting in Fort St. John. Resolutions will be considered over the next few months.

2012-01 - Whereas:

Be it resolved that the Executive gives consideration to:

...our provincial woodlot association work with government to try and modify our forest management practices to increase the health and productivity of our forests. This could be achieved by such policies as managing and reducing the old growth management areas (OGMA) and consequently the invasive pests they harbour and also increase the fertility of our forest soils.

Moved: Len Bawtree

Seconded: Lisa Marak

General: Carried (12 – 6)

Directors & Executive: Failed

2012-02 - Whereas:

- All parties involved (FBCWA, Licensees, consultants, MOF) have all tried to utilize the “RESULTS system”, the net “RESULT” has been a failure.
- I suggest a new approach to improving this reporting requirement;
- I suggest that the FBCWA develop a useful annual template for its members.

Be it resolved that the Executive gives consideration to:

Developing a 1-2 page information reporting template/document that captures the minimum required details to show due diligence.

This will be offered as a bookkeeping tool used by licensees at their discretion.

Moved: Shawn Flynn

Seconded: Miles Fuller

General: Carried (17 – 0)

Executive:



2012-03 - Whereas:

Many woodlot associations operate on a very minimal budget; and if an association sponsors the AGM and does the associated work including obtaining sponsorship.

Be it resolved that the Executive gives consideration to:

- Any funds remaining be left in total for the local associations.

Moved: Wilf Chelle

Seconded: Shawn Flynn

General: Carried (25 – 0)

Executive:

2012-04 - Whereas:

- Woodlot Licensees are not allowed to carry forward any undercut into the next cut control period;
- The 5 year cut control period is not long enough to bridge market cycles;
- Woodlots have no bargaining power with the major log buyers for the small volumes available from woodlots, especially in competition with the large sales (+/- 10-40,000m3) that BCTS sells;
- The future viability of woodlots depends on making a reasonable return on investment.

Be it resolved that the Executive gives consideration to:

- Consulting with the “Powers that Be” in the MFLRNO to change the cut control regulation so that licensees CAN carry forward undercut volumes to the next cut control period’
- And extend the cut control period from 5 to 10 years.

Moved: George Dore

Seconded: Ken Devick

General: Carried (22 – 0)

Executive:

2012-05 - Whereas:

- There are numerous small mills operating in the province that are unnoticed due to the scale of their operations or their locations;
- The large mill monopolies continue to dictate low log prices.

Be it resolved that the Executive gives consideration to:

Sponsor an initiative to establish a database of small mills by funding a comprehensive search to locate these operations so as to facilitate commerce.

Moved: George C. Benwell

Seconded: George Delisle

General: Carried (9 to 9)

Executive:

2012-06 - Whereas:

- The log processing facilities in the province continue to amalgamate in monopolies;
- Woodlots increasingly face a log market that demands fibre rather than quality logs;
- There is an earnest desire from the woodlot community to provide opportunity for young people.

Be it resolved that the Executive gives consideration to:

(requesting) the Woodlot Product Development Council to consider a program offering support in the form of small business loans to appropriate individuals to establish small processing facilities to expand log selling opportunities for woodlots.

Moved: George C. Benwell

Seconded: Nancy Pezel

General: Failed (1 to 14)

Executive:

Scotland adopts BC woodlot model

BC woodlot owners have set a global example of good forest management. The proof is in the pudding — or, in this case, in the haggis.

The Scottish Woodlot Association (SWA) has been working with woodlot licence holders in BC and is now bringing the woodlot licence concept to Scotland.

Woodlot licences have been operating in BC for over 60 years, and have brought many benefits to rural communities here.

While the model in BC is slightly different than in Scotland, with licensees managing Crown or publically owned forest land often in combination with private land, the principles and benefits of small scale forest management are still the same. Woodlot licences in BC have won many awards for excellence in forest management, and have helped underpin often fragile rural economies.

