

THE WOODLAND ALMANAC

Fall 2006

a joint publication of



THE FEDERATION OF BC
WOODLOT ASSOCIATIONS

THE WOODLOT PRODUCT
DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL

FBCWA and BCCFA sign Memorandum of Understanding: Benefits seen for both organizations

The Federation and BC Community Forest Association (BCCFA) have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU), setting the stage for future work together on issues of common interest.

The purposes of the MOU are to enhance communication, facilitate information exchange and sharing, address administration and other issues of joint importance, and collaborate to provide benefits to members of both organizations.

According to Rob Hood, BCCFA President, “This MOU sets the stage for our organizations to work together to the benefit of small tenure holders. At the same time it does not infringe on the identity or autonomy of either organization to work independently.”

“This will be a mutually beneficial relationship,” says FBCWA President Brent Petrick. “Woodlot licensees and private forest landowners have long had close ties to their communities. Community forests, on the other hand, are a relatively new tenure of significant importance to many of the same communities.”

Jen Gunter, BCCFA Coordinator and Brian McNaughton, FBCWA

General Manager agree. “We’ve been sharing information and trying to help each other out on an informal basis for years,” said Brian McNaughton. “For example, there have been joint efforts involving the FIA small tenures program, administrative streamlining,

stumpage, regulation and to promote the profile of small-scale forestry. This agreement formalizes the relationship which will be to the benefit of both organizations.”

A copy of the MOU is available at www.woodlot.bc.ca ♦

In this issue

Message from the FBCWA President	3
Message from the WPDC Vice-President	3
General Manager’s report	4
Interior stumpage rate trend forecasting	5
Final Announcement: AGM 2006	5
Coastal timber pricing portfolio	6
Is it time to prepare your Woodlot Licence Plan?	7
Woodlot reporting into RESULTS database	8
Links of interest	9
Selections from Annual Report: Minister’s Forest and Range PAC	10
Forest Practices Board investigates two Fraser Valley licensees	11
CFS: Colouring between the “Lyons”	12
CFS: What’s eating yew?	13
Small Woodlands Partnership	13
FIA—Small Tenures Program: Final Report Summary	14
Workshop Announcement: Agroforestry Potential for the Peace	15
BC Agroforestry Industry Development Initiative	16
The softer side of Brent Petrick	18
On the safety front	18
Congratulations	19
Thank you to our contributors	19

How to reach us

Federation of BC Woodlot Associations

c/o Brian McNaughton, General Manager

655 North Mackenzie Ave., Williams Lake, BC, V2G 1N9

Phone: (250) 398-7646 Toll-free phone: 1-866-345-8733 Fax: (250) 398-7642 gen_manager@woodlot.bc.ca

www.woodlot.bc.ca

FBCWA Executive

President..... Brent Petrick, South Slokan bpetric@telus.net
 Vice President..... Peter Kokoska, Mission kokdurfor@telus.net
 Treasurer Kathy Mayes, Prince George kmayes@mag-net.com
 Secretary Lisa Marak, Kelowna lmarak@telus.net
 Past President..... Miles Fuller, Burns Lake milesf@telus.net
 Director Nancy Pezel, Qualicum Beach islandswest@shaw.ca
 Director John Massier, Quesnel jmassier@xplornet.com
 Director Don Rosen, Chetwynd drosen@pris.ca

FIA Contract Administrator

Carmen Wheatley, Prince George cawheatley@telus.net

Agroforestry Initiative Administrator

April Anderson, Slokan Park... aaa@netidea.com

FBCWA Directors

Boundary: F. Marshall; *Bulkley:* M. Adamson; *Cariboo:* R. Hood; *Clearwater:* W. MacLennan; *Columbia:* B. Amies; *East Kootenay:* T. Quirk; *Fraser Valley:* P. Kokoska; *Kamloops & District:* B. Bondar; *Kispixox:* B. Larson; *Lakes District:* C. Manning; *Lillooet:* C. Galliazzo; *Mackenzie:* B. Sinclair; *Morice:* S. Wright; *North Island:* J. Benner; *Peace River:* M. Caven; *Prince George:* M. Clark; *Quesnel:* J. Massier; *Robson Canoe:* N. Lorenz; *Sea to Sky:* W. Tewinkel; *Shuswap/Okanagan:* F. Newhouse; *South Cariboo:* D. Brown; *South Island:* S. Flynn; *Stuart/Nechako:* M. Churchill, J. Helweg; *West Kootenay:* S. Deverney.

FBCWA Portfolios

Timber Pricing: Mark Churchill (Chair), Dean Daly (Interior), John Marlow (Coast); *Legislation, Regulations & Policy:* Miles Fuller; *Marketing:* Warren MacLennan; *National/External Affairs:* Chris Cunningham; *Woodlot AAC Support:* Mark Adamson; *Communications Plan:* Lisa Marak

FBCWA Projects

Agroforestry: April Anderson, Administrator; Committee: Jennifer Cunningham & Harold Macy; *Carbon sequestration:* Brian McNaughton, Project Manager, assisted by Mark Clark

WPDC Executive

President..... Paul Galliazzo, Quesnel pgalliaz@cfbc.com
 Vice President..... Harold Reedy, Smithers hreeedy@bulkley.net
 Treasurer Bas Delaney, Clearwater delaneyb@telus.net
 Director Howie Griessel, Courtenay kevcotimber@shaw.ca
 Director Wilf Chelle, Charlie Lake (no e-mail)
 Director Lee Foster, Prince George aspenridge@uniserve.com
 Director Donald Kirk, Nakusp dkirk@netidea.com
 Gov't. Advisor Dave Haley, Victoria
 Gov't. Advisor Greg Tegart, Vernon

WPDC Portfolios

Almanac/Annual Report: Harold Reedy; *Annual General Meeting/Project Proposals:* Donald Kirk; *Budget/Levy Fund Management:* Bas Delaney; *Calendar/Stewardship Recognition:* Howie Griessel; *Contract Management:* Paul Galliazzo/Bas Delaney; *Nominations & Elections:* Lee Foster; *Questionnaire:* Wilf Chelle; *FBCWA Liaison:* Paul Galliazzo

Woodlot Product Development Council/Woodland Almanac

Coordinator, Cathy McClary, Box 10033, Prince George, BC V2K 5Y1

Phone: 1-888-925-9995 Fax: (250) 962-9199 E-mail: cjmccclary@shaw.ca Publication #: 40035578

*Message from the President of the FBCWA***Will the government commit to family forests?**

by Brent Petrick

The woodlot program has a long tradition of successful small-scale forest management that could be easily termed “Family Forestry.” Families managed their woodlots and gained some financial benefits and a sense of pride within the balanced forest community.

The last few years have seen a dramatic change in the Interior woodlot community, a change that is slowly, but steadily, moving throughout the Heartlands.

On the coast the dramatic economic swings continue to ravage the industry. Government policy/regulatory changes have been a challenge for woodlot families to implement and for the government as well. It is fair to say that the

Mother Nature and public policy have upended that historic balance.

It is from this stage the MOFR initiated the WARRT process to streamline the program, which will allow a more efficient delivery of the program and allow the expansion of the sector which has been promised for some time now.

The Federation has spent countless hours (many volunteer) and significant sums of money to capture the essence of the program and effect changes that will help the program thrive far into the future.

