

A low-angle photograph of a tree trunk in a forest. The trunk is covered in moss and has a rough, textured bark. The background is filled with green leaves and branches, creating a dense canopy. The lighting is soft and natural, highlighting the textures of the tree and the surrounding foliage.

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Step 2 Notify the ABCFP if there has been a change in your Indictable Offence status.

Step 3 Pay your fees.

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Step 2 Pay your fees.

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You can also renew your membership by mail, fax or in person by downloading the forms available on the Steps to Renew page of the website (click on Members' Area, My Membership and Steps To Renew).

Questions?

Read the Steps to Renew page of the website outlining all of your obligations including important deadlines (click on Members' Area, My Membership and Steps To Renew).

Self-Assessment and Declaration of Non-Practise FAQs

When is my Self-Assessment Declaration or Declaration of Non-Practise due?

Your declaration is due on December 1, 2010. If you submit your declaration after January 31, 2011, additional charges will be applied to your membership renewal fee.

What happens if I don't make either declaration?

If you fail to either pay your membership fees or complete your declaration by March 31, 2011, you will no longer be allowed to practise forestry in BC.

Can I submit my Self-Assessment Declaration or Declaration of Non-Practise online?

Yes, you can do it online! There is a link to the Online Membership Renewal page right on the Home page of the website.

NOVEMBER - DECEMBER 2010

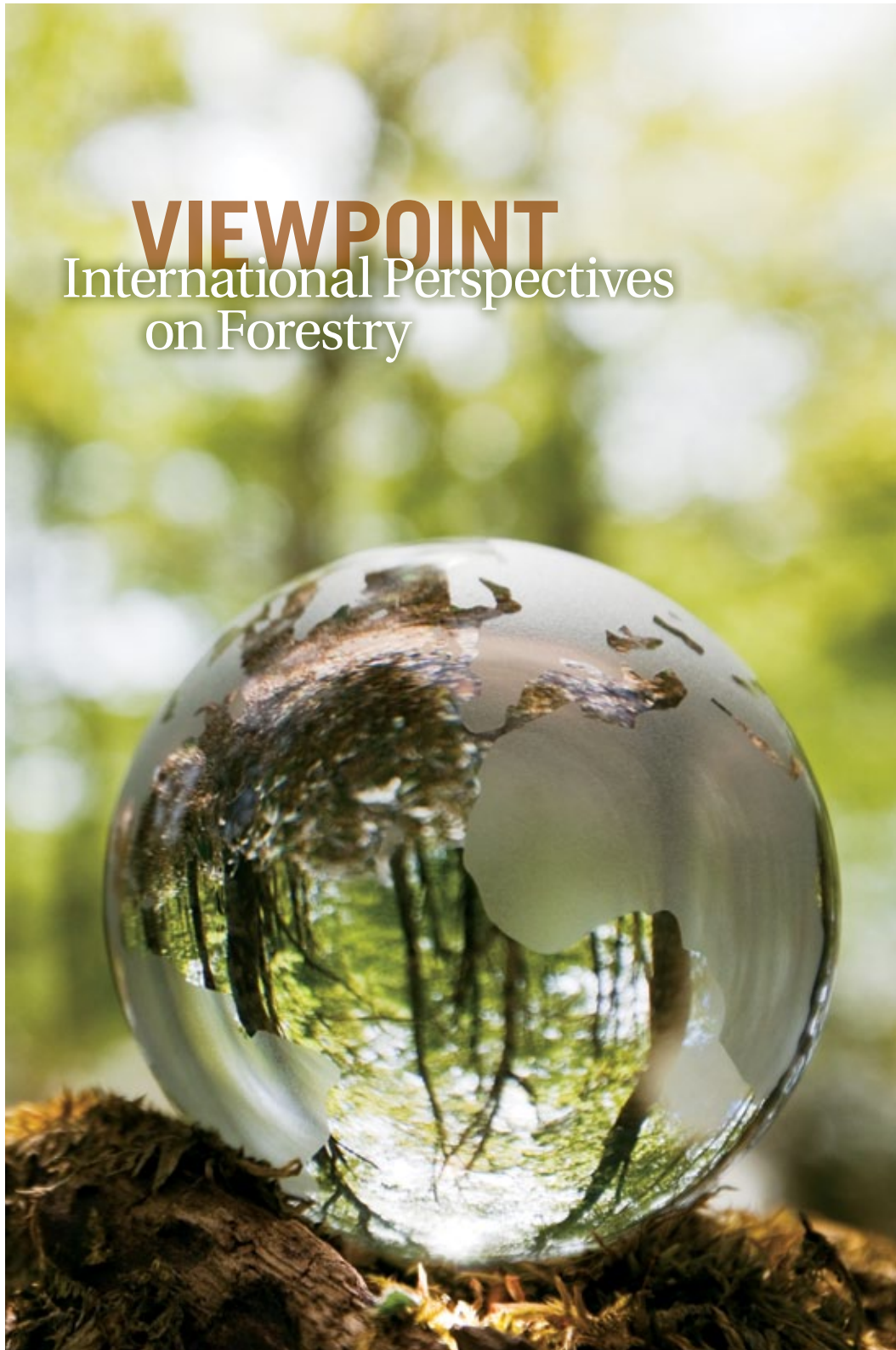
BC Forest PROFESSIONAL

VIEWPOINT International Perspectives on Forestry

**From New France
to China:** BC's Forests
are a Strategic Commodity

How Fire Behaviour
and Fire Effects Models
are Used for Fuel
Management in BC

**Enforcing the
Foresters Act in
New and Emerging
Natural Resource
Sectors**



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Get it today, and work safely all winter.



BC Forest Safety Council
Unsafe is Unacceptable



Plan to be in Vancouver February 24-25, 2011

The ABCFP is pleased to present our conference and AGM – Wood Is Good! The host committee is busy putting together a program of dynamic speakers, fun networking events and some of the traditional favorites such as the Inductee Recognition Luncheon.

Plan on coming to Vancouver a day early so you don't miss the new Professional Reliance workshop or the Wood Is Good tour of the Vancouver Convention Centre, Stanley Park, the Richmond Oval and the UBC Faculty of Forestry.



Look for the brochure in the centre of this magazine or check out the conference website: www.abcfp.ca/conference for more information.



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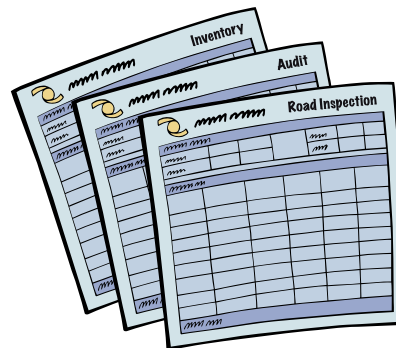


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Why I Voted "No" to the Fee Increase

Our CEO, president and council have all made excellent arguments as to why the ABCFP needs a fee increase to carry out the functions expected of them. I have no doubt that the money requested is desperately needed to continue the initiatives that have been committed to. The bigger question is, where exactly should that money come from?

Professional reliance, and all it implies, is not cheap. That's why it was so expedient for the government of the day to propose such an offloading of responsibility and expense. It may be that forest professionals were (and still are) a little naive to accept such an offer without considering the costs and implications to the membership and to the public. It might even be useful to ask, has forest management improved since it has been essentially privatized? But that's a topic for another day.

For now consider: The focus of an association depends very much on where its funding comes from. If it's from the membership then the members' needs will be considered foremost. If it comes from employers (as it often does) then their needs must be considered too. Only if the funding comes from the public will the association be independent enough to put the public good first.

We all like to think that we are independent professionals but few of us are independent enough to propose actions that might affect our ability to feed our families, no matter how correct we might be. History has shown that professionals can be bought, coerced or discarded at will. If the concept of professional reliance is to work, it must be publicly funded to some degree.

I applaud the initiatives of the ABCFP. The association is on a new track and breaking new ground. The majority of members have now agreed to the fee increase but it would be unwise to ignore the 45% opposed. My 'no' vote was not intended to block increased funding, only to suggest that, when it comes to money, we're barking up the wrong tree.

ROD KRIMMER, RFT; BIG LAKE RANCH, BC



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Meeting The Fate We Have Earned

In response to Garnet Mierau's, RPF, article, "The Race to the Bottom," printed in the September/October issue of **BC Forest Professional**, I would like to explain why BC forest professionals are receiving precisely what they deserve.

As per the insert in the July/August issue of the **BC Forest Professional**, "The ABCFP's advocacy mandate is to advocate for good forest stewardship on behalf of the people of BC not ABCFP members." (Revenue 2010: The Cost of Being a Forest Professional)

It is inconceivable how we expect that we, the members of the ABCFP, can be advocating for good forest stewardship when collectively we are not even willing to advocate for the membership who give a voice to that stewardship.

Regarding the debate Garnet raised about awarding work based on lowest price being punitive, lowest price is the only way for the market to punish an undisciplined industry, such as forestry, that likes to behave badly. It is a profession that likes to bid jobs and drop jobs with little to no bid deposits or repercussions. Experience and duration of service in the field are not indices of increased value to the client or employer. If we look no further than the construction industry we will see the use of surety bonding as an example of how to deal with this issue on a contractual level. This effectively punishes the poor performers rather than all participants as per our current collective race to the bottom.

If the profession and the membership expect to survive they better start acting like they actually deserve it. In response to Garnet's evocation of Darwinian evolution, I will state that a species that is neither prepared to defend itself nor adapt to a changing environment will meet the fate it has earned. The fossil record is full of those who wanted things to slow down, and stay the same.

STEVE NYCHOLAT, RFT
PRINCE GEORGE, BC

Appropriate Representation

I have been discussing with my co-workers the perspectives on the proposed "fee increase vs levy" being put forward by our association. While I fully understand and appreciate council's point of view, I believe they are missing an important point when they say that they have no other options. Council is elected by the membership to represent them and if the membership decides by a democratic vote that they do not approve of a fee increase, then the council must do the one thing they have not mentioned as an option: do less with less! This is a reality for many forest professionals working today and council should be no different. None of the membership has the option to go to their employers and demand more money to do their professional work and at the same time say if they don't get it they will just take it anyway. We do what we can with the resources we are given and if our employer decides more needs to be done, only then is the appropriate response, "We must have more funding." In a democratic organization, no means no, and while council may not like it, they must abide by the vote results and the membership must live with the consequences; positive or negative. If the majority of the membership votes no on the fee increase and council proceeds with the levy, they will lose the faith and trust of the membership, risk becoming dysfunctional, and will indeed become what Sharon Glover says they are not; heavy-handed, authoritarian, undemocratic, and out-of-touch (BCFP July/August, 2010). The way council has approached this issue makes me wonder why we are being asked to vote at all since the results are a foregone conclusion – they will get our money regardless. Sounds pretty undemocratic to me!