The SWA is a new forestry co-operative that is setting up a network of rented woodlots across Scotland. A woodlot is a small area of private forest land that is rented from a landowner through the SWA Woodlot Licence system. The woodlot is managed for timber, environmental benefits, training opportunities and to build links between the local community and the forest.

Woodlot licence holders are usually local people with an interest in small-scale forestry and a passion for high quality management.

Licences are only administered to eligible SWA



Mine Wood in Sterling, Scotland, home of the famous William Wallace Monument (pictured above) will now be the site of Scotland's first woodlot licence. The Scottish woodlot program will be based on the model pioneered by British Columbia. NICHOLAS LAUGHLIN PHOTO

members and the production of a sustainable management plan is required as part of the woodlot licence process. Woodlots will help reconnect the land to the people and will create an opportunity to manage local forest as small scale forestry enterprises.

Scotland has the most concentrated forest ownership in Europe, dominated by large scale public and private holdings. Woodlot licences are a way of promoting small scale forestry, managed by local people, that helps to maximise benefits for the rural economy.

The SWA has identified Mine Wood in Stirling, northeast of Glasgow, Scotland as a potential pilot site for the first woodlot licence in Scotland. This is a great opportunity to really establish the first woodlots in Scotland, and the aim is to gradually increase the number of woodlot licences available across Scotland on the back of this project.

The SWA will rent the site from the local council and sublet to a woodlot licence holder. The licence holder will be responsible for the management of the woodlot, including maintaining public access for woodland users.

The Scottish Woodlot Association is a cooperative of forestry people who have formed a non-profit distributing association to create woodlot licences and help support their management. We are passionate about forestry and rural communities. ♦



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



Links of Interest

- 1 & 3 Month Coast & Interior Log Market Reports: <http://www.for.gov.bc.ca.hva/logreports.htm>
- BC Forest Exports by market and product (Ref #4725): <http://www.for.gov.bc.ca/het/analysis-forest-exports.htm>. ♦

My two cents worth: Letters to the Editor

Next Level Questionnaire Results

Aug 31, 2012

Dear Cathy,

Thank you for extending the deadline for submitting the WPDC questionnaire but I don't need it. You see I rescued my copy from its initial filing in the wood cookstove and am one of the 23 who tried to give a meaningful response. In my case it meant ignoring the questions and telling you this:

If I knew how to manage over two million dollars I wouldn't still be logging! This is not my realm. That is why we elect representatives to invest our money as directed, which, so far, is conservatively (and quite successfully). We don't resent paying the levy as we have received excellent value in the support of the FBCWA. If there is a surplus then bonus.

If someone has a brilliant idea about how the surplus might be spent let them state their proposal as a business resolution (or whatever the process is). We can examine it, discuss it and vote on it. Most of us can recognize a good idea when we hear of one, but don't ask us to come up with one. We're too busy managing the other money we don't have.

Ultimately, I think the lack of response to your questionnaire is your answer. That money is a reserve against the time when we might really need it. We won't know when that time is until it arrives. And when it does, let's hope all the money is still there.

Respectfully,
Rod Krimmer, W0550 ♦

In August a survey was mailed to 860 woodlot licensees based on the outcome of the Next Level document. The FBCWA and the Council thank the 42 respondents and value your feedback. Unfortunately the low return of 5% response rate was disappointing. However all results and comments will be considered in our jointly developed Strategic plans. Since no statistically valid results were created, we will be continuing with business as usual until our Planning processes are completed in 2012.

Next Level Feedback

The WPDC received a response regarding the survey indicating that we should send an explanation to our members regarding **question #8, "Provide political (policy), educational and financial benefits to the woodlot community, by aggressively recruiting private only forest land holders to woodlot associations."**

This question was developed from the recommendations presented in the 'Next Level of Success.' As many of you are aware there are some woodlot associations that include private forest land owners who are not woodlot licensees. On behalf of our 'Next Level of Success' document review committee, who also developed the questionnaire, I can assure you that the

question was presented only because it was a recommendation in the report, and we believed that unless a good argument suggested otherwise that we should include all of the options/recommendations presented in the report. It was not our intent to expand or duplicate work already being undertaken by other organizations, nor should the question be interpreted as trying to recruit members away from any other organization.

