



# THE WOODLAND ALMANAC



www.woodlot.bc.ca

Winter 2012

## Farming & Forestry make for good business

BC ranchers with deep roots in the region

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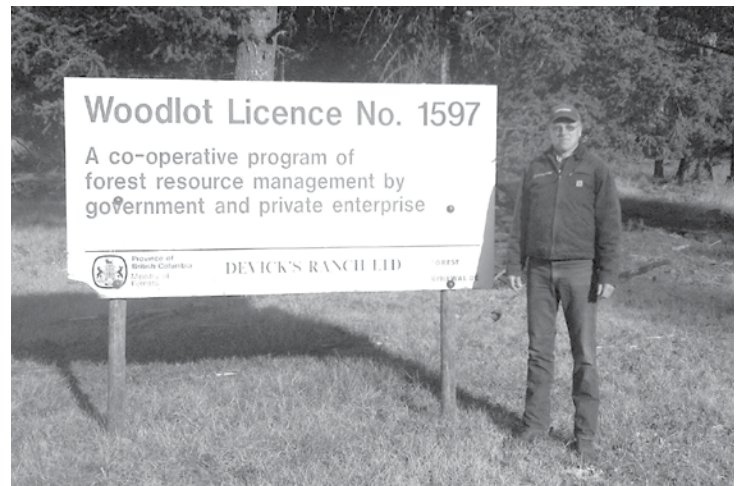
By Brett Hanson

Reprinted with permission from the Working Forest

The community of Hefhley Creek, B.C. has roots dating back to the 1860's when settlers expanding out from the Hudson's Bay Company fort in nearby Kamloops began to establish roots there. Henri Louis Devick arrived in Hefhley Creek from Switzerland in 1904 and the ranch that he started continues to operate there today, four generations later.

Today, brothers Paul and Arthur Devick along with their six children are keeping the ranch thriving. Three of the six children are employed full time in the family business with the rest chipping in when and wherever they can.

There have been lots of changes over the past century at Devick Ranch. The operation has expanded to encompass over 3600 acres with 700 head of beef cattle and over 100 yearlings. Fifteen years ago, to meet the changing agriculture business the Devicks entered into the B.C. government's woodlot licence program.



Paul Devick is one of the brothers who proudly manages Woodlot 1597.

The program matches private woodlots with Crown forest and leaves the responsibility of harvest and management of the whole to land owners. The Devicks manage a total of 800 hectares of forest, 200 of which is their own land.

"It started as an extra source of income. We were interested in it and had the time and labour. We were already managing the land for cattle so why not manage it for the forest at the same time." Paul Devick said, "There is annual allowable cut that was figured out

con't on page 11 ....



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# The Bigger Picture

by Brian McNaughton



Brian McNaughton,  
General Manager

It's not hard to get overly focused on day-to-day issues. Topics such as private land withdrawal, 1 CP, RESULTS submissions, questions about how higher level plans relate to Woodlot Licence Plans, waste assessments, the Natural Resource Road Act, use of qualified persons, mid-term timber supply, Open Burning Smoke Control Regulation, safety, etc. take priority; and rightfully so. But every once in awhile it doesn't hurt to be reminded about what's going on in the bigger picture. Such was the case at the November 2012 Forest and Range Practices Advisory Committee (PAC) meeting when the agenda included such topics as the FRPA Oversight Project, Compliance & Enforcement Act, the Integrated Decision Making Act and Environmental Mitigation.

These are not projects that you hear a lot about, so here's a brief summary of each.

The 'FRPA Oversight Project' was initiated by the Ministry in response to the February 2012 report by the Auditor General (AG) that assessed whether or not the Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations was achieving its forest objectives for timber. The AG found that:

- The Ministry has not clearly defined its timber objectives, therefore cannot ensure that its management practices are effective.
- Existing management practices

are insufficient to offset a trend toward future forests having a lower timber supply and less species diversity in some areas.

- The Ministry does not appropriately monitor and report its timber results against its timber objectives.

In addition to other things, the FRPA Oversight project will be examining Forest Stewardship Plans (FSP), compliance and enforcement (C&E), the Forest & Range Evaluation Program, professional reliance, the Forest Practices Board and certification; and looking to strengthen the linkages between the roles and functions of each of these things and the government's timber objectives.

Recently, the Natural Resource Compliance Act came into force. It enabled government to designate natural resource officers and define the Acts that they were authorized to enforce. PAC was advised that work on legislation to enable a common administrative regime across the new FLNRO mandate is continuing, including collaboration with other natural resource agencies to develop a common C & E framework. In light of the AG's findings that monitoring is inadequate, this will no doubt be a challenging initiative.

