



Manager Report November - December 2024

WOODLANDS

In 2024 we shipped 6446m³ with 245m³ coming in January from last years operations. From 2024 harvesting, 592m³ was sent as sawlog while the remaining 5609m³ was pulp. With the FESBC incremental haul grant which we accessed through Mercer and the Okanagan Indian Band (OIB) we managed to break even on operations, including the silviculture accrual. While we didn't realize a profit we kept local contractors busy for 6 weeks with harvesting and hauling, and will employ silviculture contractors in subsequent years. Due to the high intensity burn were are no trees coming back in this area so harvesting and replanting will speed up the regeneration process.

Road work completed in 2024 includes:

- Lost Ledge bridge installation and installing culverts on the town and woods side approaches within the Lost Ledge Cree drainage
- upgrading the Cooper Face road from the bottom up to 6km. Work included repairing the road surface from water running down it, grading and installing water bars
- brushing out 4km of road up Cooper Face, including the road leading past the KIN tower and also the road to Fish Hook Lake
- grading Deer Creek and Keen Creek to repair damage from two years of hauling.

Log prices, especially for hemlock, continue to remain low. To put it into perspective hemlock prices are \$80/m³ while other species (fir, larch, spruce, pine) are at \$130/m³ for the same log. Delivered log costs to the mill, including the silviculture accrual, are roughly \$93/m³ for conventional harvest and \$120/m³ for cable. This is making us shift our harvest focus to blocks heavier to fir for 2025 and continue developing blocks across our license and timber profile in preparation for better market conditions. The areas we are targeting for harvest in 2025 also will help as fire breaks around our communities. Some of the blocks are developed while the ones behind the dump need some work. Once all the blocks are laid out we will submit them into the Forest Operations Map (FOM) for 30 days and then apply for the permits. See maps in the MR folder.

SAFETY

No safety incidents from WRR work or timber development.

SILVICULTURE

Field work is complete for the year and we are working on compiling the data, declaring regen and free growing, and looking towards getting caught up with RESULTS submissions.

INTERNAL

WILDFIRE RISK REDUCTION



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Craig Barschel is working on the FESBC funded project KAS6 project near the Wardner Trail above the lookout, extending up to the blocks we harvested in 2020.

A FESBC representative will be in town Dec 12 for a field tour of this active project.

The BCCFA has funded a short video project on the Bucky Cabin spacing project we completed in 2022. Argenta local Louis Bockner has been hired to complete the project. Interviews will be conducted with KDCFS staff, BCCFA representatives, BCWS, recreation folks and the contractor who completed the work. While the video is for the Bucky project, it will highlight the other work we have done around Kaslo and how it is connected at the landscape level.

Dr. Lori Daniels, a professor at UBC and Koerner Chair in Wildfire Coexistence, and her team have been conducting studies on wildfire and wildfire risk reduction projects in the province, including some on our license. KDCFS, along with multiple other CFAs and communities, joined her proposal to do more research on proactive management to mitigate wildfire risk. The proposal was successful and we will work with her team to identify projects that will increase knowledge on how ecosystem-specific treatments impact wildfire behaviour, effects and resilience across scales. See the doc in the MR for more information.