The WPDC welcomes any concerns or comments members or otherwise may have concerning the questionnaire and our 'Next Level of Success' project.

Denise English
WPDC President ♦

12



Please note:

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

Please help us out! If you are transferring or selling your woodlot make sure the new licensees get their own copy of the Almanac by asking them to send their contact information to the WPDC Coordinator. Also if you wish to remain on the Almanac's mailing list let Cathy know.

Boundary Woodlot: Summer Field Tour

By Deidre Dore

We had a very successful meeting on Woodlot 475 up in the Christian Valley on July 14. Our special guests included:

A Professional Engineer who performed an audit (similar to ones he does for the Forest Practices Board) on a 4m span steel L75 bridge recently installed on the WL;

And a Professional Forester and a Tree Planting Contractor, did a presentation on site prep, planting quality, optimal stand densities and where to and not to plant, spring vs. fall planting, and the importance of seedling handling and storage;

And a Professional Wildlife Biologist talking about the importance of Woodpeckers and their diminishing habitats;

And MFLNRO staff explained the convolutions of Waste and Residue reporting procedures on Woodlots post-harvest and what constitutes a Grade 4 log (not lumber quality).

Lunch was provided by the BWA for 8 guests and 20 licensees (including spouses).



Photos courtesy of Tom Bradley

NOTICES:

- Make 2013 the year to celebrate forests in your community. Nominate your Community for the 2013 Forest Capital of BC. For further information: www.abcfp.ca
- We are finally entering the world of Social Media - we have a FaceBook page!!! It is a great way to get people interested in small scale forest management and BC's woodlot program as well as keep licensees up-to-date on what is happening in the news and activities around the province. An example would be the recent Award of Excellence which went out to Barb and Sid Dawson. We need as many people as possible to help launch our FaceBook page, www.facebook.com/woodlotsbc. There is a link from our website as well. There are a couple things you can do to help: If you have a FaceBook account, go to the FBCWA page and "Like" it (click on the Like icon). If not, maybe sign up for FaceBook. Ask your friends and family who have FaceBook to check out our new page and "Like" it. Post photos on the page and add comments of interest relating to small-scale forest management or pass them onto Lisa Marak for posting.
- Evelyn Hamilton, Adjunct Professor, Royal Roads University, wrote a paper on NTFP policy and practices in BC which was recently been published in FORREX's JEMS See <http://jem.forrex.org/index.php/jem/article/view/165>. ♦

Toward More Resilient Forests

Climate change (and the increasing variability of seasonal weather patterns) is already affecting BC's forests and woodlots. Adapting our forest practices so that forests remain resilient is both an immediate imperative and long term proposition that must begin now.

New tools are available to help forest and woodlot managers understand climatic and ecosystem changes ahead and identify options to keep forests resilient. The new tools can help, for example, in understanding changes underway in various parts of the province, informing tree species selection decisions, and mapping the risk of drought-related mortality.

In early 2013, MFLNRO is planning a number of workshops on adapting forest stewardship for a changing climate. These **Resilient Forests workshops** will increase the ability of forest and woodlot managers to adapt their planning, practices and decision-making to address climate change. The workshops are great opportunity to connect with other forest managers and learn about state-of-the-art thinking and tools to create healthier forests.

