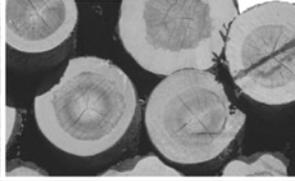




THE WOODLAND ALMANAC



www.woodlot.bc.ca

Spring 2009

Forestry on a Kootenay peak

Tom Bradley and Bernie Clover's Woodlot # 1832

by Deborah Greaves

Last summer, high on a mountain ridge overlooking magnificent Slocan Lake and Valhalla Provincial Park, woodlot manager Tom Bradley bounced along a very rough road in a well-used pickup. It was a clear day. Below Bradley and his truck was a long, impressively steep hillside, lush with many hectares of selectively cleared forest. Above, where the road is almost non-existent, a section of the forest was turned upside down.

The big cut at the top of a high ridge is the site of the 2008 harvest in Woodlot 1832, and in July it looked pretty rough. Later, when this logged area provides more grazing, the local elk will be happy.

(Continued on page 8)

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PHOTO: DEBORAH GREAVES

"Managing a woodlot is both stewardship and business," says Tom Bradley of Woodlot 1832, located in the Slocan Valley. He and his artist wife Jo have lived in the area for 30 years.



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Letters from licensees: Your views

Rationale sought for rejected AGM resolutions

Editor:

The resolutions developed and passed at the AGM represent the common will of many, if not most, woodlot licensees.

As such, they provide strong guidance to the Federation executive as to what is important to their constituents, as well as that they should endeavour to meet the desires, wishes and expectations of the members as expressed by these resolutions.

Developing a resolution takes a lot of good thought and effort. None are done without the betterment of the woodlot members and the woodlot sector as a whole as an overriding objective.

It is disappointing, therefore, to see so many resolutions rejected by the Directors.

The least they could do, and yea, must do, is to provide a rationale as to why the resolutions are rejected.

Such a rationale not only respects those making the effort to develop and support the resolution but also all the members who voted for it. It also informs everyone of what the Executive is thinking and why they have such thoughts.

Without such responses, the Federation resolution process will lose all credibility.

Yours truly,

— Fred Marshall ♦

E-FM frustration: Is anyone listening?

Editor:

Is anyone listening?

Here we go again, regarding RESULTS and the Annual Report. I suppose if I had even the smallest degree of confidence in RESULTS, I would sigh deeply and take on the task of learning what the e-flavour of the day is for the AR and EFM. But since my old brain is limited in capacity and the Ministry will no doubt be changing it yet again, or admitting the whole freaking thing is rife and rampant with errors yet again, I fail to see the value. Yet again. Most licensees must have been deep asleep (rather comatose) when RESULTS was forced on us. Is it too late to get up on a stump and shout “Wake up!”? Yet again.

Every year we write up our annual reports with pleasure, providing a lot more than sterile numbers on a spreadsheet. Boxes of values alone do not even begin to approach the reporting needed to communicate what a woodlot is.

I am growing weary of the bureaucrats in Victoria (*not* Campbell River) misunderstanding the program. We supply extensive narrative to demonstrate what we do, as well as photographs so the office-bound workers can at least see what is going on in the forest.

How does Excel communicate this? It cannot. Excellent forestry does not fit into neat little squares designed by neat little squares.

I read in the latest WL survey by the WPDC that an issue that continues to

be #1 in constraints is Regulation and e-Reporting. How many times do we have to repeat this? I admit I am a crusty old fart, but there are many others like me out there that when you mention RESULTS or e-FM, sends our blood pressure up way farther than my doctor says it should. I mean, why the hairy eye-ball on us, anyhow? How many licensees do you know who would intentionally over-cut, trespass, ignore reforestation, or incur damage or degradation to their WLs?

When I was being interviewed for the Business of the Year Award, I unfurled the diagram that shows the convoluted paper trail required by the Ministry for even the smallest woodlot license.

The reporter could not believe it, and said in all her days covering the commercial sector for Black Press, she'd never seen anything like that labyrinth!! And the MOFR has the audacity to claim they are pro-small business?

Curmudgeonly yours,
Harold Macy, W1677
Merville, BC ♦



PHOTO: ALVIMANN, WWW.MORGUEFILE.COM

■ Message from the President of the FBCWA

Tough times? Get involved in solutions!

By Cliff Manning

It's certainly been a long hard winter for our licensees, with no markets for their wood around the province and with the economy in the sewer; we all wonder what spring and summer 2009 will bring us.

Brian McNaughton and myself, back in January set off in a tour of the southern woodlot associations; namely, South Cariboo, Boundary, West Kootenay, Shuswap-Okanagan, Kamloops and Clearwater.

We attempted to get to meetings in the Columbia and East Kootenay woodlot associations, but after many hours of waiting in lineups for avalanche-covered roads to clear, we had to cancel those meetings until spring.

Our 10-day road trip allowed us to meet with the local woodlot associations and their forest services reps, covering the many issues and topics your Woodlot Federation has been very busy working on.



Cliff Manning
FBCWA President

The FBCWA is part of the Joint Working Group, headed by Rhonda Morris, Manager of Timber Tenures, from Victoria, where we all have been working on a number of fronts, such as Woodlot Program Expansion; CP Postponement; Surrender Regulation; FBCWA Safety Program, FIA; Private Land Withdrawal; Cut Control; Woodlot / First Nations Treaty issues; and E-Business.

One must not forget TAB rates, which took extensive work and many meetings over four years to finally get. These are only a few of the many priorities, that you as licensees have directed us in, through your Directors at your local association levels, through the WPDC questionnaire, and from your resolutions from the annual general meetings.

With the amount of harvesting being reduced, funds from the levy that the WPDC receives have been dropping at a significant rate, which has certainly

created a lot of concern for the directors of both the WPDC and the FBCWA. The budgets for 2009/10 have been reduced from previous years, but licensee demands have not.

My point is there are a number of fronts your FBCWA Executive are working on diligently and we have a lots of meetings happening around the province, but you as woodlot licensees have lots of concerns and issues that need to be addressed.

We on the Executive and as directors are only a few, and a lot of you need to be involved. It's easy to sit back and complain; but in times like today with our economy becoming sluggish, is also the best time to change, to bring about efficiencies, to stand up and get involved in finding solutions.

Innovation will come from those who can "think outside the box". *Be part of the solution, not the problem!* Become involved! Attend your meetings! Come out and support your associations by attending the annual General Meetings! ♦

Seeking contractors: Request for Proposals for timber pricing advisory positions

The FBCWA is advertising for two contract positions vital to the organization. The two positions will address Coastal and Interior timber pricing issues on behalf of the FBCWA and all woodlot licensees. The Directors of the Federation recently endorsed the advertising of these two professional services contracts to provide continuing

support to the Federation.

In 2004, the FBCWA adopted a policy to periodically advertise support contracts for a number of reasons.

First, it ensures widespread opportunity for contractors to be considered for the positions.

Second, since the applicants are required to describe their fees for services, the competition establishes

the current market consulting fees.

Third, the FBCWA will have the confidence that the successful applicant is the most qualified for the position.

The contracts are awarded on an annual basis, but may be renewed for a period of three years. For more details on the proposals, please check out www.woodlot.bc.ca ♦

■ General Manager's Report

Road trip highlights licensees' concerns

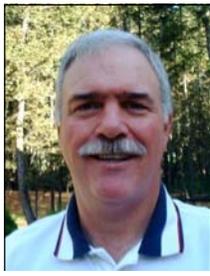
By Brian McNaughton

What started out as a nine-day, eight-meeting tour of woodlot associations in the southeastern part of the province ended up being nine days and six meetings!

Cliff Manning and I set out with the best of intentions, but apparently we forgot to consult Mother Nature, who decided to close the trans-Canada highway at Sicamous as we were trying to make our way to Golden and Cranbrook. Cliff and I were left stranded, just like the crew and passengers of the SS Minnow on the old sitcom – Gilligan's Island. I'll leave it to you to decide which one of us was Gilligan, and which was the Captain!

It was great to meet with woodlotters at the other locations. There were pretty good turnouts considering the weather. Most attendees were pleased, or at least satisfied, with the switch to tabular rates, and appreciative of the Federation's efforts respecting WL program expansion, licence surrender and CP postponements.