PHIL LE PAGE, MSc, RPF
SMITHERS, BC

Put in Your Two Cents

The **BC Forest Professional** letters' section is intended primarily for feedback on recent articles and for brief statements about current association, professional or forestry issues. The editor reserves the right to edit and condense letters and encourages readers to keep letters to 300 words. Anonymous letters are not accepted. Please refer to our website for guidelines to help make sure your submission gets published in **BC Forest Professional**.



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The Culture of the Forest

Years ago, I was in Norway visiting with a colleague who had moved there after completing his forestry education at a BC post-secondary school. He was working with one of the Scandinavian universities and had also worked for the local forest land-owner cooperatives.

What I noticed was that there was a strong culture related to forestry in Norway—local literary heroes who had a strong connection to the forest; an open acceptance that land was to be managed first and considered private second; and a pervasive understanding that human activity was inextricably intertwined with nature.

Compare this with North America, where humans are considered as existing outside nature and the definition of wilderness invariably means the exclusion of humans. Of course, Aboriginal societies in North America are the exception to this definition as they have been part of the landscape since time immemorial.

In general, North Americans are missing a culture of forestry. As a society, we do not celebrate our forests as something to interact with and in. Instead, we are expected to sit outside, and say, “What a pretty picture... now Johnny, look, but don’t touch!” Parental fears, a reduced number of parks and green spaces in urban areas and the lure of computer games have led some to speculate on the existence of Nature Deficit Disorder in children. It seems that there are more and more children who do not have regular contact with nature and have little or no understanding of how important forests are to our society.

I suggest that we need to work to change this. But how? Well, perhaps we can start with small steps—do what you can at home. One of the ways I have tried to do this is by bringing the forest into the lullaby that I sing to my daughter every night:

*Sleep child sleep
Daddy tends the trees
That Mommy planted so long ago
'cause Mommy and Daddy, we both know
That sweet dreams are what baby needs
So we planted the Dream Tree seeds*

*Sleep child sleep
Daddy tends the trees
That grow from the Dream Tree seeds
That Mommy planted for you my sweet
As the trees grow big and tall,
Sweet dreams from their branches fall.”*

Go outside! Take walks, have picnics, and just talk with children and friends about nature. When spending time in front of the television, look for programs that celebrate the natural environment. I’m sure there are many other ways that grow the culture of the forest—many of you are probably doing so in your own ways.

Aboriginal societies have strong links to the land and the forest. I often hear stories of the different ways they respected the forest and thanked the forest (either indirectly or directly) for what it provided, such as food, clothing, shelter and spiritual fulfillment.

Wouldn’t it be great if, when we went into the forest to ‘extract some value,’ we spent a moment to contemplate how the forest, and our actions in it, help makes us all part of a strong society?

Thank the forest for all it provides, and recognize that we are part of it, not outside it. Be proud of our inextricable links with, and to, the forest. Communicate your pride and your stories in any way that works for you: poetry, storytelling, journalism, photographs, words, work, volunteering, dancing, painting, music, conversation.

That’s the true culture of forestry. 🌲



CEO's Report

By Sharon Glover, MBA

Visiting Haida Gwaii

In mid-September, a group of ABCFP representatives visited Haida Gwaii to meet with members, the Haida and other forestry stakeholders. Our group included me, president Rick Brouwer, RPF; lay councilor Gordon Prest and Peter Marshall, PhD, RPF, from UBC. The purpose of our trip was to get to know some of the challenges of working in forestry on Haida Gwaii and to encourage more Haida students to consider careers in forestry.

We travelled to the Village of Queen Charlotte, Skidegate, Masset, Tlell and Juskatla and spoke with dozens of people along the way. We also managed to sneak in a quick hike here and there and made sure we took time to see the Golden Spruce stump and the Balancing Rock. Everywhere we went the people of Haida Gwaii were warm and welcoming. The following list contains some of the highlights of the trip.

- **Member meeting at the Ministry of Forests and Range District office.** The meeting was attended by MFR staff, consultants and folks from Teal Jones. We discussed the fee increase (the ballot hadn't yet closed at the time we met), professional reliance, and the Haida Gwaii land use objectives order.
- **Haida Gwaii Higher Education Society.** The meeting took place at the amazing Haida Heritage Centre at Kaay Llnagaay. We learned about the Haida Gwaii Semesters program which brings post-secondary students to the islands to learn about natural resource management, resource-dependent communities and the Haida nation.
- **Skidegate Band Council.** We met with Lisa Shoop, the education coordinator, to talk about encouraging more Haida students—both young people just finishing high school and more mature students—to consider forestry as a career. We discussed the possibility of offering at least some forestry education on the islands.
- **Western Forest Products and Taan Forest Products.** We discussed some of the challenges of working in the forest sector on Haida Gwaii and what Taan will face as it starts to ramp up business.
- **Council of the Haida Nation.** We met with Haida Nation President Guujaaw, April Churchill, vice-president, and Cindy Boyco, Skidegate regional representative of the Haida Nation, to discuss the Haida's political aspirations.

We were scheduled to leave the islands on a Thursday afternoon flight; however, a fog bank rolled in and the flight was postponed to the next day. Our group used the extra time to visit the School District office in the Village of Queen Charlotte. As a result, the ABCFP and UBC had a joint booth at a career fair in mid-October. Although frustrating at the time, it was a good thing our flight was delayed!

The trip was a great chance for us to get to know this remote part of the province a bit better. Our group took advantage of the opportunity to listen a lot and now we feel that we have a better handle on the challenges of practising forestry on Haida Gwaii. 🍄



Council Slate Announced

There are two RPF and one RFT positions open on the 64th ABCFP council. Nominations are also being accepted for the position of vice-president. The vice-president serves one year and then automatically becomes the president for a year and finally serves as immediate past-president for a year before leaving council.

The nominations committee has put forth the following slate of candidates who will run for the 64th council:

For the position of vice-president:

Steve Lorimer, RPF, consultant, Ladysmith

For the position of councillor:

Phil MacDonald, RFT, BCTS, Nelson

Carolyn Stevens, RFT, MFR, Burns Lake

Branko Samoukovic, RFT, WorkSafeBC, Courtenay

Dan Graham, LLB, RPF, MFR, Victoria

Marty Locker, RPF, Capacity Forest, Campbell River

Todd Manning, RPF, RPBio, MOE, Victoria

Dave Watt, RPF, L & M Lumber, Vanderhoof

Carl vanderMark, RPF, Canfor, Houston

The election will take place mid-December 2010 to mid-January 2011 and the new council will take office at the AGM in February 2011. The nomination form is available on the website and a copy was distributed to members in the September/October issue of **BC Forest Professional**.

Forest Professionals Needed in Social Media Initiative

Inform the public and inspire the next generation of forest professionals by becoming an ABCFP Forest Professional of the Week. To share your story and spread the word about careers in forestry on the ABCFP website, Facebook and Twitter, contact Michelle Mentore, communications coordinator and webmaster. (All that's required is answering a few short questions and sending us a photo.)

Check out all our featured professionals and our latest pro on the Forest Professional of the Week page.

The Cost of Your Magazine

How Much Does BC Forest Professional Cost?

The cost of producing all six issues of the magazine (production, printing and mailing) breaks down to \$10.24 per member or \$1.71 per issue, per member.*

Can I Read BC Forest Professional Online?

We are now posting **BC Forest Professional** in two formats on the website. As always, you can read a PDF version of the entire magazine. You can now also download individual articles. This option makes it faster for members on dial-up to download the magazine and it is easier to share a favourite article with a colleague.

Would you like a reminder that **BC Forest Professional** has been posted online? Sign up for our BCFP reminder e-mail service by contacting Brenda Martin, communications coordinator and editor, at bmartin@abcfp.ca.

How Can I Stop Receiving A Paper Copy of BC Forest Professional?

Would you like to opt-out of receiving your paper copy of **BC Forest Professional**? It's easy! Simply change your membership profile on our website. For step-by-step instructions, go to the **BC Forest Professional** page of the ABCFP website. There's a link to it on the Home page.

* The cost for the November/December issue of **BC Forest Professional** was extrapolated based on the cost for the previous five issues.

BC Forest Professional Readership 2010 Survey Readership Levels

Happily, BCFP readership levels remain high. Seventy-four percent of respondents read the magazine 'always' or 'most of the time' and thought BCFP was a valuable benefit to their membership.

Of the respondents who read the magazine 'some of the time' or 'never,' 39% said they didn't have time and 38% said BCFP was either 'not of interest' or 'not relevant' to them.

Changes to BC Forest Professional

In response to those who think BCFP is not relevant, the editorial board has decided to add two items. First, we are adding a regular feature in 2011 which will address a different aspect of on-the-ground forestry. This will provide regular technical forestry content to appeal to our members who work in the field. Second, we're including discipline case studies on a regular basis. This will keep members up-to-date with how the ABCFP discipline process is carried out and what constitutes an infraction.

Preferred Format

Just over half of respondents still prefer to receive a printed copy of **BC Forest Professional** in the mail. However, another 43% of respondents would prefer to receive an online version. We plan make more effort in 2011 to advertise the hardcopy opt-out option and the ability to sign-up for e-mail notification when a new **BC Forest Professional** is posted on the website.



Photo: iStockPhoto

International Perspectives on Forestry

W

WORKING IN A PROVINCE WITH SUCH AN ABUNDANCE OF FORESTS, IT'S EASY TO FORGET THAT FORESTRY—good and bad—takes place across the globe. In this issue of *BC Forest Professional*, we have two Viewpoints articles that address forestry in other countries.