The tools and training outlined above flow from MFLNRO's **Forest Stewardship Action Plan for Climate Change Adaptation** released in February. This Action Plan signals an important new policy direction: namely that our changing climate will, from this point forward, be factored into forest management in British Columbia. The plan identifies goals, objectives and initial actions the Ministry will take over the next five years to adapt BC's forest management. The Forest Stewardship Action Plan aims to: 1) foster resilient forests, 2) maintain future options and benefits, and 3) build the capacity of forest managers to adapt. The Action Plan will enable forest managers



to reduce risks, capture opportunities, and improve the ability of BC forests to withstand, recover from, and adapt to climate change and variability. Actions to foster resilient forests will also enhance other values such as water quality and wildlife. This is the first step in a broader climate change adaptation approach for the natural resource sector that will grow and evolve as we move forward.

For more information, visit the BC MFLNRO Adaptation Action Plan website (<http://www.for.gov.bc.ca/het/climate/index.htm>) the Adaptation Knowledge and Tools page (<http://www.for.gov.bc.ca/het/climate/knowledge/index.htm>), or contact Kathy Hopkins, RPF, Technical Advisor Climate Change, MFLNRO Competitiveness and Innovation Branch. Email: (Kathy.Hopkins@gov.bc.ca); Phone: (250) 387-2112.



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MFLNRO OFFICIAL GOVERNMENT NOTICE BOARD

Below is a link to a brochure, intended for distribution to the public providing guidelines for safe travel on resource roads, entitled Resource Road User Safety Guide. The brochure has recently been updated and is published by the BC Forest Safety Council with input provided from FLNRO.

<http://www.bcforestsafesafe.org/files/BCFSC%20Resource%20Road%20User%20Safety%20Guide%20Version%201.3%20July%205%202012.pdf>

students in the UBC forestry program held for woodlot licensees, and shared her insights on the future of small-scale forestry in BC.

Echoing the sentiments of many licensees in the province, she identified “niche marketing” as a key to the continued success of woodlot holders, whose Annual Allowable Cut is so small by comparison to their larger commercial competitors. After discussing the importance of family succession planning she intrigued the audience with a proposal to partner BC’s Wildfire Management Branch aerial fire detection program with an innovative new mapping system that would create efficiencies for woodlots. “LIDAR” technology, which is used for mapping stand-level inventory of large commercial operations, could prove to be an economical means of also mapping woodlots. Planes already flying over BC’s forests as part the province’s wildfire prevention detection program could be simultaneously gathering LIDAR data for licensees, who are required to track and report on the health and growth of their area-based tenures.

Also looking to the future were three panel presenters, Perry Toms, Sandy Long and Peter Sanders. Perry Toms, representing Steeper Energy, explained the principles of “Hydrofaction Technology”, which converts biomass (wood waste left after timber has been harvested) into liquid energy. He considers it a viable future alternative to oil, and though

the science behind the conversion was somewhat contentious, and the demand for biomass would almost certainly exceed woodlot supply, it was encouraging to learn about companies striving to reduce waste, the consumption of oil, and improve the environment.

Sandy Long also led a discussion about utilizing wood waste for biofuel, pointing out that “change is inevitable in an emerging market”, and that woodlot holders should remain nimble and prepared to adapt



quickly to the opportunities as they arise. With communities like Prince George embracing biofuel through their district energy system, and the demand for pellets and briquettes increasing, he urged members to work cooperatively and seek alternative means to generate profit with their

licenses.

Peter Sanders shared his thoughts on the future of the woodlot program, encouraging its members to continue working together and look for creative ways to ensure the continued health of small-scale forestry. He introduced the concept of a Rural Production Unit, a parcel of private land that would generate revenue through a combination of forestry and agricultural land uses.

It wouldn’t be a woodlot meeting without quality time in the great outdoors, naturally. While many delegates took the afternoon off and enjoyed a scenic boat tour of the Peace River - viewing the site of the controversial Site C dam project along the way - the educational field tour was just as pleasant. Hugo McLeod and Sarah Bauman of Spectrum Resources Group led licensees through an information-packed explanation of aerial pesticide application on a section of Jim Collins’ aspen-dominated woodlot, exploring the costs, benefits and options available to licensees grappling with species management in the wake of the mountain pine beetle infestation.