In our discussions with the MoFR, the following beliefs/realities have been the fabric of our arguments and the real struggle has been their recognition within the MoFR:

- 1 The number one issue is the understanding that we are not major tenure holders, we are small-scale family operations and it is OK to treat us differently. In this environment of industry consolidation and regulation/policy changes targeting large scale operations, the woodlot program has fared poorly seeing increased costs, and in many areas the loss of the ability to manage their affairs, or even run an profitable operation.
- 2 Woodlots, by and large, operate within high cost/small AAC tenures. A significant number

(Continued on page 19)

*Message from the Vice-President of the WPDC***Register soon for AGM!**

by Harold Reedy

WPDC president Paul Galliazzo is away on holidays so I get to put black print to white paper!

Three woodlot licensees have agreed to be nominated as new directors of the Woodlot Product Development Council for the coming year.

There has not been a surplus of nominees so no Council election / balloting has been held this fall. The three acclaimed new directors commencing October 1st are Mike Larock – Coast region, Dave Zirnelt – Southern Interior region, and Steve Wright – Northwest region.

We still have one director position vacant. Ideally, someone needs to be nominated from the general Prince George area, which includes

Vanderhoof, Fort. St. James, Prince George, Robson Valley, and Mackenzie.

Please consider nominating someone soon to complete the full complement of seven directors.

Your attendance at the September 29th – October 1st WPDC and Federation Annual General Meeting and Conference is strongly encouraged.

Forest Minister Coleman plans to attend and speak and I am sure you will be interested in what he has to say. You will probably have a question or two for him.

This fall you will not need to travel to eastern Canada to view the fall ‘red’ colours. You can see them as you travel to the heart of ‘red’ Burns Lake where the AGM and Conference will be held.

Register soon! There will be discussions around life after beetle and several options for interesting field trips.

This year, similar to last year’s AGM, WPDC will be recognizing several woodlot licensees from around the province for their outstanding stewardship.

These woodlot licensees will be not be winning awards as was done pre 2005, but being *recognized* by having short, professional-quality, Stewardship Recognition videos made of their woodlot operations.

These videos will be shown at the AGM. See you there! (Bring your own popcorn!) ♦





by Brian McNaughton

As of the day this report was written (August 25th), the status of the Federation's alternative timber pricing and administrative streamlining proposal is that the Deputy Minister and his staff are working on getting recommendations to the Minister by September 15th.

We have little knowledge and no reliable information regarding what those recommendations might be.

The MOFR has been very tight-lipped about their thoughts and intentions. We do know that they favour tabular rates and want the \$ and staff savings associated with the WARRT recommendations.

Also, we've been told they are looking at the proposal with respect to equity, administrative efficiency, return to the Crown and possible implications with the proposed

General Manager's report Ministry to decide soon on pricing, streamlining

(draft) Canada-United States softwood agreement.

Knowing that time is of the essence for the many licensees who need to plan fall and winter harvesting and sell logs into very limited (and continuously shrinking) markets, the Fed continues to press for the earliest possible, favorable decision.

A letter urging the Minister to make a decision sooner than later was sent earlier this week. A few MLAs, the Deputy Minister, and MOFR senior staff have been so advised.

“... the Fed continues to press for the earliest possible, favourable decision.”

It is impossible to say with certainty when the Minister will make his decision. As noted, we are pressing for ASAP but expect he may be looking towards the AGM to make an announcement.

Hopefully, by the time you read this report, this will all be old news because the decision has been made!

With respect to other business, the Federation has accepted an invitation by the Chief Forester to work on how to incorporate the submission of silviculture and inventory information in RESULTS as part of the annual report process.

If developed properly, it's to work on this important initiative. If you have any thoughts or ideas please pass them on to Carmen or me, and we will make sure they are given serious consideration.

In a news release dated August 17th, 2006, the Minister announced that former deputy Minister Don Wright and professional forester Bill Dumont have been selected to lead a comprehensive review of the province's log export policy.

Over the next few weeks, the Federation will be developing a position paper on 'exports' which takes into account both coastal and interior considerations.

The paper will be submitted to Don and Bill so woodlot licensees concerns can be included in the final recommendations to government.

Licensees battling the mountain pine beetle will be interested in two recently released research papers, both of which are available from the Federation's website:

- “Abundance of Secondary Structure in Lodgepole Pine stands affected by the Mountain Pine Beetle” by K. David Coates, Craig DeLong, Philip J. Burton and Donald L. Sachs
- “Rate of Deterioration, Degrade and Fall of Trees Killed By Mountain Pine Beetle – A Discussion Paper” by Kathy J. Lewis and Ian D. Hartley.

I hope to see you at the AGM in Burns Lake!

Brian McNaughton
General Manager ♦



Please note:

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



Interior stumpage rate trend forecasting

by Dean Daly

As a result of the MPS model implementation July 1, 2006, the FBCWA is not able to continue forecasting woodlot stumpage rate changes on a quarterly basis, due to the uncertainty of the new pricing model.

We will attempt to continue this service at the earliest available date.

The Federation continues to seek major changes to the interior timber pricing policy for woodlots to address the obvious disconnect between current woodlot stumpage

policy and the reality of our log market values.

For more information, please contact Dean Daly, Interior Stumpage Appraisal Representative, at Lynx Forest Management
6180 Raceway Road
Smithers, B.C.
V0J 2N1
Ph: (250) 847-3259;
Fax: (250) 847-1884
Email: lynx@bulkley.net ♦



Purpose of the Woodlot Product Development Council

The primary purpose of the WPDC is to ensure that levy fees are spent on woodlot licensee priorities that will benefit and promote the woodlot industry throughout BC.

Funds are collected through the powers granted to the Council under the *Farming and Fishing Industries Development Act*. ♦

FINAL ANNOUNCEMENT

Woodlot Survival: Sink or Swim in a Sea of Red!

September 28-30, 2006

Burns Lake, BC

Join us at the 19th AGM of the Federation of BC Woodlot Associations and the 9th AGM of the Woodlot Product Development Council

Thursday, September 28, 2006: Pre-AGM Tour and lunch. Meet at the Vanderhoof MOFR parking lot at noon. In the evening, reception and registration runs from 6 - 8:00 p.m. at the Burns Lake Heritage Center

Friday, September 29: Registration begins at 7:00 a.m. followed by field tours leaving from the Island Gospel Fellowship Church.

Saturday, September 30: A full day of presentations after a breakfast buffet will include the FBCWA Business Session, the WPDC 9th Annual General Meeting, speaker presentations, and the Woodlot Stewardship recognition ceremony. All daytime events will be at the Island Gospel Fellowship Church starting at 6:45 a.m. You and your guest are invited to join in welcoming the Right Honourable Rich Coleman, Minister of Forests, at the evening banquet which will be at the Rod and Gun Club starting at 6:00 p.m.

2 Annual General Meetings for the price of 1!

Register on-line at www.woodlot.bc.ca
or call the WPDC coordinator at 1-888-925-9995 ♦

Coastal timber pricing portfolio



by John Marlow

During the last quarter, a series of meetings with coastal woodlots associations has occurred (NIWA, SIWA, FVWA, Sea to Sky) and future options for appraisal systems as well as streamlining initiatives via WARRT (Woodlot Administrative Review and Recommendation Team) were discussed. Generally coastal licensees support the direction to move to a tabular system for timber appraisals.

As MPS was due to be implemented July 1 in the interior and it seemed that an agreement in regards to the Canada / US softwood dispute was imminent, the Federation was advised to submit a proposal to government before June 1, 2006. This proposal by the Woodlot Federation was required so that so that this tabular appraisal system could be implemented before interior MPS and possible US trade dispute resolution.

