



Managers Report March-April 2022

WOODLANDS

Log prices are currently setting new records, eclipsing the prices from 2021. The prices are expected to hold through July as mills fill their yards after a long spring break up. Shane is currently working for private land owners and another licensee but will be back on our license in June for the remainder of the year. Lost Ledge road reactivation was the first project lined up for 2022 but we may harvest a few smaller accessible hemlock blocks first to take advantage of the log markets. Once into Lost Ledge we will upgrade the road to the Lost Ledge Creek crossing, harvest 6000m³, and then continue with the bridge install and the road adverting down to the plateau.

Iron Peaks, through Stella Jones, will be back up Cooper Face in July to finish harvesting the remaining 4000m³ in CP 48.

Actively seeking a cable harvester for the remaining 4500m³ of dead hemlock in Keen Creek. It is a tough sell though as the local cable loggers are tied to the licensees that need cedar volume in trade.

CP 46

Timber development is stalled until conditions improve as the snow is hampering access and production. There will be approximately 20ha or 6000m³ of H(C) to harvest on the south side of Lost Ledge Creek this summer. The remaining blocks will be down on the plateau north of Lost Ledge Creek that will be harvested in subsequent years. The existing road system ends a few kms from the edge of the plateau above Lardeau with mostly immature timber from here towards Kootenay Lake. Future harvesting opportunities are not far off and some areas have high fuel loading so we will conduct road layout to these areas to provide access and WRR opportunities.

Branch 7

There appears to be an area of Douglas fir bark beetle attack up Branch 7 off the end of the existing road. Snow is still impeding access to this area but it will be recce'd once the road opens up.

SAFETY

No new contracts were signed in the last month. There were no safety incidents or close calls reported from the Buchanan East Access fuel reduction work.

INTERNAL

BCCFA Indicators Report

The BCCFA annually sends out a survey to gather data on various aspects of the community forest such as revenue, costs, amounts spent on WRR work and recreation, land base questions, and number of jobs for harvesting, hauling, managing, silviculture, etc. The data is used to highlight that community forests go above and beyond their legal requirements in managing our licenses, provide more jobs per m³ than other licensees, need tab stumpage rates to survive and to provide stories and ideas on how to better manage our land bases.

Wildfire Risk Reduction Work

The Buchanan East Access project is nearing completion and will be done in the next week or two. With the snow gone the forest floor is drying out quickly which increases the risk of the burn piles spreading across the forest floor. If there is minimal precipitation over the next few weeks the burning will likely be completed in the fall.



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