



THE WOODLAND ALMANAC



www.woodlot.bc.ca

Fall 2015

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Past and Future Intersect on Woodlot

by Sara Grady

Kevin Arnett has wanted to manage a slice of the forest for quite some time. He started working on his parents' woodlot five years ago, but the dream of having responsibility for his own land has been brewing for much longer.

That dream came to fruition this year when Kevin turned nineteen and took possession of Woodlot License #626, making him the youngest woodlotter in the program's 27-year history. And it's no ordinary woodlot.

The 600-hectare plot spreading west of Quesnel, like countless others in the region, is a shadow of its former self thanks to the ravages of the Mountain Pine Beetle. Nearly two thirds of the forest was wiped out, leaving sparse stands of spruce and fir.

Most woodlotters in BC can stagger their planting and harvest regimes, but for those recovering from the total devastation of the pine beetle the planting is done in broad



Kevin Arnett, 5th from left welcomes members from the Carrier Sekani First Nation to his Woodlot

strokes, and the harvest is an event on the distant horizon.

Such is the case for Kevin, who plans to plant the last of the recently logged beetle-damaged blocks, then focus on brushing for

the next few years. He expects it will be at least ten years before he can begin to assess harvesting prospects.

During that decade Kevin will be working closely with an important group of neighbours: the Nazko First Nation. His woodlot overlaps a region steeped in history and cultural heritage tracing back to at least 2200 BC.

The Carrier Sekani Nation, or Dakelh (meaning "people who go around by boat"), covers approximately 76,000 square kilometres in BC's north central interior and spans from the Pacific Ocean to the Rocky Mountains, encompassing 19 bands, including the Nazko.

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Retaining the Timber Harvesting Landbase

by Brian McNaughton

Like Timber Supply Areas, the timber harvesting land base (THLB) within woodlot licences continues to face downward pressures. Habitat preservation for species at risk, migratory birds, wildlife habitat features, trail designations, trail objectives, mining, oil & gas, recreation use, visual quality, water protection, etc. all have the potential to constrain or alienate the THLB. What makes this particularly important to WLs is what might be considered a minor impact in context of a TSA or a landscape is often, due to its small scale and fixed area, a major impact to a woodlot licence.

When the *Forest & Range Practices Act (FRPA)* and *Woodlot Licence Planning & Practices Regulation (WLPPR)* were created, one of the underlying tenets was to give the minister the power to advise licensees of certain resource values. A licensee would then require the licensee to amend their Woodlot Licence Plan and operations to accommodate the identified value(s) in ways and manners that were acceptable to the minister. To a certain extent, this approach appears to have been forgotten. Instead of allowing licensees to be innovative, adaptive and creative when it comes to managing for various resource values, government's tendency seems to be to issue orders and establish designations. The Federation continually advocates for integrated forest management on WLs and a 'give us a chance to manage for a value first' approach.



Brian McNaughton,
General Manager

In March 2015, Chief Forester Diane Nicholls released an information bulletin announcing the Provincial Stewardship Optimization/ Timber Harvesting Land Base (THLB) Stabilization Project as a fundamental opportunity under the province's Forest Competitiveness Initiative currently under development by Dave Peterson. The project's intent is to optimize stewardship while minimizing impacts and stabilizing the Timber Harvesting Land-Base (THLB). Preliminary work indicated that overlapping and managing for multiple values in more unified areas has less of an impact on the THLB. While the guidelines for THLB stabilization projects didn't specifically mention WLs, subsequent discussions confirmed that the Chief Forester believes that WLs could and should be part of the project. This is important for WLs. We often hear about the cumulative impacts of resource development on the environment, but rarely about the cumulative impact of environmental values on the THLB. This project represents an opportunity for WLs to illustrate and demonstrate how conscientious planning, innovation, adaptive management and alternative silviculture systems can be used to effectively manage for a range of resource values while minimizing the impact on a WL's THLB and allowable annual cut (AAC). ♦

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. ♦

Please note:

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



Adding Value

by Mark Clark

Every once in a while it's good to pause, step away from the day-to-day issues, and think about woodlots in the bigger picture. I did that the other day and concluded that Woodlots are a unique land managing tool, small and nimble, that can add social, environmental and economic value in ways that other land tenures can't.

Consider utilization standards. Nothing is more frustrating to a log selling woodlotter than a poor utilization standard; typically large top sizes or species restrictions. But with a four year cutting permit over the entire woodlot area, the seller now has increased flexibility. Add that a woodlot AAC is quite easily partitioned and deciduous species added to the sell list, and a woodlot can potentially add value in many market conditions.

What about Annual Allowable Cuts? The management assumptions and supporting inventory data, funded by each Licensee, are typically reviewed and updated at least twice as often as any other tenure. And any investment in thinning/fire proofing or improved utilization is therefore adding value quickly.

On the social side, woodlot licences often operate in close proximity to private land and even neighbouring homes. Because of their size, skill and the nature of woodlot operations, concerns about water quality, opening sizes, roads or grazing access are often averted. And the Woodlot Licence Plan clearly identifies those areas where harvest will occur and those areas where it will not. There is a realistic basis



Mark Clark
President

for local issues to be identified and hopefully resolved. The large volume based tenures certainly don't identify that kind of detail, at that scale, on a 20 year basis. The smaller woodlot tenure adds value to the landbase.

Think about it. We manage parcels of Crown and private land to provide a sustainable flow of timber and other benefits in perpetuity. In some cases, we do that within contentious or hard to manage areas that might otherwise not produce anything.

We are, and should be, proud of what we do!

That said, we live and work in a world that pays a lot of attention to what is, or is perceived to be, going wrong. Sadly, very little time is devoted to identifying and acting on opportunities and potential to improve and add more value. There's a lot more that can be done or improved upon. For example, is the land base productivity being fully realized, is enough intensive management being done, should more stands be fire proofed to protect

residents and communities, should there be less administration and more emphasis on forest management, etc.?

