



2017 Management Team Report

Long Term Planning: KDCFS was successful in securing two BCCFA funded UBC students, for the summer of 2017 to work on the license. Jeff Reyden was hired to supervise these students and conduct timber and resource inventory work across the license. Extensive time was spent walking timber types and potential road locations, with the end goal of creating a database with streams, POD's, potential roads, timber types, volumes, harvest method and future blocks. This project will continue in 2018, with the data being put into a spreadsheet and polygons and roads drawn on maps. In addition, the RDCK generously supplied the KDCFS with LIDAR mapping data for our license area [*Light Detection and Ranging*—is a remote sensing method used to examine the surface of the Earth], at great cost saving to us. Combined, this data will enable us to better plan our future operations and will form a fundamental part of our Long Term Plan.

Silviculture: Although no harvesting took place in 2017, we were still active on the silviculture front. 21,600 seedlings were fill planted in older blocks that had experienced mortality. Herbaceous brushing was completed on 57.2 ha with 11 blocks being treated. 180ha were assessed for performance and treatment needs, and 6 blocks totalling 35.4ha were declared Free to Grow. Mechanical site prep was scheduled in Keen Creek but access was prevented by a slide on the Keen Creek Rd, and was subsequently cancelled during the fire shut down. Broadcast burning was also scheduled for CP 36, however poor fall burning windows led to this work not being completed for the second consecutive year. Planting will commence this spring, so if an opportunity presents itself we will burn prior to planting. Through tenacious fill-planting and herbaceous brushing we overall have caught up bringing low stocked portions of older cutblocks to required density by the end of 2018.

New management: The new and local management team of Sabrina Mutterer and Jeff Reyden, RPF were hired on October 10th and we went to work immediately to define and implement necessary changes towards our main short term goals: demonstrating measurable short term achievements and a framework of a Long Term Planning process in time for the 2018 April AGM.

Stepping stones towards these goals were changing the organization to match our vision for sustainable and responsible license management through long term planning, pursuit of innovation and improved stakeholder consultation with establishing a modern office environment that will maintain a high degree of data safety, accessibility and functionality into the future. As more and more people work remotely and are connected online through the Cloud, we found a need to move our office into a virtual platform. This enables streamlined data exchange and helps facilitate timely discussion within the organization and the membership.

With the brick and mortar office only open one day a week, the move to a virtual office, and to reduce office duplication with the local managers, the decision was made to close a chapter of history and shut down our Kemball office.

The office phone number was ported to the Cloud and has remained the same. It will lead the caller to either Managers or Bookkeeper. For mailing, be aware, that our Box number has changed to Box number 789.



Another exciting announcement is the launching of our new website, which was designed and hosted in record speed with Kaslo Pennywise to realize our promise for better information sharing with the community. We had fun working with Karma and Savanna who we think have done an amazing job. We are looking for member input to fine-tune the site in our 2018/2019 winter upgrades. We are also visible on Facebook, will host open door meetings with the community through the year and have beefed up our advertising budget to get the news out.

With the management transition, no harvesting occurred in 2017, but two permits will be harvested this spring/early summer in the 7-Mile area. Harvesting of CP 39, which is the strip cut cable block on the Wagon Road, will commence in early May. Iron Peaks from New Denver will be harvesting this block. Sunshine will build road and harvest CP 40 this spring/summer. Expected volumes are approximately 18,000m³. Hopefully we will be able to fix up the Cooper road and do some harvesting up Cooper Face later this year.

We applied for funding from the Forest Enhancement Society (FES) in the fall of 2017 to prepare a Landscape Level Wildfire Protection Plan within the KDCFS license area. This plan will build on 4 recommendations of the 2016 Kaslo and Area D Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP) by John Cathro Consulting. We have been successful in securing \$50,000 of initial funding to identify strategic locations for landscape level fuel breaks, complete an assessment of water source vulnerability across the landscape that will help identify suitable water sources with adequate flow rates and accessibility versus critical areas lacking such, and will research ungulate winter range enhancement opportunities in landscape level fire breaks and connectivity corridors. This wildfire protection plan will contribute valuable information to our Long Term Plan and will be shared with our local fire department, Kaslo Village, the RDCK and BC Wildfire Branch.

Sabrina Mutterer

Jeff Reyden, RPF

Management Team