



THE WOODLAND ALMANAC



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Winter 2013

Father & son woodlot management team High visibility woodlot demands excellence

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by Ron Grech
(This article originally appeared in the Working Forest and is reprinted with permission.)

Changes in woodlot management reporting spurred George Benwell and his son George Jr. to bring in a corporate partner last year.

The Benwells hold a woodlot licence under the name Edwell Holdings and manage 600 hectares of Crown land in the Three Valley Gap area, just west of Revelstoke, in southeastern British Columbia. They also have an additional 30 hectares of privately owned forest in that area. The Benwells are known for their high standard of forest management, as their woodlot is located in a highly visible traffic corridor.

Edwell Holdings was incorporated in 1984. Up until last year, the father-and-son team managed and harvested the woodlot themselves, along with a single employee.

"Last year, we decided to co-manage with a local company, Stella-Jones,"



George Benwell Sr. and Jr.

explained George Sr. "It's an international company and they have a presence here in Revelstoke."

Stella-Jones is now doing about 60 per cent of the harvesting under a management role contract while George Sr. and his son are doing the rest.

"Part of the reason we got into that was the

administration was getting so complicated with rules and regulations. It's getting more difficult for a small licensee to do all along with all the work that is required in the bush," said George Sr.

He said back when he and his former partner Gordon Edwards founded Edwell Holdings, "it was a very, very straight forward type of administration we had to do. Our report was done manually and it was very simplistic. We filled out a form and sent them a map where we were harvesting."

Now, much of the reporting is done on computer-based systems and done well

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A new Administrative Framework worth the effort

by *Brian McNaughton*

My apologies for not having a GM report in the Fall 2013 edition of the Almanac. I have a good excuse! I was off having back and neck surgery done and can assure you that I was in no condition to write a report! Thank you to all who picked up the slack while I was away and for all the get-well wishes. I'm happy to report that the operations were successful and I'm well on my way to recovery!

It was disappointing to miss the AGM. From everything I hear it was a great success with a big turnout, wonderful venue, awesome field trips, lively discussion, and lots of audience participation. I was also pleased to hear that Minister Thomson was able to attend. I understand that during his speech he expressed support for pursuing the Federation's concept for significantly improving WL administration in the future by incorporating the management plan, woodlot licence plan, cutting permit and road permit into the woodlot licence document. This is something that you may not have heard much about so let me explain!

Woodlot licences are one of the smallest, yet most numerous, forest tenure in BC. The Federation constantly hears from the Ministry that they consume a disproportionate share of resources to administer. I can recall former Minister Coleman saying that WLs consumed 8% of Ministry resources for only 2% of the cut!



Brian McNaughton,
General Manager

From the Federation's perspective, the current WL administrative model is already cumbersome and inefficient and, in our view, is going to become

an even bigger issue in the future. Government downsizing is going to continue and there will be fewer staff. Fewer staff operating under the one land manager regime will result in the most troublesome tenures and highest priorities getting the lions' share of staff and resources. This means that there will be less staff and other resources available to administer WLs. For woodlot licensees, the costs of goods and services will likely continue to rise in the future making the option of adding more of the administrative burden onto licensees unacceptable.

A new WL administrative framework needs to be developed 'today.' The challenge is to develop an administrative framework that will consistently and continuously ensure good management and administration without unduly burdening woodlot licensees. In doing so, the public's interest must be upheld, legal obligations and licensee responsibilities must be clearly stated, and duplication and unnecessary work must be eliminated.

The vision, or concept, presented by the Federation and endorsed by the Minister is to incorporate the approval

of the management plan and woodlot licence plan, and issuance of a cutting permit(s) and road permit(s), into the statutory decision-making process for the award of a new or replacement woodlot licences. As it currently sits, the approval of each plan and issuance of each permit is a separate and stand-alone statutory decision. The decision-making processes are time consuming and expensive. They are often done at different times, which means plans have to be revisited before permits can be issued. Referrals and consultations are often repetitive.

Since these plans and permits pertain to the same small area, it makes good sense to look into the possibility of consolidating their approval or issuance under the woodlot licence document. In other words, issuance of the licence includes plan approvals and permits to log and build roads. Not only would the number of statutory decisions be reduced, the review of plans and permits would be done at the same time thereby creating a better linkage between planning and operations (permits).

This is not going to be a simple or quick task. It involves legislation and regulation, policies, procedures, business process, reporting systems, etc.; i.e. virtually all aspects of business under a woodlot licence. It's going to take some time but when we get it all figured out, it will be well worth it! ♦

Executive Committee working for you

by Mark Clark

The forest sector continues to rebound, slowly. Competition for logs is not getting much stronger, but generally pricing across the Province seems to be improving. Closure of both large and small milling operations continue to plague the pine beetle areas, and most pundits predict further closures as the provincial harvest adjusts to the long term sustainable harvest level. On individual woodlots, the process is much more brutal, as most Licensees recalculate their harvest level on a 5 year cycle, following a full inventory update. So the beetle impacts aren't averaged across a large landbase and the fall down comes quickly. The recently updated Woodlot 4 Windows software provides Licensees with the latest growth models and some useful tools to look at their AAC and optimize it to suit their needs. More information on Woodlot 4 Windows can be found on page 178 of this Almanac; and don't forget that Mike Bandstra is available to answer your questions and provide support (mbandstra@forsite.ca or 250-847-4822).