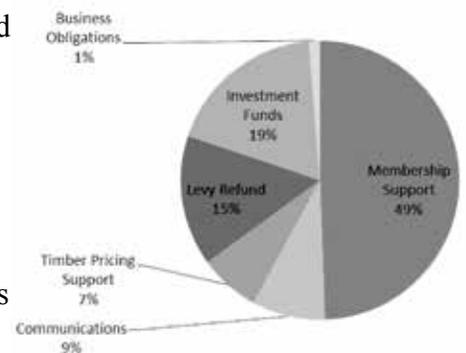
As I reflect back on all the good work the Federation has done and continues to do, I can't help but think that a priority going forward needs to be figuring out how we can generate even more value from Woodlots. What we are able to achieve today and tomorrow will benefit the future generation of woodlotter!

Speaking of the future generation, I would encourage new woodlot licensees to get involved in their local Association and the Federation. New people with fresh ideas are always welcome. If you're interested and want more information, contact Lisa Marak at 250.765.6156 or admin@woodlot.bc.ca. ♦

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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. ♦



■ Interior timber pricing

Interior Timber Pricing: New folks, confirming stumpage rates & see you in the Okanagan!

by Debbie Zandbelt, RPF

Log prices must be up... because everyone seems to be interested in stumpage rates these days! On top of woodlot licensees' plugging away at the economics: log or not to log: numerous new folks in my end of the business at Timber Pricing Branch. New people means new fresh looks at the policy. As much as most dislike the policy world: policy affects the economic decisions to log or not to log.

New folks at Timber Pricing Branch

Steve Kozuki has been posted to the new Director of Timber Pricing Branch. Steve was previously with BCTS in the Caribou and certainly has some industry perspective in his pocket. Allan Bennett is the new Manager of Timber Pricing. Allan is from industry in Quesnel and when I was talking with him – he knows the woodlot program and knows many woodlot licensees. So great news in my ears!

How is a stumpage rate confirmed on the internet?

The common question this summer was: How do I confirm my stumpage rate – there has to be a website somewhere, isn't there? Yes indeed there is. The Harvest Billing system



Debbie Zandbelt, RPF
Interior Timber Pricing
Coordinator

– managed by the BC government. It can be found at: <https://a100.gov.bc.ca/pub/hbs>. The good thing about this site is that it is a public site and secondly you don't need to have any username or passwords to access the wealth of information in it. To

confirm your stumpage rate simply go to the home page. Next, in the lower half of the page locate "Other Queries and Menu". Under that section (in green writing) select "Stumpage Rate Search". The information you need is your timbermark, species, product (logs), select a grade and scale date (use today's date if you want current information), and leave the rate return type as normal. Hit the submit button and the information should appear. If you need help, please feel free to give me a call (250-549-3089).

August 1, Stumpage rates redetermined

Woodlot cutting permits issued using Table 6-2 average sawlog stumpage rates are redetermined on August 1 of each year. The Interior Appraisal Manual Table 6-2 rates are updated bi-annually on May 1st and November 1st each year. The rates on August 1st will be redetermined based on the manual as currently approved (July 1, 2015). Be sure to check the table version before determining your rate.

It will have an impact on the stumpage payable.

Other news...

With the new section heads in Timber Pricing we have made an effort to ensure they are all up to speed on the Flat fee proposal for determining waste on woodlots. It is a file we are determined to keep afloat – so hope to hear a response back soon.

Being from the Okanagan I of course have to put a plug in for the AGM - which is just down the road in Kelowna this year. The organizers have selected a fabulous line up of speakers and October in the Okanagan is wondrous in many ways. Being from Alberta - I have learned to appreciate the fresh fruit and wine of the valley. So save a spot in your truck for a fresh case of apples! And see you there. ♦

The FBCWA has a number of items that would make great gifts for Friends, Family, Contractors and others on your list. Items in stock include Screen-printed logo on T-shirts and Coffee Mugs, Embroidered FBCWA logo on golf shirts, oilskin ball caps and knitted toques. Order through the WPDC coordinator, Cathy McClary. ♦

Stable TAB rates, industry relationships, and welcome to new faces

by Ed Hughes

Estimated TAB rates for 2016/17

Continued stable TAB rates for Woodlot Licensees is expected for 2016/17 based on projections to date. For many years now our rates under the TAB system have been stable, supporting the slow and steady success of the Coastal Woodlot program. The rates for 2016/17 are estimated (based on data to the end of July 2015 (7 out of 12 months)) in Table 1: Estimate TAB rates 2016/17.



Ed Hughes,
Coastal Timber Pricing
Coordinator

Over the past 30 years, during my involvement with Timber Pricing for woodlots, as a consultant, representatives of Coastal Woodlot Licensees and a Woodlot Licensee there has been a long and strong relationship built between major licensees and Woodlot Licensee Timber Pricing representatives. Starting with Al Hopwood, myself and John Marlow the working relationship with industry stumpage representatives has been developed and very important.

I would like to specifically recognize Larry Henkelman Manager of Timber Appraisals and Pricing with Western Forest Products. Larry has always been there to help when asked by the FBCWA representatives. When I request a projection of the average

stumpage rates it usually arrives within a day of my phone call or email to Larry. I make a point of calling Larry regularly to get a clear understanding of the issues that impact woodlot licensees. Coastal Licensees should recognize the contribution and assistance of Larry.

Larry graduated from UBC in 1975 (BSF), received his Master of Forestry degree from UBC in 1977. Becoming a Registered Professional Forester in 1978, has worked for Western Forest Products and predecessor company (Tahsis Co. Ltd.) since 1975. He has been involved with timber appraisals for almost 40 years. A founding member of the Coast Appraisal Advisory Committee (CAAC) now called the Coast Timber Pricing Advisory Committee (CTPAC).

Currently Larry is the chair of the Coast Forest Products Association Timber Pricing Committee and co-chair of the Coast MPS Technical Subcommittee. We are fortunate to have Larry on our side within the Timber Pricing coastal sector.

