

Manager Report –May 2017

Development:

CP 38 – Bjerkness Ck: the Cutting Permit has been issued. A Terrain Stability Field Assessment has been completed and the draft Site Plans are complete; therefore the permit is ready to go. The road upgrade work will be included in the logging rate; however, the “diversion” of Bjerkness Ck back into the creek at the lower road section could/should be completed before the logging operation – estimated three days’ work, \$4,500.00. Today, the creek is running too high to do the works now. I recommend the works be postponed until the freshet is over. KDCFS sent a “formal referral” of the cutting permit to the Mirror Lake Waterusers website (Jeff Delves) on May 18th. There has been no response to date. The CP develops approximately 3,800-m³ and indicates approximately a \$70,000.00 profit. (spreadsheets can be provided if interested)

CP 39 – Strip Logging/Old Wagon Road: This permit cuts the remaining strips from CP 2-Blk 2 – the remaining strips are “Greened-up”. The permit develops approximately \$7,000-m³ and indicates a profit of approximately \$90,000.00. The First Nations’ Referral Period expired May 31st. The development/layout work is not completely finished and KDCFS needs to submit the permit for an archaeological assessment, that may result in a Archaeological Impact Assessment. Projected timeline for this permit to be ready for harvesting is August 2017.

Option/Recommendation: there is a shortage of available loggers today, especially with both these permits require cable logging. To make the permits more attractive to logger bidding, an option would be to tender the two permits at the same time with the harvesting to occur August/September/October.

CP 40 – Old Wagon Road above the Strip Logging: The development of this permit is not complete; however the general block areas are identified. The permit develops approximately 50-ha and 17,000-m³ – note this is an estimate of the gross volume. Because of the location, the blocks will have a significant level of retention that has not been determined yet. I propose this permit should be ready to go in October/November 2017 (estimate).

UBC Students: Jeff Reyden and the students have been receiving KDCFS’ tenure. To date, the majority of their work has been in the Cooper-Davis area, and they are expanding into areas closer to Kaslo – Shuttly Bench, Branch 7. Jeff is estimating that he has identified approximately 20,000-m³ of realistic timber for future development. To date, the program seems to be working. The students are energetic and Jeff is doing a good job supervising and directing their work to benefit KDCFS.’

Keen Creek

As per previous emails, there is no significant landslide in CP 36-6. However, there is some road work that’s need to be done. Note: the estimates of the required work is based on my field review of third week in May.

KDCFS Responsibility:

- slump at 1-km (at the above ground waterline). ATV access was established, but shovel work may be required to get through due to continual ravelling of the slump. Estimate one day to remove the slump – excavator & rock truck = \$2,500.00
- three significant fill slope failures that have eroded 50% of the road running surface at each site. There is no imminent concern of failures going into Keen Ck. Main repair concern is finding local material (rock and road material) to fix the failures and repair the road. Estimate five days work – excavator & rock truck = \$12,500 - \$15,000
- general cleanup of minor ravelling, ditchline/culvert cleanout, cutslope stabilizing along the Keen Ck road. Estimate three days – mainly excavator with some rock truck = \$5,000.00
- final grading from 7-km down following completion of works = two days - \$2,500.00 (Settle/Glover has already graded this section of the road; therefore it should be KDCFS responsibility)

Contractor Responsibility:

- cleanup of landings – rehab landings, pile landing debris
- cleanup landing in CP 36-6 that has slid below the landing
- in-block ditchline cleanup
- grade spurs & Keen Ck from 36-6 to 7-km
- burn the landing piles

Cut Control

KDCFS has received the license Cut Control Report. The report shows the volume harvested in the most recent four years. KDCFS' cut control period expires December 31, 2017, and a new cut control period will then start January 1, 2018. The following is a summary of the report:

Calendar Year	AAC (m3)	Volume Cut (m3)	Volume Wasted (m3)	Total Timber Volume (m3)
2013	25,000	26,521	1,530	28,051
2014	25,000	26,713	1,202	27,915
2015	25,000	998	312	1,310
2016	25,000	38,814	0	38,814
2017	25,000			
Total to end 2016	100,000	93,046	3,044	96,090

Summary:

- 96,090-m³ has been harvested to end of 2016
- total allowable volume to cut over 5-year cut control period = 125,000-m³
- to end of 2016, KDCFS has cut 76.9% of 5-year cut control volume
- volume remaining to be cut in 2017 to maximize cut control volume = 28,910-m³

Silviculture

Our 21,636 trees were planted by Wildhorse Forestry Services Ltd. from Ymir during the week of May 15 to 19 for a total of \$12087.12. All trees were used to fill-plant partial blocks that had sustained mortality due to either drought or brush competition. Planting quality was very good. However, PRT received many complaints from all customers this year about the dryness of their seedlings. It appears the problem was a lack of watering last fall prior to lifting and cold storage and roots dried out additionally in the freezer. PRT did water the seedlings after thawing, which was not very effective though as trees were bundled and lying in the boxes. This affected 5 of 33 boxes of one particular seedlot, in total 660 trees.

Surveys and reconnaissance walks continue. We have had a relatively wet and cool season to date, proliferating vegetation growth. We will likely need to tender a manual brushing contract in July.

Bill Kestell, RPF
Woodlands Manager
KDCFS