Your executive is at the start of the annual budgeting process, leading up the Directors meeting in early March. We now have much improved financial reporting processes in place. The \$380,000 FBCWA budget is 59% spent at Feb 1 2014, but a major expense pending is the March Directors



Mark Clark
President

meeting. We are planning to use some remote access technology to both increase Director participation and reduce costs. Projections to year end are that we will end the 2013/4 year slightly under budget and will have met or exceeded all the funded objectives from the Work Plan.

The FBCWA's Contracting Out Policy states that the Federation's executive committee will decide the manner in which all contracts will be awarded; e.g. direct award, open tendering (publicly advertised), selected invitation to bid or via a request for proposal. We currently have 9 contract positions.

Your executive committee acknowledges that making contracting opportunities available from time to time is a good way of ensuring fresh views and ideas are brought forward and that opportunities are presented to others. As such, the decision to not extend or renew an existing contract is not a reflection on the current contractor. The executive is also aware there are times when it would not be in the Federation or its members' best interest to change contractors; e.g. in the midst of resolving an issue or at a critical stage of an important

initiative. The other factor is the limited amount of volunteer time and effort available to deal with evaluating contract proposals. During its August conference call, your executive committee decided to formalize the review schedule for our 9 contract positions, and to deal with a maximum of 2 contract awards per year. As such, we are currently reviewing the Coastal and Interior Stumpage folio's with a target for signing at March 31 2014.

The issue of late Annual Rent billings continues to evolve in the Nadina and Prince George Districts. The Government maintains the position that they have the right to bill at any time, but some Licensees contend sending annual rent bills 7 to 9 years after the fact is administratively unfair and punitive.

I hope you all have a great Spring season, get all your logs sold, and all your trees planted in 2014. ♦



NOTICE: For an excellent article on Licensee Responsibilities when it comes to appointing and managing Prime Contractors, see the Winter 2014 issue of the Truck Logger BC Magazine, www.tla.ca ♦

TAB rate system is working

by Ed Hughes

The FBCWA has over time pursued many different initiatives based on direction from their members. At this year's AGM, the coastal members were clear in their position that the TAB rate system is and has been working for Woodlot Licensees. Clear direction has been given to support and protect the current TAB system.

Stable stumpage rates over the past few years has helped refocus Licensee planning time and effort commitments towards forest management and operations. Licensees are working steady and are making investments within the small scale forest sector, helped by TAB rates.

We all should pay attention towards a time in the future when TAB rates increase (due to steady upward pressures) and log prices fluctuate downwards. Some thoughts on future stumpage rates are noted below. Input from readers will help to plan for the future.

Coastal Appraisal Manual was approved for implementation on January 1, 2014.

The coastal appraisal manual was approved on time and distributed to all Coastal licensees on December 20, 2013. Copies are available off the Timber Pricing web site at: <http://www.for.gov.bc.ca/hva/manuals/coast.htm>



Ed Hughes,
Coastal Timber Pricing
Coordinator

Coast MPS and Timber Pricing

Advisory Committees:

There have been regular conference calls over the past three months related primarily to the CAM updates and implementation.

Future Stumpage rates:

The past few years of TAB stumpage rates have helped

improve the Woodlot business model, making Licences more valuable. It is possible now to appraise a Woodlot based on past sales value. The past few years of bidding results demonstrate that there are numerous interested parties in woodlot opportunities all over the lower coast. Indications that Woodlots are part of the short term improvements that are occurring within the forests sector are very evident within the urban/rural fringe. We all hope that this trend continues. My advice is to prepare for the worst and hope for the best case scenarios.

The impact of increased stumpage rates over the next few years should be evaluated in woodlot licence operational planning. What will happen if rates are higher and market values decrease? Is there a plan to deal with the inevitable higher stumpage and lower market value for our logs? Which species or products are likely to fluctuate the most? For those who still have Extended Road Amortization agreements, when is the right time to apply? Woodlots have flexibility in cut control, which can assist in reducing the future financial impacts of worst

case scenarios.

It is well worth the time spent evaluating the different timber pricing scenarios to manage for the potential impacts. Take some time to plan for good and bad timber pricing impact scenario's. Preparing flexible plans that assist woodlots to continue to develop as viable forest tenure options for many areas of the coastal forest land-base, is a good trend to have continue.

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. ♦



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. ♦

2014 Forest Capital of BC: Make 2014 the year to celebrate forestry in your community.

For more information: www.abcfp.ca ♦

Mill strata conversions

by Blain Arnett

There are some interesting reports and articles regarding lumber demand, future lumber prices, and timber supply. In the previous Almanac issue it was noted June 2013 lumber prices (in \$US/mbf) were \$280, with October at \$350. January prices are in the \$360 to \$380 range. Generally lumber prices show strength from January through to the spring inventory buying season. It will be interesting to see what the price is in April/May 2014.

Some lumber magazine articles are reporting that North American lumber mills are reaching capacity for production of stud lumber, with ramping up of idle mills and extra shifts still available. However, access to additional volumes of affordable timber is going to be limiting. As US housing starts continue to increase over the next 5 years, supplying lumber to meet demand is a big question. When mills approach 100% capacity after 2015, demand is forecast to exceed lumber supply. Price increases and variability over a 5 year period are predicted. But let's not get too far ahead of ourselves, as stated in the last report \$450 a



Blain Arnett,
Interior Timber Pricing
Coordinator

thousand by the end of 2014 is the first target.

On the logging side of business, please be well aware of how mill strata conversions affect your AAC logged volume. The strata conversions your wood is delivered into are used to determine AAC volume.