Director, Manager and acting Timber Pricing Forester have been announced:

After the mass exodus from the Timber Pricing branch this spring the

Major Licensee representatives cooperate with Woodlot Timber Pricing contractors – Past and present

**Table 1: Estimated TAB rates 2016/17
Average Sawlog Stumpage rates by district by species**

	BA	HE	CE	CY	FI	SP
Total						
Campbell River NRD	\$1.88	\$2.48	\$9.31	\$0.98	\$3.30	\$5.61
Chilliwack NRD	\$2.59	\$4.24	\$4.54	\$1.66	\$4.03	\$0.27
Coast Mountains NRD	\$2.07	\$2.38	\$2.20	\$2.33	\$3.93	\$2.06
Haida Gwaii NRD	\$3.72	\$0.77	\$1.98	\$1.12	\$0.35	\$0.99
North Island - Central Coast NRD	\$0.91	\$0.96	\$5.88	\$2.22	\$0.45	\$1.05
Sea to Sky NRD	\$0.29	\$0.26	\$0.27	\$0.34	\$0.31	\$0.25
South Island NRD	\$5.08	\$3.92	\$13.30	\$4.77	\$3.25	\$7.89
Sunshine Coast NRD	\$2.93	\$5.23	\$8.56	\$1.22	\$6.56	\$9.56
Grand Total	\$2.11	\$2.39	\$6.82	\$1.70	\$3.62	\$0.95
TAB estimates based on 30%	\$.63	\$.72	2.05	\$.52	\$1.09	\$.29

Table 1 provides the Projected Average Sawlog Stumpage Rates by District and Species for 2016 - Billed January to July 2015. These estimates are provide by a third party (Western Forest Products), using the data available to the end of July 2015. The final rates will be different once the entire calendar year of average sawlog stumpage rates by district and species are available. I provide this estimate prior to the FBCWA AGM to help woodlot licensees with future planning efforts.

Director and Manager have now been announced. The final selection for the Timber Pricing Forester position will likely be in September. The past few months have been an adjustment period for Timber Pricing Branch staff.

The new Timber Pricing Director is Steve Kozuki who has spent the past 3 years within the BCTS program and prior to that within industry. All of Steve's experience has been within the interior so will require some time to get a good handle on coastal Timber Pricing issues. I had an introductory phone call with Steve to welcome him to his new position.

The new Timber Pricing Manager is Allen Bennett who also comes from Industry. I have not yet talked to Allen, but I'm looking forward to meeting him through our involvement on the MPS and CTPAC meetings.

The acting Timber Pricing Forester (Coast) is Charlie Klasen.

Current Log Market Snap Shot: Keith Hall, Log Buyer and Operations Analyst with Coastland Wood Industries Ltd has provided log market snap shot for the fall of 2015. The domestic Cedar and Fir markets remain strong, Alder is decent, Hemlock and Cypress are depressed.

Cedar log prices are at record levels with sales continuing to edge higher. The main drivers of the market are weakness in the Canadian dollar and a general lack of log supply - the latter of which will continue to tighten into the fall until we see some significant rainfall. The general market consensus is we are close to a top, the big question is when is the

bubble going to pop??

As for **Douglas Fir**, the domestic market remains the best bang for your buck with peeler mills paying better than export prices in most cases (after fee in lieu). The Douglas Fir Export market has softened overseas as well as in the US. The US, with their strong dollar, are seeing better returns for logs in their own domestic market. This accompanied by the odd mill closure has their market over supplied, keeping American buyers of Canadian logs muted.

Both **Hemlock** export and domestic markets are generally poor. Export prices aren't too bad when you factor in our weak dollar, it's getting a sale that's the problem. China's recent currency devaluation and slower growth prospects are leaving some Chinese buyers holding off buying until the market finds its new bottom. Russian Red Pine lumber continues to flood into China which is also cutting into China's log imports.

Cypress markets remain weak with Japan strongly promoting their own domestic Yellow Cedar harvesting. Any outside supply needs are quickly filled leaving a supply and demand imbalance.

Pulp log markets have recently deteriorated with one Coastal pulp mill closed and another curtailed.

Coast MPS Advisory Committee: MPS advisory committee has not had a meeting in 2015 due to the retirements with the Timber Pricing branch.

Coast Timber Pricing Advisory

Committee:

The CTPAC has also not had a meeting since the retirements within the Timber Pricing branch.

Flat Fee for Woodlot Waste:

Debbie Zandbelt has made enquiries on the Flat fee proposal so review her almanac article for an update.

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. ♦

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. ♦



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



Come join us!

Wine, Woodlots & Wanderings

FBCWA's 28th and the WPDC's 18th Annual AGM & Conference
in West Kelowna on October 2-4, 2015

Wine

Boasting nearly 82 per cent of the total vineyard acreage in the province, the Okanagan Valley is BC's premier grape growing region. An ever-changing panorama, the valley stretches over 250 kilometers, across distinct sub-regions, each with different soil and climate conditions suited to a growing range of varieties.

From world-class operations to family-run boutique vineyards, Okanagan wineries are rich with character and consistently ranked among the world's best at International competitions.

Woodlots

Boundary Woodlot Association

The Boundary Woodlot Association covers an area from Christina Lake on the East side of the district to Anarchist Mountain on the West side and stretches from the USA border on the South to Big White at the North end of the District. Similar to the Okanagan Valley, the forest types go from Ponderosa Pine sites to high elevation Engelmann Spruce-Balsam. Many of our members are intensive style forest managers, living in the local communities adjacent to the woodlots, circulating the revenue derived from woodlots within the local economy which in turn helps to stabilize the local communities. Most woodlots in the Boundary are located in or near the Interface areas. Selection logging is the main harvesting practice but some clear cutting also takes place. Numerous licensees are committed individuals who provide opportunities for groups from the public, such as school groups, to go out on field trips to develop a better understanding of our forests. Within our woodlots fuel reduction through careful logging has reduced the potential for Rank 5 fires. It will be interesting to look at how some of the fire hazard reduction programs work and at what cost to the taxpayer on the field trip planned on Friday Oct.02.