Obviously the current economy, and particularly the economic downturn of the forest industry, is weighing heavily on everybody's minds. This is not an issue that the Federation can turn around by itself but we received a lot of encouragement to keep working on reducing costs – safety, admin, e-business, taxes, etc., while at the same time try finding new revenue streams such as new wood products or amend-



Brian McNaughton,
General Manager

ing tenure rights to include non-timbered forest products, carbon credits, environmental good and services, etc.

There are two reasonably recent new initiatives which are catching woodlotters' attention. The first is the Open Burning Smoke Control

Regulation which proposes to eliminate slash burning in certain critical areas, notably around settlement areas and in transportation corridors. Much of the initiative is motivated by public health concerns as well as some climate change considerations.

The Federation's main concern involves the cost implications to licensees and landowners. Fire is the most cost effective tool for slash disposal and, currently, there are no financially feasible alternatives available. It would be one thing if there were bioenergy plants all over the place buying logging waste, but that isn't yet the case!

The other initiative was a Provincial Trails Strategy which is proposing a greatly expanded trails network throughout BC, as well as diversification of trail usage – hiking, trekking, ATVs, horses, snowmobiles, dirt bikes, etc.

While an improved trails network is a laudable goal, the strategy is extremely weak when it comes to forestry matters such as soil conservation, protection of resource values, the spread of invasive plants, regeneration damage, safety, net down of operable forest area, enforcement, damage to

equipment and infrastructure, and the list goes on. It's not that far-fetched to believe that woodlot licensees could end up holding the bag for damage or problems caused by trails users.

The Federation has made submissions respecting both these initiatives. However, if either of these is a concern to you, it never hurts to have licensees and landowners submit their views directly. In fact, these are two topics that your woodlot association may want to address.

A bit of good news: the West Kootenay WL Association is hosting the 2009 Annual General Meeting September 24 - 26 in Kaslo (see article on page 17). I hope you can make plans to attend. The value of direct contact between the Federation and woodlot licensees and landowners cannot be overstated.

In fact, Cliff and I are hoping to make plans around the AGM dates to get over to Golden and Cranbrook, to have fall meetings to replace the sessions that were canceled.

Despite the tough economic times, I hope you and your family have a good summer!

Brian McNaughton
General Manager, FBCWA ♦

Please note:

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

■ Interior timber pricing

Keeping an eye on Interior timber pricing

By Dean Daly

Can we now just forget about keeping up to date on interior timber pricing policy changes?

Unfortunately not, as market pricing system (MPS) policies will continue to impact us all into the future – regardless of whether we are appraised using a tabular stumpage rate system or not.

Although many interior woodlot licensees are now operating under the interim tabular stumpage rate model, many licensees continue to operate cutting permits under the current MPS policies.

In addition, Table 6-1 is updated annually using a weighted average of both major licensee MPS and BCTS sawlog stumpage rates by species and Forest Zone.

If the FBCWA does not remain active at policy tables, then there can be “unintended consequences” to woodlot licensee stumpage rates when policy changes occur.

Here are a few of the major initiatives that are *being considered* for interior timber pricing policy:

- Implementation of MPS A in July 2009. This proposal has not gone away, and would eliminate the distributional mechanisms imbedded in the current policy manual. Stumpage rates across the Interior will be distributed differently than they are today – and industry and government want to study this further to better understand the regional impacts before making this decision.
- A significant increase in the use of cruise-based cutting authorities in stands damaged by mountain pine beetle, where



Dean Daly, Interior
Timber Pricing
Coordinator

specific stand characteristics exist (i.e., threshold pine %, red and grey attack %, etc).

- Creation of “Minimum Stumpage Zones” where indicated stand rates for MPB-damaged stands are well into negative values.
- Stand as a whole timber pricing to “better reflect” the volume of off-grade / non-sawlog timber at the time of appraisal.

you’re out of the game.

For more information, contact Dean Daly, Interior Appraisal Representative:

c/o Lynx Forest Management
6180 Raceway Rd.

Smithers, B.C., V0J 2N1

Ph: 250-847-3259

Fax: 250-847-1884

E-mail: deanrdaly@gmail.com ♦

... Timber pricing
policy is never as
simple as we all want it
to be.



Why should we care about these potential changes?

Changes to interior timber pricing policy come directly back to your Table 6-1 values. Changes to policy also affect the log market by influencing the volume of timber harvested on major licensee quota vrs sold at BCTS auction – impacting weighted averages in Table 6-1.

BCTS sawlog stumpage rates are biased upward by bidders when off-grade percentages rise in mill log purchase strata – coming back to roost in Table 6-1.

Timber pricing policy is never as simple as we all want it to be. You have to keep your eye on the ball, or

Thank you to Dean Daly

We regret to announce that this is Dean Daly’s last column for the Almanac — he will be pursuing other interests on the way to retirement (although, knowing Dean, he’ll never fully retire!).

During more than 10 years of contributions to the FBCWA, Dean has been an unfailing source of information and advice.

His knowledge and expertise have benefited countless licensees in more ways than we can think of.

During the next three months, Dean will gradually be phasing out as we carry out the very difficult search for someone to fill his shoes (see RFP article on page 4).

Meanwhile, Dean is still available for questions at the contact info above.

Thank you for everything, Dean, — we’ll miss you! ♦



■ Coastal timber pricing

Tabular rate system finally here

By John Marlow

So it's true ... the Woodlot Licence Program has finally moved to a tabular rate system. I hope this is working well for all Coastal Woodlot Licensees. Rumour has it that Cutting Permit (CP) submissions are now proceeding very smoothly and there are reports of **CP's issued within 1 week of submission so that licensees can start** harvesting within a week of CP submission. That's the way things should work, so I hope this is a positive change for all.

Essentially we now have two distinct groups of woodlot licensees: 1) Licensees who have Extended Road Amortization Agreements (ERAAs), and 2) those who do not.

Licensees who have ERAAs will continue to appraise timber until the ERAAs are completely written off.

Those licensees will also have their Road Permits appraised as per previous methodology where the stumpage rate should be a weighted average of the stumpage rate of harvested volume from the woodlot CPs.

Several licensees have received Stumpage Advisory Notices (SANs) for Road Permits indicating table rates, when those licensees should continue to have appraised rates. I have sent e-mail requests to Association presidents to advise licensees about his situation. If you are in this situation, please let me or the Ministry of Forests know.

All Coastal CPs (all licensees) have been reappraised, or will be reap-



John Marlow, Coastal Timber Pricing Coordinator

praised based on the new stumpage equations that were released January 15. **This applies only to CPs on variable rates.**

If you have one of these CPs you should ensure that it is reappraised, as the stumpage rates are generally reduced following reappraisal.

On average, rates dropped by approximately \$5.00 but examples of CP rates decreasing by more than \$10.00 are occurring.

The tabular rates for the Woodlot Program have been updated effective March 1, 2009 and the rates for this year are shown in the table on this page.

The North Coast includes the Charlottes, North Coast District, and the northern half of the North Island – Central Coast District (old mid-coast district).

Deciduous continues to be priced at \$1.00 / m³ and low grade timber (HB grade U,X,Y, all species grade Y) continues to be priced at \$0.25.

Throughout 2009, I will continue to have a seat at the Coast Timber Pricing Advisory Committee and will keep licensees up to date on any changes to appraisal methodology. This will specifically apply to those licensees continuing with MPS appraisals.

The Annual Rent concept is still lurking in the background and discussions may continue on that front this summer, although probably not until after the election.

Licensees should be aware that the table rates for the woodlot program are simply determined at 30% of industry rates from the previous year.

Looking ahead, as major licensees are now paying on average less than \$5.00 / m³, the anticipated table rates for 2010 should be substantially lower than present. Something to think about as you consider when to harvest timber.

I hope that this new system works well for licensees ... the challenge now is to somehow find someone to sell logs to in this market.

Good luck to all this season. ♦

Species	North Coast	South Coast
Balsam	3.72	4.27
Hemlock	4.13	3.97
Cedar	5.69	8.41
Cypress	5.58	5.35
Fir	4.42	4.42
Spruce	3.46	2.88
Other	5.14	5.58

“It can be risky.”