After a long trek in the bush, licensees were treated to a unique experience: a ‘Trap Shoot’ at the Fort St. John Rod & Gun Club, followed by a delicious BBQ meal that included local bison and homegrown corn. All the stops were pulled out for this amazing celebration dinner, which was topped off with a delectable dessert baked in the early hours by Diane Kitt. The dance floor got a workout as multi-generational trio, Diamonds in the Rough, played lively country tunes, and the walls rang with laughter as Sandy Long took to the guitar and sang comical folk songs. The past and the future were drawn together tightly during the week, and with dedicated stewards like Julia Kowalsky and up-and-comer Janice Burns in the mix, woodlot holders can look back with pride, and forward with great optimism. ♦

Minister’s Award

Woodlot Licensees are invited to apply for the Minister’s Awards of Excellence for Woodlot Management associated with site productivity gains, improved utilization and administrative streamlining. A woodlot licensee may be nominated by a woodlot association, another licensee, an individual, Ministry staff or the Federation. Annually one woodlot licensee from the Coast, Southern and Northern Interior Regions will be recognized and awarded \$2500.00. The application deadline is December 31. For more information: www.woodlot.bc.ca (Min Award). ♦

Tricks of the Trade:

Broken Rear Axle Quick Fix

By Rod Krimmer

You are working your old skidder hard, way back in the bush of course, when you hear a loud crunch! Looking back you see that the rear axle and axle housing has broken completely away from the machine and the wheel has flopped over in the snow. How do you get the old beast 2 km home for repairs?

In a panic you contact a reliable neighbour and he tells you how it was done when a wagon wheel falls off. Disengage the drag of logs which was obviously too big in the first place. Use the winch to bring a stout fir log up under the back axle. Flatten the bottom end a little with your saw and cut some slots for the hub flanges. Position the log as shown. Take the mainline out from the fairlead and place it over the side of the winch. Use a worn choker to hook the front of the log and winch it up hard. Not too hard!

Drive it carefully home on three wheels and a skid, feeling all the while like Fred Flintstone. Prepare for corners a long way in advance as it does not steer well like this. Complete the appropriate repairs and go back to work. Be a little easier on your machine for awhile.



16

Submit your ideas on what makes woodlot life easier.

Examples could include anything from a handy tool, how you have made something work, or 'How to' tips that you have discovered that you want to share with other woodlot licensees. Specific examples might be suggestions like

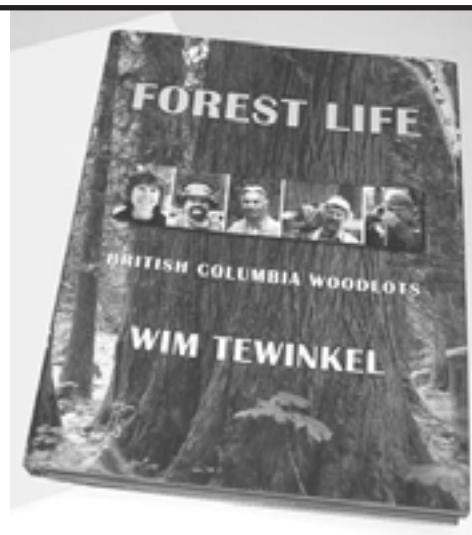
how you keep that old 30 year chainsaw going, how you extend the life of a power saw chain, how you have adapted that 40 year old piece of equipment to keep on running, etc. Send your ideas to Cathy McClary at cjmclary401@gmail.com or call her at 250-961-0271. The licensee whose idea gets published each issue will receive a FBCWA hat or Shirt. ♦

"Forest Life" makes a great gift

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

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

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



“How Sweet It Is!!”