The question will be, can the woodlot program be expanded into more of these areas and get similar results with a much lower cost to the taxpayer?

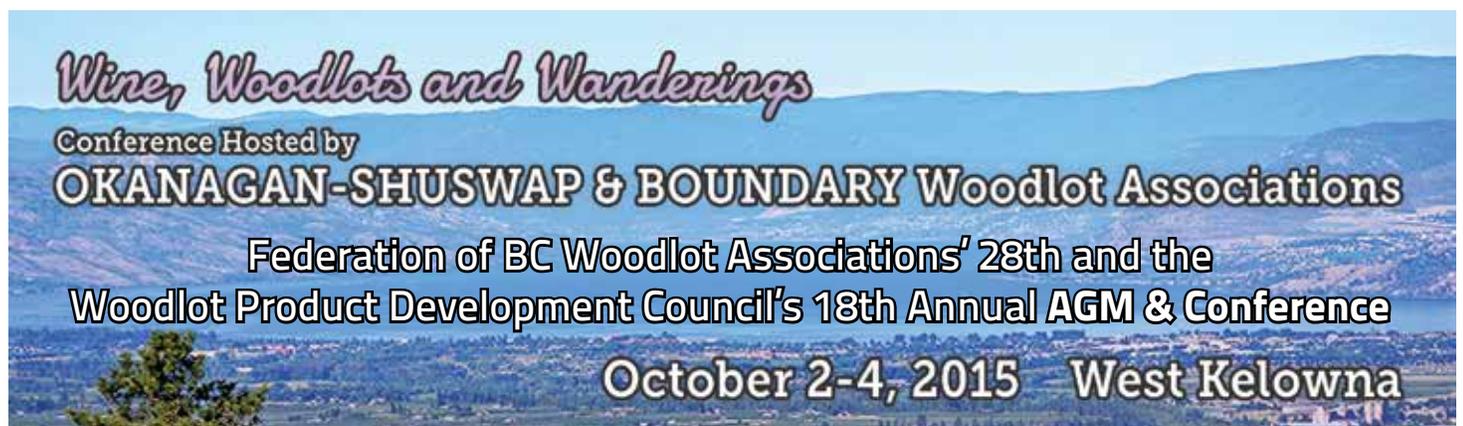
Shuswap Okanagan Woodlot Association

The Okanagan/Shuswap Forest District stretches from the Canada-USA border in the south to Three Valley Gap in the north and includes several major centres such as Salmon Arm, Kelowna and Vernon. You would be hard pressed to describe the typical woodlot. In one day you can travel from a dry belt Douglas fir forest type, cross a ridge into a lodgepole pine plateau woodlot and descend into sage brush and ponderosa timber type and that's only the morning. The afternoon would see a transition to wet belt red cedar and in the evening finish off the day tour at a western hemlock forest as wet and coastal as any you could find in the province. One thing you will find in common with the 67 woodlot licenses in the Okanagan/Shuswap and those in the rest of B.C. are their location in the interface zone.

The AGM this year is in West Kelowna. As you stand near the Holiday Inn Conference centre the interface zone becomes evident. Fires over the last few years have lowered the risk somewhat but edge forest remains. One recurring theme this year will be risk, be it fire or shifting climate. Getting a handle on it seems perplexing. Come join in the discussion and enjoy what the Kelowna area has to offer.

Wanderings

It is a pleasure to stand upon the shore, and to see ships tossed upon the sea; a pleasure to stand in the window of a castle, and to see a battle and the adventures thereof below; but no pleasure is comparable to standing upon the vantage ground of truth... and to see the errors, and wanderings, and mists, and tempests in the vale below. - *Francis Bacon*. ♦



Smoke and Ash

by George Benwell, Sr. W0322

The current wildfire situation in British Columbia and indeed that of many recent active years should result in sober reflection as to the efficiency of wildfire control. Practical and responsible action is based on two criteria; early detection and fast initial attack, which are presently questionable.

In respect to detection, aerial patrols are used almost exclusively and while they have the capability of covering large areas they have the vulnerability of missing small smouldering fires which are not evident. It would therefore appear logical to activate existing lookout in high or extreme hazard supplemented by ground patrols and that this agency have the discretion of fast initial attack on accessible incidents.

Regarding initial attack one should reflect on the following enumerated points:

1. Why are industry and contract crews considered ineligible to conduct initial attack when the essence of control action is rapid response?
2. In the case of a woodlot licensee or operator in occupation it is required that action be taken on a wildfire within 1 kilometer of the designated boundary. Why not 2



km or more if the fire is accessible and poses an immediate threat whereby a substantial loss might be prevented?