The chaos left on the earth after the logging has other benefits: Bradley says revegetation is much more successful when seedlings are put into rough ground, where the upheaved surface holds both soil and water to nourish the young trees. If seedlings are planted at the optimal time, the churned-up land will provide an effective nursery over the next few seasons.

As his truck ploughed around a corner toward a yet higher ridge, three black bears sprang up in front of the vehicle, then raced away in different directions. The trio was moving so fast that it took a few seconds to see that one was a young mother, the others her cubs.

Tom Bradley and his artist wife Jo have been in the Slocan Valley for thirty years. Bradley has worn numerous hats over his years in the Kootenays, and among them is Woodlands Manager for the local community forest. He’s a forest technician, specializing in timber cruising, GPS mapping and surveys, cut block layout, GIS mapping and the layout of roads. Jo too has become involved in map work.

Bradley consults for other forest managers and landowners about where and when to harvest trees. He also designs the roads that will get to those trees with as little damage to the forest as possible. Along with partner Bernie Clover, a man Bradley refers to as “an artist, the best partial cutting faller in this area,” Bradley also holds the license to harvest and manage Woodlot

1832.

New vegetation, the forest technician says, is vital in this area to control erosion and the movement of sediment in order to help protect the watershed. If whether or not he can plant new trees in rough ground at the right time of the year was Bradley’s only quandary, he’d be a happy man. The timing of the silviculture efforts required of all woodlot licensees who manage Crown land is just one of Bradley’s worries.

Among many others is the mountain pine beetle. Even in the moist and diversified Kootenays, with a rich mixture of cedar, interior Douglas fir, spruce and balsam trees, are susceptible to beetle invasions, windstorms and another dramatic invader, fire. In the summer of 2007, fire was the immediate danger to Woodlot 1832.

This summer, it was issues around the protection of some large ponderosa pines. Bradley’s management plan was to retain some of the giants until they reached 500 years of age, but the infestation of the neighbouring lodgepole pines was a threat.

Bradley asked for and got permission to log the lodgepole pine, but salvaging the many trees affected by the pine beetle, Bradley said, “threw a huge wrench into the plans.”

Long before the current global economic turndown, the forest industry had become more difficult and uncertain than it had been for decades.

It’s hard to make a profit, Bradley said. Sometimes there’s very little

money in the woodlot business. Challenges in addition to the bugs, fires and windstorms are the economic and market changes and the many mill shut-downs, all of which affect income opportunities. Once trees are cut, it can be a scramble to find a mill that will process them on their way to their end uses. Meanwhile, the woodlot licensee waits for a harvest paycheque that’s often a long time coming.

“It can be risky,” Bradley said simply.

Woodlot managers, however, are used to adapting to long periods of uncertainty. They are almost always local people with flexible lifestyles, living close by, doing business with local suppliers and operating farms or natural resource businesses. They are used to adapting to long periods with low return.

Other hardships are simple problems with rural-municipal conflicts, such as regulations against burning slash piles near communities after a tree harvest.

Water is a major concern, but Bradley and Clover made an investment and took time to speak with their neighbours about the protection of the local watershed.

“We talked with the neighbours about our plans right from the get-go,” Bradley said. “When we took over the woodlot eight years ago we informed the Winlaw watershed community.”

There hasn’t been much demand, but Bradley has offered tours of the woodlot to the locals and some people have

(Continued on page 9)

FBCWA safety program

Disclaimer:

This safety program is provided by the FBCWA as a tool to assist woodlot licensees and landowners to achieve improved safety performance. Each woodlot licensee and/or landowner is responsible for ensuring their operations meet WorkSafeBC regulations and/or SAFE Companies certification. The FBCWA, its contractor or agents, assume no responsibility or liability with regard to the use of the information and materials provided.

This safety program was developed in response to a resolution passed at the 2006 AGM. It is intended for use by woodlot owners and licensees who are independent owner/operators (IOO), as categorized by the BC Forest Safety Council.

All woodlot owners and licensees should register with the BC Forest Safety Council. Questions about which category a licensee belongs in should be directed to Krista Bax, Director, SAFE Companies, at Bax@bcforestsafef.org / 604-696-3955.

The program is intended to help woodlot licensees and owners comply

with WorkSafeBC regulations. The next step in the program's development will be to address the requirements to achieve SAFE Companies certification. An updated program will be released in due course. The program is available at www.woodlot.bc.ca; arrangements can also be made to mail a CD or paper version: contact Cathy McClary (cjmclary@shaw.ca / 1-888-925-9995).

The program can be viewed in five parts:

(1) The **General Safe Work Procedures** and **Best Practices Guidelines** outline what a woodlot owner and/or licensee needs to do to operate safely.

(2) **Background information**, which includes the Safety Policies booklet and the *Handi-Guide to British Columbia's OH&S Regulation*. The booklet is provided, but licensees and landowners will have to buy a copy of the Handi-Guide, available from www.hatscan.com at a cost of \$44.95

(3) **Checklists**: The Checklists booklet is a compendium of templates addressing the various aspects of woodlot operations. A licensee will either want to

review these checklists themselves or ensure their designated principal contractor has done so.

(4) **Safe Work Procedures**: A booklet is provided for each of the operators typically working on a logging or road building operation. Please note that there is no booklet for fallers, since they require a separate and distinct certification. Log truck drivers should also see the Trucksafe section of the BCFSC website.

(5) **Log Books**: An example of a monthly log book is provided. Licensees and landowners should consider the use of daily log books, or at the very least ensure they document all safety visits to a work site and discussions with those doing work on the woodlot, whether it be an employee or contractor.

Questions should be directed to Kevin Nichol, CRSP: kevinn@kalesnikoff.co / crsp@live.ca / 1739 Highway 3a, Castlegar, BC, V1N 4R8. Ph: 250-399-4248, Fax: 250-399-4249, Cell: 250-304-4473. Check the FBCWA website (www.woodlot.bc.ca) frequently for important updates to the program. ♦

(Continued from page 8)

come into the woodlot to have a look.

“There are little wetlands everywhere on this woodlot,” said Bradley. “Watershed management can include carefully done logging.”

Starting with a plan to utilize a logging road built half a century ago instead of cutting a new one into the hillside, Bradley feels he has worked to earn the trust of local people in the Slokan Valley, and clearly places great value in that trust.

After Clover's initial efforts, working full time in Woodlot 1832 for several years, Bradley worked in the lot part time for four years until it came time for the first harvest, which yielded enough logs to pay off the accumulated bills.

That's the way of the woodlot-small businesses and families manage the forest for years, often decades. Sometimes you make a profit; some years you wait.

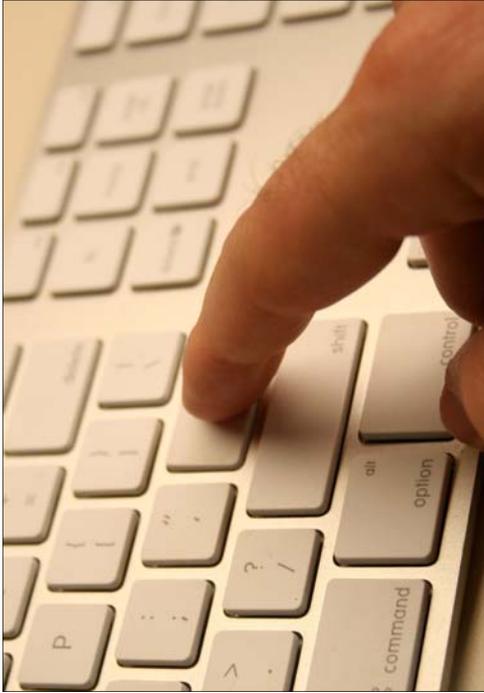
“Managing a woodlot is about both

stewardship and business,” Bradley said in July from his top-of-the-mountain workplace.

As he turned his sturdy truck around to begin descending back toward Slokan City, Bradley put aside his thoughts of pine beetles and replanting concerns.

“It's gratifying to be a steward of the land”, he said. “Most people don't get a chance to do this. It's satisfying at the end of the day to drive down the hill, knowing that.” ♦

Update on electronic forest management



By Coleen MacLean-Marlow and Tom Bradley

10

The e-FM project continues to roll forward. While our stated objective is to work ourselves out of a job, it is taking a while to reach that objective.