The work around an Integrated Decision Making Act, also referred to as Regulatory Harmonization, focuses on the 'Natural Resource Operations' component of MFLNRO. My understanding is that where each

resource related legislation (Mines Act, Land Act, Forest Act, FRPA, etc.) currently has its own administrative framework, this project seeks to achieve:

- Common resource management objectives, standards and practices, and aims to manage the impacts of multiple users and values on the land base;
- One project authorization document, with aligned terms & renewals, and a coordinated schedule of fees & rents; and
- On-line submission of project based applications with public review and comment.

Environmental mitigation is an initiative designed to address the negative environmental impact(s) of natural resource development activities through avoidance, minimization, on-site restoration or by taking actions that offset the impact. Hopefully, all the work done in forestry in terms of stewardship and sustainability means there won't be a need for any additional work or expense.

So while Woodlot Licensees go about their day-to-day business, there are much bigger forces at play. And while it may seem that some of these initiatives reside in the stratosphere, they do have the potential to have a significant impact. It's good to be reminded of them every once in awhile, so the Federation can monitor them and represent the interests of woodlot tenure holders.

Best wishes to all of you for a safe and happy holiday season! ♦

## ■ Interior timber pricing

# US Housing Starts & Cut Control Letters

by Blain Arnett

US housing starts hit a 4 year high this October at 894,000; they are 40% of their 2.27 million unit peak in January 2006. Lumber is currently at \$350 US per 1000 bf, last December it was \$260, and lumber is expected to hit all time highs in 2014. If housing starts continue to increase watch for lumber prices to soar. While this is good news, expect stumpage to increase over the year as our government is forecasting a 13% increase in revenue in the 2014 budget.



Blain Arnett,  
Interior Timber Pricing  
Coordinator

According to some reputable websites the average (2400 sf) new house built in the US contains about 16,000 board feet of lumber and over 14,000 square feet of other wood products (plywood, fibre board and the like). Pretty interesting numbers, no wonder the US housing market is so important the BC interior. How many board feet of lumber are in a load of sawlogs, and how many lifts of lumber does it take to frame a house?

We have likely seen the lowest stumpage prices, with the increase in lumber prices we should expect the log market purchase price to improve and stumpage to increase. If you have wood to log and all permits in place watch the markets and local supply of logs. The pine beetle wood will eventually run out, log demand should increase.

Have you read your latest cut control letter? Did the volumes match what you expected? Our latest letter did not appear to match what we logged. Upon talking to our

woodlot forester at the district office we learned that the m3 volume from chipping debris piles last winter counts against our AAC, something I had overlooked. Make sure you allow for this non-logging contribution to your cut control. The grade 4 volume from debris piles can be exempted from your cut control, if it went to a pulp mill or pellet plant. You must ask for the exemption in writing, no sense paying \$0.60 per m3 in annual rent for waste volume. There is a \$0.25 per stumpage charge on the volume, make sure the receiving plant is paying this bill on your behalf.

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

North Central: 0.85 Balsam, 2.11 Fir, 0.56 Pine, 1.17 Spruce

North East : 0.25 Balsam, 0.32 Pine, 0.42 Spruce

North West : 0.27 Balsam, 0.58 Cedar, 0.43 Hw, 0.69 Pine, 0.44 Spruce

South East : 1.03 Bal, 1.98 Cw, 1.62 Fd, 1.28 Hw, 1.56 Lw, 1.06 Pl, 1.00 Sw, 1.38 Py

South West : 1.07 Bal, 1.57 Cw, 1.42 Fd, 0.87 Hw, 1.24 Pl, 0.95 Sw

New permits will have the above rates; existing permits (prior to November 1, 2012) have the August 1, 2012 table rates – see the IAM.

A small change in the Interior Appraisal Manual (IAM) is that waste surveys and debris burning is no longer considered at cost against the stumpage calculations.