Just down the road from us, a neighbour cleared some high-site forest land to make a patch of marginal pasture on which to graze a couple of scrawny steers in hopes the price per pound will compensate for the inputs of grain and silage needed. So I asked him “Why bother?” “So I can get more income for farm tax status.” This scenario is repeated over and over all across the province by small ranchers, rural landowners and wannabe farmers/dentists/retired lawyers and much good forest is sacrificed for this short-term benefit.

However, for those folks with Maple or Birch trees, a new opportunity has developed which may let them keep their forests intact and still improve their farm-gate sales. Recently the BC Assessment Authority, the bean-counters who assign land tax category, have included maple and birch products as acceptable crops contributing to the required amount for a bona fide farm. This came about by the information and lobbying efforts of the provincial Agroforestry Management Committee (on which I am pleased to sit) and several individuals already in the nascent industry.

What this means is that given a proper management plan, adequate stocking and proof of applicant intent; a landowner can apply to have sap products (not just syrup but others) included in their annual assessment. On Vancouver Island and in the Cariboo, there are producers who will benefit from this ruling and I expect more to follow.

Less marginal pasture, better deciduous forest management. Good on all counts.

Harold Macy
Headquarters Creek Woodlot Ltd.
Merville, BC ♦

When you wish upon a Woodlot, Dreams Do Come True!

After dreaming about having a WL since 1976 when the Pearse Commission Report was written I am finally realizing my dream.

On September 18th I signed an agreement to purchase WL 1413 located 60 km West of Quesnel. I put together the submission to remove the 47 ha of Schedule A land from this WL in order to be able to afford to purchase the WL.

Although I was fundamentally and vocally opposed to the removal of private Schedule A land from WLs, in hind sight I can say that in this case the FBCWA was right and I was wrong. I first looked at this WL in June of 2011 with Harold Reedy when I was overcome with a spell of WL fever.

As part of the purchase agreement I am responsible for brushing and free growing surveys on about 170 hectares of mountain pine beetle salvage harvesting. The WL has been managed to a very high standard by its previous holders Bob and Shirley Keen.

I am totally excited about practicing exemplary forestry on this area and learning first-hand about actual WL management. YAHOO!!!

Al Waters
FBCWA Life Member #2 ♦

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 cjmclary401@gmail.com.

Funding still available

Limited funding is still available to Woodlot licensees and other small-scale forestry operations under Phase II of the B.C. Agroforestry Industry Development Initiative (AIDI) to facilitate the development and adoption of agroforestry practices in B.C.

Agroforestry involves the intentional combination of trees with crops and/or livestock in order to enhance production. Agroforestry can be defined as production systems which synergistically integrate both agricultural and forestry practices and products resulting in optimal management of land, animal and human resources.

The AIDI welcomes proposals for innovative projects from individuals and/or groups that address one or more of these strategic goals:

1. Develop the business case for agroforestry practices in B.C.;
 - Develop enterprise-level BC agroforestry economic information.
 - Develop cost-benefit information and business case studies.
2. Improve market connections for agroforestry products and services;
 - Improve links between buyers and suppliers for alternate crops and non-timber forest products (NTFPs) produced using agroforestry systems.
 - Improve value chain management through partnerships from production to processing and distribution.
3. Improve agroforestry awareness, extension and education;
 - Improve agroforestry awareness among industry, agencies and the public;
 - Expand the body of BC-based agroforestry extension resources; and,
 - Support a self-sustaining industry peer network for future agroforestry extension.

4. Expand and strengthen partnerships among agroforestry practitioners and stakeholder organizations.
 - Support stakeholder leadership of development activity and greater sector self-reliance;
 - Increase recognition and partnerships with affiliated stakeholder groups; and,
 - Increase the number of stakeholders participating in development and self-identifying with the agroforestry sector.

It is important to note that AIDI funds are intended for broad industry development support, and cannot be used for any activities deemed to be a normal business practice of the recipient or for commercial expansion.

Proposals can be submitted at any time, with cost-share funding allocated to qualified proponents for approved projects on first-come, first serve basis until all funds have been committed. All projects must be completed by December 31, 2013.

