

Managers Report April - May 2022

WOODLANDS

Plans are underway to increase our cut this year to capitalize on the log markets. Shane will be back on our license approximately mid-June and will likely do two smaller block up Branch 3 (3500m3) before heading to Lost Ledge to start the road upgrades. I reached out to the Farr farm folks to arrange a meeting to discuss the Branch 3 operations but have not heard back yet. We have had numerous discussions over the last couple years and they are generally ok with the operations as we dropped an area of the block that was closest to the farm.

A meeting is scheduled for early June with the Lardeau folks to discuss the Lost Ledge development, the finishing of the CP 48 block and the potential harvest of CP 48 block 2, which is a large conventional block comprised of hemlock/balsam/spruce on the upper slopes of Cooper Face.

A spring recce of our roads has shown Milford, Branch 3, Branch 7 and 7-Mile are all snow free and free from problems. Cooper Face is still snow covered around 9km and will require some work on a few sections before hauling. Keen Creek has two large (80cm) trees across the road at 3.5km, just past the first bridge. The road held up well over the winter but there are a few spots that require some work.

The first round of culverts for the Lost Ledge road was delivered this morning and are up beside the sea can next to the airstrip.

CP 46

Timber development is continuing although we are battling snow to gain access. The first block will be approximately 20ha (see CP 46-1 GE map) on the south side of Lost Ledge Creek. The layout is almost complete and we will apply for the Cutting Permit next week. The timber profile is H7C3(FdLw). It is conventional ground with minimal road construction needed.

Branch 7

No Douglas fir bark beetle up Branch 7 where thought, it is Larch!

SAFETY

Work resumed on the Bucky Cabin spacing project this week. See Pre-Work Inspection in the Managers Report folder. There were no safety incidents or close calls reported from the Buchanan East Access or Bucky Cabin fuel reduction work.

INTERNAL

Wildfire Risk Reduction Work

The Buchanan East Access project is completed with only a few piles left to burn in the fall.

The Bucky Cabin project resumed this week and is being completed by Craig Barschel and crew. The crew will pile the debris but we will wait until the fall to burn to prevent any fires from spreading into the forest.



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Forestry Round Table

A Future of Forestry Roundtable meeting was held on May 3rd at the Kaslo Council Chambers. It was attended by our Area D director, mayor, District Manager, council members, local mill operator, and members of the Kaslo and Area D Economic Development Commission and Lardeau Valley LINKS society. Topics ranged from CFA expansion, log sort yard, value added opportunities, to tourism. There was some good discussion regarding Bill 28 which enables the BC government to redistribute forest tenure from large licensees to First Nations, Community Forests and Woodlots. Recreation was a hot topic as well with the Kaslo area becoming increasingly popular over the last few years with Kootenay and farther afar people coming to recreate and the need to increase our infrastructure to handle the influx of people.