If you have any questions or comments, I can be reached at 250-964-4105 or at [greggcreek@shaw.ca](mailto:greggcreek@shaw.ca). ♦

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## 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>
- Woodlot Safety Program: Safety info & Tools – Resources Packages: [http://www.bcforestsafe.org/safety\\_info/resource\\_packages.html](http://www.bcforestsafe.org/safety_info/resource_packages.html)
- The Working Forest newspaper offers an e-newsletter and a newspaper on small-scale forestry across Canada: [www.workingforest.com](http://www.workingforest.com)
- WorkSafe BC has issued a guideline clarifying safety obligations on resource roads. It can be accessed via [http://www2.worksafebc.com/publications/OHSRegulation/GuidelinePart1.asp#SectionNumber:G1.1\\_1](http://www2.worksafebc.com/publications/OHSRegulation/GuidelinePart1.asp#SectionNumber:G1.1_1) ♦

# TAB Rates and Road Amortization

by Ed Hughes

The TAB rates for 2013/14 are not expected to increase above \$1/m<sup>3</sup>. The TAB rates by species estimated in the Table A have not yet been separated for a north and south coastal split (by the date this article was written). The Coastal Appraisal manual requires a north/south split for TAB rates. It is expected that the final rates (calculated early in the new year) will have the south stumpage rates slightly higher and the north slightly lower than noted in Table A. Although this is good stumpage news for another year, a slow upward trend in rates is being predicted. We should be expecting increased rates in the future as the average stumpage rates begin to go up, based on improvements in log markets, the general economy and other factors.



Ed Hughes,  
Coastal Timber Pricing  
Coordinator

ago that Stumpage was a big issue for most licensees. Stumpage dominated many meetings at different levels.

The old system was complex and took an incredible amount of effort to understand. Often the way permits were

prepared, under the previous stumpage systems, could result in success or failure of a woodlot business. Now, with a simpler TAB system, most licensees have been able to focus on other challenges, now more within the woodlot vs. the office.

The TAB system and relatively low stumpage rates that are being calculated are based on an MPS process that is adjusted periodically and annually. Periodically amendments to the Appraisal Manual, in consultation with the Coastal Timber Pricing Committee, are made based on evaluation of the many factors that impact rates. Often during meetings and conference calls the technical review and exchange of information is incredibly complicated, but can result in significant changes to final rates calculated.

The annual review of data used to calculate rates through MPS is currently being completed. The adjustments to the MPS

formula, used by the Major Licensees and potentially still approximately 30% of Coastal Licenses (those Woodlot Licensees that have Extended Road Amortization Agreements still have the option to calculate rates using

either TAB or MPS appraisal) have important implications. The formula and all the factors that are applied to calculate a stumpage rate, are thoroughly reviewed.

In the offices of the major forest companies and the Timber Pricing Branch, data is reviewed to ensure it is accurate until there is an agreement. Timber Sale by Timber Sale the rates, eligibility of bidders, number of bidders, species composition and other factors are confirmed. Once the information is agreed to the task of calculating the average stumpage rates for the coast (north and south) is undertaken. Large amounts of information are compiled and the average rate table can be generated. The estimated average rates noted in Table A are multiplied by 30% to generate the TAB rates woodlot licensees pay.

It is worth protecting or improving the TAB rate system, through a basic understanding of how changes are made periodically and annually. It is also important to keep in mind that although rates are still relatively low, the number of MPS permits that are above the minimum stumpage rates is increasing and as this swing continues the average rates will also increase.

Why should we care about the stumpage system when rates are working right now? Although the gains over the past years have improved the stumpage system our licensee group needs to keep aware of and communicate potential future problems that may begin to appear. Timber Sale Bids influence our rates and those licensees that participate in the TSP might be the first to observe changes such as increased bids and number of bidders. Good to inform

**Table A: Average and TAB stumpage rates**

Species	Average Rate (\$/m <sup>3</sup> )	TAB Rate (\$/m <sup>3</sup> )
BA	1.21	.36
CE	2.55	.77
CY	1.42	.43
FI	1.45	.44
HE	1.14	.34
LO	.62	.25
SP	.55	.25
WH	3.34	1.00

TAB rate is 30% of Average Rate or \$.25/m<sup>3</sup> (Minimum permitted rate).

Table A was prepared on information provided by Timber Pricing Branch based on the past 12 months, which will be adjusted slightly when the entire 2012 values are used (January 1 to December 31, 2012).

## TAB System

The TAB system has now been in place for a number of years and has contributed to a slow and steady improvement within the Coastal woodlot sector. It was only a few years

# Boundary Woodlot Manager recognized for dedication: 2012 Provincial Winner of the Minister's Award of Excellence for Woodlot Management

Excellence in forest management on a woodlot licence is recognized by the Minister of Forests Lands and Natural Resource Operations by an Award of Excellence for Woodlot Management given to three regional woodlot licensees in the province as well as an overall provincial winner. The award criteria are based on three areas of management - site productivity (i.e planting better stock), improved utilization of wood and administrative streamlining.