These strata conversions may be significantly different than the log purchase conversion the mill is using to pay for your wood. You may have green wood converting at 1.200 m³ per MT for your payment and deliveries, but the logs may be going into a stratum that has a conversion of 1.400 m³ per MT. This type of difference will cause you to reach 100% of your AAC faster than you may be anticipating, logging more than 120% can easily happen.

The woodlot licensee is responsible for meeting cut control volumes, not the mill, and not the logger. Ask the mill what the strata conversions are, and get your wood put into a stratum that most closely matches its profile and weight. You should ask the mill to sample a load early in the delivery period, to see if your wood is matching what you are expecting. Once the wood is scaled and put into a

stratum it can not be taken out. Make sure log buyers and mill managers understand how important the effects of strata conversions are on woodlot AAC billed.

Woodlot stumpage rates have gone up from the May 1, 2013 rates. We are in an up trend due to the overall higher timber sale stumpage rate bids and lumber markets over the past 12 months.

The current Table 6-2 rates effective November 1, 2013, are shown at the end of this report. You may also check the Woodlot Federation website for the stumpage rate table. The November 1 table is used to determine the stumpage rate for new cutting permits approved after November 1, 2013. The stumpage rates in the November table are based on average billed stumpage rates from October 1, 2012 to September 30, 2013. Existing cutting permits approved on, or before, October 31, 2013, have fixed stumpage rates based on the previous May 1, 2013 rate table.

If you have any questions, comments or good log prices let me know, phone at 250-964-4105 or email at greggcreek@shaw.ca. ♦

Woodlot Stumpage Table 6-2 Rates (November 1st, 2013)

Forest Zone	Bl	Cw	Fd	Hw	Lw	Pl	Sw	Py	Other
N. Central	1.71	other	2.44	other	other	1.61	2.16	other	1.98
North East	0.85	other	other	other	other	0.69	0.82	other	0.77
North West	0.86	0.34	other	0.60	other	1.28	0.88	other	0.91
South East	1.48	2.47	2.02	1.95	2.14	1.74	1.61	1.64	1.82
South West	1.85	2.78	1.92	1.86	other	2.25	1.85	other	2.02

The Forest Zones in Table 6-2 are made up of the following Forest Districts:

North Central: FSJames, Mackenzie, Nadina, Prince George, Quesnel and Vanderhoof.

North East: Ft. Nelson and Peace.

North West: Kalum and Skeena Stikine.

South East: Arrow, Columbia, Headwaters, Kamloops, Kootenay Lake, Okanagan Shuswap and Rocky Mountain.

South West: 100 Mile House, Cascades, Central Cariboo, and Chilcotin.

Seasoned drivers benefit from refresher driver training too, come rain, snow or shine!

For many forestry workers, driving on resource roads is second nature – coping with the unexpected, shifting road surfaces, tight corners, narrow passes, and often less than ideal conditions. So it may come as some surprise that even when these seasoned drivers head off to a driving course, they are genuinely pleased at the benefits they take away.

“I think all drivers become comfortable with their driving habits – both good and bad – and we become accustomed to responding in our usual way. Taking a driving course forces you to step out of your comfortable driving routines and really think about new and possibly better ways to do things. It also gives you the opportunity to further improve on good skills and performance,” said BC Forest Safety Advisor, Stacey Sproule.

“For me personally, the braking training really hit home. I know all the theory of how to react and handle a large, loaded log truck in difficult situations, but putting it into practice, being talked through changing conditions and possible responses and consequences by experts, is something you can’t get outside of refresher hands-on training,” she said.

A few things to always consider so that you are prepared to respond to whatever challenges you might face on resource roads include:

1. Preparation and planning: never cut back on planning the day before.



Know where you are going, complete your pre-trip inspection, and make sure you are well rested, have all your snacks and fluids ready to go, along with where you plan to stop safely, take a break and stretch your legs.

2. Driving position and posture: make sure that you are in the optimal position to be ready to respond to any eventuality.
3. Minimize distractions: keep the cab of your vehicle tidy, secure loose items, and keep your focus on the road ahead – not just 3 to 5 seconds ahead, but 12 seconds or more, learning to constantly better anticipate potential consequences by giving your eyes and brain more time to decode visual cues up ahead.
4. Steering technique: Standard airbags in many vehicles mean hand over hand steering can now result in serious face and body injuries. Learn how to implement safer, more controlled push-pull steering techniques.

5. Self-checks and the right attitude: If your mind wanders or you don’t remember the last kilometre, find the next safe spot to stop, pull-over and take a break. Walk. Stretch. Relax. And, remember driving is a responsibility that is only well-served with the right attitude – patience, courtesy, alertness and good common sense.
6. Drive to the road and weather conditions. For poor weather always allow yourself much larger and longer stopping distances, and always reduce speed.

You hold the keys. Use them when you know you’re ready. Drive safe. You have a family, friends and colleagues that care that you arrive, alive.

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

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. ♦

Boundary Woodlot Association

by George Dore

The Boundary Woodlot Association held a successful and very informative AGM on Saturday January 11th. It was well attended with 21 of approximately 33 licensees, 6 guests and even a licensee from the Shuswap Okanagan (South Okanagan area). Lunch and refrescoes were included.

Guests and presenters included the MFLNRO, log buyers, and the local reporter (Boundary Creek Times) who puts his synopsis of our meeting in the next week's local paper.

The MFLNR presentations were on the new naming of our District, which very soon will be known as the Selkirk Forest District. They also provided some insights on the new Edgewood Woodlot Licence which went to a logging contractor (2 woodlot licences bid on it but were unsuccessful). It is facing some issues so taking a while to be awarded.