In December 2008, the Ministry of Forests and Range's Operations Leadership Team approved the formation of a cross-functional team of MoFR staff to start implementing the recommendations contained in the Woodlot e-FM Strategic Plan Project General Report. The MoFR CF Team members are largely drawn from the old e-FM Strategic Plan team, plus a few new members. Federation Executive approved our participation in the team.

So far, we've had conference calls and one team meeting to set priorities and rough out an action plan, and have started work. We expect activity and real progress to build from here on.

Time is plainly of the essence. Licencees want action. The CF Team

hopes to deliver it. We find ourselves at a juncture where the government wants action, as well. Due to economic conditions, commonly called global economic collapse, all budgets are under severe strain. The Ministry has repeatedly stated that they want to look at what they are doing, why they are doing it, and if they can stop doing it. We are told that "because we always have" is no longer sufficient rationale.

This is precisely the viewpoint we wish to take towards the e-FM system. We do not expect many "big wins", and we have no illusions that we can go back to paper in 2009. But we hope for some significant e-burden reductions, and pruning, snipping and cost reductions throughout e-FM.

Of course, the financial pressure is a two-edged sword. We also know that we will not see any expensive changes to systems, and that whatever changes do get approved may take some time to implement. And we know that the Federation and the Ministry want to reduce their staff costs on this file. So we are working under the gun, to try and accomplish what we can in the time we have.

We have all been surprised by some of the things we've learned in this process. Significant improvements to some systems are in the works, and some business processes already contain provisions for streamlining which, if widely and uniformly implemented, could significantly reduce the woodlot e-FM burden. We'll be following up on these leads to the best of our abilities.

So that is your broad brush overview of where we are at. We will report on specifics in the next Almanac.

RESULTS continues to be the main e-FM system that licencees interact with, as it is the place where we report on our activities, e-filing what was formerly called the annual report. Some RESULTS news:

- The number of licencees able to do basic reporting in RESULTS continues to increase. We know RESULTS is not for everyone, but there are licencees out there working successfully with the system.
- The MoFR has presented another round of RESULTS training this spring in many areas.
- The massive MoFR data cleanup program is bearing fruit, as more and more of the legacy information contained in RESULTS is now up to standard and does not prevent accurate current filing.
- The "Copy block outline from FTA" feature does away with the need for a second block outline submission for those who have one block and one SU and logged to the block boundary they submitted to FTA to get their CP.
- A reminder: **RESULTS works properly only with Internet Explorer**. Internet Explorer 6 works perfectly. Internet Explorer 7 works after a setting tweak. A coherent description of the required tweak is available at <http://www.woodfor.com/e-Fix>
- **Default stocking standards** for woodlots operating under a Woodlot Licence Plan (WLP) are now available in RESULTS.

When you prepare a WLP, you have

(Continued on page 11)

the option of proposing new stocking standards or saying you will use the MoFR default standards. Many of us say “use the defaults” to cut down on complexity, knowing that if we encounter a special situation later on, we can propose a modified stocking standard later on.

To use the default stocking standards in RESULTS, you have to be able to find them. Stocking standards are identified by Regime IDs. The woodlot stocking standards are the 80000 series.

There are several ways to access the default standards. Two options are presented below.

Option 1: You have an existing opening in RESULTS, and you want to add an existing defined stocking standard from the selection available on-line for woodlots.

1. Bring your opening up in RESULTS and go to the *Stocking Standards* tab.
2. Scroll to the bottom and click *Site Plan Amendment*.
3. Accept. You get dropped into a new screen.
4. Click the “three dots” search button beside *Standards Id* blank. Search screen comes up.
5. Choose “HFP - Forest Practices Branch” for *Org Unit*.
6. If the client number is filled in, blank it out
7. Enter BGC Zone info (to narrow down the search) and hit *Search*.
8. You should see a list of available stocking standard IDs in the 80000 series.
9. If there is more than one BEC variant that could apply to your

block, review each potential standard. Click the *Details* button to view details.

10. Pay particular attention to the “Additional Standards” – there are references to the woodlot regs and Forest Region applicability!
11. Once you find the appropriate standard, use the *Select* button to select it for your block.

Option 2: Creating your own stocking standard:

1. From anywhere in RESULTS, click the *Admin* tab
2. Select *Standards Admin* from the drop down menu
3. Search for applicable standards:
4. Choose “HFP - Forest Practices Branch” for *Org Unit*
5. Enter BGC Zone info (to narrow down search) and hit Search
6. You should see a list of available stocking standard IDs in the 80000 series
7. If there is more than one BEC variant that could apply to your block, review each potential standard. Click the *Details* button to view details.
8. Find a standard that is close to what you’d like
9. Use the *Copy* button at bottom of page
10. RESULTS creates a new Standard Regime ID that is specific to your licence.
11. Edit the stocking standard as required to meet your needs.
12. Save and submit the new standard.
13. Contact your woodlot forester. Tell them the new Regime ID # and request an approval so the standard may be used. ♦

...we hope for some significant e-burden reductions.



RESULTS training sessions

All licensees are encouraged to attend RESULTS training (see dates below) — *even those* who hire service providers to do the work on their behalf. At the morning sessions, you can learn:

1. The importance of using cheat sheets (designed with Federation input to reduce your costs and provide good information);
2. What the service provider is to do on your behalf (getting value for money);
3. The importance of getting a disk containing the up-to-date annual reporting information from the service provider (as a means of reducing future costs and providing the holder with good information);
4. How to check on what the service provider has done on your behalf (getting good information cheaply).

If you cannot attend a training session, please pay attention to the four items immediately above. The websites below provide more guidance.

Upcoming sessions:

- Nelson: March 4
- Vernon: March 6
- Prince George: March 10
- Vanderhoof: March 12 and 13
- Grand Forks: March 27
- Merritt: March 31

Useful websites:

- www.woodfor.com/e-Fix/: Contains cheat sheets and documents from training sessions, with screen shot examples of annual reporting.
- www.for.gov.bc.ca/his/results/business.htm#Woodlot_Submissions: Contains two documents, one condensed and one in more detail, providing guidance on submitting information to RESULTS.

For more information, contact your Federation representatives (Coleen Maclean–Marlow, 250-285-2544, or Tom Bradley, 250-226-7792), or your local district woodlot staff. ♦

Macy woodlot wins "Business of the Year"

Harold Macy was recognized recently at the Business Examiner Awards in Nanaimo, when his woodlot won "Business of the Year" in the forestry/wood category. This is a description of his family's woodlot business.

By Harold Macy and Judy Racher

Our family operates Headquarters Creek Woodlot Ltd. near the base of Mount Washington. From this one-thousand acre sustainable forest we produce sixty truck loads of logs annually.

Much of our wood is sold to local Island markets--pole yards, log home builders, post and beam craftsmen, small sawmills and individuals.

We harvest with a variety of systems: single tree selection, group selection or retention, strip shelterwood, or small patch cuts. Immediately following logging, we plant new seedlings to quickly regenerate the site.

Other silviculture treatments include pruning for wood quality, spacing juvenile thickets, and thinning young stands.

The non-active areas of our woodlot are enjoyed by the public for salal, mushroom and berry picking, and for recreational uses such as

horseback riding, hiking, mountain biking.

Education and demonstration are large components of our management plan. Every year we host visitors from elementary, junior and senior secondary and home schools, Elderhostel, colleges and universities, and service clubs. We develop and offer courses in various aspects of woodlot operations.

During these difficult times in the

forest sector, Headquarters Creek Woodlot Ltd., a family-operated sustainable forest, is demonstrating the viability and flexibility of small business to service local markets for logs.

We supply many small Island mills with a dependable source of wood as well as developing new revenue streams from non-traditional forest products such as wild edibles, medicinal and landscaping material. ♦



Block E-1 logging on the Macy woodlot near Courtenay on Vancouver Island, Spring 2007

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. ♦

A SISCO Winter Workshop will be held April 6-8, 2009 in Naramata, BC.

For more information, contact April Anderson at aaa@netidea.com. ♦

Management of beetle attack mapped out

VICTORIA – A new mapping project clearly identifies the best areas for harvesting and reforestation of mountain pine beetle-attacked stands, Forests and Range Minister Pat Bell announced today.

