

TIME

TO

RENEW

Your Practice Makes a Difference. Be Sure to Renew Your Membership On Time.

There are three steps to renew membership for:

- Active RPFs or RFTs
- Associate Members
- Transferring Forest Professionals
- Limited Licensees

Step 1 Submit your 2011 Self-Assessment Declaration or Declaration of Non-Practise.

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

Step 3 Pay your fees.

There are only two steps to renew membership for:

- FITs or TFTs
- Retired Members
- Special Permit Holders
- Registered Members on LOA

Step 1 Notify the ABCFP if there has been a change in your Indictable Offence status.

Step 2 Pay your fees.

Your membership will not be renewed until you have completed all of the required steps.

How to renew your membership

Renew online

The quickest and easiest way to renew your membership is to complete all the steps online. There is a link to the Online Membership Renewal page right on the Home page of the website and on the renewal notice sent to you on September 30th.

Renew by mail, fax or in person

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).

Membership renewal deadlines have changed

Membership Renewal Process	Old Deadlines	NEW DEADLINES
A membership renewal notice is sent to each member.	October 1 st	OCTOBER 1ST
Annual fees are due AND, where applicable, self-assessment declarations or declarations of non-practise are also due.	January 31 st	DECEMBER 1ST
Administrative fee of \$50 plus HST is added to the fees of members who have not paid their annual fee AND/OR, where applicable, have not submitted their self-assessment declarations or declarations of non-practise. Notices will be sent to those members affected.	February 1 st	DECEMBER 2ND
Final deadline for membership renewal.	March 31 st	JANUARY 31ST
Any members who have not renewed will be struck from the register and notified accordingly soon thereafter.	April 1 st	FEBRUARY 1ST

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, 2011. If you submit your declaration after December 1, 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 January 31, 2012, 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.

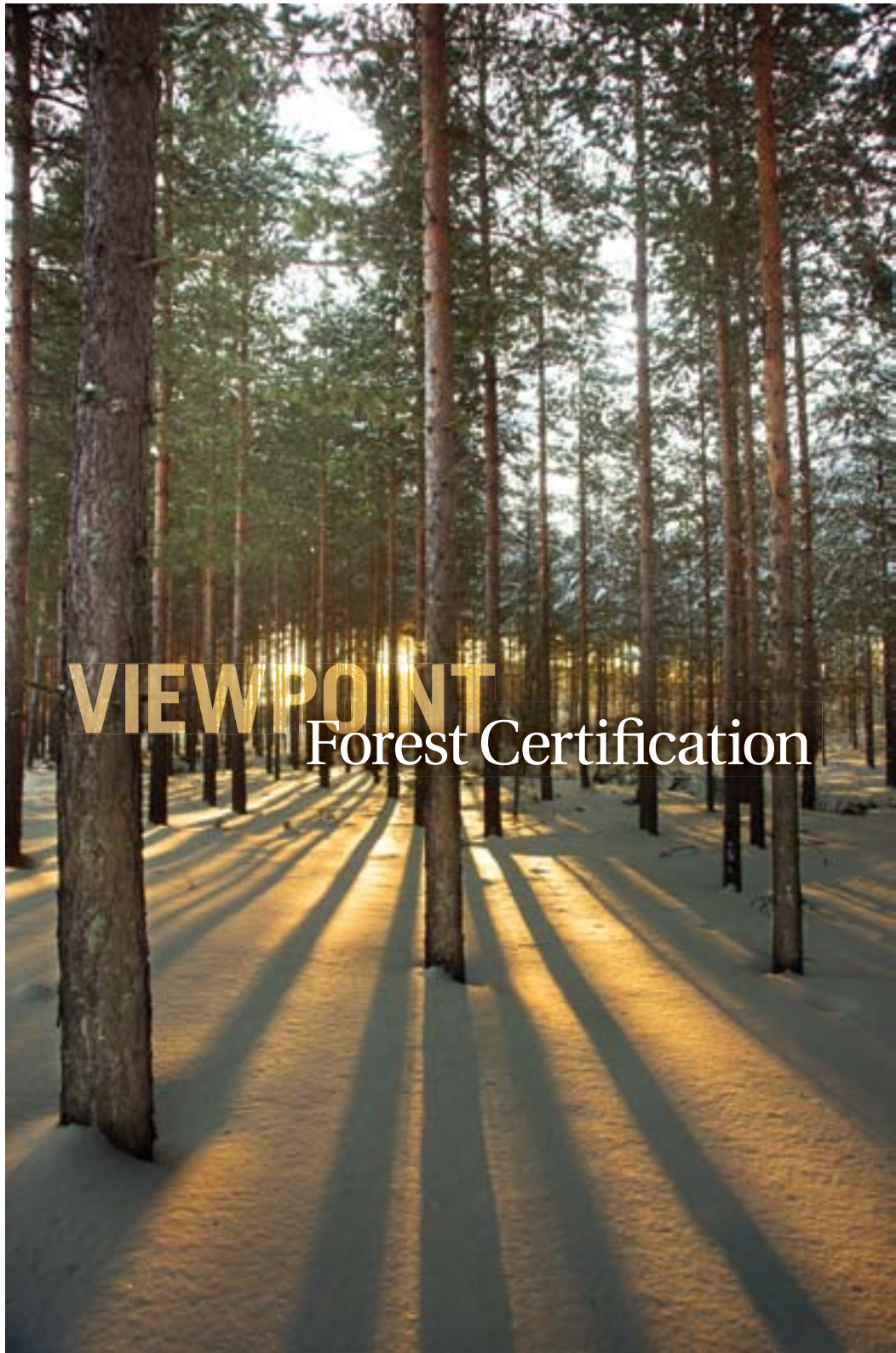
NOVEMBER - DECEMBER 2011

BC Forest PROFESSIONAL

Silviculture:
The Dilemma

The First Nations
Woodland Licence:
Who is in Control?

**Everything
to Everyone:
The Art of Forestry**
ABCFP Conference
and AGM 2012



VIEWPOINT

Forest Certification

Need to get your message out to BC's forest professionals?

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- And 30% spend more than 30 minutes reading the magazine.

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Get it today, and work safely all winter.



BC Forest Safety Council
Unsafe is Unacceptable



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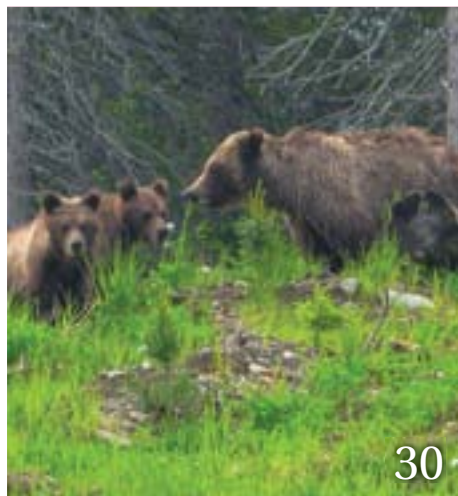
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Put in Your Two Cents

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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True NSR Comparison Not Provided

In the article titled "Not Satisfactorily Restocked (NSR) in BC" (*BC Forest Professional*, September/October 2011), the forests ministry fails to provide a comparable, province-wide, not-stocked area in response to the 9.1 million hectares estimated in an earlier article titled "NSR and British Columbia's Reforestation Crisis" (*BC Forest Professional*, May/June 2011).

In its response, the forests ministry begs the question in part by confusing the NSR area it deems suitable and economic for "treatment" (715,000 hectares with "potential" to increase by a further 775,000 hectares) with the full extent of BC's not-stocked lands, which, when it last reported on this not-stocked area in its 2000-01 annual report, stood at 2.8 million hectares before the 17.5-million hectare infestation by the mountain pine beetle and before the bad fire years of 2003, 2004 and 2006.

Meanwhile, the gulf between estimates of the province-wide extent of not-stocked land within the 55 million hectares of publicly owned forestland, of which 53 million are certified as being sustainably managed, may explain in part why the Forest Practices Board decided in September 2011 to launch a special investigation to clarify the status of BC's not-stocked forestlands—a welcome decision in the public interest.

The terms of reference for the Board's special report are posted at: <http://www.fpb.gov.bc.ca/WorkArea/DownloadAsset.aspx?id=5881>

ANTHONY BRITNEFF, RPF(RET), VICTORIA, BC

Re: "The Inherent Neutrality of Appraisals"

I agree with Mr. Waatainen's comment that "...neither Government nor industry is disinterested" in the appraisal process. In fact, they both have much to gain or lose, and so we can relegate all of the pressures inherent in the system to the fact that it's just business between a buyer and a seller. The government and industry folks tasked with submitting or reviewing appraisals want to follow either a strict or loose interpretation of the rules when it suits their needs to gain the best advantage for their employer, and in my past experience, it was industry that applied pressure from both the operational level and the management level to have appraisals reviewed and amended to better suit their desire of zero stumpage timber.

On the idea of licensee neutrality, I admit I have difficulty understanding how a neutral valuation of the timber cannot include the actual activities of specific licensees and the conditions they face in different parts of, say, the Interior. For example, through the MoF Engineering manual used by both parties to generate road building cost estimates, an engineered cost estimate includes consideration of the specifics of a certain road building project, including an analysis of borrow pit classification, cycle times based on that, and haul distances based on a road design. This results in an estimate to build that specific road in the specific conditions normally encountered in that area of the province.

Lastly, I'm not sure government can always be seen to be wielding a greater influence in the appraisal system than industry ("Government... expropriating the value of a licensee's efficiency.") Admittedly, my experience is limited, but in my past experience with appraisals in the Fort Nelson area, it was the local licensee that lobbied for and received a shipping differential as well as a manufacturing differential, to account for their higher actual shipping costs to market and higher actual local operating costs, and they also made sure to include the 10% operating cost add-on for heavy equipment permitted in the Blue Book for activities north of Pink Mountain, BC.

PETER SMITH, RFT
FORT NELSON, BC

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Clock:

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President's Report

By Ian Emery, RFT



Mid-Term Report Card

I am a little more than halfway through my term as president so I wanted to update you on a few of the projects that are most important to me.

Council and the Strategic Plan

Council and I have been very focused on working efficiently and effectively for our members. While councils have been using the Carver Governance model for a number of years, this council has really embraced it. As a team we are working together to provide guidance and direction through strategic planning and policy and then getting out of the way to let CEO Sharon Glover and her staff achieve the goals we set for them. Sharon and her staff are held accountable through the conditions, constraints and measurable outcomes that council sets and regularly monitors for results. I've been impressed as I've watched council going through the different life cycles of Dr. Bruce Tuckman's model of team development (Forming, Storming, Norming, Performing and Adjourning). I truly see us now in the Performing stage – where the team is productive and effective – and where all great teams end up.

