



THE WOODLOT COMMUNICATOR



www.woodlot.bc.ca

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Woodlots add value to BC

There is a small but well organized group of Crown forest managers who have consistently demonstrated their ability to adjust their forestry practices to meet many challenges. These are the more than 800 woodlot licensees in the province who manage a small but significant piece of the provincial harvest.

Compared to other forest tenures, woodlot licenses are a unique tenure. Many woodlots are in the interface between forests and urban or industrial areas. Woodlots often have recreational uses such as hiking, biking, and horse-back riding. There are usually many eyes watching the operations on woodlots, yet there are few complaints to the Forest Practices Board.

The diversity found in the many forest ecosystems in this diverse province is reflected in the woodlot licensees. Many are ranchers or farmers whose woodlots are adjacent to or near their private lands, their family homes and communities. Numerous woodlots are purposely intergenerational. This alone ensures excellent stewardship.

These intensively managed, family operated tenures provide several valuable contributions to the BC: forest and ecosystem diversity and resilience, communities and social benefits, a light footprint on the landscape, and a sizeable and positive involvement in the province's economy — approximately \$200 million annually.



The FBCWA's and WPDC's Annual General Meeting always features a chance to get out and see what is being done in the local forests. This year will be no different as the meetings are held in Kamloops.

Focusing on the future

Woodlot Association AGM looks to build strong tradition

The joint Annual General Meetings (AGMs) of the Federation of BC Woodlot Associations (FBCWA) and the Woodlot Product Development Council (WPDC) take place in Kamloops on October 2 – 4, 2008 at the South Thompson Inn, located on the banks of the South Thompson River.

The theme of the conference is *Woodlots: Facing our Future*. Woodlot licensees are proud to uphold a tradition of forestry excellence while building prosperous communities and striving to preserve forests for the future. The woodlot licence program has been an integral part of BC's forest sector for over five decades.

Despite constant and ongoing changes over time, the one constant has been the fact that woodlot licences continue to provide the kind of socio-economic benefits and environmental management so vital to the future of the forest resources and the communities where we live.

Highlights of the AGM include keynote speaker Larry Mason, head of the Rural Technology Initiative at the University of Washington and a national award winner for Best Education Program for non-industrial Private Forestland Owners. There will also be six informative breakout sessions, a Woodlot Stewardship Recognition Program featuring second and third generation woodlot managers, panel discussions and field tours.

Register on-line: www.woodlot.bc.ca. Information: 1-888-925-9995



Woodlot licencees consider education of the next generation of British Columbians — including lots of hands-on learning — as one of the most important jobs they do.

Woodlots real world classrooms

Woodlot licencees are often located close to communities and schools and offer forestry learning opportunities nearby. The Federation of BC Woodlot Associations (FBCWA) has developed an educational program for BC students, including a resource package:

- DVD “Our Family Forests: BC’s Woodlot Licence Program”

- Lesson plan, vocabulary list, quiz and crossword puzzle
- Curricular connections
- Contact list for woodlot tours in local forest district

To find out more about woodlots in British Columbia or to access our educational materials go to www.woodlot.bc.ca.

Did you know?

In 50 years one tree recycles more than \$37,000 worth of water, provides \$31,000 worth of erosion control, \$62,000 worth of air pollution control and produces \$37,000 worth of oxygen.

By cooling the air and ground around them, the shade from trees helps cool the Earth’s temperature.

Two mature trees provide enough oxygen for a family of four.

Hospital patients heal faster, require shorter stays and less painkillers if room windows face trees.

Douglas Fir facts

By its other names of Douglas Spruce, Douglas Yew and Oregon Pine, one begins to realize what a botanical puzzle the Douglas Fir has been. The Douglas Fir is actually neither Spruce, Yew nor Pine and was given the Greek name Pseudo-tsuga describing it as a “false hemlock with a yew like leaf”. It was first discovered on Vancouver Island by Dr. Archibald Menzies in 1791, and re-discovered in 1827 by the Scottish botanist, David Douglas. Douglas sent seeds back to the British Isles where they were widely planted and given his name.

Woodlots defined

Woodlots are private forests while woodlot licencees are small parcels of crown and private forest lands. Both are most often managed by local residents on a sustainable basis while protecting and conserving the full range of forest values.

Often located in sensitive or contentious areas, woodlots and woodlot licencees are well suited for intensive and innovative management. Each is a small business with the licensee routinely buying and selling goods & services locally.

Woodlots and woodlot licencees are a form of community forestry often referred to as family forests.

FBCWA Mission Statement

The FBCWA promotes the economic and social interests of woodlot licencees, private forest landowners and others involved in small-scale forest management in British Columbia. The FBCWA’s mission is for all its members to practice exemplary forest and natural resources management in a socially, economically and environmentally responsible manner.

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.



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