*George Slater, MLA presents George Dore with the BC Minister's Award*

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 woodlot license; a Professional Forester and a Tree Planting Contractor, who gave 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 who talked about the importance of Woodpeckers and their diminishing habitats. MFLNRO staff also attended and explained Waste and Residue reporting procedures on Woodlots post-harvest and what constitutes a Grade 4 log (not lumber quality). John Slater, MLA for Boundary-Similkameen who presented the award to George this summer summed up Dore's excellence in woodlot management when he said "the Province's Woodlot Licence Program continues to see the benefits of George's willingness to share his knowledge and past experiences. His enthusiasm and openness to change is a leading example to other woodlot licensees of an exemplary woodlot manager." ♦

herds through pruning and by grass seeding areas of his woodlot suitable for deer.

"Over the years, George has continued to move forward and adapt to changes that affect his woodlot and woodlot operations around B.C. Being open to new ideas and technology helps ensure his operation stays current and continues to provide economic, social and recreational benefits" said Mark Clark, President of the Federation of BC Woodlot Associations of Dore.

Dore is also president of the Boundary Woodlot Association and recently organized the Boundary Woodlot Association summer meeting providing extension for its members at an outdoor classroom - Woodlot #475 in the Christian Valley. It included a

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Woodlot licensee George Dore, the Southern Interior regional award winner was chosen as BC's best in the province for 2012. Dore has managed a woodlot in the Boundary area since 1989 and is known for his loyalty and dedication to sustainable harvesting and long-term stewardship for his own woodlot and for others in the local area, as well as for his support of woodlot activities province wide.

He has shown success in maintaining and improving site productivity through hard work, using difficult site locations that needed to be prepared and planted multiple times before they were productive. Dore knows the importance of local wildlife and is involved in creating habitat for deer

**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. ♦**

# On the National Front: Canadian Federation of Woodlot Owners

By *Cliff Manning*  
CFWO Representative

In October 2012, Brian McNaughton and myself, met with our counterparts from other provinces at the Canadian Federation of Woodlot Owners (CFWO) Annual General meeting in Quebec. Also present at this meeting representing the International Family Forest Alliance (IFFA) were two representatives; Pierre Ducray of France and Lennart Ackzell of Sweden.

We discussed in detail the situation of the Forest Industry in our provinces and found that the industry as a whole for Eastern Canada is fairly depressed due to industry consolidation with little opportunity for new markets. With BC having the advantage of access to Asian markets, the state of B.C.'s industry is quite active although delivered prices remain low.

The IFFA representatives provided updates as how their countries are doing with Sweden having pulp prices of \$40.00/m<sup>3</sup> and Sawlog of \$60 to \$100. Markets are opening in North Africa. France is developing markets in North Africa, India and China.

Among the topics discussed, were



*Attending the Canadian Federation of Woodlot Owners AGM in Quebec City from left to right: Peter deMarsh (CFWO President), Ken Hardie (New Brunswick), Jean Pierre Dansereau (Quebec), Cliff Manning (BC), Marc-Andre Cote (Quebec), Andrew Fedora (Nova Scotia), Lennart Ackzell (Sweden)*

each province's highest priorities and how they translate into the CFWO's priorities. The CFWO's top priorities are as follows:

- Silviculture Savings Plan and Federal Silviculture Budget
- Information Exchanges between Provinces and the IFFA (Log and Pulp prices)
- Building the CFWO Communication Plan and Lobbying Strategy
- National Conservation Strategy, Environmental Goods and Services and Species at Risk Act
- Building communications with the Canadian Forest Service

From this list of priorities, each province representative has been

assigned a priority to work on, with our president Peter deMarsh overseeing to ensure we accomplish our goals.

Brian gave a presentation on the web site WoodSource BC as this site is bringing together buyers and sellers. The website can maximize value for woodlot owners as they can buy and sell everything from machinery, to trucking, to wood sales. And it's a free service. The web address is <http://www.woodsourcebc.com/>

On the second day of our meeting we travelled to Saint-Georges Quebec and met with the Association des Propriétaires de Boises de la Beauce. The topic of their presentation was an overview of the Beauce Woodlot Owners Association and their Sugarbush Management program (Maple Syrup). This association represents about 11,000 small woodlot owners where the average forest land owned is 43 hectares. The primary products produced are pulpwood, fire wood and maple syrup production. This association produced 23 million pounds of Maple sap in 2012(24%), and the province of Quebec produced 96 million pounds in the same time period. ♦

## 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. ♦

# My two cents worth:

Letters to the Editor

## Important Stumpage Notification Changes

October 25, 2012

To: All Woodlot Licensees

### **RE: IMPORTANT STUMPAGE NOTIFICATION CHANGES**

Dear Woodlot Licensee:

Please be advised the Ministry of Forests (Lands and Natural Resource Operations) has changed the way woodlot licensees will be notified of their stumpage rates for active cutting permits.