On May 29, 2006 a proposal was submitted to government outlining a tabular appraisal methodology for the interior and a separate proposal for the coast. The coast proposal is a simple system which recognizes current stumpage rates paid by industry as well as Low Volume Cost Estimate (LVCE) allowances currently in place.

Although response from government was expected sooner, this proposal is under review by the Ministry of Forests we expect to have a decision in the near future.

Coast Appraisal Advisory Committee (CAAC)

A new and improved advisory group has been established to work collectively on appraisal issues. The Federation has a seat on two committees: the Coast Timber Pricing Advisory Committee and the MPS Technical Sub-Committee.

The Coast Timber Pricing Advisory Committee is similar to the old

CAAC, but is a smaller group including industry, Truck Loggers Association, Woodlots, Revenue Branch, Coast Forest Region, and BC Timber Sales. This committee is responsible for the content of Coast Appraisal Manual (CAM) amendments as well as the current re-write of the CAM.

This committee is intended to be a long-term committee tasked with continually updating and improving the CAM. A new edition of the CAM is currently being prepared and will be released early in the New Year.

The MPS Technical Sub-Committee is a short term committee with work expected to be completed by January. The objective of this committee is to review the datasets and equations used in the upcoming version of MPS due out in the New Year. This includes analyzing the current allowances for operations as well as specified operations.

An additional working group has also been established to look into "weight scaling opportunities for small scale licensees." The Federation has also been invited to participate in that committee. At present the benefits of weight scaling to woodlot licensees are questionable, so I will not be participating in this group, but will receive all correspondence from that group. If any licensees see opportunity with weight scaling please contact myself to discuss.

Appraisal Forecasting

A tabular appraisal system may be available in the near future, and licensees with higher than average stumpage rates (>\$5.00) should consider waiting for this rate if operationally feasible.

Conversely, where there are large development costs or lower value timber it may be wise to apply for appraised permits where the rate

should be low and then lock in that rate.

Our tabular rate proposal includes a transition provision that may enable licensees, for a short time, to continue to appraise timber should the proposal be accepted by government.

Disclaimer. The following estimates are based on current available Vancouver log market sales ending in June, 2006, as well as future predicted log trends.

The three month average Fd log prices have risen by \$3.00 to \$4.00 over the last 3 month period which would result in approximately a \$3.00 stumpage rate increase. As Fd prices appear to be stable at present, the 3-month average will increase for the next 1-2 months and should then stabilize.

Cw prices have risen substantially over the last 3-month term with a resulting increase in stumpage rates. It is expected that rates will increase for another 1-2 months and then level out.

Hemlock prices (grade H,I,J) continue to be stable and are expected to continue in the near future. There is increased demand for pulp but that may be short-lived. Due to the low value of Hw, rates are generally quite low subject to development costs.

As prices appear to continue to be on the rise, licensees should consider applying for CP's in the near future (subject to an agreeable rate) and locking that rate in for the remainder of the CP term.

Rates will be adjusted quarterly if you do not lock the rate. If there are stumpage issues that should be discussed at the CAAC meetings or if clarification of issues is required, I can be reached at jmarlow@oberon.ark.com or at (250) 285-2544 (Rockview Resources Limited). ♦



Is it time to prepare your Woodlot Licence Plan?

by D. Haley and A. Waters

A significant number of woodlot licence forest development plans (FDPs) will expire on December 31, 2006, and forest district staff indicates that very few woodlot licence plans (WLPs) have been approved or submitted for approval.

This could lead to a problem if a large number of WLPs are submitted for approval shortly before licensees want to commence winter harvesting and district staff are unable to review and approve the WLPs quickly.

Under normal circumstances, it is not possible to obtain a cutting permit (CP) without an approved FDP or WLP. Consequently, woodlot licensees may not be able to harvest their normal or uplifted AAC if they do not have:

- An active Cutting Permit (CP),
- Their FDP has expired and
- They can't obtain a new CP until a WLP is approved.

The purpose of this article is to encourage woodlot licensees to prepare a WLP if their FDP has expired (or is about to expire on December 31, 2006) and the licensee doesn't have an active CP to authorize harvesting past December 31, 2006.

The Ministry would also like to ensure that licensees don't miss the last opportunity to apply for a CP and have it issued before their FDP expires.

In cases where the FDP has approved blocks but these blocks do not have a CP, the holder may wish to apply for a CP on these blocks. The CP will allow harvesting to occur after December 31, 2006.

In cases where the FDP will require major amendments to propose new cutblocks and roads before additional CPs can be applied for, the licensee should consider the long-term benefit of preparing a

WLP (with a 10-year approval), which will provide greater flexibility to apply for cutting permits over the woodlot licence than an FDP amendment.

If a woodlot licensee is unsure about when their FDP expires they should look for the FDP approval letter from the district manager which should specify the date when the FDP was to expire.

The transition provisions in section 199 of the *Forest and Range Practices Act* automatically extend the expiry date of FDPs that were in effect as of January 1, 2004, and due to expire before December 31, 2006, (based on the DM's approval letter), so that these FDPs do not expire until December 31, 2006. If you do not know when your FDP will expire, talk to Ministry staff, your consultant or a trusted member of your woodlot association.

If the district manager's FDP approval letter specifies a term of approval that ends after December 31, 2006, the FDP can remain in

“Woodlot licensees should be confident that the investment necessary to prepare a WLP won't be wasted by further changes to WLP legislation.”

effect until the specified expiry date or the FDP can be voluntarily replaced with the approval of a WLP. The Ministry is not encouraging woodlot licensees to replace their FDP with a WLP if the FDP is still functioning efficiently to provide new cutting permits and road permits.

Although section 199(2) of the *Forest and Range Practices Act* allows a regulation to further extend the legislated expiry date of FDPs

from December 31, 2006 to December 31, 2007, the Ministry is not planning to extend the legislated expiry date of FDPs to December 31, 2007.

Maintaining these old FDPs, which will probably require major amendments to add new cutblocks, will not reduce workload or provide the streamlining that is possible if woodlot licensees obtain the approval of a WLP for a 10 year period. Evidence suggests that the cost of preparing a WLP may not be that much greater than preparing a major FDP amendment.

Initially when the *Forest and Range Practices Act* came into effect in January 2004, there was a considerable amount of interpretation and policy clarification and several regulation amendments were needed to resolve what was actually required in a WLP. These issues were resolved prior to the delivery of province wide WLP training between November 2005 and January 2006.

Woodlot licence plan requirements are now stable and are not expected to change significantly in the foreseeable future. If you have been delaying the preparation of a WLP due to concern that the legislation will undergo further significant change, the Ministry of Forests and Range would like to encourage you to prepare a WLP if you will be unable to apply for CPs due to the expiry of your FDP.

The Woodlot Licence Program is in state of transition due to the WARRT committee recommendations and the possible movement to a tabular stumpage rate system. Woodlot licensees should be confident that the investment necessary to prepare a WLP won't be wasted by further changes to WLP legislation requirements.

In most regions of the province,

(Continued on page 8)



Woodlot reporting into RESULTS database: Proposed Annual Reporting of Silvicultural Information into RESULTS

As of June 1st 2005, the use of the Electronic Submission Framework (ESF) is mandatory for all tenure holders operating on Crown land. This includes the reporting of silvicultural and forest cover information to the Reporting Silviculture Updates and Land Status Tracking System (RESULTS) database.