As I write this report, council just finished their annual strategic planning session. Both senior staff and council members agree that it was a very productive session and we feel we have created a good plan that is forward thinking. By the time you read this report,

staff will be well on their way to creating a business plan based on the strategic plan and will start working on the goals in 2012.

Advocacy

We heard loud and clear from members at the AGM in February that advocacy is a hot button issue. Just the subject of advocacy can be controversial as we heard strongly from members that we should advocate and how we should but we also heard from other members who don't believe the association should be advocating at all. At our recent strategic planning session, we had a long discussion on advocacy. We wanted to look at the pros and cons of advocating and clarifying that what we can advocate on is very narrowly set by the *Foresters Act*.

One of areas that we can improve on is letting our membership know about our advocacy activities. We have been including advocacy updates in **The Increment** on a regular basis and we will continue to do so. Sharon Glover's CEO Report in this issue discusses advocacy further, so be sure to read it.

Recruitment and First Nations

Many of you know that I spread the message of recruitment wherever I go. For example, each year the ABCFP travels to different locations of the province to meet with First Nations and let them know who we are, what we do, and to let them know about our recruitment efforts. I was privileged to be able to meet with the Tseil-Waututh Nation in North Vancouver, the Ch-ihl-kway-uhk Forestry Partnership in Chilliwack, Stuwix Resources Ltd in Merritt,

Okanagan Nation Alliance, Westbank First Nation, Aboriginal Programs and Services at the UBC Okanagan campus and the Penticton Indian Band. I was impressed with the different success each of these organizations had with forestry and how it impacted their communities. I learned three key things in talking to these groups: relationships are important and take time and respect to develop; communication helps to create and maintain good relationships; and finally, working together to find solutions is important.

Volunteering

One last item I want to touch on is the importance of volunteering. When I gave my incoming speech in February I heard a few chuckles when I said "it's not about what the ABCFP does for you it's what you can do the ABCFP." Yes it may sound corny but it is what I believe. The ABCFP will only be as good as we make it. Do we want to be lead or do we want to lead? Volunteering can be a lot of work but it can also be very rewarding.

I want to thank everyone who volunteered with the ABCFP this year. Without your efforts, the ABCFP would not be the organization it is today. I also want to thank the members who put their names forward to run in the election for the 65th council. It takes a lot of courage to run in an election so these members should be recognized. Finally, I want to thank the current council members who have volunteered countless hours of their time to be on council as well as many other committees. 🐾



Advocacy and Awareness Building

IN RECENT DISCUSSIONS WITH MEMBERS, IT has become clear to me that not everyone has the same definition of advocacy as I do. Many people confuse advocacy with awareness building but, really these are two very different activities. Members often ask me why the ABCFP isn't "out there" more or why we aren't advocating for a particular issue, so I wanted to tell you about our advocacy activities and how they differ from awareness building.

Advocacy in our Act and Mandate

The inclusion of advocacy in the ABCFP's mandate in 2003 has caused confusion for members and the public. Some members believe that the ABCFP's advocacy mandate means that we can advocate for anything the association or our members want. However, the Foresters Act is very clear in what is acceptable and what is not. The word 'advocacy' appears only once in the Foresters Act in the section that lists the ABCFP's duties and objects: **Section 4 Duty and Objects of the Association:** (b) to advocate for and uphold principles of stewardship of forests, forest lands, forest resources and forest ecosystems;

In Section 11 (Resolutions), the ABCFP's advocacy mandate is referred to indirectly by saying that council can make resolutions that promote good forest stewardship: (l) the promotion of good forest stewardship;

Thus it seems clear that advocacy is tied to the ABCFP's stewardship activities and not matters such as fair wages, working conditions, standardized charge out rates etc. In other words, the ABCFP's mandate allows us to advocate for matters that are in the public interest but not on behalf of our members.

The ABCFP's Advocacy Activities

There are many ways to advocate for something and it is important to remember that advocacy does not always take place in the public realm. Many organizations choose to advocate quietly out of the public eye in meetings with government or other stakeholders. Others choose very public advocacy activities such as protests or sit-ins because they generate media attention.

Advocacy activities can include:

- Meetings with government or other stakeholders
- Public rallies/demonstrations
- Writing opinion editorials (op-eds)
- Issuing news releases
- Hosting press conferences
- Using social media such as blogs, Facebook and Twitter to spread a message
- Paid newspaper or radio advertising
- Lobbying governments at the local, provincial or federal level

Different organizations use different methods to advocate based on their needs and goals. The ABCFP wants to maintain the good relationships we have built with governments at all levels so we prefer to meet with government officials to discuss concerns rather than making our conversations more public. Other groups believe they must advocate in a manner that will bring the public to their side so they use the media to spread their message.

An organization can also move through a continuum of advocacy activities. If meetings with government or community stakeholders do not work, the organization may issue a news release, write opinion editorial, and make use of social media such as Twitter to make sure the issue is understood by the public. The ABCFP's preferred methods of advocacy are meeting with government and other stakeholders, writing opinion editorials and issuing news releases. The next logical step will be to use social media.

In the past year, we have tackled issues such as:

- Principles of stewardship drafted
- Land Based Management
- Response to the Zero Net Deforestation Implementation Plan
- Response to the Forest Carbon Offset Protocol
- Practitioner Competence and Awareness of Issues affecting stewardship including:
- Species at Risk
- Use of forest professionals – (IPP industry, Environmental Impact Assessments, etc.)
- Professional contribution to safety
- Water Resource Importance and Information

Advocacy activities are varied and can be very public or can take place behind closed doors. While the ABCFP has used techniques such as opinion-editorials (op-eds) in the newspaper, more often than not, we meet with government about issues and present our views that way. We also invest a lot of time and energy into researching and writing reports to inform government decision making. We often ask for member input into these reports such as the recent mid-term timber supply review.

What is the Difference between Advocacy and Awareness Building?

Many people get advocacy and awareness building mixed up perhaps because some of the activities are similar; however, the two are quite different. Advocacy is the support for a cause, policy, etc. In other words, we advocate for something (good forest policies, inclusion of Aboriginal peoples in decision making, protection of a specific species etc.) We build awareness of the profession of forestry and the roles of forest professionals.

The ABCFP has undertaken numerous awareness building activities over the years; however, recent years have seen a decline in such activities due to budget constraints. The ABCFP's awareness building work has included:

- Newspaper and radio advertising
- News releases
- Social media
- Participation in career fairs and trade shows
- Meeting with stakeholders such as municipal governments and Aboriginal groups
- National Forest Week activities
- Sending BCFP magazine to community leaders and elected officials

The ABCFP has probably not done a good enough job of communicating with our members about the advocacy and awareness building activities we do. We are working on being more communicative and you can count on getting more information in both the Increment and BCFP magazine in the future. If you have any questions, please e-mail me (sglover@abcfp.ca). I'll get you the answers you need. 🐾

Business Resolution Ballot Results

The business resolution ballot on fire closed on September 30th. Vote counting was held at the ABCFP office, led by Stan Chester, RPF (Ret), ABCFP Returning Officer. A total of 795 valid ballots were cast with two ballots declared spoiled. The result was 329 votes in favour and 464 votes against the resolution.

ABCFP Learns More About First Nations and Forestry

President Ian Emery, RFT; Aboriginal Lay Councillor, Gordon Prest; and Brian Robinson, RPF, director of professional development and forest stewardship, spent three days meeting with Aboriginal groups on the coast and in the Interior. ABCFP board of examiners volunteer and UBC professor, Peter Marshall, PhD, RPF, also joined the group for the first part of the trip.

The group met with the Tsleil-Waututh Nation in North Vancouver where they listened to a presentation on the Nation's history and then headed to Chilliwack to discuss tenure with the Ch-ihl-kway-uhk Forestry Partnership. In Merritt, they met with Stuwix Resources Ltd. which is now a major licensee in the area. The ABCFP group was pleased to hear that several Stuwix band members are pursuing careers in forestry.

The group then proceeded to the Okanagan where they met with the Okanagan Nation Alliance and Westbank First Nation. They also met with the director of Aboriginal programs and services at UBC Okanagan to learn about an Aboriginal Access program and discuss a forestry bridging partnership between the Okanagan and Vancouver campuses.

The last stop was with the Penticton Indian Band to talk about a successful forestry venture employing several band members.

The ABCFP representatives all noted that each of the groups they met with had a great deal of pride and passion in their forestry activities. Forestry is benefitting each of the communities with positive contributions to the economy and employment of band members.

Council Slate Announced

Nominations for the 65th ABCFP council closed on November 1st. We are seeking one RFT and three RPF candidates. As of October 14th, the members who have agreed to stand for election are:

- Steve Chaplin, RFT
- Angeline Nyce, RPF
- Brian Westgate, RPF
- Sue Price, RFT
- Kori Vernier, RPF

There are two candidates, both current council members, for the position of vice-president. The vice-president serves for one year and then automatically becomes the president for a year and the immediate past president for a year before leaving council. The two candidates are:

- Christine Gelowitz, RPF
- Michael Pelchat, RPF

The council election ballot will open in mid-December and will close in mid-January. The newly elected councillors will take office at the AGM in Victoria in February 2012.

Nominate a Colleague for an ABCFP Award

Each year at the annual conference, the ABCFP is pleased to present several awards to both members and non-members. You can find out more about nominating a worthy individual by visiting our website. Click on the About Us tab and then select Our Awards from the drop-down menu.

Members can be nominated for the following awards: Jim Rodney Memorial Volunteer of the Year, Distinguished Forest Professional, Professional Forester of the Year and Forest Technologist of the Year. Non-members can be nominated for the ABCFP Honorary Membership and the ABCFP Award of Merit in Sustainable Forestry.

The deadline for award nominations is November 15, 2011.

If the ABCFP Doesn't Have Your E-mail Address, You Won't Receive Important Information

The ABCFP has moved to an e-mail based communications system. We send out important notices about council elections, membership renewal and other association business only via e-mail.* If we don't have your correct e-mail address, you won't get these reminders and will miss deadlines that could cost you money.

To update your information, go the Members' Area menu on any page of our website, choose My Membership from the dropdown menu and then choose Update Contact Info. This will take you to a page that asks for your logon name and password. Login and you will be brought to the Update Contact Info page.

If you don't know your logon name and password, contact Michelle Mentore, senior communications specialist and webmaster, at mmentore@abcfp.ca or 604.639.9186.

*If you do not use e-mail, the ABCFP will still send you paper mailings. However, you must phone and specifically request them.

Sustainable Forest Management Certification

SUSTAINABLE FOREST MANAGEMENT CERTIFICATION IS A COMPLEX TOPIC AND EVERYONE HAS AN opinion. This is especially true in British Columbia, where three main forest certification programs operate.