As of October 31, 2012 Woodlot Licensees will no longer receive a written notice by regular mail of their stumpage rates.

Licensees will now be notified electronically by email starting on November 1, 2012.

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HOWEVER in order to receive a stumpage email notice each woodlot licensee must send an email to [FORHVAP.GASHELP@gov.bc.ca](mailto:FORHVAP.GASHELP@gov.bc.ca) and provide the Ministry with the following information (as per the example shown below):

- Woodlot Licence email address: e.g. [woodlot@shaw.ca](mailto:woodlot@shaw.ca)
- Client Number: 12345
- Woodlot Licence number(s): W123x
- Contact name: (your woodlot contact person)

Your client number is a unique five digit number assigned to you and your woodlot licence, it can be found on a weight scale or stumpage invoice (or through your district office). You may provide more than one e-mail address and contact name for your woodlot.

There is no deadline for providing the information but as soon as possible is preferred.

After you send the email you should receive a stumpage notice for your permit when the next notice is due. For existing Tab Rate permits a notice should be sent in June or July 2013, new permits should get a notice at the time of permit approval.

Yours truly,

Blain Arnett, RPF  
Interior Timber Pricing Coordinator  
Federation of BC Woodlot Associations

Ed Hughes, RPF  
Coast Timber Pricing Coordinator  
Federation of BC Woodlot Associations



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](http://www.woodsourcebc.com). ♦

### ***Please note:***

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



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



# Association News

Chris Schippers has been elected as the new president of the Bulkley Woodlot Association, replacing Jay Baker. Congratulations to Chris and thank you to Jay for all his hard work over the past few years. In Prince George, Blain Arnett was elected President of the Prince George Woodlot Association, taking over from Mark Clark. Mark stays on as President of the Federation of BC Woodlot Associations. ♦



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](http://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. ♦

# Cheat Sheets for RESULTS

By Tom Bradley

We have been asked several times recently if there is a guide to the information that a Licensee needs to supply to RESULTS. There are several.

The MoF has just released the latest technical manual for RESULTS for Woodlots, titled *RESULTS INFORMATION SUBMISSION SPECIFICATIONS Form and Manner of Reporting (Woodlot Licensee Submissions) 2nd Edition*. It is not easy reading, but contains vital information. We have put a copy at: [http://www.woodfor.com/WLGML/RISS-wl-November\\_19-2012.pdf](http://www.woodfor.com/WLGML/RISS-wl-November_19-2012.pdf)

There is of course a copy on the MoF web space, but it is one of those links that is about a paragraph long that you are never going to keyboard correctly, and Google does not find it easily (yet).

The WLGML User's manual was written to explain what a Licensee needs to do, but it is far more technical than you require if all you are trying to do is assemble the information so someone else can do the e-Work.

The WLGML manual is on the: <http://www.woodfor.com/WLGML/> page as well.

And finally, and likely the most useful, *The Cheat Sheets*. They are also on: <http://www.woodfor.com/WLGML/>

The Cheat Sheets are paper forms that a Licensee can fill in to assemble the info to be reported to RESULTS. Each form has support documentation that endeavours to explain what is needed.

The WLGML Manual and the Cheat Sheets are always evolving as we find new things that deserve explanation. When you are trying to figure out what on earth you are supposed to tell The System, drop in to the WLGML page and download the current copy of either to guide you in your task. ♦



Members of the WPDC/FBCWA Vision and Strategic Planning Committee at a workshop in Kelowna in Early December. From left to right: Rod Blake, Brian McNaughton, Mark Clark, Cathy McClary, Cliff Manning, Blain Arnett, Jim Collins, Lisa Marak, Shawn Flynn, Denise English and Jerry Benner.



Denise English and Mark Clark sign the newly adopted agreement between the FBCWA and the WPDC which establishes a business relationship where the Federation will be the central vehicle for delivery, progress and support for services to all woodlot licensees consistent with the Council's purposes.