District staff and holders of woodlot licences recognize the need and the value in having good clean data.

The requirement for ESF submissions has created concerns amongst many woodlot licence holders and the Federation of BC Woodlot Associations has expressed these.

In response to the stated concerns, the MOFR responded by:

- 1) Accepting the current, one-page Annual Report form in paper format for the submission of Silvicultural information activities done in 2005
- 2) Forming a group to define and map out a strategy for Woodlot

RESULTS submission that would be appropriate for woodlot licence holders.

The group was tasked with:

- Developing a Submission Guide for Woodlots by streamlining the current RESULTS Submission. This streamlining will be based, in part, on the current one-page Annual Report form that holders are required to submit on or before April 30th each year

(Continued on page 9)

(Continued from page 7)

markets for selling timber are poor and there is no urgency to prepare a WLP or initiate harvesting unless forest health factors need to be addressed on the woodlot licence area. It is normal woodlot licensee behavior to postpone preparing an operational plan if there is no sense of urgency to initiate harvesting.

The beauty of having a WLP approved is that it allows tremendous flexibility to apply for a cutting permit over any part of the woodlot licence plan that is not identified as an area where harvesting will be avoided. This would allow a woodlot licensee to quickly apply for a CP to initiate harvesting in response to a favorable change in log markets or stumpage policy.

Although the last WLP training sessions provided a WLP template with example text to make it very easy to prepare a WLP, very few WLPs have been submitted for approval. Part of the reason for this is that the first few WLPs to get approved in each district office will be more expensive to complete. Once contractors and forest district staff have more experience preparing and approving WLPs the process will be far more efficient and less

costly. Woodlot licensees don't want to be the first to submit a WLP to the district as they will incur higher costs to get their WLP approved.

To encourage licensees and contractors to prepare a WLP and reduce the cost and time associated with processing these initial WLPs,

“The WLP . . . should cost only a fraction of the cost of preparing a forest development plan.”

the Ministry has retained Al Waters on contract to provide assistance to Ministry staff for a limited time while the first few WLPs are approved in each district.

Questions from licensees or consultants should be sent to the local district woodlot person and/or Brian McNaughton. This will ensure that the same question is not answered over and over again and will identify any potential bottlenecks.

The WLP is a very simple plan to prepare and should cost only a fraction of the cost of preparing a forest development plan. In one

district in the north central interior a contractor indicates that simple WLPs (with few FRPA constraints), should cost about \$1,000 to prepare. Once the WLP is approved there will be additional costs to prepare cutting permit applications.

If there is a need for additional WLP training for Ministry staff, consultants and woodlot licensees, the Ministry is also prepared to provide additional training sessions. Requests for additional WLP training should be directed to Carmen Wheatley at cawheatley@telus.net.

The WLP is an efficient planning process, developed with significant input and advice from the Federation that should reduce operational planning costs to a fraction of what was incurred using FDPs under the Code.

With many new district staff involved in the approval of WLPs the Ministry recognizes the needs to be a readily available source for legal interpretations, explanations of policy intent and answers to specific questions. By providing this support to district staff (and thru them to licensees and contractors) the WLP initiative should prove to be an excellent success story in administrative streamlining. ♦

(Continued from page 8)

- Developing an initial presentation package for the Annual General Meeting to be held in Burns Lake on September 30th 2006
- Soliciting input from the Federation of BC Woodlot Associations;
- Developing and implementing a customized training package for Woodlot tenure holders and;
- Implementing electronic submissions to RESULTS in 2007 for silvicultural activities conducted in 2006

Why is the information needed by the Ministry of Forests and Range?

The information submitted is critical to the management and administration of BC Crown land in woodlots and is held in trust by data custodians in the best interest of the public. The information derived from the data is a valuable tool for Annual Allowable Cut (AAC) determinations. Further, RESULTS data is used for the following:

- RESULTS provides reports that the Chief Forester must make each year for the federal forest inventory;
- RESULTS data is also required by the Ministry of Forests and Range Compliance and Enforcement program to insure the achievement of regeneration and free-growing

obligations;

- RESULTS data is also used by the Integrated Land Management Bureau (ILMB), Ministry of Environment MoE), Surveyor General Branch, and Canadian Forest Service to make management decisions on our landbase
- Supports Goal 7 of the National Forest Strategy: Private Woodlots' Contribution to Sustainability. The Canadian Federation of Woodlots is a signatory to the NFS.

How does it benefit the Woodlot licensees?

Silviculture data submitted to RESULTS consists of two parts:

- Attribute data such as woodlot licence number, cutting permit number and block name or number, species and number of trees planted, etc. and
- Spatial information (map information on the outside boundary, standards units, reserve patches, etc.)

Stored data is instantly accessible at all times to both Ministry and woodlot licence holders (or their consultants) either on-line or through various reports. All data (including Spatial/map data) will be stored, and can be viewed in RESULTS using MapView. The data in RESULTS could be used by the woodlot licensee:

- To demonstrate their investment in the land (private and/or Crown) and their

excellence in forest management;

- For use as their own database and tracking system (to demonstrate personal and professional reliance);
- As a planning tool;
- As a storage facility where they can extract spatial information and create their own maps;
- To produce various reports through the corporate reporting system (CRS).

Contact information for questions

More information will be prepared for discussions in September 2006. In the meantime if you have any questions on ESF or RESULTS there are several information sites available for any persons with questions.

- Ministry Help Desk: FORHISP.APPHELP@gems5.gov.bc.ca, 1-866-955-0556
- Information Management Group: www.for.gov.bc.ca/his/esd/
- Electronic Submission Framework: www.for.gov.bc.ca/his/esf/
- RESULTS Home Page: www.for.gov.bc.ca/his/RESULTS/

Questions or comments on the proposed approach (shown above) can be directed to your local district Results Coordinator. Information is available at www.for.gov.bc.ca/his/ESF/ESF_FTA_RESULTS_CONTACT_LIST.xls ♦

Links of interest

- Maps of forest district boundaries and guide outfitter tenure boundaries are available at www.goabc.org/forest/index.html
- For 1-month and 3-month Interior and Coastal Log Market Reports, visit www.for.gov.bc.ca/hva/timberp/amv.htm



Selections from the 2005 Annual Report of the Minister's Forest and Range Practices Advisory Council (PAC)



*The Honourable Rich Coleman,
Minister of Forests and Range*

Minister's Message

In November 2002, government introduced the *Forest and Range Practices Act* (FRPA). The Act represents a new way of regulating forest and range practices and is a fundamental shift from the *Forest Practices Code*. While the Code was the right legislation for its time, it was clear that a new approach was needed; one that would help create jobs and economic growth by promoting industry innovation without compromising the high environmental standards that protect British Columbia's forest and range land.

In developing the FRPA results-based model, it was recommended government create a standing advisory body to reflect broad-based interests to provide sound and rigorous comment on the efficacy of the Act and its regulations. As this idea matched government's desire for independent third-party evaluation of FRPA, the Forest and Range Practices Advisory Council (PAC) was formed.

Since then, PAC members have worked hard to make FRPA and its

regulations relevant and effective. Members have developed strong relationships with other FRPA working committees, including the Provincial FRPA Implementation Team and with the FRPA Resource Evaluation Program, which evaluates forest and range practices. The PAC has also shown its value in building relationships with forest and range stakeholders, and its interest in issues which impact forest and range practices, particularly, the mountain pine beetle epidemic and worker safety.