In this issue, we have articles about all three BC certification programs: Canadian Standards Association, Forest Stewardship Council and Sustainable Forestry Initiative. These articles come from a variety of sources including: forest certification auditors, forest professionals working within the programs and certification program employees. We have tried to provide you with enough different perspectives so that every ABCFP member will be able to find something useful in this issue.

I'd like to particularly draw your attention to the article by Michel de Bellefeuille, RPF, "So You Think You Want to Get Certified? Choosing an SFM Standard." Michel does an excellent job of objectively reviewing all three programs and outlining their pros and cons. Jason Zimmerman, RPF, wrote another article of note about chain of custody, an aspect of forest management certification not mentioned in the other articles.

This issue of **BC Forest Professional** also includes the registration form for the annual conference. *Everything to Everyone: The Art of Forestry* is shaping up to be a spectacular professional development event. It will be a sleeves-rolled-up conference where interactive sessions draw on the wisdom of leading practitioners to illuminate the challenges that seem to be beyond scientific resolution or legislative solution. Come learn and network in the heart of Victoria. 🌲



Becoming a Believer: Certification Works and FSC Certification Works Best

I CAME INTO THE FSC (FOREST STEWARDSHIP COUNCIL) WORLD AS AN ECOLOGIST and not a strong believer in certification. In fact my personal view was that certification was largely green-wash, that significant change in forest management would only come from changes in corporate leadership and public policy, and certification was the rubber stamp.

My 33 years of corporate experience began in the early 1980s with MacMillan Bloedel, one of the largest companies in BC. They were tumultuous and transformative times in forest management. The tumultuousness culminated in the largest act of civil disobedience in Canadian history over the sustainability of public values under our proposed forest management of Clayoquot Sound. The transformative part followed as the Clayoquot Sound Science Panel unfolded onerous new standards. The focus of public scrutiny became the global market place rather than the courtroom and jails.

Fundamentally, MacMillan Bloedel needed to transform its social license. To do this we needed to rebuild a platform of trust with our critics, our customers and the government. The pinch points were conservation of biodiversity, old-growth logging and clear cutting. Part of our solution was third-party validation of the implementation and effectiveness of novel new practices such as variable retention and landscape zoning supported by a comprehensive adaptive management and monitoring system.

During those years we significantly changed forest management practices in coastal rain forests and gained world-class recognition because of third-party validation. We supported both the Sustainable Forestry Initiative (SFI) and the Canadian Standards Association (CSA) forest certification schemes on private and Crown land respectively. We chose SFI and CAS to meet customer requirements—few had requested FSC certification in the 1980s and early 1990s.

We avoided the higher bar set by FSC thinking the solid-wood marketplace recognition was strong with CSA and cost less. We participated in the consultation process for the development of the FSC BC Standard and this re-affirmed our view that FSC offered a higher bar and greater costs to comply than CSA or SFI.

By 2004 I had I left MacMillan Bloedel, then Weyco, now Western Forest Products and become a consulting forest ecologist. FSC now had Canadian national and regional standards. More pressure was coming from pulp and paper customers to have FSC certification. More companies were getting certified to secure market access and capture whatever additional premium could be garnered in the pulp and paper market. That pressure also began to push the solid wood market, as much of the chip source for pulp and paper was coming as a by-product of solid wood processing.

Through a steep learning curve and the next dozen audits in BC and Alberta, I gained a new perspective on FSC certification. FSC is the only global forest certification body and all FSC certifications are based on conformance with national standards based on ten global principles and 56 criteria. As with the competing certification schemes in Canada

(SFI and CSA), FSC seeks a balance of values between social, environmental, economic and respect for indigenous people.

The primary differences with FSC, CSA and SFI are in the level of detail. FSC is simply more detailed and specific particularly about identification of high conservation value forests and sustenance of those values, greater focus on species-at-risk protection and more detailed evaluation of forest management and planning.

The competing standards also differ significantly in their approach to public participation and continued engagement with indigenous people. FSC does not develop local standards with a public advisory group but relies on regional standards developed through a regional public process. FSC is also the only standard with a separate principle on Aboriginal rights and demands much more specific evaluation of the meaningfulness of engagement beyond respect for treaty rights and enforcing no prejudices.

Canada has four regional FSC standards: Maritimes, Great Lakes-St. Lawrence, Boreal and BC. All were developed to reflect the unique ecological and social conditions within each region. FSC used a local working group to create regional standards that are then reviewed and endorsed by FSC International.

In BC, we are a diverse province with more ecological and social diversity than anywhere else in Canada and we have two regional standards that reflect that diversity: the National Boreal Standard for the Boreal Forest Region in northeastern BC and the British Columbia Standard that applies to the remainder of the forest regions in BC. They are standards with regionally appropriate indicators as determined through a balanced and highly regulated chamber-based and consensus-based process. I have worked with both.

There have been complaints that the two FSC standards in BC are unreasonably different—the Boreal Standard seen as easier to achieve than the BC Standard. The truth is sustainable forest management is more difficult in other parts of BC than in the boreal region. The differences reflect that and regional standards are not meant to be identical. There are many differences indicator by indicator but both standards share the same theme; move forest management towards greater conservation of biodiversity and balance of social, economic and ecological values.

The differences between regional FSC standards in BC are far less extreme than the difference of either of these standards with the associated CSA or SFI standards. The simple fact, reinforced in my audit experience, is that the FSC standards in BC are the broadest and set the highest bar, have the most rigorous and extensive audit process, have open public notice and reporting, and are the most credible with environmental groups and First Nations.

While I started out as a disbeliever, my view has clearly changed. I have now seen the scene from both sides—getting certification



Forest Management Certification: Chain of Custody

THERE ARE TWO MAIN TYPES OF FOREST MANAGEMENT related certification that are widely used in British Columbia:

- Forest Management
- Chain of Custody

However, in addition to forest management and chain of custody certification standards, the International Organisation for Standardization (ISO) Environmental Management Standard (14001) is a popular certification system in Canada. Companies will often pursue ISO certification in addition to forest management certification, as forest management certification typically requires many management system components similar to the ISO requirements.

ISO 14001 requires corporate policies and procedures to be developed and implemented for various aspects. This includes but is not limited to: prevention of pollution, commitment to meet or exceed legal requirements, controls for activities that have the potential to have significant impacts to the environment, etc. An ISO system is often implemented as a foundation to achieve forest management certification.

Forest Management Certification

Forest management certification includes voluntary commitment to successfully implement established standards that complement the existing legal framework for forest management in BC.

There are three types of internationally recognized sustainable forest management certification programs that are available in BC (and Canada):

- Canadian Standards Association (CSA – Z809)
- Sustainable Forestry Initiative® (SFI®)
- Forest Stewardship Council® (FSC®)

Michel de Bellefeuille, RPF, reviews these three standards and their differences in his article on page 20. So I will focus on the chain of custody certification.

Chain of Custody Certification

Chain of custody (CoC) certification tracks the forest products from a certified forest through the manufacturing process to the end consumer and provides assurance to the custom-



While this article focuses on Canadian Chain of Custody Certification, Zimmermann is involved in forest certification around the world. These trees were part of a certification audit in Brazil under the Forest Stewardship Council and Cerflor Standard (a standard used in Brazil and endorsed by PEFC).

ers that they are purchasing a product that was sourced from a responsibly managed forest.

There are three types of internationally recognized CoC certification programs that are available:

- Programme for the Endorsement of Forest Certification (PEFC)
- Sustainable Forestry Initiative (SFI)
- Forest Stewardship Council (FSC)

All three types of the CoC certifications are based on similar fundamentals related to the tracking of forest products, ensuring non-certified fibre sources are from responsible and legal sources and providing rules and controls for purchasing, tracking of fibre and sales. Some of the similarities are as follows:

- Commitment to not be involved in the purchase fibre from illegal harvesting and related assessments of risk (i.e. probability) of sourcing illegally harvested wood,
- Commitment to use system procedures to control the purchasing, tracking and sales of certified products (e.g. confirming certified status of suppliers and product purchased as well as communication of certified status/claim of fibre through invoices and transport documents),
- Maintenance of records of purchases, inventory, sales, training, etc.,

- Commitment to use a control systems to permit physical separation of certified fibre through processing, mixing of two different sources of certified fibre into one product, and a credit system that allows for mixing of certified and non-controversial/controlled wood and sale of certified wood equal to the initial certified inputs,
- Provisions for outsourcing or subcontracting of manufacture/re-manufacture activities to outside facilities, provided they are CoC certified or adequate controls are in place such as contracts/agreements and training,
- Provisions for on-product and promotional use of labels/logos (e.g. websites, brochures),
- Required annual audits to be completed by independent, third-party accredited auditing firms, and
- May require a risk assessment be completed on sources of non-certified fibre should there be a need to mix certified and non-certified fibre together.

While there are many similarities between the CoC certification programs, there are also a few very distinct differences between them. Based on my experience with the three standards, I feel these general statements apply.

Continued on page 29: **Chain of Custody**



An Evolution: Forest Stewardship Council® Certification and Tembec

WHEN FOREST CERTIFICATION DEVELOPED AS A CONCEPT IN THE MID-1990S, it was difficult to imagine that labelling forest products would become a mainstream phenomenon some 20 years later. But today the FSC® trademark can be found on an array of products from printed materials, to lumber, plywood, furniture and a personal favourite—maple syrup.

Nearly twenty years ago, the conversation focused on figuring out the role certification could play in improving forest management and trying to increase transparency in how forests are managed. We were trying to refresh our ‘social license to operate’—a concept drifting out of the temperate rainforests of British Columbia in the late 1990s.

At the time, debates and conflict about forestry practices and land use were characterized by two dominant questions—where to harvest and how to harvest. Regulatory regimes were already in place and voluntary third-party certification efforts were mainstream. Tembec, along with many other companies, was putting ISO 14001 registration in place to systematize environmental management programs.

However, even with these measures in place, questions of on-the-ground performance persisted amongst environmental groups and stakeholders. First Nations sought tools for constructive, pragmatic partnerships with forest companies. Companies were looking to differentiate themselves in an economic climate of consolidation and big box commerce. We wondered if FSC certification could be a tool—outside of the regulatory space—for innovation, dialogue and engagement where divergent interests could find some satisfaction.

It was in this context in 2001, that Tembec made a commitment to the development, testing and implementation of FSC forest certification standards on company-managed public forest tenures across Canada. The next step was to get engaged directly through active participation in the FSC organization itself. Tembec joined FSC International as a member and engaged in FSC nationally in Canada and France and in regional initiatives in British Columbia, Ontario and Quebec.

As a voluntary, membership-driven, not-for-profit NGO, a significant benefit of the FSC system flows from the breadth of its members. With members as diverse as Kimberly Clark, Triton Logging, Greenpeace, National Aboriginal Forestry Association and Wildsight, the FSC is a forum to engage with other members, whether it be spirited debate on international issues such as forest carbon, fibre sourcing and certification of small forests or closer-to-home issues such as identification of high conservation value forests and First Nation partnerships.