“These new maps are an important planning tool to help us extract more value from our beetle-attacked stands and regenerate our forest resource,” said Bell. “These maps can help us prioritize which stands should be harvested first, identify the biomass opportunities, and pinpoint the best areas for intensive silviculture.”

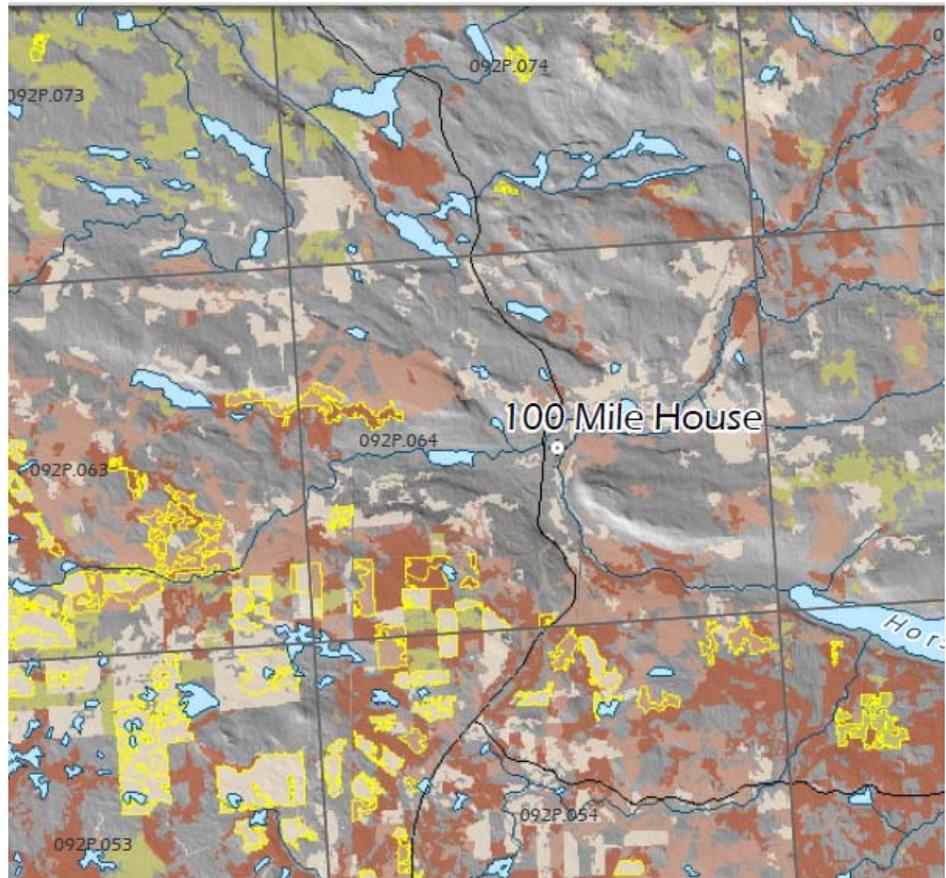
The Mountain Pine Beetle Mapping Project shows impacts and potential opportunities in stands of 30 per cent or more pine.

The project combines several layers of detailed mapping information into a single source for operational planning in beetle-attacked areas.

The project will be used to extend the economic shelf-life of attacked stands, to harvest more dead pine and fewer green trees, and to accelerate regrowth. The ministry now estimates average shelf-life at eight to 12 years – four years more than originally estimated. Shelf-life is the length of time that dead pine stands can be economically converted to lumber.

Impact maps show dead pine by attack severity, attack status, age class, density, and site productivity. These thematic maps are available for each of the 22 timber supply areas affected by the mountain pine beetle.

Opportunities maps will help plan salvage priorities based on reforestation factors, shelf-life characteristics, and the best areas to harvest wood biomass



Part of one of the ministry’s beetle attack maps, which are available at the website below. This one shows the pest’s effects in the 100 Mile House TSA in 2007.

for energy production. These opportunities maps are expected in spring 2009.

“These comprehensive maps are themed to provide spatial data that, in the absence of more detailed local ground information, will be useful for prudent and strategic management of the beetle attack,” said Steve Kozuki, general manager forestry, Council of Forest Industries.

The thematic maps were developed from several sources of information. This includes mountain pine beetle inventory and monitoring work, 1:20,000 aerial photos, remote sensing, red- and grey-attack maps, and forest health surveys.

Information workshops on the Mountain Pine Beetle Impact Mapping pro-

ject were held in Nelson, Smithers, Prince George, Williams Lake and Kamloops. Audiences for these technical sessions were forest licensees, Forests for Tomorrow contractors, and silviculture contractors.

In addition to explaining the impact maps, these sessions were used to introduce users to opportunities mapping and to consult with them on how the product can be adjusted or fine-tuned to better suit their needs.

Copies of the impact maps, as well as draft samples of the opportunities maps, are available online at www.for.gov.bc.ca/hts/rs/mpb_impact.html. ♦

My two cents' worth: Five reasons to embrace the recession

By Rod Krimmer

In the spring of 2009 it is difficult to write about anything current without positioning it in the context of the economic situation. Over the last few months there have been many personal disasters, jobs lost, businesses marginalized, pensions gutted. Many people are demoralized and yet there are ample reasons for optimism and even gratitude due to recent events. Here are a few:



Rod Krimmer, Almanac columnist

impulsion and the opportunity to reflect, to question and to act. With this comes the chance to create real, positive change.

(3) Recession effectively reduces the tendency toward globalization. Where large has faltered and failed, suddenly small is possible again. Communities and individuals are coming together to create solutions, while large governments are still indebting us all to preserve problems.

(4) Economic collapse can be a great equalizer. The rich to poor ratio in our country, let alone the world, has been escalating out of control. I am not predicting a reversal just yet, but at least the greed exhibited at the top end of the scale has been exposed, chastised and, hopefully, reduced.

(5) Our woodlot licenses will achieve a value unprecedented in our past experience. The price of our sawlogs may not look good, at the moment, but the value of our forests is immense and will soon be recognized as such. There is no dol-

lar value applied to oxygen or water or carbon sequestration, but it is coming. In the short term there are still home-based businesses looking for wood. There are specialty products and bio-fuels. Our postage stamp parcels are often the only intact forests left on the landscape. Like producers of food, we know our products have intrinsic value and we are just waiting for the marketplace to catch up. It will.

And finally, for us old back-to-the-landers, the time is now. We can take solace in the validation of our worst fears and greatest hopes, along with the regrettable but real satisfaction of saying, "told you so".

At least that's my opinion.

— Rod Krimmer, W0550, Big Lake Ranch, BC ♦



PHOTO: WIKIMEDIA COMMONS

Links of interest

- One-month and three-month Coast and Interior log market reports: www.for.gov.bc.ca/hva/logreports.htm
- BC Forest Safety Council: www.bcforestsafe.org
- Tree Species Composition and Diversity in BC FREP Report 14: www.for.gov.bc.ca/hfp/frep/site_files/reports/FREP_Report_14.pdf ♦

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*. ♦

Youngest woodlot president in BC: Derek Strimbold

Reprinted from Lakes District News

Derek Strimbold was recently elected as the president of the Nadina Woodlot Association (NWA). That makes the 21-year-old Lakes District resident the youngest president of the 14 [sic] regional woodlot councils that make up the Federation of BC Woodlot Associations (FBCWA).

The FBCWA promotes the economic and social interests of woodlot licensees, private forest landowners, and others involved in small-scale forest management in British Columbia.

The term “woodlot” typically refers to a plot of privately owned forest land. In BC there are an estimated 20,000+ woodlot owners. A woodlot licence is a form of area-based tenure which is unique to BC. In effect, they are partnerships between the license holder and the province of BC to manage public and private forest lands.

There are a total of 72 woodlot licences within the NWA, whose boundaries mirror the Nadina Forest District, comprised of the Lakes and Morice Timber Supply Areas (TSAs).

“Basically, as president, you look after these 72 people who own the woodlot licenses in the NWA,” said Strimbold.