Our first article compares and contrasts forestry in Tasmania, Australia with forestry in western Canada and America's Pacific Northwest. Susan Baker focuses on how variable retention has evolved and how it can be used to broker agreements between forestry companies and environmental groups. She also warns the BC forest sector that now is not the time to return to clearcutting.

In our second article, Peter Schatens, RPF (Ret), discusses his experience in African forestry. He takes us on a tour from Darfur to west Africa and finally to central Africa. His story is one of small successes embedded in larger problems. However, he leaves us with hope and a way to make our own small difference.

Beyond the Viewpoints section, we have a great Forestry Team in Action feature in this issue. Thanks to all the forest professionals who took the time to contribute. And we've included the registration form for Wood is Good, the ABCFP's annual conference and AGM. It's shaping up to be a great conference and we hope to see many of our members in Vancouver this February. 🍷



The Evolution of Variable Retention: Western Canada, the USA and Tasmania

THE USE OF VARIABLE RETENTION (VR) IN CANADA, the USA and Tasmania, the island state off southern Australia, varies widely. Variable retention, a harvesting technique that retains biological legacies at the site-level, is increasingly being used worldwide in place of clearcutting. Usually the aims are greater social acceptability for timber harvesting and improved biodiversity outcomes.

VR has been broadly implemented in western Canada. However, implementation within Canada varies regionally. The retention system is strictly defined in BC through legislation, whereas different companies in Alberta have widely varying practices as specified in their Forest Management Agreements. The practice of variable retention silviculture is advanced on Vancouver Island. There are well developed research and adaptive management programs, which integrate biodiversity and operational factors.

In the USA's Pacific Northwest, VR is only used occasionally. There is a different political and legal context in the US and acceptability of forest management activities varies widely according to land tenure. Clearcutting is relatively

acceptable on industrial lands, while little or no cutting is acceptable on federal lands.

Forestry Tasmania, a government body, has recently started implementing variable retention in most wet old-growth forests in Tasmania. However, clearcutting is still practised in regrowth wet forests and partial cutting methods are employed in other forest types.

Forestry practices in Tasmania receive high levels of public scrutiny. Like Canada and the USA, this can lead to conflicts with environmental groups including protests, blockades, court cases and marketing campaigns. Using variable retention instead of clearcutting is one way of balancing social, ecological and timber objectives. This is a potential way of developing greater public support for the forest industry.

Canada appears to have been particularly successful at brokering agreements with forestry and environmental groups. Examples are the Canadian Boreal Forest Agreement (2010), the Coast Land Use Decision for the 'Great Bear Rainforest' (2006), the BC Coastal Forest Project (1998) and the Clayoquot Scientific Panel (1995).

This is aggregated retention harvesting from Tasmania (harvested and burnt in 2007). Some of the aggregates ended up getting a bit burnt, including the small one to the bottom, left which was 100% burnt. However, the site did fall in under our threshold for acceptable outcomes.

Today, we rarely use such small aggregates and much less area ends up burnt.

It is hard to say exactly why these projects have been successful while harvesting of US federal forests and Tasmanian state forests are still subject to controversy. However, processes of directly engaging with environmental groups, if done carefully, may be more successful than attempts at resolving conflict where the main opposing groups are less directly involved.

In the case of the Canadian Boreal Forest Agreement, extended mediated negotiations were conducted secretly away from media pressure and without government involvement. In another case, the BC Coastal Forest Project (MacMillan Bloedel, then Weyerhaeuser, now Western Forest Products), used a science-based approach guided by workshops with independent scientists nominated by both industry and environmental groups. This proved to be successful for developing a new ecological-based strategy for forest management without getting railroaded by politics.

Neither of the examples above would have been possible without commitment from both the forest industry and environmental groups to work together and make some compromises.



Photo: Susan Baker

Different Kinds of Variable Retention

There are two types of variable retention being practiced: aggregated retention and dispersed retention. Aggregated retention involves leaving intact clusters of both overstorey and understorey forest while the trees around them are harvested. Dispersed retention involves retaining individual overstorey trees throughout a cutblock.

Biodiversity benefits of VR are being clearly shown in research trials in Canada, the USA and Tasmania. Results are species specific, but in general the aggregated retention form of VR appears to be beneficial for more plants, animals and fungi than the dispersed retention form.

Compared to retaining single scattered overstorey trees, aggregates contain undisturbed soil, leaf litter and understorey vegetation, and snags can usually be safely retained in aggregate centres. Aggregates also have buffered microclimatic conditions much more similar to undisturbed mature forest. Aggregates thereby provide habitat for many more species of animals and epiphytic plants, than are recorded in dispersed retention treatments.

While these short-term results are demonstrating that aggregates can initially retain late-successional species at the site-level, it is largely unproven whether the aggregates also achieve the longer-term goal of facilitating recolonisation of harvested areas (forest influence). Better understanding of this process will be the topic of a series of upcoming studies in Tasmania.

Also, these positive findings regarding aggregated VR should be considered carefully by forestry professionals, since there may be trade-offs between advantages of aggregated retention for biodiversity versus advantages of dispersed retention for visual outcomes.

In contrast to these Canadian examples, the USA's Northwest Forest Plan included provisions for $\geq 15\%$ retention by area in those areas designated as 'matrix,' as opposed to 'reserved,' forest. However, the high success rate of court injunctions preventing harvesting means that, in practice, thinning to accelerate old-growth characteristics is the only harvesting activity that occurs in the Pacific Northwest federal forests. (Interestingly, the strong emphasis on encouraging old-growth characteristics in Pacific Northwest forests is leading to concerns amongst forest ecologists over reductions in the area of high-quality habitat for the many plants and animals associated with early-seral forests.)

In Tasmania, VR is currently used in only a small proportion of the overall harvested area. Clearcutting is still the predominant silvicultural system in wet eucalypt forests, since aggregated retention is mostly used in the small proportion of old-growth forests that are available for harvesting. Since harvesting of old-growth forests and clearcutting are both unpopular with sections of the Tasmanian community, these practices are likely related to

the persistent campaigning by environmental groups. Much broader application of VR on Vancouver Island appeared sufficient to temper opposition from environmental groups.

In an odd cyclical turn, some companies on Vancouver Island appear to be moving away from using VR and use of clearcutting is currently increasing. Industry should carefully consider the risk that widespread return to clearcutting could result in a return to the conflicts that lead to development of VR initially. The fact that most companies moved to broad use of VR is relevant, since at a landscape scale it is the collective practices of all companies that leads to general public perceptions about harvesting practices. 🐾

Sue Baker is conservation biologist with the University of Tasmania on a collaborative project with Forestry Tasmania (Australia). She is currently conducting a one-year fellowship at the World Forestry Institute in Portland USA to learn about variable retention and biodiversity. She recently visited Vancouver Island and Alberta, and would like to thank the many researchers and industry personnel that hosted her visit. Feedback on this article would be appreciated: sue.baker@forestrytas.com.au



Saving the African Forests: People Versus Trees

FOR THOSE WHO THINK OF AFRICA AS A CONTINENT COVERED IN TROPICAL forests, with all kinds of wildlife roaming free, think again. In fact, nothing could be farther from the truth. The tremendous increase in Africa's human population over the past 100 years, with associated demands for agricultural land, fuel wood and fodder have diminished the forest cover to such an extent that the only tropical forests left standing are some isolated patches in west Africa and the greater part of central Africa.

The reasons for the forests' survival in central Africa are the region's lack of infrastructure (the Congo River being basically the only means of transport) and the decades of civil war and strife, which continues today. These two factors mean no development can take place. As for the free roaming African wildlife, the big game animals really only remain in national parks and special reserves.

Let's take a short tour. First stop, the Sahel region of northern Darfur, Sudan. The Sahel, a transition zone between the Sahara desert and more humid environments further south, stretches all the way from the Atlantic Ocean to the Red Sea. The vegetation consists of grasses, shrubs and small acacia trees. In that kind of environment, only a pastoral nomadic way of life is sustainable, as it has been for hundreds of years.

The problem arises when sedentary farmers come to establish themselves, usually around the same water wells which are used by nomads on their way through, as they follow the rains. The result is, first, the destruction of the existing vegetation to make way to plant sorghum and millet, and then the collection of wood for fuel and leaves for fodder. The last result is armed conflict between nomads and farmers, as the long running war in Darfur is testimony. And when the rains fail and the sorghum and millet die before even reaching maturity, the whole environment is destroyed and the desert simply moves on.

In the early 1990s, I was the project manager for a forest rehabilitation project in North Darfur, financed by the Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations (FAO). The aim of the project was to prepare and implement a rural development program to promote the re-establishment of *Acacia senegal* (gum Arabic). This gum (compare it to the resin of our fir trees) is an ingredient in soft drinks such as Pepsi Cola, an emulsifier in paints, etc. It is an important source of income to the people of North Darfur.

A large tree nursery was established to supply the required seedlings. Unfortunately, the seasonal rains failed to materialize and the target group, farmers who had previously cut down their existing gum trees for firewood and animal fodder, did not want to take delivery of the seedlings because they would not survive. Instead, an area north of the town of El Fasher was designated for a dune stabilization program. It was fenced off to keep domestic animals away (camels, goats, sheep) and seedlings were planted and watered daily from a mobile tanker. Lo and behold, a thriving plantation came into existence; even grasses came back under the trees. The fence became a border between a green zone and the desert. With people not cutting down woody vegetation for firewood, and restraining their domestic animals (especially goats, the most destructive of all), even the desert has a chance to produce biomass.

Next stop, from one extreme environment, the hot and dry Sahel, to another, the hot and humid tropical rain forest of West Africa. A forestry project financed by the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) in the mid-1990s on the Ivory Coast aimed to prepare a management plan for a 50,000 ha gazetted (protected) forest. It was one of last few patches of tropical forests left in that country. Even though it was a legal forest reserve the surrounding villagers were busy cutting down trees from all sides to make way for coffee, cacao and banana plantations—the first two being the country's most important export commodities.

How do you tell a poor and starving farmer that he can't establish a plantation in the forest when he has no other means of income? I hired a local female sociologist (women being the main labour force in agriculture). Together we established forestry committees with elected members in every village, channels of communication, and regular meetings and workshops. The committees worked to sensitize the population to the importance of the forest for their livelihood without cutting it down.