Within this diverse membership, FSC standards have evolved over time. Implementation of them is not for the faint of heart. In essence, auditors are checking on three things:

- Past corrective action requests (CARs),
- Compliance of current practice, and
- Inquires and concerns from First Nations and other interested and affected parties.

It is a robust ‘circle check’ process giving the certified operation a solid third-party view of operational performance, internal management system integrity, quality of external relations and insight into emerging issues. As with the certification audit, annual audit summaries are publicly available providing significant transparency into the management of the certified organization and building brand value for organizations attentive to corporate social responsibility requirements.

Evolution of the FSC organization and its systems continue today. FSC conformity assessment bodies (audit firms) are themselves subject to routine audits. Auditors gain expertise in applying complex standards such as the BC FSC Standard and have a natural inclination to apply upward pressure on the bar of continuous improvement. Challenges in FSC implementation occur at both a strategic and operational level.

A particular challenging evolution is developed through Principle Three: Indigenous Peoples Rights. The key to addressing Principle Three requirements is to avoid forest managers’ natural inclination to analyze the text of the standard and develop an ‘in-house’ implementation plan. Rather they must seek direct engagement and dialogue with interested First Nations to explore how they see the standard applying in their specific context. Solutions lie somewhere in the space bounded by the recognition that First Nations “are not just another stakeholder” and companies “are not the government.” This creates an opportunity for organizations to use the FSC standard as a framework to develop constructive, mutually beneficially partnerships.

Tembec has found that implementation of FSC certification, like safety or quality programs, requires a deep buy-in from top to bottom in an organization. Professional foresters, biologists, technicians, contractors and office staff play critical roles in achieving on the ground results. They are also needed to creatively identifying pragmatic, cost-effective means to meet performance requirements and to address what can be burdensome FSC monitoring and reporting requirements.

Finally, commitment to FSC means commitment to continual evolution. The FSC is dynamic and changes to strengthen and align the system internationally are underway. A current process of revision of the principles and criteria is nearing completion. A revision to Canada’s suite of FSC standards will follow, likely in late 2012. 🐾

Chris McDonell, RPF, is manager of Aboriginal and environmental relations at Tembec, a large diversified Canadian forest products company. Based in the North Bay, Ontario and Temiscaming, Quebec at Tembec’s corporate office, he is accountable for Aboriginal relations, pursuit and maintenance of Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) certification for all company forests and mills, company wood fibre procurement policy and implementation of partnerships with environmental organizations.

Chris Stagg (RPF) is a Registered Professional Forester employed by Tembec, a large diversified Canadian forest products company, in the role of Chief Forester for their operations in British Columbia. Chris is based out of Cranbrook, B.C.

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For pricing and times, please visit the **Everything to Everybody: The Art of Forestry** website at www.abcfp.ca/conference.asp.

* Availability subject to numbers

WEDNESDAY EVENING

- **Taking Root: The Role of Forest Professionals in Cultivating Safety Culture**
Stephen Chaplin, RFT, CRSP, BC Forest Safety Council
Laura Maguire, BComm, BC Forest Safety Council
- **Icebreaker**
Join new and old friends for a drink and snacks while you check out the amazing booths on the trade show floor. This event is included in the full conference package.

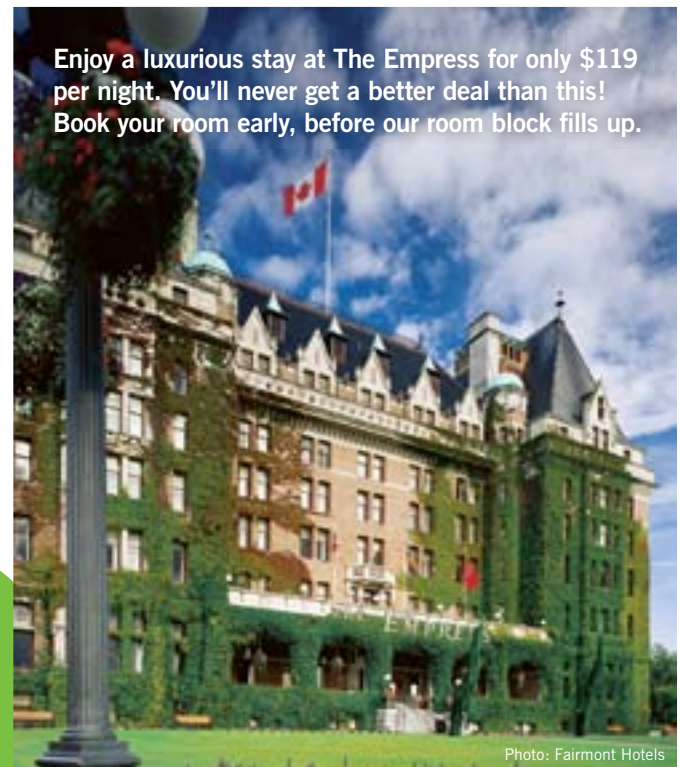


Photo: Fairmont Hotels



Photo: Tourism BC

MORNING EVENTS

- **Breakfast in the Trade Show**

Plenary Session **Opening Welcome**

Plenary Session **The Art of Forestry**
TBA

Break-Out Option A **Bringing Everything to Everyone: The New Professionals**
Doug Corrin, RPF, ATC, Vancouver Island University
Barbara Hawkins, PhD, University of Victoria
John Innes, PhD, University of British Columbia
John Karakatsoulis, PhD, Thompson Rivers University
TBA, University of Northern British Columbia

OR

Break-Out Option B **Forest Practices Board Report on NSR**
Al Gorley, RPF, Forest Practices Board

What to Plant? The Art of Seedling Selection

Nicholas Ukrainetz, MSc, RPF, Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations

OR

Break-Out Option C **Should You Be Everything to Everyone? Defining Professional Scope of Practice**
TBA

The Art of Advocacy

TBA

AFTERNOON EVENTS

- **Inductees' Recognition Luncheon**

Plenary Session **ABCFP Annual General Meeting**

Plenary Session **Council Hot Seat**

Break-Out Option A **Global Challenges: Certification and the Art of Procurement**
TBA

OR

Break-Out Option B **Water, Wind and Fibre: The Art of Renewable Energy**
TBA

OR

Break-Out Option C **Leading Safety: The Shared Responsibility**
Peter Lineen, CRSP, BC Forest Safety Council
Reynold Hert, BC Forest Safety Council

EVENING EVENTS

- **President's Awards Reception**
- **President's Awards Banquet**

Read more about the conference topics on our website abcfp.ca/conference.asp
Session summaries will be available early in November.

MORNING EVENTS

- **Breakfast in the Trade Show**

- **UBC Alumni Breakfast**

Plenary Session **Keynote Speaker: The Leap**

Chris Turner, author of *The Leap: How to Survive and Thrive in a Sustainable Economy*

Plenary Session **Resolutions Session**

Option to Plenary **Delusional Approaches in Contemporary Safety Management**
Marius Jacobs, BA (Hons), SAFEMap

Break-Out Option A **Big Industry's New Forestry**

Ric Slaco, RPF, Interfor
Kerry McGourlick, RPF, Western Forest Products
TBA

Changing Horses: The Transition Between Two Economies

Bruce Fraser, PhD, ABCFP Honourary Member, Forest Practices Board
Ben Parfitt, Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives

OR

Break-Out Option B **Healthy Forests, Healthy Communities: A Dialogue on BC Forests**

Bill Bourgeois, PhD, RPF, New Directions Resource Management Ltd.

When Everything to Everyone is Not Enough: Non-Statutory Expectations

TBA

OR

Break-Out Option C **Dealing Effectively with Aboriginal Peoples**
Bob Joseph, Indigenous Corporate Training Inc.

The Art of Managing People

TBA

AFTERNOON EVENTS

- **Minister's Lunch**

Break-Out Option A **From Pixels to Trees: The Art of Remote Sensing in the Digital Age**
Albert Nussbaum, RPF, Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations

OR

Break-Out Option B **The Art of Professional Reliance**
TBA

Plenary Session **Everything to Everyone: The Public-Private Forest Land Balance**
TBA

Plenary Session **Closing Remarks**

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From Global to Local:

Why is FSC Popular Around the World but not in BC?

I ATTENDED THE 6TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY (GA) OF THE FOREST STEWARDSHIP Council (FSC) in Kota Kinabalu, Malaysia in June 2011. This was my second general assembly and it fully lived up to my expectations as a thoroughly inspiring, stimulating and motivating event.

Every three years, the FSC hosts a general assembly to debate issues, celebrate successes and establish policy and future direction for the FSC. This one reminded me again why I have chosen to work as a forestry assessor and assessment team leader in the FSC system and to participate actively in the organization for most of the last 12 years.

FSC is the most widely recognized and accepted system for certifying forest management in the world. The FSC principles, criteria and regional indicators set the highest standards of forest management. They are also supported by the most thorough audits and most extensive chain of custody system. FSC certification requires the most extensive consultation with interested parties and the most transparent process.

Increasingly, FSC is the means by which corporations demonstrate their commitment to socially and environmentally responsible forest stewardship and maintain access to the global markets that are demanding products from well-managed forests. But FSC is much more than a standard and market access for companies.

This GA brought together over 400 people from 70 countries representing the full spectrum of interests in the management of the world's forests—indigenous peoples, forest workers, church groups, community and womens' groups from the northern and southern hemispheres, as well as academics, small forest land owners, forest farmers and a host of others. Senior managers of many forest corporations—from very large to very small—wood products distributors and retailers were prominently represented. These people come from all corners of the globe and from every type of forest—boreal to tropical, rainforest to dry woodland.

The GA participants share a common passion and commitment to confront the serious issues of deforestation, species and habitat loss and climate change, and share a strong sense of mutual respect for each others' interests. The FSC GA is a model of consensus building—a united nations for forest management—and a place of global leadership on forestry matters.

Returning home from this inspiring assembly, I wonder why FSC is still largely a non-event in BC and why we are so disconnected from the themes that are prominent within the FSC. BC is a major forest jurisdiction; BC companies are in global markets; we are recognized for good forest management plans and practices. So why are we so under-represented in FSC certification and at FSC events?

In Canada, there are over 43 million ha of FSC certified forest, in 60 certificates in nine provinces. FSC is growing rapidly and very soon, the area of FSC certification in Canada will surpass CSA and SFI. Several large

companies in other provinces proudly hold FSC certificates and were very active at the GA.