Proposal development assistance, and information on eligibility and other program criteria is available from the Project Development and Communication Services Manager by email at support@agroforestry.info or phone 250.983.5114

For further information on the AIDI, projects that have been funded to date, and links to the application guide and forms, please visit www.agroforestry.info

Funding for the AIDI is provided by Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada through the Canadian Agricultural Adaptation Program (CAAP). In British Columbia, the CAAP program is delivered by the Investment Agriculture Foundation of B.C. (IAF). The Province of British Columbia provides in-kind support to the AIDI. The Federation of B.C. Woodlot Associations administers the AIDI with the guidance of the Agroforestry Management Committee, a group representing B.C.'s agroforestry sector including agricultural, forestry, conservation and provincial government representatives. ♦

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. ♦

From the Woodlot Communicator:

Students get forestry DEMO thanks to FBCWA

UBC Forestry Undergrad students attend Canadian Institute of Forestry's 2012 AGM in Quebec City. The Federation provided sponsorship to help send a team from UBC's Forestry class to attend the Canadian Institute of Forestry's AGM in Quebec City, which included the Quiz Bowl competition and Canadian Woodlands Forum's DEMO International tradeshow. Mike Harray shares their experiences.



UBC Forestry students narrowly lost the annual CIF Forestry Quiz Bowl. But they had a great time in Quebec City, and saw the Canadian forest industry inside and out thanks to the generous support of the FBCWA.

During the week of September 17-20, the UBC Quiz Bowl team – Even Powell, Oliver Holt, Michael Harray, Eli Fraser, Duncan Walters, and Maddie Crowell – went to Quebec City to attend the Canadian Institute of Forestry's (CIF) annual general meeting, the Canadian Woodlands Forum's DEMO International tradeshow, as well as to participate in the annual CIF Forestry Quiz Bowl. The trip was an amazing success.

The Quiz Bowl was only a small part of the overall conference, but was definitely the most exciting event, with students from across the country competing. Schools from Vancouver Island University and Thunder Bay sent all their undergraduate foresters. A total of 13 teams competed and the last two years UBC has placed second. UBC won the Quizbowl in 2008 and we were set to reclaim the title. Unfortunately, this year we came in second place again, beat on the final question, a tie-breaker that hinged on a true-false question. The question was, "Enchanter's nightshade indicates dry, nutrient-rich soils." Of course it is false! A video replay shows that both teams raised their hands at exactly the same moment, but the winds favoured

the University of Alberta Team that day.

It was great to spend time with other foresters, young and old. I enjoyed several lectures on wildlife management in forestry, including discussions of the woodland caribou and overabundance of deer and moose. There were also stimulating lectures regarding forest tenure, and the new economic analysis of silviculture systems.

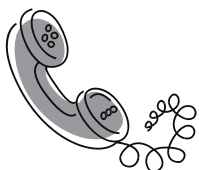
We were lucky this year to have the conference coincide with a quadrennial trade show of forestry equipment called DEMO International. This was a big event where all kinds of manufacturers and businesses from North America and Europe came out to show off the cutting edge of forestry equipment and technology. It all took place in a demonstration setting, so not only did we get to climb over harvest er-processers, but we got to watch



them work and cut trees. It was good to see the big industry types, but the woodlot oriented forwarders, portable mills, and horse loggers held my respect. They are quiet and much less frantic.

Overall we had a very memorable trip and hope that next year the UBC Quizbowl team can finally reclaim the title at the 2013 CIF AGM in New Foundland! Thanks again for all your help, it really made a difference!

- Mike and the CIF Quizbowl Team ♦



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 ♦

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Thank you to our contributors for this issue

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 and the UBC Quiz Bowl feature

Advertising Rates

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

Business card.....\$50	Quarter page \$135
Half page.....\$175	Full page. \$250

There is a 10% discount for ads appearing in two or more issues. A complementary annual subscription is mailed to all advertisers.



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