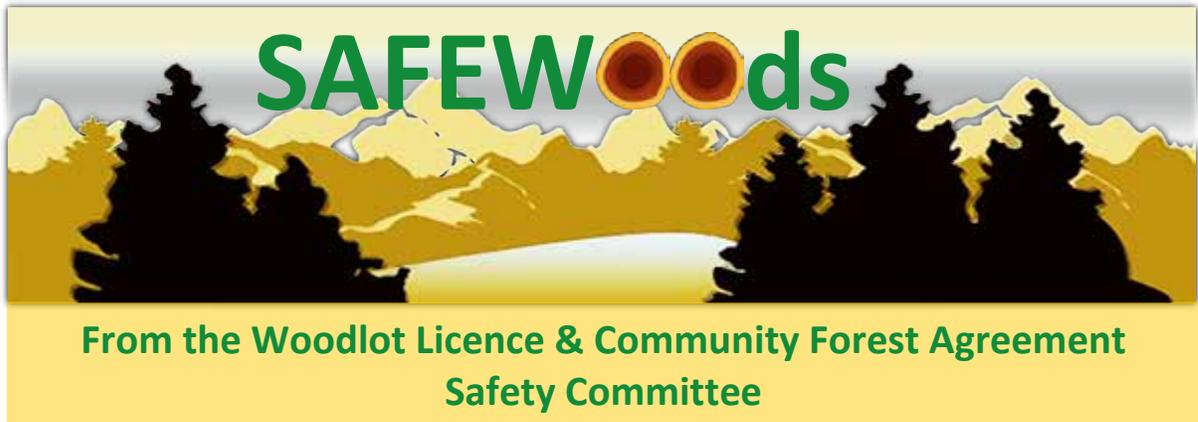
3. To improve initial attack it would seem logical that resident rural crews of three or more persons be organized at the start of each fire season. This would be comparable to the very practical fire warden crews operating in earlier years. The present dispatch of crews by the fire centres is too cumbersome and detracts from initial attack time. Additionally, priorities can change on very short notice so flexibility and initiative are critical.
4. It appears evident that the wildfire branch offers the issue of liability as a reason to exclude contract crews from independent initial attack. One must however speculate on the increased liability associated with a major incident relative to that encountered on a small fire.

Random Observations:

- Why has the wildfire branch discarded the valid 10 a.m. control concept which calls for control by 10 a.m. of the following day?
- In connection with the major incidents now occurring in the South Okanagan area, what was the time interval between first report and initial attack?
- It was noted earlier this year that three certified BC fallers were refused fire control employment because they did not pre-register with some Victoria bureaucracy despite a critical need for this expertise.
- Woodlot Licensees and other forest operators with their exposure to wildfire situations must be on the front line to offer critical observations to improve control actions. To sit idly and submit to bureaucratic ideology is irresponsible and unless some procedures are modified, losses to our licensees and the forest resource will continue. ♦

MEMBER *Reflections*

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.



Prime Contractor

Everyone in the forest industry needs to be **qualified** to do their work safely. This includes anyone doing the work of a prime contractor.

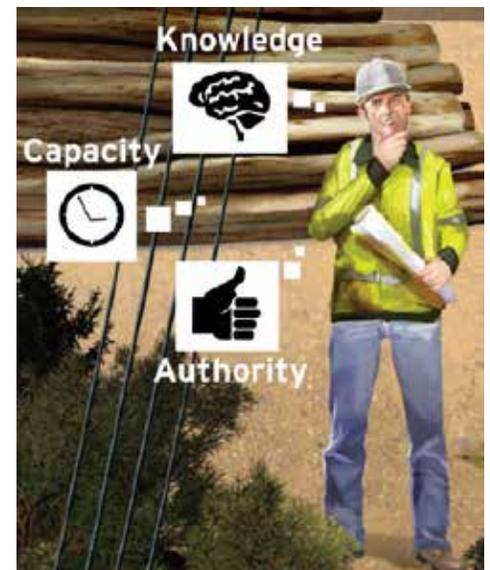
Qualified means being knowledgeable of the work, the hazards involved and the means to control the hazards, by reason of education, training, experience or a combination thereof.

Prime contractors are responsible for coordinating the safety activities of all companies on a worksite. The definition of prime contractor, in relation to a multiple-employer workplace, is:

- (a) the directing contractor, employer or other person who enters into a written agreement with the owner of that workplace to be the prime contractor, or
- (b) if there is no agreement referred to in paragraph (a), the owner of the workplace.

Prime contractor requirements are only in place when there is a **multi-employer workplace**, which is a workplace where workers of 2 or more employers are working at the same time.

This is an often misunderstood part of the process, if you are the only contractor or company on site then the prime contractor requirements do not apply. The **owner** of a workplace is an important part of the prime contractor process. It is the owner that assigns prime contractor status through a written agreement and if that agreement isn't in place, the owner is the prime contractor. For most forestry operations, the owner is a licensee that hires contractors to complete projects. Licensees can range from large forest companies to smaller companies that have successfully bid on Timber Sale Licences or individual Woodlot Licence holders.



Key Questions and Actions:

As an owner have you **assigned** prime contractor status?

If **no**, then **you** are the Prime Contractor.

A Prime Contractor must:

- 1) **Compile** all the safety information and share this information with designated supervisors.
e.g.: onsite hazards and the ways to control those hazards, work plans, safe work practices, etc.
- 2) **Communicate** any changes in the worksite and any necessary action(s) to the designated supervisors.
e.g.: changes to plans, established safe work practices, access, etc.
- 3) **Coordinate** the activities on site to ensure a safe operation.

As an owner, if you have assigned Prime Contractor status, you must:

- 1) **Assess** if the contractor has the knowledge, capacity and control to successfully coordinate the safety activities at the worksite.
- 2) **Establish** a signed agreement that outlines what is required of the prime contractor.
- 3) **Conduct** a pre-work meeting with the prime contractor where all safety information is shared and a site visit is conducted.
- 4) **Inform** the prime contractor of all changes to the worksite that might affect their coordination of the safety activities.
- 5) **Release** the prime contractor of their obligations in writing once work is finished.
(Note: Item # 5 is not regulation but a best practice.)

Resources:

BCFSC Prime Contractor Guide: http://www.bcforestsafe.org/files/tr_pdfs/rpkg_prm_cnt.pdf

(Note: linked document above includes Prime Contractor Agreement template.

BCFSC Prime Contractor Poster: http://www.bcforestsafe.org/files/ps_PrimeTimePoster.pdf

BCFSC Woodlot Safety Program: http://www.bcforestsafe.org/woodlot_safety.html

Workers Compensation Act, see section 118:

http://www.bclaws.ca/EPLibraries/bclaws_new/document/ID/freeside/96492_00

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. ♦

Two Events On October 1, 2015

If you are coming to the AGM you may be interested in two events that are being organized for Thursday October 1, 2015. Or alternatively if you live close to Kelowna and are not able to come to the AGM you are still invited to take in either event. To register for either event, please contact Cathy McClary, WPDC Coordinator 1-250-961-0271 or email: cjmclary401@gmail.com

Ernie Day, long time Kelowna resident and woodlot licensee has invited those arriving in town early to visit him at his property in Kelowna. Ernie and his family operate a ranch, orchard and a woodlot and have recently built a fruit packing-house on their property. For those who have been to previous AGMs, Ernie has donated a box of his fabulous apples and pears to the Silent Auction.