We had a fantastic presentation from Mike Lynn (Celgar chip buyer). He outlined the new log chip facility and operation we have in Midway, etc.

And reports from Kalesnikoff, Interfor, and Vaagens, thus 5+ points of view when you consider Interfor's Castlegar ops. Wood prices will not vary much, it seems this year, from where they are, due to the low chip price, i.e., \$60/m³ F/L-\$65 PL/S and \$80 for peeler type wood.

Celgar is paying \$26 for small material delivered to Midway for chips.

Discussions included 2 resolutions to be forwarded to FBCWA at the next AGM-undercut carry-forwards and FN consultation process simplification; Waste and Residue courses; Lidor inventories and a summer meeting.

A Library checkout system for Woodlot CD's was established so members can access the CDs free. The BWA donated \$50 to Midway Library as goodwill! ♦

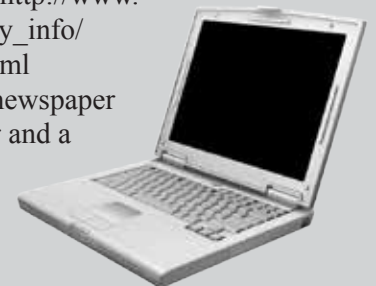
Woodlotter's Tricks of the Trade

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 cjmccclary401@gmail.com or call her at 250-961-0271. The licensee whose idea gets published each issue will receive a FBCWA hat or Shirt. ♦

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. ♦

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
- The Working Forest newspaper offers an e-newsletter and a newspaper on small-scale forestry across Canada: www.workingforest.com ♦



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after the land has been harvested.

“There is a professional forester on Stella Jones’ staff who does results reporting all the time,” said George Sr.

He and his son felt it just made more sense to delegate government administration details to someone who is dedicated to that function and does that kind of reporting all the time. George Jr. became a partner with his dad only after the other co-founder Edwards decided to get out of the business and sell his shares.

“Gordon and I had the woodlot licence for 10 to 12 years,” said George Sr. “Then he decided he didn’t want to continue so he sold his shares to my son.”

With Stella-Jones now contracted to do more than half the work, the company is able to harvest some of the wood destined for its cedar pole mill in Revelstoke.

“We sell our wood to four different companies” including Stella-Jones, explained George Sr. “Our pulp wood goes to Zellstoff Celgar. They have a pulp mill at Castlegar.”

The fir and hemlock goes to Canoe Forest Products which has a plywood plant in Salmon Arm. And the cedar saw logs go to a small manufacturing plant called North Enderby Timber.

The Benwells operate in the interior west belt of B.C. where hemlock and cedar are the primary



George Benwell Sr.

forest species.

“We do have some Douglas fir and western white pine as well. We don’t have any lodgepole pine where we are, so we were spared the (mountain pine) beetle problem” that has devastated much of the province’s forests.

Over the years, the Benwells have always been receptive to school visits and international foresters touring their woodlot and viewing their operation.

They have visiting foresters from Hungary, Tasmania, Sweden, Germany and Scotland.

George Sr. said often during these tours, they will get into discussions

about different forestry practises and share information. He said he finds these visits just as educational for him as they are for his visitors.

“We’ve also encouraged school visits. We have an ongoing school program where schools will bring their students come to see what we’re doing. We want to keep that going.”

For a recent group of Grade 7 students, “We showed them how we take tree heights and tell the age of trees ... We felled a couple of trees for them.”

He added in the long term, “We hope it stimulates some interest in the industry and creates more awareness of what’s going on in the bush around them.” ♦



Thank you
to our contributors for this issue

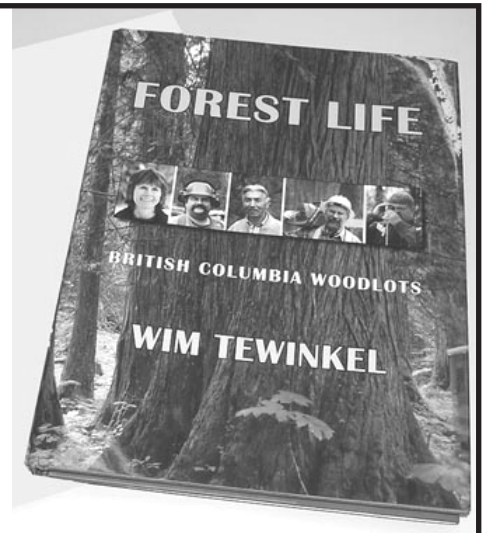
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“Forest Life” makes a great gift

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 ♦





Scholarship Award Information and Application Form

RULES & REGULATIONS

1. Applications for this award must be received on or before April 25, 2014. Late applications will not be considered.
2. Applicants must be a direct family member of a woodlot licensee or private land owner who is a member of the local Woodlot Association and/or the FBCWA. In cases where the woodlot is not owned by an individual, one applicant per woodlot is eligible to apply in any given year.
3. Applicants must be planning to attend a post secondary institution within 24 months of the application deadline.
4. Preference will be given to students in grade 12 and recent high school graduates.
5. Preference will be given to students entering a forestry-related program. Students entering other areas of study are welcome to apply, knowing there is preference for forestry related study.
6. **Two scholarships, one for \$2,000.00 and one for \$1,000.00 will awarded to the top two ranked applications.**
7. The awards will be payable on receipt by the FBCWA of documentation confirming registration into the institution for post secondary education. This generally occurs in mid September.
8. Essays or letters and photos from applicants, particularly the successful applicant, may be printed in the Almanac.
9. The decision of the Awards Committee is final.
10. The Award Committee of the Federation of B. C. Woodlot Associations will be empowered to:
 - a) grant this award at its discretion;
 - b) withhold this award in any year if there are no eligible applicants, or for any reason deemed good or advisable.