The Council's advice on forest and range practices has proven invaluable as government moved forward with implementing FRPA. Therefore, I am pleased to present this first annual report, which summarizes the PAC's activities and accomplishments to date.

On behalf of all British Columbians, I thank the PAC members for their dedicated efforts to ensure British Columbia's forests are sustainably managed.

PAC Activities and Accomplishments – 2005:

The PAC reported to the Minister on the following:

- Environmental Protection: Recreational and Other Public Use of Crown Land;
 - Ways and means of improving the FRPA Resource Evaluation Program;
 - Expanding FRPA evaluations to include all FRPA goals and objectives, not just those being addressed under the FRPA Resource Evaluation Program;
 - Matters relating to FRPA implementation, including additional training needs,
- an ongoing extension program and interpretative guidance to provide those working under FRPA with a better understanding on how to interpret key words or phrases in the legislation;
 - Worker Safety, notably advising that PAC is in the process of gathering more information to assess whether additional safety concerns have been generated as a result of the innovative practices that arise out of FRPA; and
 - Achieving the provincial Crown's policies with respect to the consultation obligations (within FRPA) to First Nations.
- The PAC identified the need to help employees and forestry contractors understand their liabilities and responsibilities and how they should operate under the principles of due diligence. Members of PAC provided review and comment on a draft pocket handbook, which resulted in the publication of the InfoFlip "Due Diligence under the *Forest and Range Practices Act* – What Employees and Forestry Contractors Need to Know".
 - Reviewed and provided comment on draft proposals for amendments to the Forest Planning and Practices Regulation.
 - Reviewed and provided comment on draft proposals for amendments to the Government Actions Regulation.
 - The PAC was instrumental in identifying the need for a

(Continued on page 11)

Forest Practices Board investigates two Fraser Valley Woodlot Licences Both licences cleared

The Forest Practices Board recently completed investigations of two Fraser Valley Woodlot Licences.

An investigation involving Streamside Protection, Sediment Control and the Pacific Water Shrew on W0007 (BCIT Forest Society) concluded the licensee's management of riparian areas and erosion and sediment control activities was adequate.

In addition, the licensee had no legal obligation to manage the woodlot for Pacific Water Shrew since none had been detected on the woodlot licence area and no wild-

life habitat area (WHA) had been established.

The report went on to note that while the licensee's riparian management does not have to meet the standard of a Pacific Water Shrew WHA, it nevertheless came close. The full report is available at www.fpb.gov.bc.ca/complaints/IRC119/IRC119.pdf

The second investigation involved recreational impacts on W0038 (Blue Mountain Woodlot Ltd.), specifically that the woodlot owner was allowing motorized and non-motorized recreational vehicles to damage the habitat of cutthroat

trout, coastal tailed frogs and red-legged frogs.

The investigation concluded that only government can restrict recreational uses on Crown land since the only right provided by a woodlot licence is the right to carry out forest practices, including harvesting Crown timber. The complete report on this investigation can be viewed at: <http://www.fpb.gov.bc.ca/complaints/IRC120/IRC120.pdf> ♦

(Continued from page 10)

- pocket handbook to assist range tenure holders, employees and contractors, consultants, government staff and guide outfitters. PAC provided review and comment on the Range InfoFlip that provides pertinent information on Range requirements under the *Forest and Range Practices Act*, touches on other relevant legislation, and highlights related information linked to range management.
- The PAC provided recommendations to both Minister de Jong and Minister Coleman regarding proposed legislation.
 - The PAC provided input on various initiatives, including:
 - professional certification/ professional reliance in a results based regime
 - statutory/non-statutory guidance
 - The FRPA Resource Evaluation Program: <http://www.for.gov.bc.ca/hfp/frep/index.html> ♦

Minister's Forest and Range Practices Council: Current Membership (2005)



- **Duncan Barnett**, BC Cattlemen's Association
- **Bruno Delesalle**, Grasslands Conservation Council of British Columbia
- **Dale Drown**, Guide Outfitters Association of British Columbia
- **David Littlejohn**, Council of Tourism Associations
- **Corinne Lonsdale**, Union of BC Municipalities Natural Resource Committee
- **Brian McNaughton**, Federation of BC Woodlot Associations
- **Garry Merkel** (Co-Chair), First Nations Summit Task Group
- **Roy Nagel**, Central Interior Logging Association
- **James O'Hanley**, Weyerhaeuser Canada Ltd, representing major licensees (Interior)
- **Kim Pollock**, United Steelworkers of Canada
- **Ric Slaco**, International Forest Products, representing major licensees (Coast)
- **Jim Snetsinger** (Co-Chair), Chief Forester, Ministry of Forests and Range

Colouring between the "Lyons"

Contributed by the CFS

Imagine a mom who banned colouring books!

Erik Lyon's did.

"She didn't believe in colouring between the lines and instead encouraged me to do my own thing when I was little," he says.

That artistic license clearly nurtured a talent in the young Erik.

Today he's a student at the Emily Carr Institute of Art + Design in Vancouver . . . and the creative energy behind a series of beautifully-detailed mountain pine beetle models, produced for Natural Resources Canada.

The one-of-a-kind "modeling" assignment came during Erik's well-timed co-op stint at the Royal British Columbia Museum (RBCM) in Victoria.

"How would you like to build a beetle", said Erik's supervisor, RBCM Exhibits Manager Barry Forrester.

Barry knew that Erik was keen to tackle an assignment of this sort and happenstance made it possible. The Canadian Forest Service was looking to add a second large-scale beetle to its collection at the Pacific Forestry Centre because the first was very old; in need of some repair; and so popular as an educational tool that it was often on loan outside the building.

The cost of reproducing such a large-scale version, though, turned out to be way too high. Quotes were in the thousands of dollars.

So the NRCan Communications Branch – Pacific Region contacted Barry at the Museum for some advice and that's when he came up with his idea . . . his wonderful, awesome idea.

What if the Museum, instead of producing a large scale model, made several smaller beetles that could be built by new staff and students as a training exercise? Labour and exper-

tise would be free. NRCan would cover the cost of materials only.

The project took off from there. Costs dropped, too, when the provincial Ministry of Forests and Range was invited to place orders as well. It meant it was worth designing a mold to produce numerous bugs instead of two or three.

For Erik, the first challenge was figuring out how to make an accurate, museum-quality model ten times the size of an insect as small as a grain of rice!

"Exhibits technician Nigel Sinclair and I sat down and tried to analyze and envision every step it would take to create the model. Then I just sort of went for it. I had a pretty good understanding of the mold-making process through training on a previous project with Adrienne Aitkins, the Museum's resident mold-making wizard. She had taken me under her wing to help make some fossil replicas for a timeline exhibit. Between her and Nigel, there was always an answer to be found for any problem," says Erik.

And there were problems.

"The hardest part was making the legs. They were difficult to cast, being so thin," recalls Erik. He says he was also surprised at how big the pine beetles' antennae are. That came to light early on when a prototype model with smallish antennae was examined by NRCan Entomology Technician Doug Linton. He knows the anatomy of the beetles better than most because he photographs them in excruciating detail. It was Doug who provided some key information at that point: a defining characteristic of *Dendroctonus ponderosae* (the mountain pine beetle) is the large club-shaped antenna.

Casting, assembling, and finishing the beetles – twenty in the first run – did not take long. It was the care, pa-

tience and precision that went into creating the original mold that took the most time and was the most intensive part of the project.