However, most importantly, we established small village forest nurseries where villagers were paid by the project for the plants they grew. The plants were then used for the reforestation of the reserve forest. We also developed other local economic activities which

REGISTRATION BROCHURE



**February 24 & 25, 2011
Vancouver, BC**

Pre-Conference Workshop and Tour, February 23

Register online at www.abcfp.ca





Register Online at:
www.abcfp.ca

Optional Pre-Conference Activities

NOON – 7:00 PM

Wood Is Good Tour

Visit two Olympic buildings that highlight wood as well as tour Vancouver's largest urban forest – Stanley Park – to see how forest professionals have helped the park recover from past devastating wind storms. Finish the tour at UBC's Faculty of Forestry where you'll have the opportunity to meet the new Dean, John Innes, visit the Centre for Applied Wood Processing and share a burger and beer with the students. The tour is \$50 (plus HST) and includes all transportation and guides, a boxed lunch and burger and beer at UBC. This tour is limited to 42 people.

8:30 AM – 4:30 PM

Professional Reliance Workshop

This workshop has been updated and expanded! Participants will have the opportunity to learn about professional reliance and practise their new skills in various scenarios. Participants will be encouraged to bring examples of professional reliance conundrums to discuss in the workshop. The cost is \$125 and includes lunch. Brian Robinson, RPF, will facilitate.

7:00 PM

Ice Breaker

Join new and old friends for a drink and snacks while you check out the amazing booths on the trade show floor. Later in the evening, you can enjoy the first ever Forestry Fashion Show emceed by Larry Pedersen, RPF. This event is included in the full conference package.

Early ForesTrust Online Silent Auction

Bid on tickets to see
**Canucks versus
Boston Bruins***

Extend your stay in Vancouver
after the Wood is Good conference.

See the Canucks play on Saturday February 26, 2011.

Pair 1: Section 105, Row 14, Club Seats 107 & 108 – Minimum Bid \$350

Pair 2: Section 101, Row 20, Seats 1 & 2 – Minimum Bid \$220

Tickets generously donated by:

Bruce Blackwell, RPF, BA Blackwell & Associates
Cliff Roberts, RFT, Chartwell Consultants Ltd.

Bidding opens November 1, 2010.

All proceeds from this auction will support ForesTrust.

To place your bid visit www.abcfp.ca
and click on the Silent Auction link on the home page

**Printed copies of this magazine
incorrectly list the opposing team as the St. Louis Blues*

ForesTrust is the ABCFP's registered charity. It works to create endowments at post-secondary institutions across BC. These endowments are then used to grant scholarships and bursaries to forestry students—the future of the forestry profession.

SPONSORS



Conference Begins

MORNING EVENTS

CFBC AGM Opening Welcome

Plenary Session:

The Role of Wood in the Development of Civilization

Spike Carlsen, Carpenter, Woodworker and author of *A Splintered History of Wood*
George H. Weyerhuaser Jr., Retired Senior VP of Technology, Weyerhaeuser Co.

Plenary Session:

The Anticipated Role of Wood in the BC of the Future

Gary Bull, PhD, Associate Professor, UBC
Bruce Anderson, Senior Advisor, National Public Relations and
Senior Associate, Harris Decima

AFTERNOON EVENTS

Inductees' Recognition Luncheon

Breakout Session (choose one of the following):

• **If Wood Is Good, How Do We Best Grow and Use More of It?**

John Betts, Executive Director, Western Silviculture Contractors Association
Tony Harrison, RFT, Zanzibar Holdings Ltd.
Reg Renner, Bioenergy Financing Analyst, BA Blackwell and Associates

OR

• **If Wood Is Good, How Do We Best Ensure that We Don't Lose What We Have?**

Bruce Blackwell, RPF, Principal, BA Blackwell and Associates
Lorraine Maclauchlan, PhD, RPF, RPBio, Entomologist, MFR

Council Hot Seat

ABCFP AGM

EVENING EVENTS

Pre-Dinner Reception

President's Awards Dinner

Travel and Accommodation Specials

Harbour Air/West Coast Air and WestJet are the official airlines of the Wood Is Good conference. Members can book directly with the airlines.

Harbour Air/West Coast Air: Subject to availability, each passenger will receive 20% discount on the regular fare for confirmed travel to and from Vancouver. Please note that all rates are subject to HST and a carbon offset fee, and applicable to delegates and one guest when travelling together. In order to receive this special discounted rate, delegates must contact our Reservation Department directly by phone at 1.800.665.0212 or by e-mail at reservation@harbourair.com and quote the promotional code 63ABCFP. Please provide a copy of your registration receipt upon check-in. All schedule and location information can be accessed through our websites at www.harbourair.com or www.westcoastair.com.

MORNING EVENTS

Coffee and Muffins in the Trade Show

UBC Alumni Breakfast (UBC Alumni only)

Plenary Session:

If This Is Where We Are – Where Do We Need to Be in 20 Years?

Sylvain Labbé, CEO, Chez Quebec Wood Export Bureau
John Innes, PhD, RPF, Dean, UBC

Plenary Session:

Success in Anticipating Change and Adapting to Meet It: Market and Policy

Ken Baker, RPF, CEO, Forestry Innovation Investment
Dana Hayden, Deputy Minister, MFR
Ken Kalesnekoff, President and CEO, Kalesnekoff Lumber

AFTERNOON EVENTS

Premier's lunch

Breakout Session (choose one of the following)

Growing, Producing and Supplying What the Market Wants: Forest Carbon

Shannon Janzen, RPF, Strategic Planning Forester, Western Forest Products
Elaine Oneil, RPF, Executive Director, CORRIM

OR

Growing, Producing and Supplying What the Market Wants Case Studies: IPPs & Biomass

Bob Gray, Fire Ecologist, R.W. Gray Consulting Ltd.

Plenary Session:

What Needs to Change Faster So Forest Professionals Can Grow What the Market Demands Today and in the Future

Randy Chan, RPF, VP and General Manager, Tolko Industries Inc.
Larry Pedersen, RPF
Kelly McCloskey, RPF, President and CEO, Kelly McCloskey and Associates

Resolution Session

WestJet: A discount of 10% off regular fares is available three days prior and post conference. Please quote CC6667 when booking your ticket. Call the group booking line to receive your discount at 1.877.952.4696.

The host hotel is the Fairmont Hotel Vancouver. All events will take place at this hotel. The hotel is offering a special rate for delegates starting at \$140 per night. Delegates can visit <https://resweb.passkey.com/go/bcforestpro> to register. ABCFP members are encouraged to join the Fairmont President's Club to receive free internet in your room plus other benefits. It is free to join. Details are available at: <http://www.fairmont.com/fpc/>



Registration Form

Registration Desk Hours

Wednesday, February 23
 10-11 am and 5-7 pm

Thursday, February 24
 7 am - 7 pm

Friday, February 25
 7 am - Noon

Registration Contact

Michelle Mentore
 ABCFP
 Ph: 604.639.9186
 E-mail: mmentore@abcfp.ca

Please Note

- You are not registered until payment is received.
- Receipts will be sent to you via e-mail.
- A \$50 administration fee will apply to all refunds. Alternate delegates may be sent without penalty if you are unable to attend. Please advise us of any substitutions by February 16, 2011 to allow time for new name tags to be generated.
- Refunds will not be granted after January 29, 2011.

ABCFP Member #: _____ Name: _____ Affiliation (for your badge): _____

RPF RPF(Ret) RFT RFT(Ret) FIT TFT FP Associate Member Guest/Partner Other (select all that apply)

Note: Inductees and START subscribers must register online to receive discounts on registration fees.

Mailing Address: _____ City: _____

Province: _____ Postal Code: _____ E-mail: _____

Phone: Work Home

Registration Packages

		FEE Before Jan 19	FEE After Jan 19	PAYMENT
1 Full Conference Package	Wednesday Ice Breaker Thursday & Friday (all sessions, meals & events)	\$485	\$535	\$
2 One-Day Package	Thursday (sessions & meals including President's Award Banquet)	\$330	\$365	\$
	Friday (sessions & meals)	\$260	\$285	\$
3 Limited Conference Package	Thursday and Friday (sessions only, no meals)	\$385	\$435	\$

Pre-Conference Events

	# OF TICKETS	FEE	PAYMENT
Professional Reliance Workshop <input type="checkbox"/> \$125 (includes lunch)			\$
Wood is Good Tour <input type="checkbox"/> \$50 (includes lunch and a beer & burger with UBC students)			

Additional Meals

These meals are in addition to those included in the registration packages.

	# OF TICKETS	FEE	PAYMENT
Ice Breaker Wednesday		\$38	\$
Inductees' Recognition Luncheon Thursday		\$46	\$
President's Awards Banquet & Reception Thursday		\$75	\$
Keynote Luncheon Friday		\$48	\$

Please check this box if you are a UBC alumni and will be attending the alumni breakfast

Retired Members—subtract \$50 from Full Early Bird Price

ABCFP HST Registration # 13078662	Add 12% HST	\$
TOTAL PAYMENT DUE		\$

Payment Options

Register and Pay Online: www.abcfp.ca

Credit Card: Visa or MasterCard accepted

Cheque: Payable to the Association of BC Forest Professionals

Mail to: ABCFP Fax to: 604.687.3264

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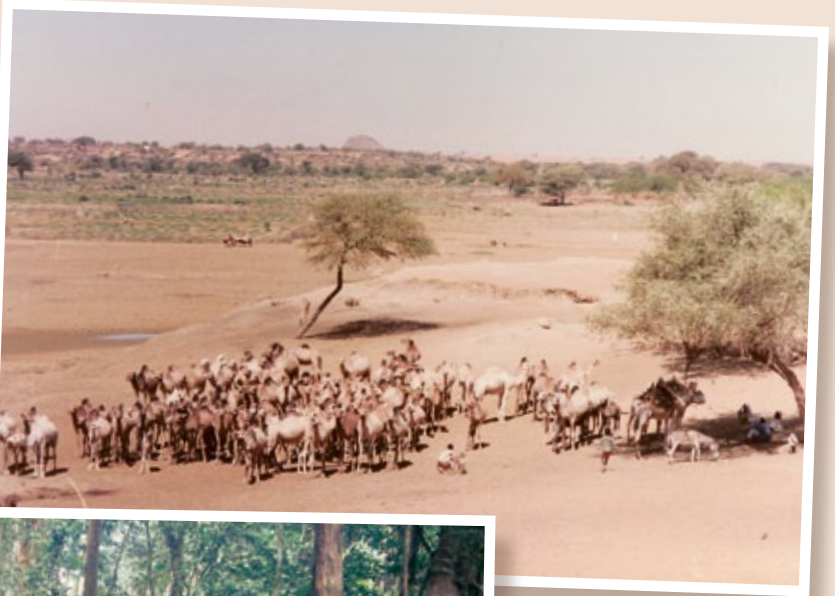
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Full name as it appears on the card: _____

Signature: _____





Clockwise from top right: Desertification in Darfur, illegal logging in Gabon and land clearing for cultivation on the Ivory Coast.