IMPORTANT

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

1. A letter describing the reasons which you feel qualify you for this award. Your letter should also include a detailed description of your experience in forestry, particularly on woodlots. Your letter may include information about your various interests and extra curricular activities.
2. Woodlot Licenses are popular forest tenures that have gained public acceptance over time. In a one page (approximately 500- 700 word) type-written essay describe what improvements could be made to the woodlot license program and/or promotions to maintain or increase public opinion. This is an open ended topic so you can decide how to approach it.
3. Two letters of reference from previous or current teachers or employers,
4. A copy of your **most recent** report card, and
5. A recent photo of yourself.

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

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

Applications must be received by April 25, 2014



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 2013-14: _____

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.)

Introducing the Council of Forestry Contractors of British Columbia

Membership:

The member associations are listed below. They represent companies and individuals that provide services and products to the forest industry.

- Central Interior Logging Association
- Federation of BC Woodlot Associations
- Interior Logging Association
- North West Loggers Association
- The Truck Loggers Association
- Western Silvicultural Contractors' Association

Principle:

The member associations recognize that collectively they have greater strength and profile than they would have individually in areas of advocacy and communication with government, other parts of the industry and the public.

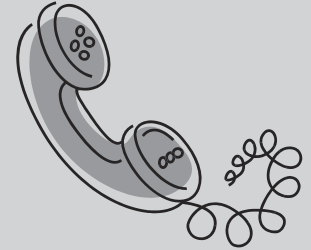
Purpose & Scope:

The purpose of the CFCBC is to co-operatively identify and co-ordinate joint activities to further the following mutual goals:

- **Promote common interests** with all levels of government, the forestry industry in general, other resource industries, First Nations and the public.
- **Develop and apply joint communications strategies** that achieve our objectives and strengthen our collective efforts in areas of advocacy and input into government policies, legislation and regulation, agency actions (WorkSafeBC, CVSE, BCFSC, etc.) and industry procedures.
- **Identify threats and opportunities** that may affect members of our organizations, and develop strategies and actions to address them.
- **Provide an on-the-ground “watchdog” role** to determine if policies, regulations and procedures by government, other agencies and industry that affect members of our associations are effectively achieving what they are intended to do, and develop actions to correct them if they don't. ♦



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. ♦



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 ♦

Please note:

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



Contractor's Corner

The FBCWA contracts a number of qualified people to work on projects that benefit all woodlot licensees. Projects are consistent with the activities approved in the annual work plan and are funded by the WPDC levy. In each issue of the Almanac this space will be dedicated to introducing the contractors, or FBCWA committee heads and executive members who oversee the contracts. Introducing...

Sara Lynn Grady, Writer
In Other Words
www.in-other-words.ca

Sara is a professional writer and editor who's worked with dynamic businesses across a wide range of sectors: high tech, fine arts, medicine, manufacturing, non-profit, start-ups, human and natural resources. She's been a writer and photographer for the Federation of BC



Woodlot Associations and the Woodlot Product Development Council since 2010 and, among other things, provides feature stories for the Woodlot Communicator and Woodland Almanac. She thoroughly enjoys working with the diverse individuals in the Woodlot program and sharing their stories with readers throughout the province. ♦

Special Project Funding Available

The annual work plan has an allotment of \$25,000 for Special Projects that will benefit woodlot licensees. If you have an idea for a project, submit a proposal to the Woodlot Product Development Council. Once submitted, proposals will trigger a discussion between the Council, Federation and proponent(s). The project proposal form can be found at: <http://www.woodlot.bc.ca/wpdc.html#projects>. ♦

Letter to the Editor

Dear members of the Federation of BC Woodlot Associations:

This letter is to thank you for the honour bestowed on me at your last Annual General Meeting in Campbell River.

Being awarded Life Membership # Six (#6) was truly, and completely, unexpected and is something that I will always treasure. During my 18 year career with the Forest Service (and all its various names), I felt that the Woodlot Licence Program provided value to the province and its communities. I still feel that way.

Further, I believe that the program and its members have much untapped potential to provide much more value to the province – playing an important role in achieving the triple bottom line of social, environment and economic benefits, both in your communities and beyond.

My goal was to improve the program and provide benefits both for government and for the licensee. Whatever I have accomplished, it has been done jointly – jointly with staff within the Forest Service (aka 'the ministry') and with woodlot licensees that spent time with me. This includes people previously involved in the program whose work has provided a basis for continuous improvement and life long learning. Some significant achievements are the Woodlot Licence Planning and Practices Regulation (WLPPR) and its associated Woodlot Licence Plan (WLP), tabular rates and one Cutting Permit, Woodlot for Windows and the Joint Working Group (JWG).

To all those licensees who have actively worked with both the Federation and the Woodlot Product Development Council (WPDC), thank you for your volunteer efforts. For those licensees who invited me to visit their woodlot licence and show me their passion, I thank you. While we did not always agree, the opinions expressed were informative, intelligent and always interesting.

Due to the mountain pine beetle, the collapse of the US market, currency exchange rates and other factors, our world has changed. While this has caused major hardship to some licensees, I do see some opportunities for all woodlot licences – different opportunities in different parts of BC and ones that will face different bureaucratic, biological and economic challenges. However, I remain optimistic that much good can be created.