The second event is an Archaeological Awareness Training Workshop. As part of operating guidelines, it is important to note that impacting archaeological resources is in contravention of the Heritage Conservation Act (HCA), but very few people would know what to look for on the ground. A 4 hour workshop presented by 4 Seasons Heritage Consulting is being offered at the Holiday Inn in West Kelowna starting at 1:00pm on Thursday October 1, 2015. The workshop will provide woodlot owners with a better understanding of the types of sites they might encounter within their operations, a basic awareness of archaeological resources and what to do should you suspect any in your operating areas. The course content will include: the Heritage Conservation Act; RAAD (Remote Access to Archaeological database); why areas are considered to have archaeological potential; landforms and features; site types; artifacts and what to do if you suspect you have come across archaeological materials. This is an archaeological awareness training workshop only and is funded by the Woodlot Product Development Council. ♦



Kevin Arnett working in his woodlot

► From page 1

Before the arrival of European settlers and the resultant fur trade in the late 1800s the Carrier way of life was centred on a seasonal round: a summer flurry of hunting, fishing, gathering berries and other plants, and preserving it all for both consumption and commerce. “Grease trails” – named for the coveted oil rendered from eulachon, or candlefish – were developed so that bands could communicate and conduct trade amongst themselves.

It was one such grease trail that provided safe passage for explorer Alexander Mackenzie, a Scotsman who was determined to find a safe route from “Montreal, Canada” to the Northwest Passage. In fact, Kevin learned during a visit with the Nazko Band Chief Stuart Alec that it was the Chief’s great, great, great grandmother who served as guide for Mackenzie and his seven companions in 1793, leading them safely through the Nuxalt-Carrier Grease Trail (or Alexander Mackenzie Heritage Trail) from Quesnel to Bella Coola.

It’s this heritage that Kevin will be closely guarding on the Punchaw Lake woodlot. One of his first tasks was hosting Chief Alec, several Band stakeholders and Ministry officials to ensure an open dialogue of respect exists. It was a welcomed endorsement from Chief Alec when he shared his tremendous faith in the woodlot licence program and its commitment to honouring First Nations history and preserving the health of the forest.

As part of the next, vital generation taking a role in the provincial woodlot program, it seems that youth like Kevin can help a bright future unfold without abandoning the past.

♦

FBCWA 2nd Scholarship Essay: “If I am the license holder of a woodlot, what steps and management decisions would I take in order that my woodlot can be the greatest benefit to my community?”

Editor's Note: This year the FBCWA was pleased to offer 2 scholarships to deserving recipients. Rachel Klassen's winning essay was featured in the Summer 2015 issue and Sarah Bickerton's essay is below.

By Sarah Bickerton

If I am the license holder of a woodlot there are several opportunities I believe in order to create the greatest benefit to the local community.

I believe that interest in the forest industry needs to be maintained and that there is a need to continue to increase the positive aspects of the forest industry to the general public. The woodlot program was originally introduced to create local social and economic benefits and to involve the community in the forest industry. I believe that the woodlot program is still beneficial in this regard but there may be other ideas that could further enhance the benefits to the community and forestry as a whole.

I believe forest education for the general public and in particular the younger generation is important. I also believe that it is important that the economic benefits of a woodlot be kept local as much as possible to further enhance the benefits to the community.

If I was the holder of a woodlot license I could look to develop the woodlot as



an educational resource for local schools. This could be something that as a woodlot licensee I could look to develop on my own or work with a consortium of licensees and other professional organizations such as the local or B.C. Woodlot Associations to develop

something larger. As well, there may be opportunity to work with other trade organizations which already have forest education programs in place to bring woodlots into that process and create more awareness of the program. I believe the woodlot is a great place to develop forest education because of its small scale and personal approach. There are many aspects of forest management that can be viewed within the confines of a small woodlot. This would involve working with the schools to set up field tours to view the woodlot activities such as logging but also to participate directly in activities such as tree planting or brushing. Timing of activities or types of activities could be planned as much as possible to coincide with school's interests.

Also, if I was a woodlot license

holder and in order to keep some of the economic benefits within the local community, I would look to local markets for log sales and local expertise for forest management activities such as planning, harvesting, hauling and silviculture.

In addition, public awareness and input is important, I would consider an environmental certification program such as the Canadian Standards Association that would provide for ongoing public input into the management objectives of the woodlot by the local general public.

I believe that a woodlot is one opportunity to show the local community, and in particular the younger generation, that forestry is a stable, environmentally friendly renewable resource that provides many benefits to B.C. and the local communities and that a potential career in the forest industry can be very interesting and rewarding. Keeping the economic benefits local as much as possible and providing for public input is important and being able to provide an opportunity to enhance the social benefits of a woodlot through forest education at a small scale are both opportunities to increase the benefits to the local community. ♦

Links of Interest

- British Columbia Trees App: <http://abcfptrees.com/appsplash/>
- Our own website: <http://woodlot.bc.ca>
- 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 ♦



Tips on Burning Logging Slash Accumulations

by Al Waters (aka Eddy Matches)

With many of the historic ways of practicing forestry being discarded in an effort to cut cost it is important to examine the practice of burning logging slash accumulations at roadsides. Prompt burning of slash accumulations is a sound forest management practice that can minimize the risk of wildfire on a woodlot licence and generate a significant improvement in the growth of seedlings that are promptly planted on the burnt areas.