PEOPLE continued from Page 14

would bring in revenue and offset the backbreaking work involved in establishing and maintaining their plantations in the forest. One of the most popular and financially rewarding was raising chickens, from a day-old-chick to a broiler in two months time. Once an example had been set others were quick to follow and the pressure on the forest was reduced quite extensively, although not completely eliminated.

For a third and final stop I would like to take you to central Africa, and tell you about the destruction of the tropical forests from both legal and illegal harvesting. As an auditor for the Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) I spent some time in that region, following up on forest companies trying to obtain the FSC seal of approval for proper forest management. Some companies were not even sure where they were in the forest and used destructive felling and harvesting methods. Many times I stumbled upon illegal harvesting operations by unscrupulous operators (some in the hire of higher up politicians).

In both cases—legal and illegal—the harvesting operations enabled surrounding villagers to come into the forest via the logging roads and establish plantations in the middle of the forest, like a cancer eating

its way out from the centre. It also increased pressures on the wildlife, through shooting and trapping. This ‘bush meat’ then finds its way on logging trucks to markets in larger cities. Yaoundé, the capital city of Cameroon, is a prime example of this thriving yet illegal meat market.

Little has change in these parts of Africa since my work in the 1990s. But while the destruction of the African forests may seem hopeless for those of us who want to stop it, there is a glimmer of hope. In spite of the ever growing presence of foreign interests (these days mostly Chinese, who do not care so much about conservation and need the resources for their export industries), there is an increasing awareness in better educated local people, coupled with an increase in democratic institutions, who put pressure on their governments to stop the destruction and conserve their natural resources for future generations. After all, only the nationals of the countries concerned can solve these problems. We, as Canadians, can do our bit by insisting that any foreign aid be tied to proper forest management and by buying only certified wood. 🐾

Peter R. Schatens, RPF (Ret), is an international forestry consultant. Peter has worked most of his professional life in developing countries, mainly in Africa but also in Costa Rica, India, Nepal and Turkey.

From New France to China: BC's Forest Products are a Strategic Commodity

IT GOES WITHOUT SAYING THAT

Canada's economic prosperity was built on its plentiful natural resources. However, few realize the important role forestry has played in securing the country's prosperity and security.

In the early 1700s, the forest industry was instrumental in raising New France's fortunes. Not only was timber exported to France and its colonies, but Montreal and Quebec City became major shipbuilding centers. As the conflict with Britain intensified during the middle of the century, the colony started local production of naval vessels.

The forestry industry mushroomed after the British conquest of the colony, driven by growing demand from Europe—a continent with widespread deforestation. Forest products became a critical strategic commodity for Great Britain, particularly after the American Revolution. The loss of New England meant that Canada became the empire's main source of timber for the Royal Navy and private traders. The colony enjoyed favorable tariff regulations that offered it preferential access to the British market. Moreover the US became a naval threat to Canada, requiring the formation of a national navy to defend the Great Lakes.

Unfortunately, the forest industry's honeymoon with shipbuilding was not to last. Canada's need for a robust navy dissipated after the War of 1812 and there was a slow technical progression away from wooden ships in the late 1800s. While these shifts reduced forest products' significance as a strategic commodity, it remained an important resource for strengthening Canada's prosperity and its foreign relations.

Nowhere was this strength more apparent than in the Pacific Northwest, where the territory's ownership was disputed by Britain and the United States. The massive influx of settlers into British Columbia after 1855 facilitated the development of the forestry sector. The new province quickly became the largest forest products producer in Canada, solidifying its territorial integrity and positions within the dominion. Later, exports to the United States supplemented, then supplanted, those to Britain and the British Empire. It strengthened the growing cross-border trade relationship, which encouraged the present peaceful relationship between the two countries.

Considering the importance of forest products in Canada's history, the forest industry's effect on the government has also been

significant. The constitution of 1867 placed forestry in the expressed domain of provincial governments, which suited provincial interests. However, a number of conflicting areas of responsibility complicated matters. Commerce, international trade and foreign policy remained the purview of the federal government, which Ottawa retained

exclusive control over up until the 1960s. This relationship witnessed significant change in the 1970s and 1980s, as provinces sought to ensure their interests were being represented on the international stage. In the 1980s the conflict played out over several different trade issues, most notably the Canada-US Free Trade agreement.

The forestry industry contributed to, and was affected by, wider trends on international trade and federalism. This was apparent during the both 1980s iterations of the softwood lumber dispute with the United States. During the second iteration in 1986, Premier Bill Vander Zalm, after making some damaging remarks, attempted to protect the forest industry by representing the province's interests directly, instead of leaving it up to federal government. Although it was greeted with significant consternation in Ottawa, the effort helped carve a greater role for provincial leaders in managing the international dimensions of their industries.

The benefits of federalism can be discerned with the growing links between cross-border communities, provinces and states that have emerged in the past twenty years. These efforts have been spurred on in part by cross border investment and consolidation in the forestry industry. The most visible aspect of these relationships has been the growth of bilateral gatherings, like the Pacific Northwest Economic Region and the Pacific Coast Collaborative. These events involve industry and high-level government representatives from both sides of the border and all levels of government. The practical effects of these gatherings are numerous. In addition to harmonizing regulations and practices to facilitate trade, provincial participation has encouraged a more nuanced view on how to influence the US political system. This may have important consequences for future negotiations regarding softwood lumber practices.

The 1970s and 80s saw the emergence of a new trend in the forest industry, when Prime Minister Trudeau's government sought to



How Fire Behaviour and Fire Effects Models are Used for Fuel Management in BC

THERE'S A LONG, SIMMERING AND MISINFORMED debate in British Columbia over the use of fire behaviour and fire effects models developed in the United States.

Some, such as Marty Alexander, PhD, RPF, argue it is unsafe to use such models to predict crown fire movement of an active fire in BC. Rarely, however, are the models used by professionals in BC to predict fire behaviour on active wildfires.¹ Instead the models are used for stand- and landscape-level fuels management planning as well as some fire behaviour and fire effects prediction on prescribed fires. The models of concern include: NEXUS, BehavePlus, Farsite, FlamMap, FVS-FFE, and FMAPlus.

In an effort to explain how fire behaviour and fire effects models are used in BC, we will review the development of a typical stand- and landscape-level fuels management plan.

In the absence of a provincial standard, several communities in BC have adopted a set of wildfire hazard assessment standards based on potential fire behaviour and fire effects.² These standards focus on three key hazard reduction objectives:

- Reduce the probability of crown fire propagation,
- Reduce surface fire intensity and long-range spotting potential,
- Increase the resilience of the treated stand.

Developing stand-level prescriptions that address these three objectives is an iterative process that begins with an accurate inventory of both surface and aerial fuels.

- The aerial fuel inventory is combined with species specific canopy fuel loading tables in order to compute Canopy Bulk Density (CBD) and Canopy Base Height (CBH).
- Aerial fuels and surface fuels, combined with the appropriate fire environment parameters, are then input to a fire behaviour prediction system or model and a fire effects prediction model.
- The model outputs include current condition (pre-treatment) for our three objectives: potential for crown fire propagation, surface fire intensity, and overstorey mortality.

Now the professional can start the process of gaming to develop a prescription by thinning certain components of the stand, treating surface fuels if required, and running the new stand through the same fire behaviour/fire effects modeling system. This step may be repeated several times in order to arrive at the best prescription. Whatever treatment is being considered, an analysis of environmental consequences is warranted. For example, what are the potential impacts to air quality, soils or residual trees from the treatment?

Once the thinning prescription has been decided upon, the resulting stand and stock table can be used in an appraisal of treatment cost. The project budget relies on input from the thinning prescription and the surface fuel treatment prescription. The target thinning stand and stock table in the Ministry of Forest and Range's fuel management prescription template is also a key component of tender packages for contract

work. The variability in stand types and productivity in many wildland-urban interface stands makes appraisal and bidding difficult. Having a very clear picture of how much material needs to be removed is critical.

The final stage in the project is the post-treatment effectiveness monitoring. The same inventory plots used at the outset of the project can be re-visited and re-measured. The post-treatment stand inventory information is then input into the decision aids to determine if the decision aids need to be re-calibrated or if future prescriptions need to be altered.

The advantage of using US-developed decision aids is the dynamic nature of the models and their linkages. Aerial and surface fuels are entered into one of several models, the most flexible being Fuels Management Analyst Plus. Internal algorithms for computing crown and canopy bulk density and base height use the raw stand inventory data. Similar models use the same input data for suppression modeling, as well as fire effects (smoke emissions, soil heating, etc.).

The initial inventory and its various products can also be linked to economic models, spatial fire spread models and fuel succession models. At the landscape level these models can provide direction for the community wildfire protection plan by identifying and prioritizing treatment units based on landscape-level hazard and fire patterns, developing long-term fuels program budgets and anticipating fuel changes over time.

The Canadian models Canadian Forest Fire Danger Rating System (CFFDRS) and Canadian Fire Behaviour Prediction System (CFBPS) have great utility for what they were developed to do: predict regional fire danger (CFFDRS) and predict fire behaviour on active wildfires (CFBPS). They are not as useful for developing wildfire hazard abatement prescriptions in southern BC, for predicting fire effects or for hazardous fuel treatment program planning. They do link well with fire growth models (P3 and Prometheus) but not with economics or fuel succession dynamics models.

