



Manager Report May – June 2023

WOODLANDS

Briggs Creek

Sunshine Logging spent a week working on the Keen Creek road fixing up a few trouble spots that reduced the road width to unsafe hauling conditions and surfacing a short section that had boulders poking up through the road surface. They also fixed up the ravelling at 9km to open up the road to pickup traffic to the back end of Keen Creek for the public as well as planting operations for the spring of 2024. The bridge at 3km will need some work prior to hauling over and Colin Jacobs will complete the work in the next week or two.



The road permits for the Briggs Creek harvesting have been obtained as well as a cutting permit for 3 blocks. Road building to the Nashton block was started last week by Sunshine Logging. Due to the steep slopes and the road not accessing any future timber it will be built to temporary standards using wood supported fill. Once harvesting and silviculture activities are complete the road will be rehabbed. Temporary road construction will mostly eliminate the need for end hauling material which



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will considerably reduce the cost of road construction. The Nashton road that led past this road into CP 34-3 was constructed in this method but wasn't rehabbed with some sections of the road having an abundance of over-steepened fill. As per the geo tech recommendation a day was spent rehabbing these sections before the fill ravelled downslope through the plantation.

Morel mushroom pickers have been frequenting Keen Creek on and off for the past month, with some camping on the Keen Creek road. Once harvesting and hauling starts we may need to restrict the camping to other areas.

I met with a Wealth Minerals representative from the company to discuss timing for their exploratory drilling operations. They are still waiting for permits and there might be a lengthy delay due to First Nations consultation and the need for a field review.

SAFETY

Keen Creek road upgrade and Nashton road building work have yielded no safety incidences. See pre works for both jobs in the MR folder.



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SILVICULTURE

A week was spent in the CP 42 blocks in the Milford area brushing thistles. Some areas were light while one block had a 0.5ha infestation.

CP 46-3, the block harvested late last fall up Lost Ledge, has an abundance of slash that we will look at piling and burning to create plantable spots.

INTERNAL

BCCFA AGM

The BCCFA AGM was held in Kamloops on June 7 – 9. It was sold out this year for the first time in its history. We got to tour the Logan Lake CFA where the Tremont Creek fire almost made it to town and learned about the efforts to salvage the timber and reforest the area. Their plans were similar to ours, harvesting the dead and dying timber while leaving areas that had mixed severity burn to see what happens. They have also applied for funding to reforest areas burnt by the fire that are not expected to regenerate naturally due to the tree and ground seed source being totally burnt.

There was a large 130ha fuel reduction project planned for an area directly adjacent to Logan Lake. But due to ongoing consultation with the recreation groups and public the project was stalled for four years. They finally received the permits in August to start work in September when the fire burnt through the area, destroying the forest, with the fire highly visible from town, only around 1km away. It really emphasized for them the need to act if you know you are doing the right thing, and not wait for 100% approval from all parties and stakeholders.

A few takeaways from the conference this year were:

Policy regarding First Nations – the BC government is working towards partnerships and planning processes, including support for self-governance and a new fiscal framework for revenue sharing. Working towards durable, predictable relationships resulting from a solid foundation and joint land use planning. This will allow us to move away from the current referral process into trusted relationships.

The forest industry is transitioning and restructuring with a focus on value and diversity, by getting more value from the trees and having a more diverse industry with all sizes of businesses with more manufacturing and innovation.

Long term goal of moving to area based tenures around communities but this will take decades. They also want to bring in discretion for CP and RP issuance based on the licensees past performance.

We all know the annual allowable cut (AAC) is declining and we need to align the AAC with values and tenures.



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I met a fellow from Fink Industries, a company that installs biomass boilers, website link below.

https://www.finkmachine.com/?gclid=CjwKCAjwv8qkBhAnEiwAkY-ahkJChNhwmKsXLm79nTupLbE286xOs7HZkingRvCsRqxYvY5BrWUCtxoCjb0QAvD_BwE

He said they had conversations with the Village of Kaslo when renovating town hall regarding install of one of these systems. The initial cost is expensive (hundreds of thousands) but had a 10 year cost recoup. If a few local buildings had these installed, or Kaslo had a central one that could be connected to multiple businesses, we could provide some employment making chips to power them.

JVH Bursaries

We awarded three JVH students a \$500 bursary each for their post-secondary education.