Seedlings planted on areas where slash accumulations are burnt consistently exhibit better foliage color and faster growth than seedlings planted on unburnt areas with slash accumulations. In the year of planting, lodgepole pine seedlings on burnt areas often produce needles that are twice as long as the needles on seedlings planted on unburnt areas. The needle length of seedlings planted in areas with heavy roadside slash accumulations are often much shorter than normal because thick slash reduces the soil temperature in the rooting zone and intercepts light rains so that they evaporate without moistening the soil.

14 Figures 1 and 2 contrast the growth of the same pine and spruce seedlings, planted in 2014 on burnt areas and unburned areas with roadside slash accumulations. The lack of competing vegetation, ash and the black surface of freshly burnt areas provide a flush of essential nutrients and

warmer soil temperatures that stimulate earlier bud flush and improved seedling growth. These improvements in seedling foliage color and initial growth on burned area are maintained for many years.

Slash accumulations from processing logs near roadside are usually piled as part of the price paid for logging so the contractor is inclined to do the minimum amount of work as cheaply as possible. Cost efficient burning will be facilitated by ensuring that cull logs and tops are tightly piled in relatively large, tall piles with branches and fine slash located underneath to create at least one convenient point for ignition on each pile. Locating a well-built ignition point of fine slash on the south side of the pile is preferable so initial snows have a greater chance of melting off the ignition point while the snow remains on the ground surrounding the piles.

Loosely piled logs extending from the perimeter of a pile where there is no fine slash underneath are unlikely to burn and can make it difficult to reach fine fuel to ignite the pile.

Figure 3 shows a standard drip torch where the wand has been extended to improve penetration into piles where an ignition points consisting of fine slash are not available on the edge of the piles.

Burning when there is 8 to 15 centimeters of snow is usually ideal in the interior as burning when more snow is present can require more time, fuel and cost. Embarrassing wildfires can result from burning too early in the season when conditions are too dry, when there is no snow or when early snowfall melts as a result of warmer weather and high winds.

For safety, always burn with at least one other person and maintain visual or radio contact so you know where the other person is at all times. Plan the sequence of pile ignition, taking into account the prevailing wind direction so you aren't working in heavy smoke or being showered by sparks.

Drip torches utilizing a mixture of diesel fuel and gasoline are most commonly used to ignite



Figure 1: The seedling on the left (burnt area) has twice the needle length and growth compared to the seedling on the right (on un-burned slash accumulations). The seedling on the burnt area is flushing much earlier due to faster snow melt and improved soil temperature.



Figure 2: The seedling on the left (burnt area) has twice the growth, better foliage color and is flushing earlier than the seedling on the right (on un-burned slash accumulations).

Figure 3: The drip torch on the left has been modified to extend the wand while the drip torch on the right has a standard length wand.

harvesting slash accumulations. A mixture of 75% diesel and 25% gasoline is recommended by Wildfire Management Branch for normal burning conditions down to -10° Celsius. When temperatures are below -10° Celsius, the amount of gasoline in the burning fuel can be increased to 50% as this will increase the length of flame and ease of ignition in cold temperatures.

I always carry 2 new lighters with me as it is easy to spill fuel on a lighter while igniting a drip torch and then the sparking mechanism in the lighter will cease to work. I also make a habit of wearing old clothes and all leather gloves as gloves with a cloth fabric back can catch on fire when burning.

For more information visit the FBCWA website or call Al Waters (aka Eddy Matches) at 250-747-0649. ♦

RESULTS Training

RESULTS Team will be offering virtual training sessions this Fall. Courses will be offered between September 22 through to September 30. Registration, course module descriptions, course dates and times can be accessed via: <https://attendeegototraining.com/49x6s/catalog/3931598846459390464>.

Note that there is a limit of 25 registrants per course offering. If there is additional interest that exceeds the class limit, we may add more sessions but subject to sufficient enrollment interest. If you registered but are unable to attend, please notify mtsoi@shaw.ca to free up the spot so that others may register. Thank you.

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Migratory Birds Convention Act

The Migratory Birds Convention Act prohibits the direct or incidental harming of migratory birds, their nests and eggs, or depositing deleterious substances into areas frequented by migratory birds. Incidental means that harm, even though it wasn't intentional or intended, can still be considered a contravention. The penalties associated with a conviction can be severe.

The Environment Canada website (<http://www.ec.gc.ca/paom-itmb/>) is a good source of information including the Act, nesting zones and periods for various species, how to determine the presence of nests, and avoidance guidelines.

It is strongly recommended that every woodlot licensee and private forest landowner consider the implications of their operations to migratory birds. ♦



Editor's Note

There are 2 resolution sessions at the Woodlot AGM & Conference in West Kelowna. The WPDC session is during their AGM at 11:00 am on October 2, 2015. The FBCWA resolution Session is at 7:30 am on October 3, 2015. Copies of both resolution forms are included with this issue of the Almanac. ♦

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. ♦



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Transferring your WL? Logging tax may apply...

If you are considering selling your woodlot (private forest land) or transferring your Woodlot Licence to another party, it's recommended that you check with your accountant to find out if logging tax will apply.

Logging tax applies to individuals or corporations that have income from logging operations on private or Crown land in BC; and logging operations are deemed to include the sale of the right to cut standing timber (reference: <http://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/taxes/natural-resource-taxes/forestry/logging-tax>).