Challenges aside, Erik says that Barry made the co op worthwhile by letting him work on such an amazing project.

"Our forests are important to me and if my work on this beetle project in some way helps to raise awareness about our vulnerable position, than that makes me glad," he adds.

The rather unique opportunity also meant that instead of "vacuuming the seashore diorama and stuff", Erik got to work with talented exhibit technicians and tackle a self-directed creative assignment, all contributing to make the co-op a particularly great learning experience.

"Sometimes, it was like wow, they're letting me do this. Having that kind of responsibility was very important," he explains.

All the models have now found happy homes. Two are at NRCan locations on the west coast – the Geological Survey of Canada in Vancouver and the Canadian Forest Service's Pacific Forestry Centre in Victoria. One's at The Exploration Place in Prince George. And over twenty are proudly displayed in BC Forest Service offices throughout the province.

"They are useful for public education," says Tim Ebata, Forest Health Project Specialist with the Ministry of Forests and Range. "For example, they were used at the Natural Resources Forum in Prince George in January and again at the Alberta Mountain Pine Beetle Summit in May."

As a result of the beetle's spring debut in Alberta, 18 additional models have now been ordered from that province's Ministry of Sustainable Resource Development. ♦



What's eating yew?

Contributed by the CFS

An insect biologist in British Columbia has just made it a whole lot easier to know what's eating yew — and hemlock, pine and fir too for that matter.

Robert (Bob) Duncan of Natural Resources Canada is the author of *Conifer Defoliators of British Columbia*.

It's a colourful 359-page field guide filled with exquisite images and extraordinary detail about the caterpillars and sawfly larvae that feed on conifer foliage in this province and, incidentally, much of western North America.

"Anyone interested in forest health and environmental or biodiversity issues will find this book of practical use, as will woodlot owners, naturalists and arborists," says Duncan.

Conifer Defoliators of British Columbia is unique, not only because it makes identifying defoliators quicker and easier, but also because it brings together under one cover six decades of research by federal forest rangers who surveyed insect and disease conditions from 1936 to 1995.

And there's more. The book, used as a detection tool, could potentially protect Canada's forests from uninvited insect intruders.

"If someone on the west coast, for example, finds a conifer defoliator that is NOT pictured, I'll want to know right away because it could be a newly introduced species," says Duncan.

Of 173 defoliator species identified in the book, only about 20 periodically go into "outbreak", that is, their numbers increase rapidly and cause economically significant or highly visible damage. These include the spruce budworm, hemlock looper, Douglas-fir tussock moth

and larch sawfly. The rest are a significant part of the natural biodiversity in our forests and perform a myriad of ecological functions.

Conifer Defoliators of British Columbia can be ordered online from the Canadian Forest Service at bookstore.cfs.nrcan.gc.ca or by sending a fax to 250-363-6006.

Financial support was provided by the Forest Investment Account of the Government of British Columbia, Forest Science Program.

http://www.pfc.cfs.nrcan.gc.ca/news/newstips/defoliators_e.html ♦



Ask the Federation

*Got a question about
managing your woodlot?*

**This feature gives you
the answers!**

If your question is of interest to small-scale forest managers, we'll publish it in the Almanac with an answer from one of our experts.

Send questions to
Cathy McClary:

Box 10033,
Prince George, BC
V2K 5Y1

Phone: 1-888-925-9995

Fax: (250) 962-9199

E-mail:
cjmclary@shaw.ca

Small Woodlands Partnership

The Small Woodlands Partnership (SWP) is a self-sustaining long-term initiative. The goal is to increase landowner knowledge of responsible forest practices or sustainable forest management.

The partnership is non-profit and consists of like-minded organizations with a common interest in promoting best management practices (BMP)/ responsible forestry practices on small woodlands in British Columbia.

The origin of the SWP is from an FRBC project that produced a comprehensive Small Woodland Program.

The new website currently under construction retains the valued FRBC reports and documents relevant to small woodland owners as well as current resources/links developed and shared by the Small Woodland Partners.

The Federation of British Columbia Woodlot Associations has agreed to cover the annual hosting fees. Look for the link on the FBCWA website soon.

www.woodlot.bc.ca/swp/2006Update/index.html ♦



FIA—Small Tenures Program: Final Report Summary



by Carmen Wheatley

The Federation is now well into its fifth year of administering of the Small Tenures Program.

The Small Tenures Program is one of the seven Forest Investment Account (FIA) Programs which provides funding for eligible forest management activities specifically targeted at Woodlot Licences and Community Forest Agreements.

The final report for the Forest Investment Account – Small Tenures Program was submitted on May 15, 2006. The following paragraphs will summarize the final report, with further detail noted in the Federation's Annual Report, and the full report posted on the Federation FIA website at <http://www.woodlot.bc.ca/fia.htm>.

The Small Tenures Program is delivered through a provincial lead association model. For efficiency,

11 Lead Woodlot Associations and the BC Community Forest Association (BCCFA) were identified to facilitate planning and deliver projects on the ground on a regional/district-wide basis. The 11 lead woodlot associations acted on behalf of 25 woodlot associations (823 licensees) and the BC Community Forest Association worked on behalf of 11 community forest tenures.

Land-based Activities

The accomplishments for the Small Tenures Program are summarized in the table below by Component and Activity. All activities contributed to Forest Investment Account objectives by improving the forest asset base and fostering sustainable forest management. The greatest portion of program funding was spent within the Stand Establishment and

Treatment component at \$361,000, with the Information Gathering and Management component somewhat lower at a total of \$241,000. Infrastructure expenditures for Recreation totaled just over \$75,000.

Provincial Extension Initiatives

The Federation, in partnership with the Ministry of Forests, delivered 17 workshops province-wide to Woodlot Licensees, consultants, and Ministry staff on how to develop a Woodlot License Plan using the Woodlot Licence Plan template.

This training was geared to Woodlot Licensees without formal training and involved hands-on exercises. On completion of these workshops, participants should

Component	Activity	No. of Ha, Trees, Other
Stand Establishment and Treatment	Planting	4.9 ha
	Brushing	20.9 ha
	Spacing	173.1 ha
	Site Preparation	22.5 ha
	Pruning	45.6 ha
	Fertilization	9 ha
	Seedling Purchase	13,000 seedlings
	Cage Removal/Maintenance	24 ha
	Beetle Surveys/Walkthroughs	1100 ha
	Backlog Free Growing Surveys	200.6 ha
Information Gathering and Management	Predictive Ecosystem Mapping	4,613 ha
	Terrestrial Ecosystem Mapping	9,943 ha
	Vegetation Resource Inventory	27,544 ha
	TEM/VRI	40,000 ha
	Archeological Overview Assess.	45,450 ha
Infrastructure	Recreation	7 recreation sites were activated or maintained. 3 recreation sites were expanded.

(Continued from page 14)

have been able to complete a draft of most of their Woodlot Licence Plan (WLP); understand the links between the WLP content and practice requirements; and learn which parts of the WLP must be signed by an RPF.

The workshops were delivered between November 2005 and February 2006. The course materials were developed with funding and technical support from the Ministry of Forests; workshops were advertised and coordinated by the Federation in consultation with the Ministry.

A Train the Trainers session was held in advance of the workshops for all facilitators to ensure a consistent delivery. These facilitators then delivered the training throughout the province. The majority of the workshop sessions had a team of facilitators

consisting of one Federation contractor and a Ministry of Forests staff person/representative. The number of attendees participating in the 17 workshops totaled over 300.