For the purposes of hazardous fuels prescription development and planning, we suggest that a number of US models are appropriate for use in British Columbia as long as the user is aware of the models' limitations. Training courses are available for most models and professionals should show due diligence by attending a training session before using these models. 🐾

See page 28 for footnotes and references

Robert W. Gray is a consultant fire ecologist with over 27 years experience in fire history and fire effects research, prescribed fire, fuel management and wildfire suppression. His undergraduate degree is in Forest Resource Management from the University of Montana. He is currently completing a master's degree at the University of Victoria.

Bruce Blackwell, RPF, RPBio, is a principal of B.A. Blackwell and Associates Ltd, in North Vancouver with over 20 years of forestry and environmental consulting experience related to forestry and land management.

Enforcing the *Foresters Act* in New and Emerging Natural Resource Sectors

THE PRACTICE OF PROFESSIONAL FORESTRY IS experiencing an evolution and expansion that challenges the ABCFP and its members. There are new and emerging areas of practice including independent power projects, oil and gas pipelines, conservation projects, rehabilitation of mining sites or urban environmental damage, urban forest management projects, carbon sequestration etc.

These activities are not traditionally associated with professional forestry. But they are of interest to forest professionals and in some cases involve the practice of professional forestry. They lead the association and members to learn more about the tasks that are involved in these new areas and assess what is and what is not the practice of professional forestry. (The definition of the practice of professional forestry is found

in Section 1 of the *Foresters Act*). In areas where it has been determined that the tasks are indeed the practice of professional forestry, we need to confirm that these tasks are being performed by competent and certified individuals. If this is not occurring, then the ABCFP has a duty to enforce Section 20 of the *Foresters Act*.

Usually members become aware of possible contraventions before the association so we rely on you to be our eyes and ears throughout the province. Members can more closely observe the work that is going on around them.

If a non member is suspected of engaging in unauthorized practice or using a title or designation that is reserved for forest professionals, there are steps to take in resolving the suspected contravention as outlined in our *Foresters Act* Enforcement Policy. Briefly, they are to:

1. Gather the facts of the situation (documents, e-mails, etc);
2. Talk to the contravening person(s) in attempts to remedy the situation, if this doesn't work;
3. Seek assistance of colleagues or supervisors; if situation is not resolved at this point;
4. Bring the issue to the attention of the ABCFP registrar.

Once brought to the attention of the association, the registrar will review the details of the case, determine if there has been noncompliance with the Act and if necessary, determine the best way to resolve the issue. For cases involving non-

members, resolution of the issue can involve an advice letter from the registrar pointing out the contravention(s) and requesting future compliance, and/or an injunction to restrain the person(s) from contravening the *Foresters Act*.

Why is the duty to report important? First of all, we have a legal duty and obligation under Section 4 of the *Foresters Act* to enforce the Act. Secondly, if work is not done by competent professionals it could have deleterious effects on the environment and will reduce the public's trust in the profession.

New and emerging natural resource sectors can provide job opportunities for forest professionals. For example, if a municipality is seeking to manage a stand of trees in an urban area, we believe they need to hire competent forest professionals in order to comply with the *Foresters Act*. Once we explore the specific tasks involved in the new practice areas, we believe that it will benefit ABCFP members who will be able to add this work to their professional practice. This will benefit the individual members and the public as forest professionals can provide extra assurance of a competent job well done with the public in mind.

New technologies and uses for BC's natural resources bring about new opportunities for the practice of professional forestry but also allows for possible breaches of the *Foresters Act* by member and non-members venturing into these fields. ABCFP members are mandated to comply with the *Foresters Act* and should be aware of when there are possible contraventions and advise the ABCFP so that we can take the appropriate steps to remedy these situations.

We must work together to optimize the opportunities that new natural resource sectors bring and stay vigilant in our responsibility to the public, the profession, our employers and other members.

Detailed information can be found in the *Foresters Act*, ABCFP bylaws and the *Foresters Act* Enforcement Policy. All are available on the ABCFP website: www.abccfp.ca

Michelle Mentore works as communications coordinator and webmaster at the ABCFP.



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By Michelle Mentore

Forestry Team in Action

Reclamation of the First Oil Sands Tailings Pond

On September 23, 2010, Suncor Energy Inc. officially celebrated the closure of the first tailings pond in the Athabasca Oil Sands region of Alberta. Construction of Pond 1 began in 1966 and the pond received tailings (a mixture of sand, silt, clay, water and residual bitumen) from the oil sands extraction process until 2007, when it was released for reclamation activities. These activities consisted of:

- removing the tailings from the pond for use in current tailings technology;
- infilling the pond (220 ha, built to 100m above the original elevation) with clean tailings sand;
- contouring the sand to incorporate hills, drainage ditches and a wetland;
- placing forest and peat-mineral soils over the sand to a depth of 50cm;
- adding wildlife enhancement features such as standing dead wildlife trees, coarse woody debris and rock piles;
- establishment of a nurse crop of oats and seven native grass species; and
- revegetation of native forest species.

Forestry professionals supervised the planting of 625,000 native trees (six species), shrubs (13 species) and aquatic plants (seven species) in June and August 2010. The seeds used to grow the planting stock were

collected from the local area, and the seedlings were produced by a contract nursery in northern Alberta. The tree planting project was carried out by Fort McKay Environment, a local aboriginal contracting company. The development of the forest on Pond 1 (renamed Wapisiw Lookout,



after the first aboriginal person to bring a sample of bitumen to the Hudson's Bay Company) will be monitored for many years to come.

Project Team

Lelaynia Cox, RPF (BC, AB); Mike Howe, RPF (AB); and a team of up to 25 engineers, biologists, hydrologists and agronomists.

Project Funding

Selkirk Power Company Ltd.

Contact

Lelaynia Cox, RPF, Reclamation Specialist, Suncor Energy Inc.

Ph: 780.714.3841 E-mail: lmcox@suncor.com

North Coast Forest Professionals and Conifer Oils

RPFs working with First Nations, using waste salvage to create value-added products in a depressed northern economy: what could be a timelier project? The north coast of BC is well-known for its old growth timber, but a new initiative shows that all that glitters is not old – the value of fine woody debris may hold its own weight in gold. The distillation of essential oils from conifer needles is not a new business globally, but a group of northern BC forest professionals and First Nations experts are taking an old and sophisticated market to novel places.

Since 2005, RPFs Lana Wilhelm and Whitney Lukuku have worked with the Heiltsuk in Bella Bella, the Haisla in Kitamaat Village and the Haida on Haida Gwaii, through the Great Bear Initiative Non-timber Forest Products Working Group, to assess the operational feasibility and test yields of distilling essential oils from conifers. Beginning in 2009 and continuing in 2010, five coastal species in all age-classes have been tested for their various active chemical properties through small and large-scale steam distillation units. The learning curve is large, and the results from bough collection, distillation and market analyses, have been extremely promising. From the food industry, to

cleaning products, natural pesticides, aromatherapy, cosmetics and more, the potential for successful business spinoffs is very strong. Stay tuned for North Coast Oil products that have nothing to do with tankers!



Contact

Lana Wilhelm, RPF, E-mail: wilhelmlana@hotmail.com

Whitney Lukuku, RPF, E-mail: landsandresources@haisla.ca

Project Funding

Coast Opportunities Fund, Rainforest Solutions Project, Tides Canada

Forestry Group Study Exchange Trip to Australia

In February 2009, Dave Brown, RPF, and Jill Werk, RPF, travelled to Australia to participate in a five-week forestry Group Study Exchange (GSE) through Rotary International. Dave and Jill joined two other teammates (Koshare Eagle; a forester from Washington State and Ben Curtis; a BC undergraduate forestry student) and were led by Rotarian Kim Sleno.

The tour's aim was to promote understanding of the forest industry and culture in Australia. The team traveled to approximately 15 towns learning about forest management and exchanging information by delivering presentations about forestry in BC and Washington. They toured various timber production and processing facilities including seed orchards, nurseries, plantations, active harvest sites and wildfire operations.

Discoveries included the higher productivity of Australian forests and the implications of shorter rotations and managing for specific markets. Most of Australia's forest land is privately owned which differs from the Crown-owned forests in BC. The team learned how Australia is managing its forests in the face of a decade-long drought. A home grown surprise found while touring was a small (3-5 person) window frame construction facility where the owner was working with a shipment of red cedar wood from Vancouver Island.



Aside from touring forest operations, the team also gained insight to other industries by touring wind farms, water management areas, and agricultural, historical, mining and aboriginal sites.

Project Team

Dave Brown, RPF; Ben Curtis; Koshare Eagle (USA); Kim Sleno; Jill Werk, RPF

Sponsor

Rotary International

Contact

Jill Werk, RPF, Stewardship Forester, Ministry of Forests and Range

E-mail: Jill.Werk@gov.bc.ca

Stream Restoration in Haida Gwaii

Teal Cedar Products recently completed a stream restoration project on Two Torrent Creek. This area in the Haida Gwaii Forest District was identified by Fisheries and Oceans Canada as the preferred site to compensate for impacts to eelgrass habitat associated with the reactivation of a log dump site.

The Two Torrent Creek watershed has been extensively logged, and as the name suggests, has experienced at least two separate debris flow events in the past 50 years. The stream channel was lacking in large woody debris (LWD), consequently there was very little habitat complexity and much of the smaller substrate (small cobble, gravel and sand) had been scoured away. Two Torrent Creek supports runs of coho and chum salmon, Dolly Varden char and sculpins.

The addition of functional LWD to the channel was accomplished by falling selected trees from the riparian area. Trees were selected based on suitability for the structure, and safety and logistical considerations. Once the trees were felled, they were winched into their final positions by a crew using a Tir-for Jack and conventional rigging methods.

A comprehensive pre-work assessment of the stream habitat characteristics was completed and it is anticipated that over a period of three to five years, the restoration work will increase the overall channel complexity and stability and increase the amount of stream

channel that contains high quality habitat features (deep pools, functional LWD, stable spawning gravel and stable channel banks) by 25% to 30%. The area of stream channel over which restoration work was done totaled 3,240 m². A 25% to 30% increase in the amount of good quality fish habitat means that, if successful, this project will meet or exceed the desired objective of 800 m² of habitat compensation.