# Small Scale Forestry!

By Shawn Flynn

This 0.22 m3 of Pacific Dogwood was harvested from block 25 in woodlot 1479 in the spring of 2010. The logs were later milled on site into 3.25 by 3.25 inch Quarter sawn blanks destined for Hand made Banjo Neck blanks as well as at Pepper mills. The Dogwood logs were seasoned for a year in the shade of the nearby forest. The wood qualities of the species include extreme strength, colors from pink to purple, finishes very well and turns smoothly. If you zoom in the Timber Mark WAC OOH can be seen on the lower left on both logs. The load slips were produced by the driver when stopped during an impromptu

within the utilizations standards identified in the Cutting Authority, Provincial Inventory or Forest Act, and a stop work order was issued for the original seizure notice. Fortunately the Pacific Dogwood is somewhat rot resistant and the woods new found Spaulding turned out to be an additional marketing opportunity. ♦

Road Side check on FSR A1 just outside Victoria. The inspection of the Load Slips identified several deficiencies in the required documentation. The three officials on site thought the most efficient action would be to seize the load and issued a stop work order. The driver offered to return the load to the work site as he had no other activities planned. After a short delay it was discovered that this species is not included



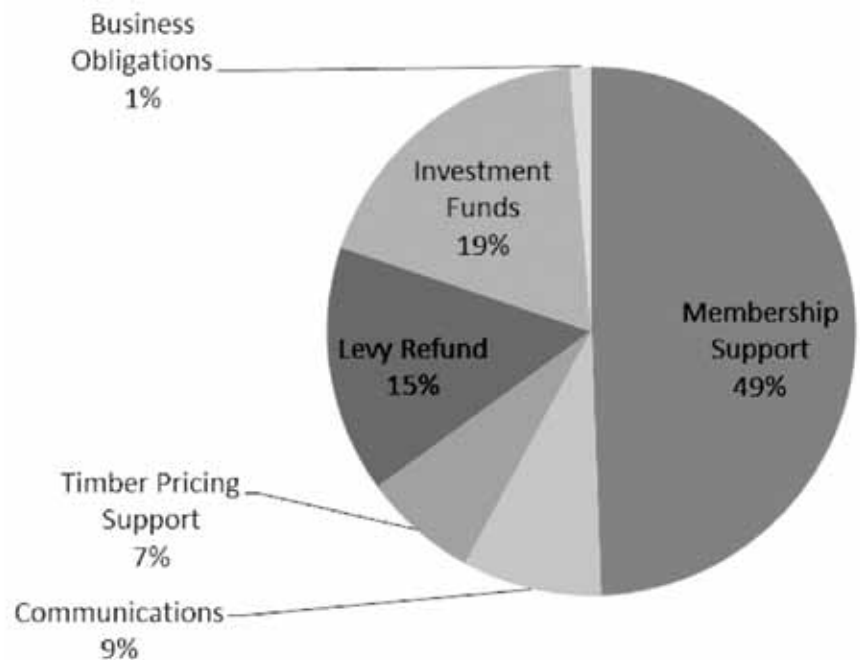
from this: logs in trunk to this: finished product: pepper mill

10

Correction: Sincere apologies to Deirdre Dore whose name was misspelled in the fall issue of the Almanac

## Where your \$0.25 annual levy goes

The Woodlot Product Development Council has a responsibility to ensure funding originating from the woodlot levy is prudently managed and used only for work and activities consistent with the Purpose of the Council which are to: Promote a positive image of the woodlot industry and its products; educate the general public and buyers about the benefits of BC woodlots and small-scale forest management and initiate and support research programs for the development and enhancement of the woodlot industry in the province. The pie chart shows a breakdown of where the levy is used. ♦



right at the beginning. It's a five year cut that we have to meet which can be done once in five years or we can spread it out over the period. It's about 1700 cubic metres per year."

Devick says what they harvest is based mostly on following the market trends. They cut where the money is. The forest is predominantly fir and lately the best money has been in fir peeler logs. There are also stands of spruce and pine in the woodlot which are sold for sawlogs when the market is up.

"The market is nowhere near what it was six or seven years ago but it has come back a little bit from the low of the last couple of years. It's maybe 10 dollars a cubic meter better this year over last year for fir peelers," Devick said. "We haul to Tolko Industries sawmill which is very close to us here. It's about half an hour away from the woodlot so it's usually the most economical choice for us to deliver our wood."

The Devick family has learned a lot about forestry in the last fifteen years. Devick says they have learned to tell whether they have a healthy forest or not and how to keep it healthy. In the end he says it's a lot like the cattle industry; if you don't have a healthy forest your wood doesn't grow and if you don't have healthy cattle they don't grow either.



Alex Devick, Heffley Creek, BC delivers a load to River City Fibre in Kamloops

"Over the years we have bought some logging equipment and a truck to haul with. We have a skidder, the truck and an excavator for building roads," Devick said, "My cousin also has a woodlot and he has some logging equipment as well so we kind of work together with the equipment. He has a log processor and log loader. We share equipment, he helps us with ours and we help him with his."