In BC, with our globally significant forests, we have just over two million ha FSC certified and only six certificates. Most companies and professional foresters continue to avoid engagement with FSC and BC had very little representation at the GA. Recently top executives of seven large pulp and paper companies in BC wrote a letter noting that FSC certification is a strong market preference, almost a market requirement, and expressing their strong interest in acquiring FSC certified fibre for their operations in BC. Yet the uptake from BC forest managers continues to be very slow.

There may be several reasons for this. Certainly, there are places in BC where our tenure system, particularly volume-based and non-replaceable tenures, appears not to meet the FSC requirement for a defined long-term forest management area. Issues have also been identified with the unsustainable levels of harvest associated with the beetle uplifts. However, there are FSC certified volume-based tenures in BC and there are certificates in areas of serious pine beetle attack, so these can be addressed.

Concerns have also been expressed about the requirement to recognize and respect the legal and customary rights of First Nations. Again, some companies in BC have developed very strong relationships with First Nations and have met the FSC requirements. Numerous other FSC requirements have also been identified as obstacles to certification in BC. However, related and similar requirements are being addressed by companies and foresters across boreal Canada and in BC.

The FSC BC standard is intended to set a high bar and it does present some challenges. However, from my perspective, much of the lack of uptake in BC continues to be rooted in the myths, misunderstandings and misconceptions from 10 years ago and an unwillingness to engage in new approaches to integrating social, environmental and economic interests in ways that respect First Nations rights. These new approaches are being implemented in other parts of the world and are being expected by consumers. These new approaches are embraced by the many diverse interests represented at the GA working together to address very difficult forestry issues.

It's time BC caught up. We need to learn more about FSC, put aside the past conflicts and embrace an organization that many world-leaders, professionals and corporations now recognize as a positive force for needed change in the management of forests world-wide. 🐾

Keith Moore, RPF, has worked as a forester and biologist in government and as a private consultant for more than 30 years. He was the first chair of BC's Forest Practices Board from 1995-2000. Over the last 12 years, his work with FSC has taken him across Canada and to nine other countries where he has been involved in over 60 FSC certification projects. He lives in Haida Gwaii.



So You Think You Want to Get Certified? Choosing an SFM Standard

IN ANY DISCUSSION REGARDING SUSTAINABLE forest management (SFM) certification it is important to remember that all certifications are voluntary. All organizations must first decide if they want and/or need to get certified in the first place. As the world's awareness of evolving environmental issues and conditions has grown over time, forest products organizations have needed to provide customers some assurance that their activities were sustainable and not just the product of senseless greed.

In BC, that assurance is provided in part by the rigorous and extensive regulatory environment we function in and, in part, by the SFM certifications we achieve. In this context, most large tenure holders in BC maintain some registration under one or another of the three major SFM brands. In essence SFM certification has become somewhat of an industry standard that helps keep one in the game.

Just like different brands of toothpaste all deliver clean teeth, all three SFM standards do a reasonable job in delivering improved forest management and forest practices in the achievement of sustainable forest management. All three standards are consistent with accepted international criteria developed through processes like the Montreal Process. They just do it differently and most of these differences find their roots in their origins. And just like different toothpastes, all three have their strengths and their weaknesses.

What are the practical considerations an organization goes through in choosing what brand of SFM certification it will register under?

Nature of Tenure

For an organization, a key factor in choosing a brand of SFM is, in my view, the nature of its tenure.

The CSA Z809 standard is Canada's national SFM standard and as such reflects the public nature of the ownership of forests here. Its requirement for a public input process is unique and by far the strongest and most comprehensive. It also recognizes the overall

strong regulatory environment in Canada and respects provincial differences by allowing for a range of performance targets.

The SFI standard being a standard developed in and for the USA, is better aligned with private ownership which is by far the main tenure south of the border. Its objectives and indicators allow flexibility in approach in a way that recognizes the protected nature of property rights in the US. After all, nobody likes to be told how to do things on their private property!

For its part, the basic FSC standard was originally designed to help address the deforestation issue in the southern hemisphere. As such its criteria and indicators tend to provide direct guidance to fill the gaps in the absence of a solid regulatory environment. Unfortunately, in a regulated environment like that of BC, this often leads to duplication of efforts and costly additional processes where regulatory ones exist.

Location of Forest

Another key influence on the choice of a certification brand is the location of an organization's forests. This is not such a critical factor for the CSA Z809 or the SFI standards as they have been designed to apply to whole jurisdictions. However, the FSC standard has been designed to apply to forest regions instead.

Although FSC's regional take could be a point in favour of its standard, it has led to uneven applications of the standard. For example, the application of RONV (Range Of Natural Variability) found in the BC FSC standard is not one that is found in other regional or national versions of the FSC standard. Similarly, why the FSC Boreal standard in Canada should greatly vary from that of Russia or of Scandinavian countries is not clear to me.

Taking these facts into consideration, an organization primarily working in coastal BC and managing an important component of old-growth forest could find its own sustainability

in question with a FSC certification under the BC standard that is designed to minimize old-growth harvesting. For that reason, it would likely not choose that brand.

Client Base

Another crucial element of an organization's decision is the makeup of its business and its client base. When a smaller company's main customer is pressuring it for FSC certified fibre for whatever reasons, that company will naturally find itself leaning towards that standard. On the other hand, a larger company with more resources and a wider range of products and broader customer base will tend to take a more balanced view of certifications and may choose to register its various forests under any or all the SFM brands.

Cost

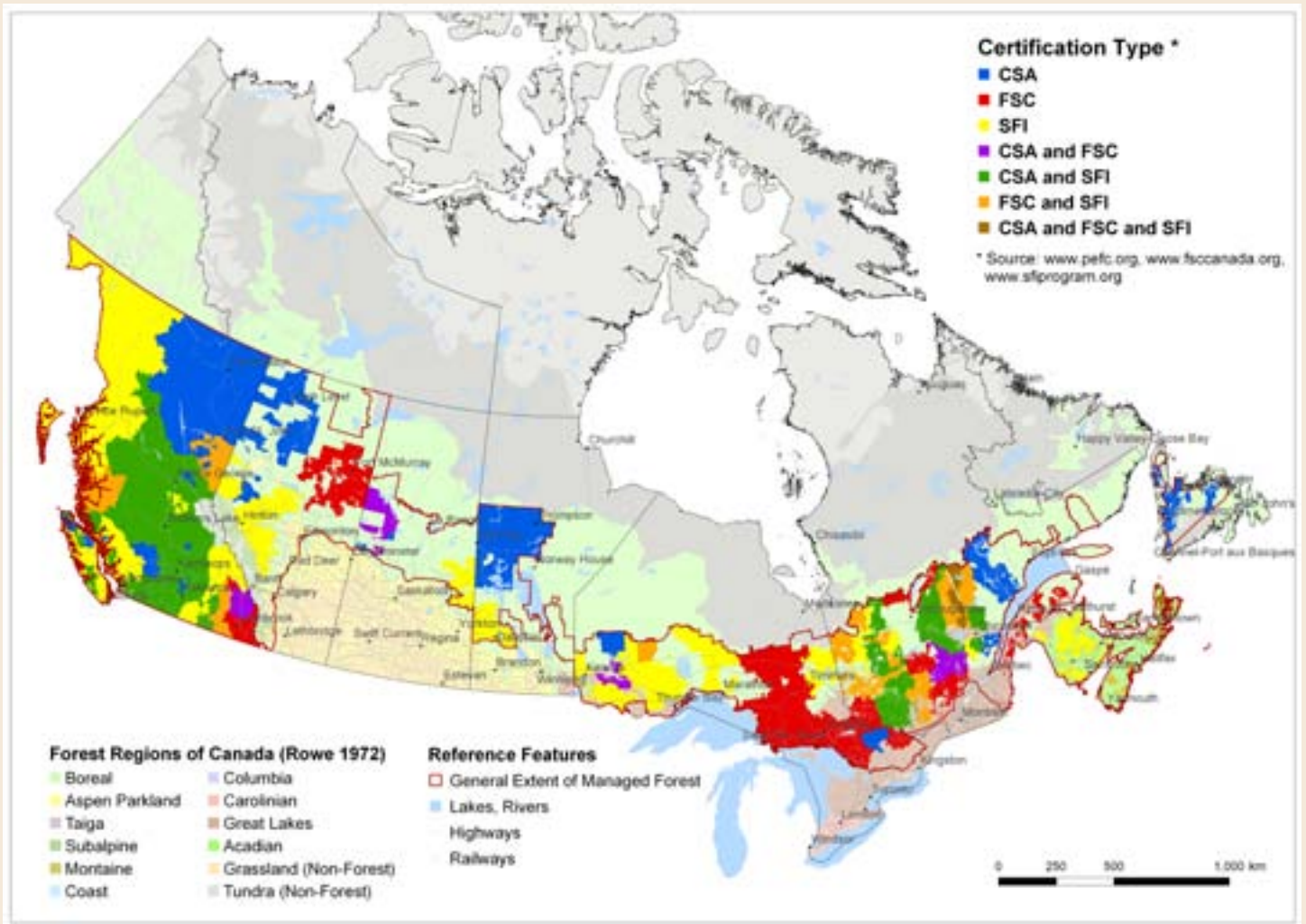
The cost factor is also a key consideration. It is costly to first achieve any SFM certification and to maintain it over time.

CSA and FSC have fairly high up-front costs. For CSA, the cost of setting up a public advisory group (PAG) and developing with it an initial sustainable forest management plan (SFMP) can be quite substantial. For FSC it is the unique processes such as RONV, risk analysis and integrated riparian assessments that create high costs.

For SFI, up front costs are often minimized because most companies have many established internal programs or processes that can be relied on to meet the standard's requirements. However, if such pieces are not in existence in an organization, its up front costs could also be substantial.

The cost of third-party audits also is significant at this set-up stage and other stages. It is highest for a FSC registration primarily because of the complexity of its audit methodology. For CSA and SFI, third-party audit costs are quite similar for both standards.

At the maintenance stage, CSA incurs the steady cost of maintaining a PAG engaged on a



continual basis. These additional costs are not astronomical and bring their own rewards in the form of long-lasting relationship with a wide array of community members. As previously mentioned, the extra costs for FSC tend to be associated with the maintenance of additional and sometimes redundant processes.

Finally, the cost of fees and memberships is the least with CSA and is substantial for SFI and FSC. The main reason is that FSC and SFI are single-purpose organizations supported by those fees and memberships. Meanwhile, for CSA, the Z809 standard is only one of thousands of standards that it oversees.

This fact is Z809's weak spot in that there is almost no resource brought to bear in the defence and promotion of the Z809 standard. A group called the CSA SFM User Group was created in an attempt to fill that gap. Membership in this group is voluntary

and brings about additional fees when an organization chooses to join it.

Price Premiums

In the early days of SFM certification, many organizations had the vision of securing markets or price premiums for their products once they achieved certification. That has not materialized in any significant measure. Premiums have tended to be limited to small niche or specialty markets and often for limited times.