Additional information can be found in the following Canada Revenue Agency bulletins entitled "Woodlots" and "Timber Resource Property and Timber Limits; respectively:

IT-481 - <http://www.cra-arc.gc.ca/E/pub/tp/it481-consolid/README.html>

IT-373r2 – <http://www.cra-arc.gc.ca/E/pub/tp/it373r2-consolid/README.html> ♦



Carl Kienzle from Eco Logging loads some character logs on WL 1726

R & D Project Funding Available

The annual work plan has an allotment of \$5,000 for R & D Projects that will benefit woodlot licensees. If you have an idea for a project, submit a proposal to the Woodlot Product Development Council. 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> ♦

Purpose of the WPDC

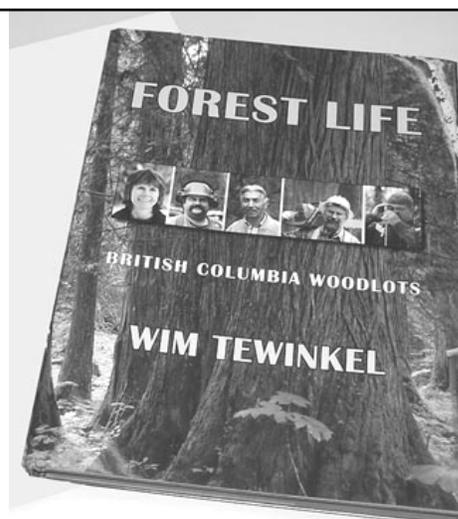
The primary purpose of the WPDC is to ensure that levy fees are spent on woodlot licensee priorities to benefit and promote the woodlot industry throughout BC. Funds are collected through powers granted to Council under the Farming and Fishing Industries Development Act. ♦

"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 ♦



Canadian Cattlemen's Association News Release

Squaw Valley Ranch

CCA's 2015 TESA Recipient

August 12, 2015

Winnipeg, MB - The Canadian Cattlemen's Association (CCA) is pleased to announce Squaw Valley Ranch of British Columbia as the 2015 recipient of The Environmental Stewardship Award (TESA). The ranch is operated by Darrell Squair and his wife Doris Squair along with their son Travis and daughter-in-law Katie. They received the award this evening in Winnipeg, Manitoba, in an awards ceremony during the President's Reception at the CCA's 2015 Semi-Annual Meeting.



late Art and Mona Chambers, viewpoint that all animals should co-exist. The ranch has grown from the original 320 acre, 60 head outfit but predator issues remain non-existent with the cattle sharing the land with the grizzlies. The Squairs have committed to a no-hunting philosophy on their private land and the goal of the ranch is to continue in the preservation of its surroundings where future generations can participate and appreciate a vision that has taken years to develop.

Located near Lumby, B.C. in a secluded valley, Squaw Valley Ranch includes 2,800 acres of private land, 700 acres of leased land and thousands of acres of sub-alpine Crown range. The 500 head ranch is surrounded

by a 1,300 acre woodlot, which preserves the integrity of the environment and helps sustainability. Environmental stewardship is a key philosophy of the ranch.

A custom designed hydro-electric dam built in 1989 to provide a more efficient environmentally friendly power source still provides electricity to the ranch to this day.

About TESA

The CCA's national annual award, TESA has recognized the outstanding stewardship efforts of Canadian beef producers since 1996. For more information, [click here](#).

Thank you to our Platinum Sponsor MNP for sponsoring the TESA program.

For further information, contact:

Fawn Jackson
Manager of Environnement & Sustainability
Canadian Cattlemen's Association jacksonf@cattle.ca –
403-275-8558 ♦

Editor's note: Darrell and Doris Squair are woodlot owners and members of the Shuswap Okanagan Woodlot Association. Come and meet Doris at the Woodlot AGM on Saturday, October 3, 2015.

SPECIES AT RISK ACT on private land

Critical Habitat Protection

CRITICAL HABITAT: *The habitat the species needs to recover or survive, as identified in a final recovery strategy or action plan*

- Environment Canada looks to the laws of the provinces and territories to protect critical habitat on non-federal land.
- Environment Canada encourages voluntary stewardship measures on private land to help species recover and survive.
- The goal is to meet the conservation needs of the species while minimizing impacts on and inconvenience to landowners.
- Only if the measures above have not been effective will Environment Canada consider using legislative powers to protect species at risk and their critical habitat.

How Environment Canada can support Landowners to protect Critical Habitat

- Ecological Gifts Program
- Funding programs (e.g., Habitat Stewardship Fund)
- Conservation Agreements
- Information to assist in land use planning

Legal Context for Species at Risk

- The Species at Risk Act applies to all lands and waters in Canada
- How it applies depends on land tenure
- Canada and British Columbia work together through a formal Agreement on Species at Risk
- Provincial and local governments can provide protection for species at risk through existing tools; for example:
 - a. Bylaws, zoning, permitting
 - b. Water Sustainability Act
 - c. Wildlife Act

SPECIES AT RISK ACT on private land

What it means if Critical Habitat is identified on your land

- It may mean that your current land use is generally compatible with the needs of the species. *Thank you!*
- Local stewardship groups, environmental professionals, and government biologists may be able to provide advice on how to avoid destruction of critical habitat if you are thinking about changing how you use your land.
- Environment Canada will be working with provincial and local governments to assess whether anything more needs to be done to formally protect the habitat.
- If critical habitat is unlikely to be destroyed, more formal protection measures may not be required. If any new bylaws or regulations are being considered, you will be consulted before anything changes.

How we identify Critical Habitat

- *"To the extent possible, based on the best available information"*
- Linked to population & distribution objectives
- Critical Habitat identification is comprised of:
 - a. A geographic location or area within which Critical Habitat is found
 - b. The particular environmental features (e.g., types of plants, water bodies) the species needs to live and reproduce

Protection & Preventing Destruction

What is "destruction" of Critical Habitat?

- Permanent or temporary degradation of any part of Critical Habitat such that it would not serve its function when the species needs it
- Result of a single action or multiple actions over time (cumulative effects)

Protection of Critical Habitat means preventing activities that could destroy it



Prepared by the Canadian Wildlife Service, June 2015



Prepared by the Canadian Wildlife Service, June 2015



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BC Forest Safety

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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.



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

George Benwell
Mark Clark
Ed Hughes
Sara Grady

Brian McNaughton
Al Waters
Debbie Zandbelt

*Life starts all over again
when it gets crisp in the
Fall.*



- F. Scott Fitzgerald



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