We do a lot of our own work but there is some stuff that we have to hire from outside," Devick said. "We hire a fellerbuncher to do the falling of the

trees because that is a very expensive machine and it's a huge difference between a good job and a bad job."

As with most business these days the Devicks have to remain diversified and adaptable. They use their forestry equipment working for the government and other woodlot owners doing pre-planting site prep and silviculture. The family also does some contract hauling and fencing over the years, and have a feed lot for cattle as well. Devick says they will take almost any job that their time and equipment will allow.

The management of their woodlot has become an integral part of the family business and one that Devick says they will continue for a long time to come. "It takes probably 25% of my time. I look after most of the administration of the woodlot. The kids do most of the logging. The kids like it, it's kind of a change of pace for them and adds variety to the workload they have," Devick said.

"When I first started working the ranch the industry was pretty much self-sustainable. When there was a downturn in the markets we had to find some alternate means of generating revenue so forestry was one of the opportunities," Devick said. "I've done it for my whole life as did my father and grandfather and the boys are willing to take it over too." ♦



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 ♦



## 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](http://www.woodlot.bc.ca) (Min Award). ♦

# Tricks of the Trade:

## Cougar Bait

By Rod Krimmer  
W0550

Two years ago, when the cougar population was at its height in the Cariboo, my faller reported being stalked. Creole was walking back to his truck when he felt the presence of something close behind him. Turning suddenly he found himself facing a cougar, crouched menacingly in his tracks. With his eyes locked on the big cat Creole slowly backed all the way to the truck with the cougar stalking him, step for step. The cat fled when the truck door opened and both went on their way.

Pondering the danger posed by this incident, I recalled reading that Bengal Tiger trainers have dramatically reduced fatalities in their industry by sewing eyes on the back of their hats. Apparently, a tiger is less likely to attack a man when faced directly. This led me to the following simple solution to discourage cougar attacks on forest workers. Wearing the Hi-Vis vest backward is optional.

12 Has it worked? Well we have not had a cougar incident since, just some odd looks from co-workers. ♦



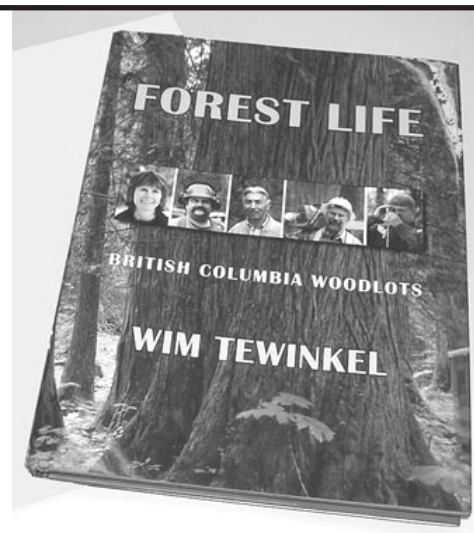
**Submit your ideas on what makes woodlot life easier. Examples could include anything from a handy tool, how you have made something work, or 'How to' tips that you have discovered that you want to share with other woodlot licensees. Specific examples might be suggestions like how you keep that old 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](mailto: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](http://www.woodlot.bc.ca) for only \$39.95, or woodlot licensees can buy it from their woodlot associations for only \$20.00 ♦



## Mr. Nice Guy

Last March, we had a hurricane force wind here on the Island. Knocked out power to thousands for many days.

You couldn't rent or buy a generator from Nanaimo to Campbell River. In our Woodlot, we lost many big veteran firs and lots of co-dominants around



the edge of cutblocks. One of our WL neighbours had two hefty hemlocks uproot and fall on his house. We were going to bring the EX 150 Hitachi in to salvage our own blowdown so I offered to unload the low-bed at his gate and walk the hoe up to his house, lift off the two trees and carry on to the woodlot through his orchard and back field.

"So, your bridge over the creek? Strong enough for the hoe?"

"Yup! Six twelve by twelves. Creosoted. Had a full cement truck over it."

Well, what ol'Gordon failed to say that while the big timbers were new to him when he built his little crossing, they had been under the Tsolum River Bridge for a previous life AND the cement truck that passed over was eleven years ago.

Charlie hopped in his machine and started to ease it across. He has been working for us nearly all the time we have had our WL and I am constantly amazed at the skill and dexterity he manages with the machine. Halfway across we heard a creak, then a loud crack. I looked up to see Charlie's eyes wide and round as headlights. Then with an immense crunch, fifteen tons of machine and bridge snuggled down between the abutments. Charlie stepped out on the tracks, kicked the timbers now exposed rotten cores and said, "Well, !@##&\*!!"