“You attend meetings on their behalf, give them advice if people are phoning you for information on tabular stumpage rates; anything they have a question about with their woodlots, hopefully I can come up with an answer to their question. Some of the information the woodlot owners will require is available online, but most of it is hard copy material that I will be reading up on,” he said. “I see the job as looking after everybody, and trying

to do the best that you can for everybody.”

Strimbold has met quite a few local woodlot owners through his father Marvin’s longtime association with the NWA and the FBCWA.

His term as NWA president has a minimum of one year, and a maximum of two years, but Strimbold intends to serve the full term. Strimbold is the third generation of his family to be involved with woodlots, following his grandfather and father into the business.

“We did a little movie on woodlots this summer. A guy named Randy Jones from Vernon made the movie, which was commissioned by the FBCWA. There were three other woodlot families comprising three generations in the film as well. It was basically a look at the woodlot business, and showing that it’s a great life.”

The Ministry of Forests and Range has made some changes to woodlot licenses, said Strimbold,

“There are usually three new woodlots coming out in Granisle. They’re a little different in that usually, woodlot licenses are 600-hectare (ha) blocks. These three new woodlot licenses will be 1200-ha blocks. The larger blocks will be a bigger benefit to woodlot owners, so they can make a lifestyle, make a living, around wood. Also, the wood content in these new licenses will be mainly spruce.”

Strimbold has also been active as a volunteer coach at the Lakes District Secondary School (LDSS), from which he graduated in 2005.

“In grade 11, I coached the grade 8 boys’ basketball team; in grade 12, I coached the junior and senior girls’



Derek Strimbold, 21, woodlot president

teams; and after I came back from Sweden, I coached the grade 11/12 girls’ team with my brother.”

Strimbold spent a year in Sweden after graduation from LDSS, as the Rotary Club of Burns Lake exchange student.

“I stayed in a rural area near Eskilstuna, a city about the size of Prince George in the middle of Sweden, about one hour north of Stockholm. My host family was really nice. I learned a lot of Swedish. I can understand it better than I can speak it, but I can get along in a conversation. As nice as it was, I found that I really missed Burns Lake a lot after being away a year.”

Although he was just elected as NWA president on December 4, Strimbold said the e-mails from the FBCWA and from local woodlot license holders are already starting to pour in to his computer.

“I’ve got some reading to do at night, and on any days that we can’t get out into the bush. We’re really busy right now in the day, with the weather being so cold. It makes for easier travelling over the roads.” ♦

CFWO Report: National / International Committee

By Cliff Manning

As the representative of our organization, I have found that many members of the FBCWA may not know we have a representative on the Canadian Federation of Woodlot Owners (CFWO), and may not know what this organization does. This report aims to give you an idea of both who the CFWO is and what projects it is involved in.

The CFWO represents the interests of 450,000 Canadian woodlot owners who together own approximately 20 million ha of woodland and produce 14% of Canada's wood supply. CFWO membership is composed of seven provincial associations across Canada, including British Columbia, Alberta, Manitoba, Ontario, Quebec, Nova Scotia, and New Brunswick. British Columbia is the only province with a Crown tenure woodlot. The average woodlot size across Canada is estimated at about 45 hectares.

The CFWO works on a number of

fronts across Canada, on projects important to all of us:

- Income tax changes
- Federal assistance to forestry workers
- Environmental goods and services (EG & S)
- Forest certification
- Migratory Bird Act (new) – providing input to legislation changes

The CFWO has three projects that they have proposed:

The first is a networking project to improve communications between woodlot organizations implementing woodlot certification programs for groups of woodlots.

The second project requests support for the participation of the CFWO in the development of a North American forest carbon standard (protocol) through the American National Standards Institute (ANSI) Forest Carbon Standards Committee (FCSC) Technical Committee.

The third project requests support for the participation of the CFWO in the development of forest carbon protocols for submission to Environment Canada under the Industry Provincial Offsets Group (IPOG) process.

Last fall I attended a conference of the International Family Forest Alliance as a representative of the CFWO and the FBCWA. Representatives from Norway, Sweden, Finland, Canada, USA, and Australia gave reports at this conference as to the status of family forestry (woodlots). Bob Simpson, Senior Vice President of the Center of Family Forestry, Washington DC, gave a presentation entitled "Emerging Markets: Carbon Aggregation for Family Forest Owners. This presentation can be found on our website.

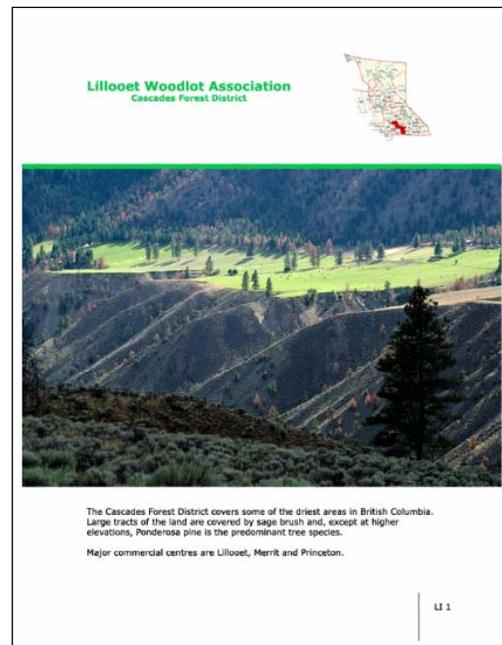
To keep our membership informed of the activities and related projects of the CFWO, we post reports and presentations on the FBCWA website at www.woodlot.bc.ca. ♦

Reserve your copy of new coffee table book!

The FBCWA has commissioned Wim Tewinkel to create a coffee table book that showcases BC's woodlots and woodlot licensees and their families.

Through beautiful photos and a few well-chosen words, the book attempts to capture the seasonal beauty of Coast and Interior woodlots as well as the spirit and culture of the woodlot owners and their families who so diligently manage their licences.

The book is expected to be released in 2009. Order now online at www.woodlot.bc.ca, or by contacting Cathy McClary at 1-888-925-9995. ♦



The new book celebrates BC woodlots

Combined AGMs will be in Kaslo September 24 - 26, 2009



Members of the AGM 09 Organizing Committee met in Kaslo in January. Standing in front of the SS Moyie on the shores of Kootenay Lake are (L-R) Audrey Work, Marvin Work, Dick Brenton, Rocky Hawes, Stu Deverney, Cathy McClary, Jeff Mattes, and Tom Bradley. Missing from photo: Don Kirk, Duncan Lake, Peter McAllister, Brent Petrick and Hugh Watt.

The West Kootenay Woodlot Association is proud to host the 22nd Annual General Meeting of the Federation of British Columbia Woodlot Associations, and the 12th Annual General Meeting of the Woodlot Product Development Council in a combined event during September 2009.

The AGMs will be held in Kaslo, overlooking spectacular Kootenay Lake, on September 24 - 26, 2009.

This year's theme is "Employing Diversity," and anyone travelling to the area will certainly view a diverse landscape. Come and mingle with fellow woodlot licensees, First Nations and government reps in a relaxed social event on the evening of September 24th.

Business meetings on the morning of September 25th will update you on the many initiatives that the FBCWA/WPDC are working on, while the rest of the meeting will take you to various outdoor locations in the surrounding area.

Come join us for fun and fellowship in Kaslo, a beautiful community tucked away within the surrounding mountains, skirted by a rushing river and stretching to the shores of a beautiful lake.

Details on registration and accommodation will be in the summer issue of the Almanac and on the website at www.woodlot.bc.ca ♦

Kaslo facts: Did you know?

- Kaslo was originally incorporated as a city on August 14, 1893, making it the oldest incorporated community in the Kootenays.
- In its heyday Kaslo was an important center for shipping and silver mining.
- Kaslo is home to the oldest intact sternwheeler in the world, the SS [Moyie](#), shown above. The vessel, which worked on Kootenay Lake from 1889 until 1957, has been beautifully restored by the Kootenay Lake Historical Society and draws thousands of visitors every year. ♦

Where should Council spend your levy? Results of the 2009 Questionnaire

Every year, the Woodlot Product Development Council (WPDC) develops a woodlot questionnaire to help the Council and the Federation of British Columbia Woodlot Associations (FBCWA) decide the priority activities to spend the levy in the upcoming year.