Issues/Improvements

The Federation and Ministry of Forests have continued to work together to address issues in the delivery of the Small Tenures Program and improve processes. The new requirement in 2004 to have all lead associations develop a Small Tenure Investment Rationale has proven beneficial and it has streamlined the workplan screening process.

As of the 2005-06 fiscal year, all lead associations pursued GST registration, and new procedures for GST processing were implemented in response to GST ruling recommendations.

We are pleased to see further

clarification available to FIA administrators in the areas of insurance requirements and information sharing with First Nations.

Summary

The Federation has now completed its fourth productive year in the administration of the Small Tenures Program. With the dedicated work of the Lead associations, an effective program of priority forest management activities was delivered. The Federation continues to work closely with the BCCFA to improve processes and support new Community Forests in FIA delivery. The Federation looks forward to working with the Ministry of Forests next fiscal in the administration of the Small Tenures Program. ♦

Workshop Announcement: Agroforestry Potential for the Peace

October 17-18, 2006

Taylor Community Hall, Taylor, BC

GOALS: The overall goals of the workshop are :

1. To bring together First Nations; agricultural producers; agricultural, forestry and oil and gas professionals and agencies from the region, and provide them up-to-date information on crops, management and potential value-added products; and
2. To foster partnerships among First Nations; agricultural producers; agricultural, forestry and oil and gas professionals; and agencies from the region.

OBJECTIVES: The specific workshop objectives are to:

1. Provide education and build awareness about agroforestry systems, their economic potential, environmental goods and services and social benefits, concentrating on information for the Peace region;
2. Increase knowledge of intercropping (alleycropping) production practices, potential products, services and markets; and
3. Allow producers and potential producers an opportunity to network and share information.

WORKSHOP FORMAT: A one-day workshop, followed by a second day field tour, will highlight alley cropping and other agroforestry opportunities for the Peace Region. The workshop session will feature invited speakers covering: a general introduction of agroforestry systems; presentations on setting up and managing a poplar/ aspen intercropping operation; how carbon sequestration and credits integrate into business planning; wildlife damage potential – rodents and ungulates; alternate crops for intercropping and other agroforestry production systems; and, presentation and discussion of the Doig River First Nation demonstration project.

For more information, visit www.mcgregor.bc.ca or call 250-612-5840

Sponsors:

Doig River First Nation
BC Ministry of Agriculture and Lands

Agroforestry British Columbia
McGregor Model Forest Association



BC Agroforestry Industry Development Initiative (AIDI)

By April
Anderson

In the first
six months
of 2006, the

Agroforestry Industry Development Initiative (AIDI) sponsored three new demonstration and technology transfer projects, all of which are of interest to woodlot owners. A brief description of these projects follows.

Peace River Hybrid Poplar Intercropping (Alleycropping) Trials

This is a demonstration project undertaken by the Doig River First Nation in Rose Prairie (approximately 70 kilometres north-east of Fort St. John) is promoting alleycropping “as a means of providing alternative crop and economic opportunities for agricultural producers in the Peace Region.”

The project site will provide a venue where current and potential agroforestry practitioners can develop local on-the-ground information and expertise specific to the Peace Region.

The Peace River area is one of the primary regions for producing exceptional quality grass seeds, yielding approximately 96% of BC’s forage seed. Concurrently, the production of native plants (including trees, shrubs, and native grass seed) for the reclamation and restoration market has shown strong growth in recent years, with demand frequently outstripping supply—native plant crops are potentially an important economic diversification option for producers.

Grasses are typically managed in pure stands; however, intercropping *Populus* spp. with specialty grass seed produces both fibre and native tree species, which diversifies and stabilizes farming income and in-

vestment.

Since both forage seed and hybrid poplar and aspen are typically grown from superior selections to provide better quality and higher yields over much shorter periods of time, these crops have similar management regimes, including site preparation, regularly-spaced stems, weed control, fertilization and (sometimes) irrigation.

It is projected that farmed hybrid trees in the Peace could be ready to harvest in 18 to 25 years with wood volumes in the range of 275 to 350 cubic meters per hectare. In comparison, the native forest takes 70 to 80 years to produce 150 to 200 cubic meters per hectare.

Local forest industry development has created an increased demand for poplar wood in the production of oriented strand board (OSB), and poplars and aspens may have potential as a crop for oil and gas reclamation activities (such as abandoned well sites, abandoned pipeline right-of-ways) on private lands.

The project will hold an agroforestry workshop which will bring together First Nations; agricultural producers; agricultural, forestry, and oil and gas professionals; and natural resources/land management agencies from the region.

The workshop will provide up-to-date information on crops, management, and potential value-added products. For more information on the workshop, contact Todd.Bondaroff@gov.bc.ca, (250) 787-3241.

Birch Agroforestry Industry Development Program

This tech transfer and demonstration project, undertaken by the Quesnel Community and Economic Development Corporation (QCEDC), is supporting and promoting the growing interest and

demand for non-timber products from birch.

The project’s goal is to improve access to birch agroforestry information and support technology transfer with the development of a guidebook, new products research and training sessions.

The program will research and compile existing information and producer knowledge on birch tapping and sap processing into a guidebook / production manual for prospective birch agroforestry practitioners, and then deliver workshops where this material will be presented. Information and training materials are needed to disseminate to prospective proponents of birch agroforestry, and the QCEDC project will research and produce them.

Although this project is being developed as a regional initiative, it is applicable to a much larger area (i.e., wherever paper birch grows in BC). Interested individuals or groups from outside the region are welcome to participate in the training sessions.

Birch is traditionally used for flooring, lumber, OSB, and fuelwood. Non-traditional birch products such as syrup, sap drinks (birch tonic, birch wine, birch sap-fruit juice blends), and crafts (from wood and bark) have the potential to broaden the economic opportunities of this prolific BC native species, diversifying agricultural or woodlot production and increasing income.

Strengthening and diversifying the economy of the region will contribute to mitigating the expected economic slowdown in the coming decade as a result of the Mountain Pine Beetle (MPB). “The QCEDC is committed to supporting the development of the long-term capacity in this area and will support industry building activities beyond

the scope of the Agroforestry Initiative funding term.”

In addition to some small-scale hobby operations, there are currently two commercial birch syrup businesses in the province, both located in the Cariboo region. In 2005 they collected approximately 68,000 litres of raw sap and produced approximately 790 litres of finished syrup.

Both sell most of their product directly to the consumer and through a variety of retail outlets, farmers markets and fairs in the region and throughout BC. Limited sales over the internet have also occurred with distribution across Canada and the USA. Producers indicate that interest in these new products is growing, and that current demand exceeds production. The time is right for promoting this industry to the emerging agroforestry community.

The QCEDC will be holding farm tours in the spring of 2007 and 2008 to provide an overview and demonstration of birch tapping, birch syrup processing, regulations for processing and relevant food safety and labeling, and marketing information and training. For more information, contact the QCEDC at mail@quesnelcorp.com, or (250) 992 – 3522.

Jayendee Farms Agroforestry and Poplar Intercropping

This demonstration project undertaken by the Abbotsford Soil Conservation Association is promoting alleycropping and sustainable utilization of hog manure in an agroforestry system. The project will estimate the effects of agroforestry practices on whole-farm nutrient balance and determine optimum plant species for integration in hybrid poplar rotation with application of hog manure.

