



Manager Report August - September 2024

WOODLANDS

Harvesting of CP 53-8 up Keen Creek is complete. Timber Ridge managed to harvest approximately 25ha, most of which was pulp with some incidental sawlog. 5150m³ was shipped until the end of August with a few load shipped in September.

The hemlock market has improved to the point where operations could break even on 7" top logs. The other block up Keen Creek we were hoping to harvest (CP51-2; 18ha block) has steep slopes and tough road building so had planned on harvesting 5ha conventionally as cable is too costly. However due to extensive work that would be required on the access road and skid trails the block is on hold. Winter may provide more conducive conditions, and markets, to proceed. The other planned block, CP 47-1, at the top of Branch 7 is mostly smaller diameter hemlock so would be a break even venture at best so we have put this block on hold until the market improves.

The bridge over Lost Ledge Creek is complete.

The decking on the Kwalala Creek bridge, which is around 9km up Keen Creek, has been replaced.

Sushine Logging will start road upgrades up Lost Ledge this month. This work involves upgrading the road surface to hauling conditions, realigning a switchback to produce haulable and safer grades, ditching, and culvert installation. It is approximately 6km and will provide access to multiple blocks over the next few years. Time permitting we will continue brushing other roads in the area.



As we shift our focus away from harvesting fire damaged timber, development will be focused in the Lost Ledge and Cooper Face areas. We will be looking at planning cutblocks through a landscape level fire break lens.



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SAFETY

No safety incidents from the road building or harvesting operations.

SILVICULTURE

Brushing and silviculture surveys are ongoing. We will work on a silviculture report for the November or December Board meeting.

INTERNAL

KDCFS's Forest Stewardship Plan (FSP) expires in May 2025. A new FSP will be written over the next few months with a goal of submitting a Final Draft by December 1st. A Forest Stewardship defines how a Licensee will manage multiple resource values, as defined by the Province.

The Kaslo Mountain Bike Club (KMBC) held the Friendly Giant trail opening and it was a huge success. This trail leads from the top of Mt Buchanan down to the Wagon Road and is machine built, bi-directional with mellow grades so one can bike up it. KMBC is very grateful for KDCFS donation of \$500 which covered insurance and a portion of the BBQ supplies. Other collaborators included KORTS, North Kootenay Bike Shop, Eirc's Meat Market, Cornucopia, Kootenay Lake Carpentry, and of course community volunteer hours.

WILDFIRE RISK REDUCTION

Jessie organized a meeting with the Kaslo FireSmart Committee and the Argenta crew who helped fight the wildfire this summer. It was a great information session as Kaslo looks towards creating their own similar crew.