Since the questionnaire is mailed to all woodlot licensees, there is a direct opportunity for each and every licensee to impact the decisions made.

It is the first step in the budget planning process. All answers are compiled and reviewed by the Council and Federation Directors.

A summary of the responses was presented to the Directors when they met in February for the annual budget planning meetings.

For 2009, 20% of the licensees that were mailed a copy of the questionnaire responded.

In addition, the Council hired Kathy Larson to contact an additional 15% of randomly selected licensees to complete the survey by telephone.

The intent of the phone survey is to offer a comparison with the mail-in survey results and to determine if there was any bias from those who submitted their answers by mail.

This year we did start to see trends and differences between those who responded by phone or mail.

For example, when asked “Who does most of the administration for your woodlot?” 53% of the mail-in respondents said that they do their own administration, versus 35% from the phone survey. As well, 34% of the licensees who responded to the mail-in survey indicated they have been a

volunteer with the FBCWA and/or the WPDC in the past five years. Only 19% of those contacted by phone have done a similar type of volunteer role in the past five years.

When asked if you as a licensee were adequately informed of FBCWA activities, 92% of those who mailed responses said they were, compared to 74% from the phone surveys.

Another trend noticed was that 84% of the mail-in respondents cited the Almanac as the preferred method of receiving FBCWA/WPDC information, followed by 60% who

... we did see differences between those who responded by phone or mail.



read e-mails and 55% by who get their information from attending association meetings.

Looking at the phone survey, the results are somewhat different: 92% prefer to read the Almanac, 74% talk to other licensees and 63% cited attending association meetings as their preferred ways to receive information.

Interestingly, 70% of the responses from the mail-in survey supported encouraging family participation at a camping-type venue for the AGM. Support for that type of venue from the phone responses was only 34%.

The questionnaire asked all licensees how the WPDC investment funds should be managed.

From the mail-in survey we learned that 52% of the members want a low-risk investment and 31% said the final decision should be with the Council.

Comparing the same question when asked in the phone survey, 46% said low-risk and 48% said leave the decision to Council. While the recorded results are similar, the comments from many licensees who were contacted by phone said they would prefer to see the investment fund managed for no risk.

Licensees were then asked “What is your vision for Council’s spending over the next five years?”

The mail responses indicated 49% favoured leaving the decision to Council, compared to 36% from the phone survey; 19% of the mail-in responses said maintain the status quo, as compared to only 9% with the phone survey and 18% of the mail-in responses wanted to see a decrease in program support to the FBCWA, while 54% of those contacted by phone thought there should be a decrease in the program support.

Finally, we asked each licensee to rank a list of initiatives that could receive Council funding.

The top five areas that licensees want to see addressed are administration and planning requirements; timber pricing and stumpage; legislation, regulation and policy changes; tenure rights; and woodlot program promotion.

From the phone survey responses,

(Continued on page 19)

New CEO for BC Forest Safety Council

The BC Forest Safety Council's board of directors is pleased to announce the appointment of Reynold Hert as its new CEO.

Hert, who joins the Council March 16, brings a passion for safety, along with an extensive background in forestry.

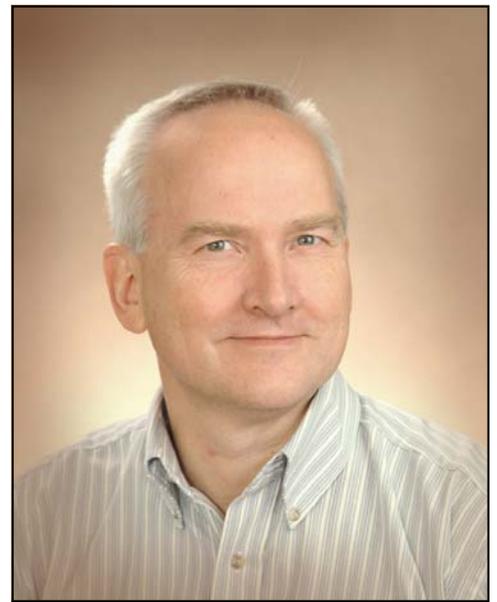
His roles have included vice president of Canadian Lumber and vice president Canadian Forestlands for Weyerhaeuser.

From 2004 to 2008, Hert led Western Forest Products as president

and CEO, where he oversaw a significant improvement in its safety record.

"Reynold's strong commitment to workplace safety is well-known and respected throughout the forest industry," says Bev Briscoe, chair of the Council.

"We look forward to working with him in the coming years to make BC's forest industry a safer place." ♦



Reynold Hert is the new CEO of the BC Forest Safety Council.

(Continued from page 18)

the following key message surfaced: "We are struggling financially and would hate to think that Council and the Federation are wasting our money. Please be very fugal and focus on practical things only."

The Directors took the licensees' message to heart. When they met in February to set the work plan and budget for 2009, they reduced the money allotted to work plan activities by 13%.

Unfortunately, one area to see reductions is the phone survey. The 15% random sampling of woodlot licensees contacted by phone will not happen next year.

So when the 2010 survey arrives in your mailbox, please take the time to complete it and mail it back so your voice is formally counted during the budget planning process.

The Council and Federation directors welcome your comments at any time throughout the year.

To view the entire results of either survey, go to the FBCWA website: www.woodlot.bc.ca ♦

Maple syrup workshop a success

On February 2, at the BC Forest Discovery Centre in Duncan BC, more than 2,000 eager people lined up for the second annual Maple Fest.

There were demonstrations of tapping techniques, an operating evaporator, workshops on cooking with syrup and sap, PowerPoint presentations and roving Sapsuckers (the name of our loosely organized co-op).

The weather cooperated, as did the trees, ensuring a memorable experience for those attending. There were several tables of excellent syrup for sale, as well as supplies and handbooks.

"The best part of it is the increase in quality and quantity of products being marketed," said Harold Macy (W1677), who started the Sapsucker movement when he was teaching the Vancouver Island Master Woodland Manager course in 2001. "It has gone from a backyard hobby to a valuable cottage industry with secondary and tertiary value added products being

developed," he said. "Demand far outstrips supply." He noted there are machine shops now welding up evaporators for new entrants, and Buckerfield's in Duncan is now carrying a full line of spiles, tubing, and other supplies.

For woodlot licensees or private land owners, this activity comes at a time of the year when not much else may be going on.

Money may not grow on trees, but liquid gold runs out the taps. ♦



Workplan goes on

n these 2 pages

Institute of Common Sense and Logic

By Shawn Flynn

The Ministry of Education is presently participating in five pilot projects in partnership with local organizations and school districts.

These "Project Based Learning" partnerships were selected through requests for proposals put out to school districts throughout BC in 2007.

Greenmax Resources and the Port Alberni School District (SD70) teamed up to provide an educational opportunity not traditionally offered to grade nine students.

The grade nine curriculum is being presented through a more hands-on approach with the outdoor classroom being the learning environment which appeals to this group of students.

David McBride and Shawn Flynn have worked closely with the students' teacher, Ryan Dvorak, in developing and presenting activities which encourage the students to experience and participate in this environment.

A significant component of their

curriculum has been taught at Woodlot 1479. This approach has the support of the community, business, governments, First Nations and members of the public.

To date, both the students and parents have seen value in this partnership.

The goal of the program is to en-

...the hands-on approach has been embraced by the students ...



courage the students to enjoy learning through a different medium and to give them exposure to the skills which are needed to find employment.

The most recent project has been to learn the process and business of manufacturing maple syrup in the Port

Alberni Valley. This activity has included identifying the trees, tapping and sap collection as well as syrup production.

The students have also been actively involved in the planning for, and development of, an Outdoor Learning Centre.

They have learned about the salvage of blowdown timber and have been involved in milling this wood for the building. They will also be involved in its construction for next year's class.

To date, the hands-on approach has been embraced by the students, high school and community.

The ultimate success will be judged as the students move further down their educational path toward a rewarding completion of their public education.

Another legacy of the program will be the new GREENMAX Institute of Common Sense and Logic. This building will be used in the future to teach people about woodlots and sustainable forest management. ♦





Photos on these two pages:

Grade 9 students from the Port Alberni school district enjoy learning about the environment in their "outdoor classroom," thanks to a partnership between Greenmax Resources and School District 70. Much of the curriculum was taught at Woodlot 1479 (licensees are David McBride and Shawn Flynn).