I will remain in touch with members and the Federation and hope to see you at future field trips, meetings and on conference calls.

Yours truly,
David Haley, RPF, LM #6 ♦

Applying Agroforestry

by Integrating Native Riparian Shrub Products with Honey Bees

by Michael Murray

Woodlots in BC are commonly endowed with streams yet these riparian areas are seldom utilized. Woodlot owners can benefit from these corridors in several ways. Riparian zones can provide income by promoting native shrub and honey bee products following the principals of agroforestry. Not only is wildlife enhanced, but drinking water and fragile soils are protected when we manage riparian zones with care.



Mike Murray planting riparian areas with native shrubs

14 Many native shrubs grow berries and bark which are in demand for food and medicinals. When beehives are maintained in the vicinity, flowering shrubs benefit from honey bee pollination services while also providing bees with pollen and nectar for producing honey. Forested riparian buffers further complement hives by providing both a windbreak and surface water required by bees. Thus, sensitive riparian systems can be managed for economic benefit while protecting drinking water and wildlife habitat.

In much of BC a substantial market demand exists for locally grown products. The Murray Family woodlot near Slokan, BC (West Kootenays) has established a demonstration site where a riparian area is planted with three native shrubs. Cascara (*Rhamnus purshiana*) can grow up to 10 meters tall. Its bark is in demand as a natural laxative ingredient. High bush cranberry (*Viburnum opulus*) is needed for a variety of medicinal uses as well as sweet berries. Demand for tall Oregon-grape (*Mahonia aquifolium*)

is rising. It is used as a substitute for goldenseal due to a CITES listing. Similarly, in the West Kootenay region, demand for honey and wax is higher than the local supply.

This integrated riparian management system is currently applied to 2 acres with possible future expansion. Shrubs were planted with 10ft x 10ft spacing. The apiary has a capacity of 10 hives and is nearly surrounded by three streams. Two of these streams have multiple drinking water licenses.

An integrated riparian design is a hallmark of agroforestry which is a management approach combining familiar and new agricultural and forestry practices. Agroforestry systems usually follow one of five possible designs: 1) shade agroforests and forest farming, 2) sun agroforests and intercropping, 3) silvopasture, 4) timberbelts, or 5) integrated riparian management. Agroforestry strives to achieve diversification and sustainability of production and sensitive environmental assets.

Woodlot owners interested in riparian agroforestry may adapt similar designs

and select appropriate shrub species based on local site conditions. An excellent resource for information is the Agroforestry Industry Development Initiative (AIDI) which supports and networks operations in BC (www.agroforestry.info). The Federation of BC Woodlot Associations administers the BC (AIDI) with the guidance of the Agroforestry Management Committee, a group representing B.C.'s agroforestry sector including agricultural, forestry and provincial government representatives.

“A guide to Agroforestry in BC” provides useful designs and advise and is available at municipal libraries and online at www.woodlot.bc.ca/swp/Downloads/files/AgroforestryGuide.pdf.

For more information about the Murray Woodlot, check out murraywoodlot.weebly.com/streamside-honeybees.html, email mmtnsong@telus.net or call Michael Murray at 250-354-1412.

The Murray Family Woodlot gratefully acknowledges funding for this work received through the BC Agroforestry Industry Development Initiative. Funding for the AIDI has been provided by Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada through the Canadian Agricultural Adaptation Program (CAAP). In British Columbia, this program is delivered by the Investment Agriculture Foundation of BC. The Province of British Columbia provides in-kind support to the AIDI. The Federation of BC Woodlot Associations administers the AIDI with the guidance of the Agroforestry Management Committee. ♦

Waste e-FM Reporting How-To Manual

Another Woodlot e-FM User Guide has been published - the Waste Manual. Or rather, e-Waste Reporting for Woodlots Users Manual Ver 1.0

As you know, Woodlot Licences are legally required to survey and report waste and logging residue on completed harvest units. You can hire a service provided to look after it for you, or you can undertake to do it yourself. Note that "do-it-yourself" is attended by a list of conditions - see Section 2 of the new manual.

A stumbling block for many Licences has been the online reporting of waste survey results. The good news is that e-Waste is nowhere near as complicated as RESULTS. But it is still an e-FM system - and daunting to those who are new to it. That is what the Manual is for: to get you up and running, step by step and screen by screen.

The e-Waste manual is at:
<http://www.woodfor.com/WLGML/>

Or, just Google WLGML - the link is at the top of the list. ♦

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: a licensee's opinion

Garbage at the East 300 Gate

by Harold Macy

When I find a pile of someone else's garbage that I am going to have to deal with it is almost impossible for me not to cast myself into detective and solve the question Who?

Who were these folks who dumped these bags? It helps pass the time.

Still sort of in lust and still hanging together. Out of school and looking for work. Tired and depressed by the holiday. "Let's just blow out of your uncle's place eh?", she said. "Yeah, we should hit it. He won't be home til tonight though." "Let's just leave him a note." "What about Tim and Fuzzy?" "Well we can't leave them here!"

Then the bickering started. "How did we get here? What are we going to do? Maybe I can get a first aid ticket. With a ticket I could get a job. I'll bring this pamphlet." Then, the chaos of no plan. Just a rush to load and go.

"Why don't we take some of this food we helped buy?" A flat of beer from the back porch. All the store bought pizzas from the freezer (fifteen boxes!) "Maybe we can heat them up on the engine. I've heard of that trick."