Project Team

Balanced Environmental: Warren Appleton, RPBio

Fisheries and Oceans Canada: Nathan Ferguson, BIT

Marine Toad Enterprises: Leandre Vigneault

M.J. Milne & Associates: Michael Milne, ABCFP Limited License, ASFIT

Teal Cedar Products, Ltd.: Bryan Fraser, RPF, ATE

Contact

Bryan Fraser, RPF, ATE E-mail: bfraser@tealjones.com Tel: 250.637.5323 (ext 6)

An Adaptation Strategy for Red Alder

The red alder adaptation strategy is a collaborative project with researchers at the University of British Columbia, the University of Victoria, the University of Alberta, Oregon State University and the BC Ministry of Forests and Range. The overall objective of the project is to blend new and existing knowledge about red alder to create a strategy to reduce environmental, social and economic risks of climate change in coastal BC. Following a multi-disciplinary and collaborative approach, this study addresses the following questions:

- 1) What are the effects of climate, age, soil and latitude on growth of red alder, and how does climate affect the competitive and facilitative relationships between alder and Douglas-fir?
- 2) What is the range of genetic adaptation vs. physiological acclimation in alder's response to variation in climate?
- 3) Where can alder be planted today that minimizes risk from climate change and maximizes benefits to forest-dependent communities including First Nations?
- 4) What traditional knowledge can First Nation elders provide that will help us to learn about the potential for future cooperative management of alder?
- 5) What steps need to be taken to develop an integrated hardwood forest sector value chain industry on the coast?



Red alder has been shown over the past two decades to have excellent value for solid wood products, with log prices approaching or exceeding parity with Douglas-fir. Increasing management of this species, previously considered a weed, is expected to contribute to improved ecosystem resilience and market diversity. This project is funded through the Future Forest Ecosystems Scientific Council of BC.

Project Team

Phil Comeau, PhD, PAg; Francesco Cortini, FIT; Louise de Montigny, PhD, RPF; Craig Farnden, PhD, RPF; Peter Fielder; George Harper, RPF, PAg; Barbara Hawkins, PhD, RPF; David Hibbs, PhD; Rob Kozak, PhD, FIWSc; Marty Kranabetter, PhD, PAg; Bruce Larson, PhD, ABCFP Honorary Member; Dan Nadir, FIT; Rod Negrave, PhD, RPF, PAg; Brendan Porter; Ron Trosper, PhD; and Tongli Wang, PhD

Contact

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 Louise de Montigny, PhD, RPF Ph: 250-387-3295 E-mail: Louise.deMontigny@gov.bc.ca

Ripple Rock Trail Project: Making the Most of the Job Opportunity Program

The Ripple Rock trail upgrade project was completed by Forsite Consultants Ltd. under the Job Opportunity Program between September 2009 and May 2010. The trail, located 20 km north of Campbell River is popular with both residents and visitors. The trail takes hikers along the ocean up to rock bluffs overlooking Seymour Narrows and the site of the world's largest non-nuclear explosion.

A crew of four to six displaced forestry workers labored intensely for six months during the dark, wet winter months grubbing out new trail sections, removing jagged loose rock from the path, brushing out the extensive overgrowth of vegetation, resurfacing where needed, constructing railings, footbridges, boardwalks and stairs.

One of the trail's greatest concerns was a 13 m rock face at the end of the trail that restricted many from reaching the top of the bluffs and the breathtaking views. Additional funding was sought and obtained through the Island Coastal Economic Trust to have a set of fabricated aluminum stairs designed, constructed and installed.

The value and appreciation of the upgrades were emphasized during a post project assessment, which coincided with a group of elderly women hikers from the Comox Valley. This group commented on how the new stairs and improvements had inspired many who had previously thought the trail too challenging, to give it another try.



Project Team

BC Hydro: Simone Greary
 Fisheries and Oceans Canada:
 Rick Senger
 Forsite Consultants Ltd.:
 Don Davis, RFT; Wendy Ravai, RPF
 Herold Engineering;
 Dave Bandy, PEng
 Island Coastal Economic Trust:
 Al Baronas; Line Robert
 Ministry of Tourism, Culture
 and the Arts: Janis Leach;
 Duncan Mactavish, RFT
 Natural Advantage:
 Jeff Whetter, RPBio
 Onsite Engineering Ltd.:
 Jeremy Araki, PEng
 PHG Consulting: Paul Henderson

Contact

Wendy Ravai, RPF, Forsite Consultants Ltd.
 E-mail: wravai@forsite.ca

Retroactive Stumpage Rates and the *Forest Act*

THE APPRAISAL MANUALS DEFINE NUMEROUS ‘CHANGED CIRCUMSTANCES.’

For example, a change in the harvesting method used for 15% of cutting authority volume; a change of 15% in the total development cost estimate; a change of 15% or 15 hectares in the cutting authority area; and so on.

If a changed circumstance occurs, a changed circumstances reappraisal is mandatory. A licensee who fails to initiate a changed circumstances reappraisal is potentially subject to compliance and enforcement action under sections 105 (5.1) and 105 (5.2) of the *Forest Act*. Also, government may initiate a changed circumstances reappraisal on its own volition in any event.

The manuals do not impose any time limits on the availability of a changed circumstances reappraisal. The holder of the cutting authority may have already harvested and scaled the timber and sold it to a third party who, in turn, already processed the timber and sold the lumber to its customers. To protect itself from liability for outstanding stumpage under section 131 of the *Forest Act*, the purchaser of the timber may have paid the stumpage owed on the timber directly to government in accordance with invoices that government itself issued based upon the existing stumpage rate. The purchaser would likely have then released any holdback on the purchase price. All parties involved would likely have moved on with their affairs in reliance upon the stumpage rate in effect at the time the timber was harvested.

The legal validity of a changed circumstances reappraisal was the subject of the BC Supreme Court’s decision in *Canadian Forest Products Ltd. v. British Columbia*, released in the summer of 2009, also known as the Canfor Decision. The government had alleged a “changed circumstance” with respect to one of the licensee’s cutting authorities and initiated a reappraisal of the stumpage rate. A new (and, of course, higher) stumpage rate was retroactively imposed two years after the cutting permit was originally issued. It was applied to timber that the licensee had already harvested, scaled and paid stumpage on over a year earlier.

The Forest Appeals Commission denied the licensee’s appeal and the licensee further appealed to the BC Supreme Court. The licensee argued that section 103(1)(c) of the *Forest Act* required payment of stumpage based upon the stumpage rate applicable “when the timber is scaled.” Accordingly, so the licensee argued, the provisions of the manuals that allowed for the retroactive application of a stumpage rate determined *after* timber was scaled was in conflict with the requirements of section 103(1)(c) of the *Forest Act*. Government may only enact regulations (such as the provisions of the manuals) within the scope of the authority that the Legislature

has granted to it, and regulations that conflict with parent legislation (such as the *Forest Act*) are beyond the authority of government.

Given that the *Forest Act* did not otherwise specifically authorize the government to create policies and procedures in the appraisal manuals that conflicted with the requirements of section 103(1)(c) of the *Forest Act*, the licensee argued that changed circumstances reappraisals under the manuals were *ultra vires* (“without authority,” in other words) to the extent that they would retroactively change the stumpage rate applicable to timber that was already scaled.

The court accepted Canfor’s argument, and declared that the provisions of the manuals that purported to allow retroactive reappraisals were of no force or effect. However, the benefit of this apparent victory was short-lived. Ultimately, retroactive reappraisals were important enough to government that it legislated around the Canfor Decision. In the *Forest and Range Statutes Amendment Act*, 2010 (Bill 7), the Legislature amended section 105 of the *Forest Act* to specifically authorize government to include retroactive changed circumstances reappraisals in the appraisal manuals. The *Forest Act* now authorizes stumpage rates that are effective on “any date,” whether before or after timber is harvested or scaled, or before or after stumpage is paid on the basis of a previously determined stumpage rate. Not only did Bill 7 amend the *Forest Act* to authorize retroactive stumpage determinations, but it also made the amendment, itself, retroactive to August 1, 2005. 🐾

Jeff Waatainen is a past adjunct professor of law at UBC, has practiced law in the forest sector for over a dozen years, and currently works as a sole practitioner out of his own firm of Westhaven Forestry Law in Nanaimo.



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Discipline Case Studies

Terrain Stability and Road Engineering Related Issues

Background

The Association of BC Forest Professionals (ABCFP) has received a number of complaints recently regarding members actions in relation to managing road construction on terrain that is classified as unstable or potentially unstable. The membership needs to be aware of these issues and understand clearly their professional obligations regarding the construction of roads on this type of terrain. Members must ensure that they have the training and expertise required when practising in this area and must act diligently to show that they have met their professional obligations.

Case Study:

Alex, RFT, is supervising road construction in an area of potentially unstable terrain. Alex has had a terrain stability report done by a qualified registered professional for the unstable area. This report indicates that there are potential terrain stability issues that require special road construction techniques in order to minimize the potential for mass wasting. Alex has developed a road layout and design that requires specific measures including full bench construction and end hauling for part of this road. Alex, who is in charge of road construction then hires a road construction contractor and signs a contract for the construction of the road according to the road layout and design. The contract obligates the contractor to use specialized road construction techniques (partial bench cut and end haul) on specified sections of the road. Alex reviews the road layout and design with the contractor and completes a pre-work inspection of the road with instructions regarding the techniques to be used in the area of potentially unstable terrain.

The contractor then goes to work. The contractor inspects the road location and identifies a bench slightly downhill of the original location. This bench appears to the contractor to provide a lower road construction cost and be in an area of lower potential for landslides. The contractor then goes ahead and builds the road in the new location. Once construction is complete that contractor informs Alex, who does an inspection of the road construction, likes the new location, approves the construction and pays the contractor. Three months later Alex hires a qualified registered professional to review the road construction with regard to terrain stability issues. The qualified registered professional does certify that the construction meets requirements for this type of terrain hazard.

The contractor made a conscious decision to not fulfill these contractual obligations and failed to advise Alex or to seek advice from him during the construction phase. Alex agreed with the contractor's actions, but did not take any immediate steps to secure a qualified registered professional to confirm the adequacy of the road stability in the applicable sections where the Terrain Stability Report called for bench cut and end haul. In this instance, there was little if any communication following the pre-work between the contractor and Alex up to the time Alex discovered the contractor had completed the road construction.