For the great majority of customers, price continues to be the main deciding factor. Once they are sure the supplier is reputable, customers will choose the certified products over the non-certified one only if there is no price difference or if the difference is immaterial. You and I do the same in all our shopping.

So in the end, an organization will choose the SFM certification brand that best fits its overall circumstances and context for mostly basic and practical reasons. 🐾

Note: The opinions and ramblings within this article are all mine and mine alone. They in no way reflect those of my past, present or future employers. Given the politics around forest certification, this is unfortunately a point that must be made.

Michel de Bellefeuille, RPF, is certification forester at Western Forest Products in Nanaimo. Michel has worked with the three main SFM standards over the past 13 years in a variety of capacities. He was instrumental in his employer obtaining the first registration in Canada to the CSA Z809 standard, back in 1999. Over the years, he helped get forests certified to the SFI standard and dabbled with the FSC standard as well. Currently, he helps maintain registrations under both the CSA Z809 and the FSC BC standards.



Interfor: 10 Years of SFI Certification

IN JANUARY 2001 INTERFOR'S COASTAL WOODLANDS BECAME THE FIRST public lands in Canada to be certified to the Sustainable Forestry Initiative Standard (SFI). Over the years, SFI forest management and chain of custody certification have become integral elements of our business and core values.

In September, we announced 700,000 hectares in our recently acquired Grand Forks and Castlegar Woods Division in southeast British Columbia had been certified. This brings the total area we have certified to the SFI 2010-2014 Standard to 2.8 million hectares. Our tenures in the mid-coast timber supply area are also certified to the Forest Stewardship Council™ (FSC) through the Coast Forest Conservation Initiative group certification.

In 2000, when Interfor first approached SFI about certifying our public lands, certification was relatively new. SFI had been developed five years earlier through a multi-stakeholder process as one of the forest sector's contributions to the new vision of sustainable development – and it was just beginning to look north of the border.

We did a formal gap analysis and chose SFI certification for a number of reasons. It meant we could integrate performance measures and objectives into the environmental management systems we had in place and SFI had broad recognition in the United States—our largest market. We found that certifying our lands gave us the incentive to improve practices and helped us strengthen and formalize many of the environmental and social actions that are part of doing business in British Columbia.

SFI manages the largest single forest certification standard in the world – 78 million hectares certified in North America which includes 54 million hectares in Canada and 22 million hectares in British Columbia. Most forest professionals in British Columbia chose the SFI and CSA Z809 certification standards—which is why they account for 95% of the certified land in the province.¹ And since lands certified to CSA are recognized by SFI, this means products from 95% of British Columbia's certified lands are eligible to use the SFI chain-of-custody label.

On the ground, the similarities between the three certification standards in British Columbia outweigh the differences. Like the other standards, SFI has measures to protect water quality, biodiversity, wildlife habitat and species at risk, and more, and it is backed by independent audits. What's unique about SFI is its commitment to community outreach, research, training and conservation partnerships.

SFI fosters partnerships and provides a forum to share ideas about ways to meet standard requirements. One way it does this is through community-based SFI implementation committees such as the Western Canada committee, which has members from British Columbia, Alberta and Saskatchewan. We work hard to broaden the

goal of sustainable forestry and ensure on-the-ground progress, supporting logger education and training, promoting certification through public and stakeholder outreach, dealing with inconsistent practices and a lot more.

Community outreach, research and partnerships are so important that SFI makes a point of recognizing these achievements. In 2009, Interfor and the Nanwakolas Council received an SFI Conservation Leadership Award for working together to develop standards for cedar trees suitable for carving traditional canoes, poles and big houses, and to create an inventory.

Just last year, Interfor was part of a research project funded through the SFI Conservation and Community Partnerships Grant Project. We worked with the South Coast Conservation Program to expand an existing field guide/training tool on species-at-risk for the forestry sector, and developed and delivered a training package for field personnel/forestry practitioners, planners and First Nations. It built on existing collaborative work undertaken by SFI-certified companies like Interfor, government and conservation organizations.

In the 10 years I have worked with SFI, I have seen the program evolve and I have seen it gain respect in markets around the world. Forest professionals care about British Columbia's forests, they manage them in a way that meets and surpasses our tough laws. It's something we know – but that's not good enough for international markets. Some higher-profile customers want the added proof point that comes with a credible forest certification program like SFI.

Gerry Fraser, RPF, handles Interfor's SFI certifications as the manager of sustainable forestry. A founding member of the Western Canada SFI Implementation Committee, he served as co-chair from 2000 to 2006 and now is treasurer.

Interested in SFI?

If you are interested in becoming involved in the SFI program, contact Ian De Lisle (idelisle@hnrng.com) chair of the Western Canada SFI Implementation Committee or visit our website www.wcsic.ca.

1 Certification Canada. (2011). Certification Status Report: British Columbia - SFM - Mid-year 2011. Retrieved September 22, 2011, from http://www.certificationcanada.org/_documents/status_reports/BC%20SFM%20Status%20Report%202011%20Mid-year%20Aug2_11.pdf



Why Certify? The Cost of Forest Certification in BC

FOREST CERTIFICATION HAS BECOME A COMMON TERM IN THE FORESTRY world. It has received a wide acceptance by large forest companies in British Columbia and Canada. Forest certification as a sustainability mechanism is commonly viewed as a part of doing business. However, the cost of forest certification is considered by many stakeholders to be a major drawback that precludes greater involvement of smaller forest companies.

The main forest certification systems used in BC are Forest Stewardship Council (FSC), Sustainable Forestry Initiative (SFI) and Canadian Standards Association Z809 (CSA). The process of forest certification involves both direct and indirect costs, and those can be substantial. Direct costs cover, for example, collecting data and information, monitoring efforts, training staff, tracking timber for chain-of-custody certification, or paying for certification audits. Indirect costs involve a possible loss of revenue due to required changes in forest management.

The estimates of the cost of forest certification vary dramatically. The cost has been reported from a minimum of \$5,000 US (for small forest parcels of 5-20 ha) and a low of \$0.1 US per hectare for large industrial companies. Other US estimates reported costs ranging \$0.07-0.49 US per ha for larger companies and \$6.45–39.31 US per ha for companies with less than 4,000 ha of forest land.

The cost of certification is often considered commercially sensitive information. No data or estimates on the cost of forest certification per hectare is publicly available in BC. However, there are BC cases in which certification was dropped due to its high cost and insufficient price premium for certified wood products. The cost of forest certification per hectare varies significantly and depends on a number of factors (Table 1).

Despite a high cost, more than 50% of annual allowable cut (AAC) in BC is allocated to certified companies (according to 2011 Apportionment). Nine of the largest companies that control over 45% of the AAC are certified.

What motivates companies to become certified? The reasons include the following:

- **Certification ensures market access.** Forest certification eases access to some environmentally sensitive markets, such as Europe. While general customers of large ‘big box’ stores are typically unaware of forest certification, large publishing houses, buyers’ groups and governmental procurement policies tend to shape the demand for certified wood and paper products.
- **The demand for green building certification promotes forest certification.** A number of green building codes specify the use of certified wood products, which drives architects and builders to search for certified wood product sources.
- **There is a demand for certification products through the supply chain.** Suppliers to large forest companies are often expected to be compliant with certification requirements. Sometimes the compliance to forest certification requirements is included into contractual obligations.
- **Certification helps to prove legality of timber procurement.** Although forest certification does not cancel the need to comply with the *Lacey Act* or European FLEGT regulation requirements, it is considered to lighten the burden of proving legality of timber.
- **Certification helps to avoid costs of public relations.** Forest certification is known to help with improving relations with various forest stakeholders (e.g. environmental groups, local communities, First Nations), thus reducing the possibilities of costly conflicts.
- **Certification can bring a price premium for some products.** Certain high-visibility value-added products (e.g., furniture) are reported to ensure a price premium. These are made from products that carry a certification logo. To obtain a logo for a product, the company needs chain-of-custody certification.

Overall, despite the significant costs and the absence of direct cash benefits, there are several reasons why forest certification has become a widely accepted tool in BC. However, it is in no way the final step in approaching sustainability. 🐾

Anna Tikina, PhD, is a research associate at the University of British Columbia. Her research experience includes assessing forest certification, international forest governance, and sustainable forest management.

Table 1. Factors influencing the costs of forest certification.

Company size	Generally, the costs per hectare are smaller for larger companies and tenures due to the economies of scale.
Type of tenure and associated tenure obligations	Larger long-term tenures that already comply to more legal requirements often need to add fewer changes to comply to forest certification than tenures with fewer legal requirements. Location and the scale of operations or the number of facilities affect the cost.
Certification system	The number of requirements and the scale of activities required beyond legal obligations raise the cost of certification. Each system poses unique requirements. For example, FSC (in general and in BC in particular) focuses on environmental impact and indigenous people; CSA demands public involvement through public advisory groups, with the greater focus on Aboriginal people in the recent standard; and SFI underlines tracing timber origin.
Product	Commodity wood and paper products are rarely known to attract price premium that is sufficient to offset the cost of certification.
Characteristics of the forest management	The users of certain silviculture systems (e.g. variable retention) may need fewer changes in their forest management to follow certification requirement and this decreases the cost of certification.
Auditing company	The charges of certification auditor companies vary.

Custom Built for Canada: CSA Certification for Canadian Forests

THE CANADIAN STANDARDS ASSOCIATION (CSA) was founded in 1919 to develop standards that improve the lives of Canadians and people worldwide. Today there are over 3,000 CSA standards that cover everything from specifications for hockey helmets to providing assurance of the sustainable management of Canada's forests.

There are two CSA sustainable forest management (SFM) standards. One is used primarily in larger industrial forests (CSA Z809) and the second is for smaller forests and private woodlots (CSA Z804). CSA Z809 is the largest national standard in the world with over 60 million hectares of Canadian forests certified to CSA. It is also the dominant forest certification program used in British Columbia where over half of forests certified are to the CSA SFM Standard.

Developed for Canada

Both Z804 and Z809 are national standards of Canada, written specifically for the Canadian context and built on top of existing, strong legislative frameworks. They follow the Canadian Council of Forest Ministers' framework for sustainable forest management, which is in turn based on international agreement on the many environmental, economic and social factors that need to be taken account when forests are harvested. These include using sustainable harvest levels, conserving biological diversity, protecting soil and water, and incorporating the rights of Aboriginal peoples—to name just a few. Independent auditors assess forestry activities against these requirements and, if they conform, issue a certificate indicating that the practices used in a given forest area meet the established requirements.

