



Manager Report June - July 2023

WOODLANDS

Briggs Creek

Deer Creek road, formerly Spur 1, which is between Nashton and Deer Creek, has been opened up to the end. Shane moved equipment into Keen Creek this week and will start harvesting CP 51-1 July 21st. Lumber markets are still weak but starting an upward trend. Kalesnikoff will take our HwFdLwSx even though they currently have no market for the Hw. Due to the high percentage of Hw in the CP 51-1 (estimated at 14,000m³) we have a backup plan to harvest pulp if we get limited on how much Hw we can ship. The pulp will be subsidized by the FESBC grant for fiber utilization. The cedar will be sold to Stella Jones so we can secure Iron Peaks to harvest CP 53-8, a large cable area with the nicest wood affected by the Briggs Creek fire in it, a mix of FdCw(LwSxHw).



The bridge at 3km on Keen Creek was fixed by CJ Logging. It took more work than expected, including adding a stringer and some ties, as well as replacing the decking and curbs. It's ready for hauling now.



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Sunshine Logging continues with the road construction into CP 52-1, with about 200m left before the end landing. Due to the amount of rock and steep switchbacks the road will require some earth moving to reduce the switchback grades and surface the rocky areas. With the temporary road construction the cut slopes are only 2-4 tall, significantly reducing the amount of time to construct the road.



SAFETY

No safety incidences from the Deer Creek road upgrades or CP 52 road construction. See prework for the Deer Creek road upgrades in the MR folder.

SILVICULTURE

A 5ha area of CP 25-1 was brushed to remove the aspen and cottonwood that were over topping the conifers. This will allow us to declare this block free growing following a survey in the fall of 2024. A walk through of our 2023 spring planted blocks shows most of them doing fairly well. There were some issues with the larger 512 seedlings with the trees flopping over but it seems limited to a few small areas. And some of the Fd have succumbed to drought but is isolated to the steeper drier slopes and rockier ground. In the blocks with seed trees left there are many naturals taking hold which are growing really well. The blocks will be checked again this fall.



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INTERNAL

The Ministry of Forests (MoF) audits licensees each year by picking a block and reviewing the Site Plan and maps to see if we followed the commitments made in our FSP by protecting values such as water, wildlife, visuals, etc. The block reviewed this year was CP 42-7, our FESBC funded block near Schroeder Creek. The office review went well, with the auditor reviewing the ungulate winter range targets, the biologist report regarding raptor nests and a bat hibernaculum, as well as the visual impact assessment. I went on a subsequent field tour with a MoF representative for a meet and greet, and to see the on the ground results.

WILDFIRE RISK REDUCTION

Cathro Consulting has started preliminary work on the Mt Buchanan project as well as Jimi Crack Corn. The Jimi Crack Corn project, which is below the highway south of the Brake Check, has numerous large dead and dying Fd, downed cedar and smaller diameter logs that will be removed. Due to limited access logging truck loads are not possible to remove from the site but we are exploring options to get pickup truck access into the unit in order to process firewood as well as short sawlog to sell to local manufacturers.