Scholarship Award Information

Rules and Regulations

1. Applications for this award must be received prior to April 24, 2009. Late applications will not be considered.
2. Applicants must be a direct family member of a woodlot licensee or private land owner who is a member of the local Woodlot Association and/or the FBCWA. In cases where the woodlot is not owned by an individual, one applicant per woodlot is eligible to apply in any given year.
3. Applicants must be planning to attend a post secondary institution within 24 months of the application deadline.
4. Preference will be given to students in grade 12 and recent high school graduates.
5. Preference will be given to students entering a forestry-related program. Students entering other areas of study are welcome to apply, knowing there is preference for forestry related study.
6. The award of \$1,000.00 will be payable, on receipt by the FBCWA of documentation confirming registration into the institution for post-secondary education. This generally occurs in mid-September.
7. Essays and photos from applicants, particularly the successful applicant, may be printed in the Almanac.
8. The decision of the Awards Committee is final.
9. The Award Committee of the Federation of BC Woodlot Associations will be empowered to:
 - (a) Grant this award at its discretion;
 - (b) Withhold this award in any year if there are no eligible applicants, or for any reason deemed good or advisable.

IMPORTANT

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

1. A letter describing the reasons which you feel qualify you for this award. Your letter should also include a detailed description of your experience in forestry, particularly on woodlots. Your letter may include information about your various interests and extra curricular activities.
2. A one-page (approximately 500- 700-word) typed essay entitled “How do woodlots contribute to my local community?” This is an open-ended topic so you can decide how to approach it.
3. Two letters of reference from previous or current teachers or employers,
4. A copy of your *most recent* report card, and
5. A recent photo of yourself.

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

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

Applications must be received by April 24, 2009



Scholarship Award Application

Name: _____

Address: _____

Telephone: _____

Educational Information:

Currently enrolled in: _____

Post-secondary school you plan to attend: _____

Program you will be registered in for 2009-2010: _____

Relationship to woodlot licensee or to private land owner for Woodlot #

(e.g., daughter of Joe Smith, Woodlot #2345) _____

The woodlot licensee/private landowner to whom you are a direct family member, has been a member of which woodlot association and for how many years?

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

Woodlot licence program: Review and update

A summary of information presented at the FBCWA Directors' meeting on February 21, 2009 in Kelowna, BC

By Dave Haley, on behalf of the Joint Working Group

Joint Working Group

The Joint Working Group (JWG) was created at 2007 AGM in Port Alberni and is to take a collaborative approach to issues facing both the Ministry of Forests and Range (MFR) and the FBCWA.

The following members make up the core group:

- MFR – Rhonda Morris, Ron Greschner, Chris Finke (NIFR), Trudy Goold and Andrea Inwards (SIFR), Greg Gage (CFR), Dave Haley
- FBCWA – Cliff Manning, Brent Petrick, Dean Daly, Brian McNaughton

Others members are added as needed. For example, staff from Revenue Branch participated in several meetings leading up to the introduction of tabular rates in December 2008.

The concept is that the JWG provides a one-stop hub for all woodlot-related issues. The next meeting will be March 24, 2009.

Expansion of woodlot program

In Spring 2008, Minister Coleman announced a program expansion consisting of 60-75 new competitively awarded woodlots over three years using approximately 150,000 m³. These numbers do not include woodlot licences issued directly to First Nations.

This expansion uses the new award and evaluation policy established in May 2008 and the new tender package established in July 2008. For more information, see www.for.gov.bc.ca/hth/woodlots/woodlot-program.htm.

As of January 31, 2009, the progress to report is as shown in the table on this page.

Of the seven advertised by January

31, 2009, three have been awarded. Of the three that have been awarded, two have been issued (i.e. Management Plan and AAC approved).

CP postponement

As a result of the mountain pine beetle infestation, it was recognized that harvesting green timber should be reduced or eliminated and the harvest of attacked timber should be increased. Consequently, changes were made to allow for the postponement of cutting permits to allow for a re-scheduling of harvest areas.

This applies to Cutting Permits (CPs) issued on or after November 04, 2003 up to June 1, 2007. The holder needs to submit written reasons why a CP postponement is requested. Reasons usually focus on two key items:

- Can harvest other timber in danger due to forest health factors
- Harvesting is likely to result in adverse effect on reforestation or an unacceptable fire hazard.

The postponement applies to an entire CP – not individual cutblocks – and is for a period of up to two years with the intent of preserving the remaining term of the CP. Example:

- A CP is postponed and has three months left on its term;
- The holder postpones harvesting for six months;

- Then, when the holder re-starts harvesting, the CP has only three months left in its term for the harvesting to be complete.
- After the three-month harvesting, any remaining timber is subject to take or pay.
- See References of the *Forest Act* Sec 58.21(3) and the *Cutting Permit Postponement Regulation*

Providing for the surrender of a woodlot licence

In order to clarify the conditions that would apply if a holder wished to surrender their woodlot licence, an amendment to the Woodlot Licence Regulation came into effect on December 9, 2008.

If a holder wishes to surrender a woodlot licence, they must make an application to the Minister (This means that the application is made to the district manager who has been delegated the authority to deal with this issue by the minister).

There are several key items to consider

- Maintenance or deactivation of roads
- Abatement of any fire hazards
- Achievement of free-growing

(Continued on page 27)

Region	Target for 08/09	Number advertised by Jan 31/09	Number expected by Mar 31/09
CFR	11	5	8
NIFR	7	2	6
SIFR	5	0	4
Total	23	7	18
%	100	30	78

Woodlot licence plans: Submissions and approvals

By Al Waters

Steady progress is being made in getting woodlot licence plans (WLPs) submitted and approved.

Between Sept 30, 2008 and Dec 31, 2008, a total of 43 new WLPs were

submitted to the Ministry of Forests and Range for approval and 47 WLPs were approved.

Almost 40% of all woodlot licence holders now have approved WLPs and an additional 15% of woodlot licence

holders still have an approved forest development plan (FDP). A total of 334 WLPs have now been approved and there are still 130 woodlot licence FDPs that remain approved after December 31, 2008. ♦

What to do without an FDP or a WLP

What can you, the woodlot holder, do if you wish to harvest, but your FDP has expired and you don't yet have a WLP approved? Once an FDP has expired, it cannot be extended.

Do you hold an existing Cutting Permit (CP) that would allow harvesting?

If not, the next step is to get the WLP approved and then apply for a CP.

If the existing CP is not useful and the timber is damaged, the next step is to discuss options for limited harvesting with the District Manager *if* timber is damaged by natural causes. ♦



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(Continued from page 26)

stands

- Payment of any monies

For roads and fire hazard abatement, the holder may either complete the activity or provide adequate financial security for work to be done by the MFR.

For free-growing stands, the holder can establish free-growing stands; provide adequate financial security; transfer the obligations to another party.

Reminder of the importance of

replacement offers

There is a concern with the number of holders that seem to be either ignoring these offers or that are waiting till the last minute to ask questions. Staff at regional and district offices often send follow-up letters or make phone calls to remind a holder to sign and return the replacement offer by the deadline.

If holders do not pay more attention to this aspect of their business, there is a risk that the woodlot will turn into a non-replaceable woodlot and will then

expire in ten (10) years' time. Once a woodlot licence becomes non-replaceable, there is no provision under the *Forest Act* to reverse this.

Smart business operators should know when their licence is coming due for replacement and keep on the lookout for a replacement offer. Contact your local district office for more information.

Woodlot associations are asked to remind holders in their local area of the importance of this item. ♦

Advertising Rates

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

- Business card....\$50
- Quarter page...\$135
- Half page.....\$175
- Full page\$250

There is a 10% discount for ads appearing in two or more issues. A complementary annual subscription is mailed to all advertisers.



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Considering the surrender or transfer of your woodlot licence?

Call Al Waters, RPF @
(250) 658-3419 any evening, for a free 15-minute consultation, with no obligation.

Thank you to our contributors for this issue

BC Forest Safety Council
 BC Ministry of Forests & Range
 Tom Bradley
 Dean Daly
 Shawn Flynn
 Deborah Greaves
 Dave Haley
 Rod Krimmer



Lakes District News
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