Issues:

Alex (i) has sanctioned a change to a road layout and design by the contractor; (ii) has initially not addressed the terrain stability issues identified in the Terrain Stability Report; (iii) as the supervisor of the project has accepted professional liability for the new road location and design until such time as a qualified registered professional certifies the location and construction techniques; (iv) may have practised outside of his area of competence; (v) has not documented the rationale for the change to the road location or the change to construction techniques; (vi) has not lived up to the terms of the pre-work conference or the contract for construction of the road as per the road design; (vii) may have violated the ABCFP Code of

Ethics by practising outside of his area of competence; (viii) may have violated the ABCFP Standards of Professional Practice by failing to exercising due diligence and failing to maintain safe work practices.

Discussion:

1. The road construction contractor was allowed to change road construction techniques for a road that was located on potentially unstable terrain. It is not a good practice to allow contractors to change road construction techniques on unstable or potentially unstable terrain without the approval of a trained professional who can determine whether this will maintain slope stability. It is our expectation that contractors will not be permitted to change road construction techniques or other road design parameters for roads that are on unstable or potentially unstable terrain without suitable professional approval.
2. There are issues regarding the timing of the approval of the revised road construction techniques by a qualified geotechnical expert. The geotechnical expert in this case was not brought in to verify the stability of the revised road construction techniques until a number of months after the road construction contract was completed. If there had been instability problems as a result of the new road construction techniques there could have been serious consequences in terms of landslides and worker safety. It is our expectation that all revisions to road construction techniques or changes to the road design for roads located on unstable or potentially unstable terrain will be approved by a geotechnical professional trained to assess terrain stability prior to completion of construction.
3. Where contractors are building a road on unstable or potentially unstable terrain they need to understand that any changes to the road location or construction techniques must be approved by the forest professional in charge. This approval must occur prior to construction of the road. The forest professional in charge has to put his/her mind to whether the change requested by the contractor can go ahead immediately or whether construction must be halted until a geotechnical professional trained to assess terrain stability must approve the change. In this situation the contractor failed to contact the ABCFP member regarding the change to construction techniques.
4. Forest professionals are expected to document their decisions and provide a rationale for their decisions. In cases where changes to road locations and construction techniques are authorized by a member, the member must document his/her approval and provide a written rationale for all decisions. The quality of such rationales will depend upon the risk involved and the amount of data and information that is required to ensure that the member has been duly diligent by being prudent and doing all work with constant and careful attention.

Summary:

Working in an area with unstable or potential unstable terrain requires an extra level of care. While Alex's actions may have been acceptable in another area, he should have taken action to ensure the contractor was either following his plan or contacting him about a proposed change. Unless you have experience building roads on unstable terrain, you must call in a qualified geotechnical expert for a professional opinion in a timely manner. Waiting until the road is already in use is not acceptable. Finally, document all your decisions and provide a rationale for anything out of the ordinary – this is true for all situations not just with unstable terrain.



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FOOTNOTES and REFERENCES from Page 21

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Footnotes

¹ United States wildfire suppression personnel, including Fire Behaviour Analysts, typically rely on their own decision aids for tactical planning purposes when serving on fire assignments in Canada.

² Based on principles outlined in peer-reviewed literature and previously reported in *BC Forest Professional* (July-August 2008).

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STRATEGIC continued from Page 20

diversify Canada's trade relations away from its singular focus with the United States. While Ottawa's efforts were aimed at developing links with Europe, British Columbia followed a different tack. The province made a concerted effort to increase forestry exports into the Asia Pacific, which was experiencing unprecedented growth. The policy quickly bore fruit, as Japan became the second largest importer of British Columbian forest products. Likewise, China also emerged an important export market due to its impressive economic progress and voracious appetite for raw materials. Canada routinely showcases forestry products inside the country, while supports trade and technology programs to facilitate their use.

The flexibility of the federalist system has become apparent with these relationships with Japan and China. British Columbia's autonomy has allowed it to press ahead with its own trade efforts, despite a general chill in Ottawa's relationship with Beijing. Moreover the province is better placed to leverage linkages with local Chinese communities in order to cultivate economic links. The diversification of Canada's trade relations has become a major boon for the country and the province. It has partially supported the industry despite the prolonged economic downturn in the United States, while providing an avenue for dialogue and cooperation with an emerging superpower.

In short, it's fairly clear the important, and sometimes critical, role forest products have played in determining Canada's position within the international sphere. It has assisted in growing the country's prosperity, while strengthening its relations with the predominant superpower of the time. British Columbia has become increasingly important part of this equation, establishing trade links with foreign countries directly. All of these factors bode well for Canada, British Columbia and the forest industry's health now and in the future. 🐾

Richard Shimooka is a research associate in the Defence Management Studies program at Queen's University. He has a Masters of Strategic Studies from the University of Wales, Aberystwyth.

In Memoriam

It is very important to many members to receive word of the passing of a colleague. Members have the opportunity to publish their memories by sending photos and obituaries to **BC Forest Professional**. The association sends condolences to the family and friends of the following members:

William (Bill) McDougal Sloan

HONORARY MEMBER #8
1919 - 2010

Bill, when retiring as President and CEO of Pacific Forest Products Ltd., was made an honorary member of the ABCFP in February 1985 at our AGM held in Nanaimo. It was a co-incidence but a timely one, in that Bill was also a native son of Nanaimo.



This honour was bestowed in recognition of his leadership, vision and support that created a nationally recognized forest management program for 127,000 hectares of private forest land on Vancouver Island and for his support and encouragement of his staff for their active participation in professional and industry affairs.

Bill began his forestry career in 1936 working on forestry surveys for the BC Forest Service. From July 1940 to November 1945 he served overseas with the Canadian Forestry Corp first in Scotland, then later in Europe. After the war, he attended UBC, graduating from the Commerce Faculty in 1947. He then worked in forestry and logging in the Cariboo until 1950 when he was appointed Superintendent of Forestry for the Northwest territories and Wood Buffalo National Park. In 1957 he joined Canadian Pacific as Manager, Land Department of the Esquimalt & Nanaimo Railway. In 1962 he became President of Pacific Logging Company, a wholly owned subsidiary of CP, responsible for managing their private forest lands. Bill retired in 1986 after a career that influenced the change from liquidation to renewal and tending for industrial tree farming on private forest land.

Bill had many interests in life but his passion was fishing and his skills and exploits following that interest were legendary.

Bill was predeceased by his first wife and mother of his children Joan (Gill), daughter Mary and his half-brother Gordon Sloan (A former Chief Justice and Commissioner of Inquiry Forest Resources of BC 1956), and survived by his sister Barbara, second wife Ruby (MacRae), daughters Patricia and Catherine, son William (Joyce) and grandchildren Liam and Emily.

There was no formal service by request and a private scattering of ashes off Trial Island near Victoria took place August 24th. A gathering of family, relatives and friends to celebrate Bill's life will take place later in the fall.

Sincere condolences to all Bill's family and "tight lines" for Bill!

Submitted by Bruce Devitt, RPF #368 (Ret), with many thanks to William Sloan Jr., RFT #0107, and Mark Horne Q.C.

Roy Robert Crawford

TRANSFERRING PROFESSIONAL FORESTER
1967-2010

Roy Crawford, the Coast Engineering Group Leader for the BC Forest Service, was taken from us suddenly and tragically on June 13, 2010.

Roy, was a beloved husband to Vanessa, and devoted daddy to their two beautiful daughters Elizabeth and Rebecca.

Roy attended the University of New Brunswick where he met Vanessa and graduated as a Forest Engineer. Roy was dual registered with both ABCFP and APEG.

Roy joined the BC Forest Service in 2008. In two short years Roy made significant improvements to forest road management and touched a lot of people across the forest sector.

A "Can-Do Man," no matter how crazy or odd the issue, Roy was able to bring a sort of clarity to the situation and give you the ability to figure it out on your own.

Roy was a man who defined integrity. He was one of those guys who came from a strong moral background where a person's word or handshake still meant something. Roy was courageous. He was able to wade through complex business processes and find a way to regularly turn an apparent impasse into a green light to proceed with a project. Roy was fair, open and transparent. He continuously supported his team and trusted that they would not let him down and gave credit where credit was due. Roy was open and accountable. If he needed to have a difficult conversation, he would but at the same time he would support you to the best of his abilities. Finally, he had a good dry sense of humour. He appreciated a good laugh and if you weren't too intimidated by his stature, he could even stand a good ribbing at his personal expense. All of these qualities clearly demonstrate that Roy was an excellent leader, all round good person and will be missed by everyone who knew him.

Submitted by Roy's BC Forest Service Team



Membership Statistics

New Enrolled Members:

Dwayne Joseph Maurice Paradis, FIT; James Steven Robinson, TFT; Emilie Lindell Thy, FIT; Troy Joseph Van Skiver, TFT

Deceased:

Harry Tyler Pierre, RFT, FP

These statistics are current as of September 30, 2010. For more membership statistics information, please visit our website and go to About Us, Our People, Membership Statistics.

A Moment in Forestry

Submit your moment in forestry to Brenda Martin at: editor@abcfp.ca



Perspective

Submitted by John M. Coles, RFT, Chilliwack

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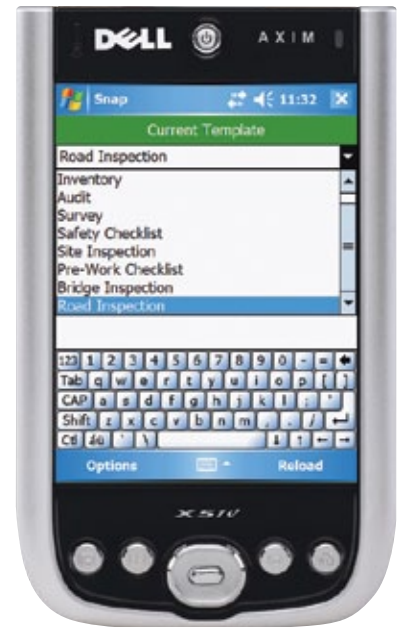
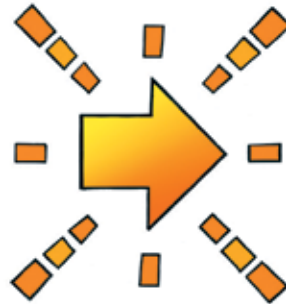
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