We called the lowbed back with a bigger hoe, endured the ribbing of both drivers, lifted the end of the 150 and walked it out, removed the trees, and slunk through the orchard to the Woodlot not really caring about the grass.

Harold Macy W1677

Headquarters Creek Woodlot Ltd., Merville, BC ♦

*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](mailto:cjmclary401@gmail.com).*

## ■ from page 5

other licensees and myself so at the very least we can predict the potential impact of the changes and have an opportunity for providing input.

### Extended Road Amortization Issues - Road Subcommittee

The first meeting of the road subcommittee took place on Nov 1, 2012. The FBCWA has a seat on this committee primarily due to the potential for changes to Extend Road Amortization agreements. The main issue that could impact woodlots is how mainline roads (those that provide access to more than one cutting permit) should be appraised. For many years the use of ERA agreements has been used to manage long-term road costs. The use of ERA's and other road issues are being reviewed by the committee.

The importance of the existing ERA's to the estimated 30% of Coastal Licensees who have them is well understood by Timber Pricing staff and industry representatives. We have had assurances that any changes to ERA's in the Coastal Appraisal Manual will include language that respects and protects the existing agreements. Through our seat on this road committee we will have an opportunity to participate and evaluate any changes that are being proposed.

### Coastal Timber Pricing Advisory Committee

The Coastal Timber Pricing Advisory Committee (CTPAC) has been meeting via conference calls. These meetings are still primarily related to MPS items that are technical and very specific.

### 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](mailto:ehughes2@shaw.ca). ♦



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

**RULES & REGULATIONS**

1. Applications for this award must be received on or before April 26, 2013. Late applications will not be considered.
2. Applicants must be a direct family member of a woodlot licensee or private land owner who is a member of the local Woodlot Association and/or the FBCWA. In cases where the woodlot is not owned by an individual, one applicant per woodlot is eligible to apply in any given year.
3. Applicants must be planning to attend a post secondary institution within 24 months of the application deadline.
4. Preference will be given to students in grade 12 and recent high school graduates.
5. Preference will be given to students entering a forestry-related program. Students entering other areas of study are welcome to apply, knowing there is preference for forestry related study.
6. 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.
7. Essays or letters and photos from applicants, particularly the successful applicant, may be printed in the Almanac.
8. The decision of the Awards Committee is final.
9. The Award Committee of the Federation of B. C. Woodlot Associations will be empowered to:
  - a) grant this award at its discretion;
  - b) withhold this award in any year if there are no eligible applicants, or for any reason deemed good or advisable.

**IMPORTANT**

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

1. A letter describing the reasons which you feel qualify you for this award. Your letter should also include a detailed description of your experience in forestry, particularly on woodlots. Your letter may include information about your various interests and extra curricular activities.
2. The Federation believes more woodlot licences should be held and managed by younger people. With that in mind, write a mock letter to the Minister of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations presenting the reasons why you believe government should adopt a policy that supports awarding WLs to young persons.

*Background:*

*With the exception of some WLs that are awarded directly to First Nations, most new WLs are advertised and awarded through a competitive process. Award decisions are based on the following criteria: 50% lump sum cash bonus bid, 25% private land inclusion and 25% proximity of the applicants primary residence to the crown land portion of the Woodlot Licence area. The lump sum bid and private land criteria tend to favour older persons who have accumulated some wealth over their lifetimes, and makes it difficult for young people to compete and acquire a WL.*

3. Two letters of reference from previous or current teachers or employers,
4. A copy of your most recent report card, and
5. A recent photo of yourself.

Return to: Federation of B.C. Woodlot Associations  
Attention: Nancy Pezel, Treasurer  
173 W. Hoylake Road,  
Qualicum Beach, British Columbia V9K 1K3

Or send it digitally to [islandswest@shaw.ca](mailto:islandswest@shaw.ca) with a subject heading of FBCWA Scholarship Application

**Applications must be received by April 26, 2013**



**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 2012-13: \_\_\_\_\_

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

\_\_\_\_\_

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

\_\_\_\_\_

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

\_\_\_\_\_

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**Thank you**  
to our contributors for this issue

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Brett Hanson  
Ed Hughes  
Rod Krimmer  
Harold Macy  
Cliff Manning  
Brian McNaughton



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

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.

*We wish all Woodlotters the very best in the New Year!*



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