The content of the CSA SFM Standard is the responsibility of a multi-stakeholder technical committee made up of forest producers, scientists, academics, government representatives, Aboriginal people, labour unions, consumers and environmentalists. The technical committee is currently led by Dr. Peter Duinker of Dalhousie University. Dr. Duinker is a distinguished professor

and scientist, known and respected across Canada and internationally as a leader of environmental science. In 2010, he received the Canadian Institute of Forestry's Canadian Forestry Scientific Achievement Award.

Important firewalls are in place. The CSA forestry standards are accredited by the Standards Council of Canada, and the system provides independence and transparency between the process of developing the standard, the approval of the standard and accreditation of the certifiers.

Explaining Public Advisory Groups

Because 93% of Canada's forests are publicly owned, the Z809 standard demands active public involvement by local residents in a way that no other standard does. From coast to coast, roughly 40 public advisory groups (PAGs) are involved in frequent discussion with forest managers. One example is Western Forest Products' public advisory group, in this case called a community advisory group (CAG), at its Stillwater Operation in Powell River.

There are 19 members in the Stillwater CAG. They represent a wide range of interests including tourism, environment and local business. Western Forest Products is responsible for maintaining this group and provides meeting room space, dinner, a secretary to keep minutes and guest speakers as requested by the CAG on any topic related to the indicators—guidelines that help the CAG measure if its sustainable forest management plan is effective.

Jane Cameron has sat on the Stillwater CAG since 2001. "We're a fairly active group," said Jane. "We have a dinner meeting once a month. Things change so rapidly in the forest industry our indicators need frequent review with an eye to updating."

The Stillwater CGA uses over 40 indicators in their sustainable forest management plan. Jane explained that the CSA Z809-08 standard includes 26 core indicators that must be used in each SFM plan. The others indicators were developed by the Stillwater CAG themselves in

conjunction with Western. An example of an indicator is "Proportion of the calculated long-term sustainable harvest level that is actually harvested."

Stuart Glen, RPF, the Western employee who supports the CAG, attends the monthly meetings and provides an operations report for the following month and a map to show where Western plans to harvest. The CAG discusses the plans and addresses any concerns like road placement or community impact.

For example, just a little while ago Stuart had a cut block where the Sunshine Coast Trail ran through part of it. "Stuart works with the trail builders," said Jane. "He'll tell us, 'This is what I plan to do for the trail.' And then we'll tell him whether we think that's enough. We expect the company to work with the community regarding the trail and they are very good about doing so." To learn more about the Stillwater CAG, visit their website: www.cagsta.org.

Recognized Internationally

Both CSA SFM standards are endorsed as meeting the requirements of the global Programme for the Endorsement of Forest Certification schemes (PEFC). This endorsement verifies that the standards meet or exceed an internationally established performance level and were developed in a multi-stakeholder process.

Forest Products with Integrity

The CSA forest certification program includes using the PEFC Chain of Custody standard and PEFC product labels to link the CSA forest management standard to forest products and consumers. This shows consumers how much of a wood product has been sourced from a certified forest and assures them that any uncertified portion is from legal and non-controversial sources.

The CSA SFM standards help ensure Canadian forests continue to provide future generations with the benefits we enjoy today. And they mean customers can count on Canada for a substantial supply of responsibly-sourced building products. 🌲



An SFI Audit: How it Works and What's Involved

WHETHER COMPANIES ARE SELLING DIAMONDS OR LUMBER, THE MARKET is demanding proof that non-financial aspects of their performance—environmental, social, carbon footprint, health and safety included—are being properly managed.

Many labels exist and each claims various aspects of non-financial performance. It's increasingly difficult for consumers to work out which ones are meaningful and which aren't. Within this environment, KPMG Performance Registrar Inc. is a certification organization. We conduct audits of claims in order to give consumers some assurance that the claims being made are actually true.

Our experience with the SFI standard goes back to 2000 when we first began conducting SFI audits in British Columbia. Since then, the SFI standard has become a key component of certification in BC. In 2010, KPMG was responsible for SFI certifications covering over 21 million m³ of the provincial harvest.

While the underlying basics of the SFI audit process remained consistent over the last 10 years, the audit process has become steadily more efficient. This increased efficiency is caused by companies embracing management systems as a way of managing performance. These systems are particularly effective at achieving more consistent on-the-ground results and providing the evidence (e.g. inspection forms, internal audits, pre-works) needed to demonstrate their functionality.

Key Factors that Drive Successful SFI Audits

Competent Auditors: Our auditors are primarily forest professionals, assisted by BC professional biologists, engineers and geoscientists. This makes for a more efficient audit and broadens the credibility of the audit results. In addition to their professional designations, auditors are required to undergo training in field auditing and management systems. They also undertake annual training on our specific audit approach as well as any changes to the SFI standard and relevant interpretations.

Clear Standards: The SFI 2010-2014 Standard is a single standard for all North American forests. Some of the indicators are

further supported by a range of more specific interpretations that our auditors gain access to with relative ease. All interpretations are publicly available and, therefore, promote consistency between different certifiers.

Reliable Audit Processes: Every certification body conducting SFI audits is required to be accredited to conduct these audits by either the Standards Council of Canada (SCC) or the ANSI-ASQ National Accreditation Board (ANAB). This involves annual office audits by the accreditation agency (the SCC in KPMG's case) that examine our underlying processes for qualifying auditors, conducting audits and maintaining records of our work. It also includes annual witness audits of our field audit process in action at our clients' woodlands operations.

Transparent Reporting: Every SFI woodlands certification results in a public summary report. If members of the public or other interested parties have concerns with our findings, they have an opportunity to raise these with the company, with KPMG and ultimately with the SCC if they do not believe we have conducted our work appropriately. This right of appeal is an important element of maintaining the credibility of the process.

A Typical SFI Certification Audit

A typical SFI certification audit takes several days and involves a team of two to four auditors with the knowledge and skills appropriate to the scope, scale and geography of the operation being audited. We begin with a detailed review of company policies and internal records—including the various regulatory documents such as forest stewardship plans as well as voluntary plans, such as sustainable forest management plans that address everything from the approach to biodiversity conservation to required training for operators. The intent of this phase is to assess whether, on paper, the company addresses the SFI requirements.

In the next phase (implementation), we conduct office interviews and field inspections of planning, logging, road and reforestation sites. The goal is to assess whether the company is actually implementing its policies and programs

consistently, ensure the various inspection forms are accurate and see that the overall process is achieving the intent of the SFI standard. Most of our time is spent with operators and supervisors looking at specific field sites.

Finally, we spend time assessing stakeholder involvement and input (gathered through regulated and unregulated processes) and whether input is being addressed.

Once an organization is certified, there are annual surveillance audits to monitor conformance and conduct a full recertification audit every three years.

In British Columbia, there is often significant overlap between regulatory requirements and the requirements of SFI. However this does not mean that regulatory compliance will achieve SFI certification. For one, the SFI standard has some unique requirements such as landowner outreach, fibre sourcing and research that need to be assessed. However, more importantly there is a fundamental difference between regulatory compliance and SFI certification:

- Legislation sets minimum performance requirements and may provide tools to help achieve these.
- Voluntary standards, such as SFI, set requirements for continuous improvement in performance and set some systemic requirements to help achieve this.

The result of these differences is that regulation provides a static performance target based on conditions to be avoided while voluntary standards provide a dynamic performance target based on processes to improve performance over time. It is important for companies contemplating certification to understand this fundamental difference rather than attempting to rely on existing regulatory processes to achieve certification. 🐾

Chris Ridley-Thomas, RPBio, leads KPMG Performance Registrar Inc.'s forest certification and greenhouse gas assurance practices from Vancouver, BC. KPMG Performance Registrar Inc. is accredited for a number of forest and chain-of-custody certification programs, including SFI, the Programme for the Endorsement of Forest Certification and (through KPMG Forest Certification Services Inc.) the Forest Stewardship Council.

By Jim McWilliams, RPF(Ret),
and Jeff McWilliams, RPF



Silviculture: The Dilemma

GOVERNMENT EXPENDITURE IS NEEDED TO reduce the fire hazard associated with the mountain pine beetle infestation, inadequate stocking of some previously harvested and naturally disturbed areas, and the poor health, resiliency and quality of some managed forests. Funds are also required for updated inventories, monitoring and research and development. Finally there are opportunities for viable incremental investments in treatments which grow trees and/or other ecosystem related products and services, faster and better.

On the other hand harvest levels are decreasing, resulting in reduced revenues to government. With public revenues almost entirely directed to health care, education, infrastructure and other essential services, government is not able to provide adequate funding to maintain and enhance the forest resource.

Licensees have little incentive to invest in growing trees when tenures are not appropriate to assure a return on discretionary expenditures. Additionally, the stumpage system promotes cost minimization of key aspects of silviculture (instead of investment) and directs the majority of the future benefits achieved by the investments to government.

The crucial dilemma is that neither government, who owns the timber harvesting land base, nor licensees, who are responsible for most of the key aspects of forest management, will make significant investments to increase forest values. This quandary will not be resolved without structural change.

Limitations Of The Existing Framework

Silviculture is the set of techniques of harvesting, regenerating and tending a forest crop; the continuum of change to achieve desired timber and non-timber products and services.

Making investments in growing trees viable requires forest and stand-level objectives, full rotation plans which minimize the risks of losses and a basis for adjudicating results. Given the long rotations in most parts of BC, even with increased future real prices for wood products, silviculture treatments face marginal economics, with little room for

error. Consequently, it is essential to promote an integrated approach to investments in silviculture.

Major tenure in BC consists of volume-based and area-based licences. Volume-based licences account for about 60% of the total harvest. As licensees are business competitors, the holders of volume-based quotas have an incentive to harvest the best wood available in a timber supply area first and can have little long-term interest in the new forest, following logging and planting. In addition, cost minimization of harvesting and reforestation activities promoted by the stumpage system undermines long-term management initiatives for growing trees.

Major tenure holders are responsible for planning and executing harvesting and are required to reforest logged areas and tend the new forest until it is free to grow. From this point forward until the trees are ready to harvest again, the Crown assumes responsibility for management. This separation of responsibilities is not conducive to long-term integrated silviculture.

Growing higher value forests would be supported by open, competitive markets for forest products. Unless value recovery from forests is maximized by open market-based pricing of the whole range of products and services that can be generated from the forest, it is not possible to forecast the future viability of integrated silviculture programs. Open markets will also favor increased differentiation in log values and increased utilization.

Under the current system, the majority of timber supply is controlled by few licensees, whose manufacturing facilities produce commodities at minimum cost. This results in partial utilization of the timber supply profile and low-value recovery. A lack of available fibre supply has slowed the development of bio-energy and value-added manufacturing and has contributed to the difficulties in assessing the opportunities for investments in silviculture.