Improved integration of production systems will be achieved by introducing crops marketable to the landscape and floral industries. The

project will provide information to other producers about how to diversify farm income through the application of this agroforestry system by developing fact sheets, and hosting a series of field tours.

Jayendee Farms is 20 acres, with approximately 2500 animals on the farm, comprising a 300 sow farrow to finish hog operation.

In order to use the manure, 17 acres were planted to a short-rotation-intensive-culture hybrid poplar plantation in 2002; this is the fifth growing season in what is expected to be an eight to twelve year rotation. The tree canopy has reached a height to allow planting of shade-tolerant native ferns and shrubs as an understory.

The exterior and near-exterior rows will be planted with red osier dogwood (*Cornus sericea* and *C. stolonifera*) and Oregon grape (*Mahonia nervosa*), both of which are expected to thrive in the low light and high nutrient conditions.

The remaining interior rows will be planted with ferns such as northern maidenhair fern, lady fern and deer fern. The chosen floral and landscape plants have high market value and are therefore expected to be readily marketable.

Manure, soil, foliar, bark, wood and root samples will be collected and tested for micro and macro nutrients on a regular basis, and manure application rates and timing will be documented. Soil, bark, wood and root samples of poplars were collected in the winter of 2005, and laboratory analysis will establish baseline data that can be used to estimate nutrient levels at the outset, and subsequent changes in nutrient levels during the course of the project.

Replicated samples will be collected in the fall of each year. The data can be used to estimate nutrient inputs to the system and nutrient uptake by the poplars and floral/landscape species. This can then be

used to estimate total farm nutrient balance including possible movement of nutrients into ground or surface water.

In order to estimate the effects of manure application, the floral and landscape stock will also be intercropped with poplars that receive no manure. In order to estimate the effects of shade, the plants will also be planted in an area with no trees.

Maintenance such as pest control, weeding, and irrigation (the latter two are expected to be minimal due to the level of shade within the intercropping area) will take place on a regular basis.

This project will provide a great opportunity to demonstrate to the public that the industry is working hard to improve farming practices in order to minimize or eliminate environmental impacts.

The project will hold an annual open house with key members of the community invited, as well as agricultural producers, landowners, commodity and community groups. Fact sheets outlining the project outcomes and the benefits of Agroforestry systems will be produced. For more information, contact Jayna@AbbotsfordSoilConservation.com, or (604) 556-3732.

For information about submitting a project proposal, contact George Powell, Agroforestry Initiative Facilitator, at agroforestry@uniserve.com, or visit www.woodlot.bc.ca/agroforestry. The next deadline for submission of letters of intent and applications is November 15, 2006.♦





On the safety front

The Federation has been accepted as a member of the BC Forest Safety Council, pending the development of the membership requirements package. Shawn Flynn, WL holder from Port Alberni, has agreed to chair the committee.

Shawn and his partner, Dave McBride (also known as Greenmax Enterprises) do most of the work on their WL themselves, making Shawn very familiar with safety as it relates to all phases of forest operations.

Other members of the committee include Mark Clark (Pr. George), Jim Stewart (Rocky Mountain), Gary Burns (Arrow), Ernie Koeck (Quesnel) and Jim McCall (Quesnel).

As I'm sure every woodlot licensee and private forest land owner is aware, safety has become BC's #1 forest priority. At the March 2006 meeting, the Board of Directors passed a motion for the Federation to seek membership on the BC Forest Safety Council with the express purpose of making the bush safer using ways and means which are within the capabilities of small tenure holders.

New committee members are also welcome so anyone wishing to volunteer—please let Shawn (250 724-1479) or Brian McNaughton (250 398-7646) know. ♦

The little-known softer side of Brent Petrick

Photo credit, both photos: Barb Dawson

As you can see, our Federation President is in love with the BIG coastal Douglas fir. Brent also appears to have 'feelings' for coastal woodlot licensee Sid Dawson as he appears to . . . well, you can decide what he is doing! ♦



We want to hear from you!

Letters to the editor are an important way for licensees to raise issues or concerns. Licensees are encouraged to express their opinions about Federation or Council business and small-scale forestry issues.

What concerns you may also concern others!

Keep letters to 200 words or less, and please include your name and WL number. Send letters to Cathy McClary, Box 10033, Prince George, BC V2K 5Y1 Phone: 1-888-925-9995 Fax: (250) 962-9199

E-mail: cjmclary@shaw.ca

(Continued from page 3)

of woodlots have an urban interface, with increased pressure for resource management for a myriad of values. These resource management challenges are often over the entire woodlot area, not a fraction of a chart area.

- 3 Woodlots live and die in the log market . . . period. The reality is that government decisions have had a dramatically adverse affect on log market balance for family forest operators.
- 4 Woodlot small businesses are tied directly to communities. Revenues from the wood sector

flow directly into local communities and cycle through many times. Further, there needs to be an understanding that many of our woodlots are non-profit societies, which provide significant benefits to local schools, colleges, and recreation.

In the past few years the fabric of the forest industry has changed forever. It is time for the government and the MOFR to support their public commitment to small-scale forestry in the future of the forest industry.

As the Minister makes a decision on the future of the program we can only hope that these tenets

are considered and that a balanced decision provides for the long-term success of the woodlot program, an ability to manage our woodlots to the high standards we have achieved, and a fair economic return to the people of BC.

The Federation and woodlot members have worked hard on the above realities and have presented a balanced proposal to Government which achieves the objectives set out by the Minister of Forests & Range . . . hopefully the government is willing to commit to family forests in BC. ♦

Thank you to our contributors



- | | |
|-------------------------|------------------|
| April Anderson | Brian McNaughton |
| Canadian Forest Service | Brent Petrick |
| Dean Daly | Harold Reedy |
| Barb Dawson | Al Waters |
| Dave Haley | Carmen Wheatley |
| John Marlow | |

Congratulations!

Congratulations to Katherine Backlund, winner of this year's FBCWA \$500 Scholarship Award. More details will be provided in the next issue. ♦



Skidder for sale

The Brentons have retired from woodlotting and would like to sell their skidder (shown above) to a good home. It is a 1966 John Deere 440. It comes with a good snow blade, custom-made water tank (280 gal), spare and four chains. The rubber is 80%. It is ready to work, gently. \$15,000 firm. Phone 250-366-4228.

Woodlot and Small Tenures Forest Management, and E-Submission Services



- Since 2003, *Integrated* has been on contract with the Ministry of Forests to complete all Woodlot E-Submissions into RESULTS. This contract is continuing in 2005.
- Our staff has the expertise in all aspects of Electronic Forest Management.

Background on *Integrated*

- Full-phase forestry and woodlot management consultants.
- Offices located in Kamloops, Clearwater, Williams Lake, and Chetwynd.
- In business since 1992.

Contact: esf@intpac.ca
 Bill Kals, Steve Henderson, RPF
 Phone: (250) 828-7977 Fax: (250) 828-2183

Synergy chemicals bus card here



**Dunkley
LUMBER LTD.**

DIRECT LINE: (250) 998-4215
 BUS.: (250) 998-4421
 RES.: (250) 747-3595
 CELL.: (250) 961-3100

DOUG NELSON
 Log Buyer/Wood Supervisor

P.O. BOX 173
 FAX: (250) 998-4558
 EMAIL: dnelson@dunkleylumber.com

PRINCE GEORGE, B.C.
 CANADA V2L 4S1

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
- ◆ **¼ page:**\$135
- ◆ **½ 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.