For carrying small stuff, one of the veggie bins from Unc's fridge. "He never eats fruit or veggies anyway."

A few packs of smokes lifted out of the kitchen drawer. A case of Coke.



Some bowls to eat the boxes of cereal and to share with the pets. A bag of used kitty litter. A pumpkin in another plastic bag, now totally rotten and of no use to the ravens and beasts of all size who found this lot before I did.

A two slice toaster. And strangest of all, a very hefty bag of what appeared to be hair balls.

Once I got that all cleaned up, bagged and aboard, I said a prayer for sad travellers, out of their depth, even here on dry land.

I helped Pepper out of the car on a leash. She has to be lifted in and out now and often the move is painful for her. In this instance she was all smiles and wiggles to hit the ground. The SMELLS! "Oh just turn me loose boss. I can clean this up"..... Instead we took off around the gate and into the bush for a ways. Late winter afternoon sun beams found us through the tree tops to the west. Ice crystals a sparkling presence. A magic we could trail for a while off into the forest. ♦

BC's Best Managed Forests

BC's Best Managed Forests is the tag line the Federation uses to describe BC's Woodlot Licences. It's a lofty statement that requires the dedication and hard work of all woodlot licensees to achieve. According to the Forest Practices Board's (FPB) audit on forest planning and practices, that is precisely what eight (8) woodlot licences in the South Island Forest District did!

On behalf of the Federation, congratulations to:

- 564736 BC Ltd., dba Acacia Acres Farm (W0011)
- Vancouver Island University (W0020)
- Island-Roots Forestry Services Ltd. & High Lead Forest Management Ltd. (W1479)
- T'Sou-ke Limited Partnership (W1526)
- Stz'uminus First Nation (W1713)
- Hupacasath First Nation (W1902)
- Toquaht First Nation (W1903)
- Chemainus First Nation (W1906).

Mark Clark
President

16

The FPB's news release is below and the audit report can be found at: http://www.fpb.gov.bc.ca/ARC158_Audit_of_Forest_Planning_and_Practices_South_Island_District_Woodlots_8_Licences.pdf

NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release - Dec. 3, 2013

Audit of woodlots on Vancouver Island finds good practices

VICTORIA – An audit of forestry activities on eight woodlots on Southern Vancouver Island concludes the woodlot owners complied with B.C.'s forestry legislation, according to a report released today.

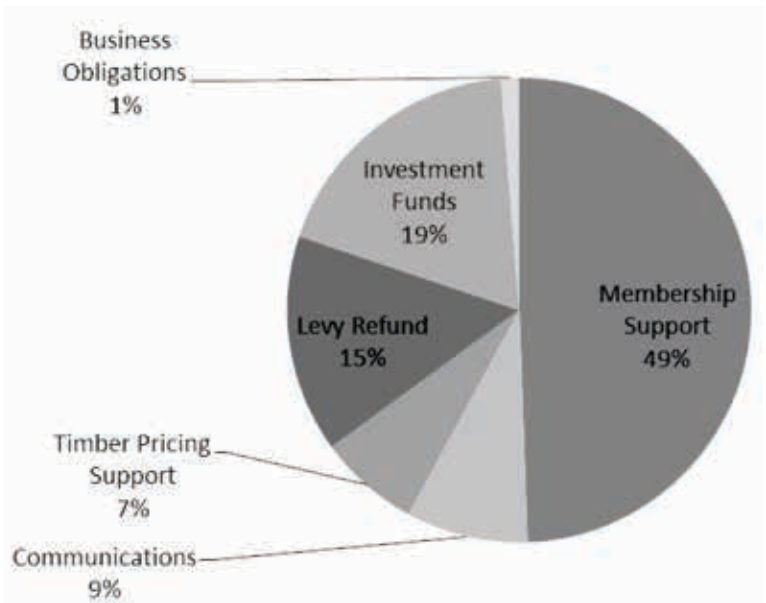
“These woodlots are managed by a variety of different types of licence holders, including a family, small forest companies, First Nations and Vancouver Island University,” said Al Gorley, board chair. “All of them demonstrated their commitment to sound forest management.”

The woodlots are located across the south island, with one near Ucluelet, three near Port Alberni, one near Nanaimo, two near Ladysmith and one near Sooke.

The Forest Practices Board is B.C.'s independent watchdog for sound forest and range practices, reporting its findings and recommendations directly to the public and government. The board audits forest and range practices on public lands and appropriateness of government enforcement. It can also make recommendations for improvement to practices and legislation. ♦

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. ♦





BRITISH COLUMBIA

The Best Place on Earth

MFLNRO OFFICIAL GOVERNMENT NOTICE BOARD

Woodlot for Windows

Woodlot holders now have access to a new timber supply modeling program. Woodlot for Windows

Version 4.0 (Woodlot 4.0) is now available at no charge for users to download from the Forest Tenures Branch website (FTB). Woodlot 4.0 has been enhanced to operate on the most current Windows based operating systems, incorporates the most recent timber growth and yield models such as VDYP7 and TIPSy 4.3, and has new display and reporting features. Woodlot 4.0 has maximum size and polygon area constraints removed so it can be used for Community Forest Agreement and First Nations Woodland Licence AAC determinations.

Woodlot 4.0, is a joint effort equally funded by the Federation of BC Woodlot Associations and the Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations (FLNRO). Woodlot 4.0 was produced by Enfor Consultants Ltd. with technical assistance provided by Forest Analysis and Inventory Branch, FLNRO staff along with Tom Bradley and Wolfram Wollenheit, of the FBCWA.