Opportunity For Change

1. New long-term, secure, area-based licences for core areas of the harvesting land base (areas that are likely to support continuous, economically viable forest-based operations) which would:

- be the platform for the development of regionally based forest and stand level objectives for timber and non-timber products and services,
- provide the basis for integrated planning and optimization of practices throughout the rotation,
- be the basis for assessing accountability for the results of forest management,
- include provisions for compensation to tenure holders for investments in improvements to forest land forgone by government changes in land use or forest policy.

This will require Crown rationalization of some existing tenures to provide space for these new tenures.

1. Development of fully competitive markets, so that the optimum value of different products from the managed forest profile can be realized by tenure holders and the public alike and whose free market prices can be used for analysis of silvicultural investment opportunities by tenure holders. This likely requires further separation of tenures from manufacturing facilities.
2. Promotion of viable investments in silviculture by tenure holders, or other third parties, by ensuring that investors receive the benefits arising from the investment. This may be in lieu of payment of stumpage, which is not appropriate for this business model.
3. Development of accounting and taxation principles and policies which accommodate the unique characteristics of forest management and manufacturing enterprises.

To conclude, unless forest policies and practices which promote increased productivity and value on designated Crown lands become an essential component of forest management in BC, the forest sector will continue to diminish. 🐾

This article is written from the experience and perspective of second and third generation foresters. Jeff is a senior associate with B.A. Blackwell and Associates Ltd. and has over 24 years of experience in forest resource management in BC. Jim worked in the BC forest industry for 45 years, chiefly as manager of interior and coastal lumber operations.

The First Nations Woodland Licence: Who is in Control?

RECENTLY, THE PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT BROUGHT INTO FORCE THOSE provisions of the *Forest and Range Statutes Amendment Act*, 2010 that amended the *Forest Act* to create a new form of area-based replaceable tenure called a First Nations Woodland Licence (FNWL). Among other things, these amendments allow government to directly award an FNWL (as well as other specified tenures) to a First Nation in furtherance of an agreement between a particular First Nation and government with respect to treaty-related measures, interim measures or other economic measures.

An interesting feature about the *Forest Act's* treatment of FNWLs (and other specified tenures that the government may direct award to a First Nation) are the lengths government has gone through to ensure that an FNWL remains under the control of a First Nation. For instance, the *Forest Act* specifies that the government may issue an FNWL to a First Nation or its 'representative'. The *Forest Act* leaves the definition of 'representative' as a matter for regulation under the new First Nation Tenures Regulation. Under that regulation, a 'representative' is defined as either (1) a company if the given First Nation holds sufficient shares to effectively control the company, or (2) a society that has holding a FNWL as one of its purposes.

So, a First Nation cannot trade its right to acquire an FNWL to another person or to a company unless the First Nation controls that company. While it could trade its right to acquire an FNWL to a society, under the *Society Act* a society must serve specified purposes, and a society cannot have "the purpose of carrying on a business, trade, industry or profession for profit or gain." A society must serve some other philanthropic purpose (education, community development—that sort of thing). Accordingly, the ability of a First Nation to trade its right to acquire an FNWL to a society is limited—third parties in the business of "profit or gain" will have little interest in a society as a business model.

Once an FNWL is issued to a First Nation or its representative, the holder cannot transfer the FNWL to another party unless (1) the cabinet of the provincial government approves the transfer, or (2) in other circumstances prescribed by regulation. Recent amendments to the Transfer Regulation prescribe that, aside from cabinet approval, a transfer of an FNWL is only permitted to a corporation under the control of a First Nation, or to a society (in other words, the same restrictions that govern who may act as a First Nation's 'representative' also apply to subsequent transfers of an FNWL). Moreover, the *Forest Act* was amended to

ensure that a change in control of a corporate representative that holds an FNWL on behalf of a First Nation to someone who is not entitled to enter into a FNWL in the first place would allow government to cancel the FNWL without notice.

The cumulative effect of these rules is that is that an FNWL must either remain under the control of a First Nation, or under the control of a society that has philanthropic purposes other than a First Nation's interest in "profit or gain." Yet, other forest tenures issued under the *Forest Act* are freely marketable. Indeed, when the BC Liberals formed government, one of their first orders of business in the realm of forestry legislation was to eliminate the requirement for ministerial consent prior to the disposition of a forest tenure. Now, the holders of most other forest tenures may freely dispose of their tenures (subject to restrictions related to competitiveness, and to certain administrative requirements). This freedom of transfer does not extend to holders of FNWLs who must, effectively, obtain cabinet consent to dispose of an FNWL to an unrelated third party for "profit or gain." Of course, this all raises an important question: what policy has motivated government to treat a forest tenure that it directly awards to a First Nation on account of treaty related measures, interim measures, or other economic measures, differently then how government treats most other tenures? 🐾

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



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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 member:



Merv Wilkinson
ABCFP Honorary Member
1913-2011

Merv Wilkinson, an honorary member of the ABCFP, died Wednesday, August 31st at the age of 97. He was a lifelong forestry practitioner, educator and passionate advocate for reform. He will continue for many years to be a role model for those who strive to make the world a better place through forestry.

As a student of agriculture at UBC in the 1930s, Merv was introduced to the concepts and practices of sustained selection logging. He also began his career in forestry in the 1930s, working in the pulp mill in Powell River. He subsequently put these principles and experiences into practice at Wildwood, a 55-hectare woodlot near Ladysmith, BC, harvesting 1.5 million board feet of lumber between 1938 and 1998. Over the

decades, he refined his practices based on personal observations, trial and error, and discussions with experts from around the world. His practice was based on a passionate belief that a single forest stand can, and should, simultaneously support a broad range of values, including long-term economic stability, local employment, value-added manufacturing, aesthetics, wildlife, recreation and soil protection.

Merv's small operation was largely unknown to the general public until the "war in the woods" of the 1990s, when Merv's practices were embraced by the environmental movement as an alternative to the industrial forestry practices of the day. At the time, anti-logging sentiment was common in the province. For many, the words "forestry" and "logging" had negative connotations and the debate was whether to log or not to log. Merv demonstrated that things aren't so black and white. As a participant in the Clayoquot Sound protest of 1993, he famously convinced the protesters to change their banner from "No Logging" to "No Clearcut Logging." At this time, Wildwood became the focus of intense interest from the public and Merv dedicated himself to education and advocacy, giving tours of his woodlot to approximately 2000-3000 people every year. Even into his 90s, Merv received visi-

In Memorium

tors at his home at Wildwood to discuss his practice of forestry and opened his land for weekly tours. Merv—possibly more than any other forestry practitioner during that time—was able to communicate a positive vision of forest management to the public imagination. By demonstrating an approach to forestry that environmentalists could embrace, he framed forest management as the solution, not the problem.

Merv was a strident critic of the mainstream forestry practices of the 1980s and 90s, which alienated him from many foresters of the time. Nevertheless, it is undeniable that Merv's unique approach to forest management, and the forest that it created, captured the imaginations of thousands of people. His role in expanding the public's understanding of forestry earned him some of the highest honours in the country, most notably an appointment as a Member of the Order of Canada (2002) and the Order of British Columbia (2001) and an honorary doctorate from the University of Victoria (2005). In retrospect, it is clear that Merv left a positive legacy for all forest professionals. Merv was awarded Honorary Forester status with the ABCFP in 2009 in recognition of his life's work at Wildwood and his profound influence on the way British Columbians think about forestry.

Submitted by Colin Mahony, RPF.

CSA Certification, continued from page 12

and auditing certification. Through my audit experience with FSC, I have seen rapid changes in forest management happen that would not have happened any other way. I have renewed faith in certification in general and believe that these processes, in particular FSC, work to affect changes in forest management in a positive direction. Market pressure works, companies respond to client's needs and the global marketplace

demands certified wood products. 🌲

Glen Dunsworth, has over 30 years' experience in forest renewal, biodiversity and forest genetics research in coastal British Columbia and Alberta. Glen has worked on two CSA and twelve FSC audit teams in BC and Alberta. He is currently a forest ecology consultant and recently co-authored Forestry and Biodiversity: Learning How to Sustain Biodiversity in Managed Forests with Dr. Fred Bunnell.

ABCFP Membership Statistics

Association of BC Forest Professionals – September 2011

NEW ENROLLED MEMBERS

Maximilian Dietmar Gerth, FIT; Molly Halliday Hudson, FIT; Jayme Lynn Goldie, TFT; Samantha Christina Griffore, TFT; Marie-Lou Lefrançois, FIT; Daniel Lewis Macmaster, FIT; Rurik Wilhelm Muentner, FIT; Richard Glenn Swift, TFT; Dimitri Alban Vaisius, FIT.

REINSTATEMENTS FROM LOA

Janie Katherine Kester, FIT.

REINSTATEMENTS

Robert Steven Jonasson, RFT

DECEASED

Merve Wilkinson, Honourary Member.

The Following People Are Not Entitled to Practise Professional Forestry In British Columbia:

Removals

Steve Robert Levitt #1819

RESIGNATIONS

Nicole Rivette, RFT

Chain of Custody, continued from page 13:

PEFC & SFI

These programs are very similar and have no significant differences in the standards. However, some recent changes to the PEFC standard now require commitment to health and safety of the workers which does differ from the SFI standard. In North America, both standards consider fibre certified under the CSA Z809, American Tree Farm Standard (USA), PEFC and SFI standards as eligible certified inputs.

FSC

In addition to the commitment to not source illegally harvested fibre, FSC requires additional corporate commitments to not be involved in sourcing any fibre from forest operations involved in the violation of traditional and human rights, destruction of high conservation values, significant conversion of forests to plantation or non-forestry use, the introduction of genetically modified

organisms and the violation of any of the ILO Core Conventions (as described in the ILO Declaration on Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work, 1998).

FSC also maintains a separate Controlled Wood Risk Assessment standard that companies can achieve in addition to the CoC certification. This standard allows the company to risk assess source areas in terms of the key FSC values and mix uncertified wood with certified wood.

FSC only allows for the inclusion of FSC certified fibre or controlled wood as 'certified' inputs. However, readers should note that 'FSC Controlled Wood' is not considered certified fibre. Ultimately, the choice for which to use is a

corporate decision based on goals and values as well as markets/customer demands. And it is quite common for organizations to obtain CoC certification to multiple standards. 🐾

Jason Zimmermann, RPF, is the owner/President of Zimmfor Management Services. He has worked in the forest industry for over 18 years and has been involved in many aspects of forestry including, logging, road construction, contract management, forest engineering and certification. Zimmfor supports clients all over the world. www.zimmfor.com

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A Moment in Forestry

Submit your Moment in Forestry to Brenda Martin at: editor.acbcfp.ca



Mamma Grizzly and Her Two Cubs

Submitted by: Marianne Eriksson, RFT

This photo was taken on Cornish Mountain near Wells, BC on a regen survey block. I saw her last year too. She had three cubs last year.

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