The FTB website includes instructions on how to download Woodlot 4.0, links to the user manual and other helpful information and nine recorded sessions (modules) to help users navigate their way through Woodlot 4.0. These modules were produced by Enfor Consultants Ltd. (via contract with government) and are freely available to external and internal users from the "Woodlot for Windows AAC Program" website - through a new hyperlink, "Woodlot 4.0 Support". ♦

The screenshot shows the official website for the Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations (FLNRO). The page is titled "Woodlot for Windows AAC Program". It provides information about the software, including that it is available at no charge and is a joint effort by the Federation of BC Woodlot Associations (FBCWA) and the Ministry. The page includes a "Note" about the software's requirements (Microsoft .Net framework version 4) and a "Disclaimer" regarding the accuracy of the harvest levels forecast. There are also links for "Documentation: User's Manual - Version 4.0" and "Support: Woodlot 4.0 Support".

Kenneth Devick



Mr. Ken Devick passed away peacefully at Vancouver General Hospital on November 3, 2013.

Survived by his wife Lois Devick (Gruending),

daughter Pam and son Reg, brother Terry and sister Annette Devick, nieces, nephews and cousins, as well as many friends and relatives.

He is predeceased by his father Ralph and mother Shirley Devick.

A Celebration of his life was held on Saturday, November 16, 2013 in the Heffley Creek Community Hall. In lieu of flowers, a donation to the Canadian Cancer Society, 280 W. Victoria Street, Kamloops, BC, V2C 1A4 in memory of Ken would be appreciated.

Message from Denise English, WPDC President:

I will especially miss Ken. He was a founding member of the WPDC who came back to Council. And I was fortunate enough that he returned to Council at the same time I started with Council. He was a valued corporate memory and for me he was a 'kind sage' who helped me navigate through my first year with Council. He will no doubt be missed by all the lives he touched.

Accomplishments:

- Ken helped write the original Development Plan for the Woodlot Product Development Council in 1997.
- Ken operated 100 head cattle ranch with his brother Terry near Knouff Lake approximately 25 miles north of Kamloops. The Ranch has been in the Devick family for over 100 years.
- Ken worked for the Ministry of Forests in the 1990's as a Fire Warden in the Kamloops district. He travelled the forest and rangeland enforcing fire regulations in the forest, camping areas and sometimes on private land during fire bands.
- Later, Ken became the Logistics Technician in Lands & Natural Resources Operations for the Wildfire Management Branch at the Kamloops Fire Centre, dispatching crews and equipment to wildfires.
- Also, in the early 1990's Ken went to work for the ministry of Agriculture as a Livestock Brand Inspector in the Kamloops and surrounding area. When Brand Inspection was transferred late in 1997 to industry control, Ownership Identification Inc., (OII) he also transferred to OII.
- Ken conducted farm inspections and slaughterhouse inspections for OII right up to September of 2013.
- Ken retired from the Ministry of Forests Lands & Natural Resources May 31 of 2013. ♦

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 cjmccclary401@gmail.com.

Federation of British Columbia Woodlot Associations' 27th and the Woodlot Product Development Council's 17th Joint Annual General Meetings and Conference

Rocky Mountain Way

Golden, BC

September 18 to 21, 2014

The Columbia Woodlot Association will be the host for the Federation of British Columbia Woodlot Associations' 27th and the Woodlot Product Development Council's 17th Joint Annual General Meetings and Conference.

Nestled between the Selkirk, Purcell and Rocky Mountains, and home to the confluence of the Columbia and Kicking Horse River, Golden is situated in the heart of six national parks. It is a beautiful place to visit, with breathtaking views and plenty for the outdoor enthusiast to do.

**Want trusted safety advice?
Best practices?
Confidential input?**

Contact your industry safety experts.
Email safetyadvisors@bcforestsafe.org
or call toll-free: 1-877-741-1060



BC Forest Safety Council

Unsafe is Unacceptable

www.bcforestsafe.org



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HOUSTON	Albert Seinen	250-845-5313
100 MILE HOUSE and KAMLOOPS	Mike Siclari	250-706-8141
QUESNEL and PRINCE GEORGE	Mike Sarabyn	250-991-5431
SMITHERS	Chris DeHoog	250-847-2656
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forestreeguy@yahoo.com
or (250) 694-3696



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www.landquest.com

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Property with Timber:
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woodlot opportunity.

See property on johnidegroot.com
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Westbridge BC 1-888-299-0592

WOODLOT 138 FOR SALE

5km Salmon River Road, Hazelton
No Private Land Requirement
Offers to \$240,000.00 Serious Enquiries Only

David Larson 250-842-6406 mr_dlarson@msn.com

- AAC of 1465
- Five year cut started in 2012- no wood harvested yet.
- New cutting permit over whole Woodlot expires April 1 2017 but may be renewed.
- Stumpage currently between \$.27 (Balsam) and \$1.05 (Pine)
- Woodlot License Plan in effect until Feb 28 2018
- All silviculture obligations up to date.

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 complimentary annual subscription is mailed to all advertisers.



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Fax: (250) 398-7642 • E-mail: gen_manager@woodlot.bc.ca
www.woodlot.bc.ca

WOODLOT PRODUCT DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL
THE WOODLAND ALMANAC
PO Box 23011 • Plaza 33 Postal Outlet
Kelowna, BC V1X 7K7
Tel: (250) 961-0271 • E-mail: cjmclary401@gmail.com