



Community Forest News

Spring 2022

The Community Forest is comprised of two organizations, the Harrop Procter Community Co-operative, which manages the forest tenure and mill, and the Harrop Procter Watershed Protection Society, a stewardship body that undertakes monitoring of HPCC plans and activities, water monitoring, education and outreach.

2022 Annual General Meeting

Because of the continuing presence of Covid-19 variants within the community, the Harrop Procter Community Cooperative (HPCC) Annual General Meeting was held via Zoom on May 18th.

A/President Bill Macpherson provided a review of the previous year's accomplishments to those signed in. Presentations by Forest Manager Erik Leslie, Harrop Procter Forest Products (milling division) Co-Manager Eric Martin, Treasurer Marie Chanton and Strategic Planning Committee Chair Katie Hill followed.

A Special Resolution waiving the hiring of a professional auditor was approved. As in previous years, an audit by a volunteer community member (Murray Arnott) was approved in lieu of the expense of a professional.

Following a question/answer and discussion segment, one new and one returning Director were nominated and approved - Tim Davis and Jim Yule.

The Board of Directors for the coming year is:

Marie Chanton	Debbie Crichton
Tim Davis	Mike Drinkwater
Diane Gamble	Gerry Held
Katie Hill	Bill Macpherson
Russell Precious	Jim Yule

Election of Officers will occur at the Board of Directors meeting in June.

Public meeting - June 15th

There will be a public information meeting held at the Harrop Hall on Wednesday, June 15th at 7:00 pm. The meeting will provide updates on the Climate Adaptation project, Wildfire Risk Reduction (WRR) program and future forestry operations presented by HPCC's forester Erik Leslie.

Come out to have your questions answered while learning more about these specific initiatives, the cooperative and the community forest in general.

Free Firewood Event

May 28, 2022, 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
Harrop Hall grounds

The Harrop Procter Community Cooperative (HPCC) is offering members the chance to cut a pickup truck box or small trailer load of firewood. If you are not already a member of the cooperative, lifetime memberships can be purchased on site for \$25.

Donations jars for the Harrop Hall renovations will be at the registration tables; please be generous. ALL participants need to register and sign a waiver form - no exceptions!

No cutting before 9:00 a.m.; no sideboards.

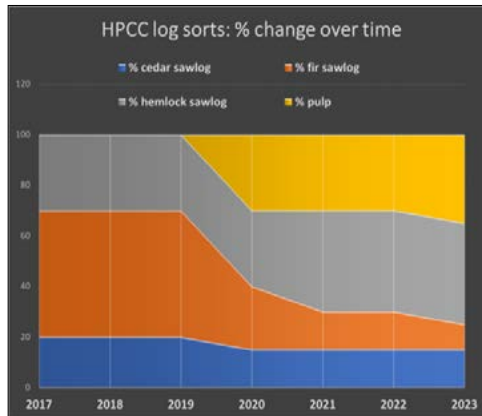
One load per household.

There will likely be another event in the fall, so please don't be greedy. Cut your load, be neighbourly and help someone without a truck or saw.

Forestry Operations

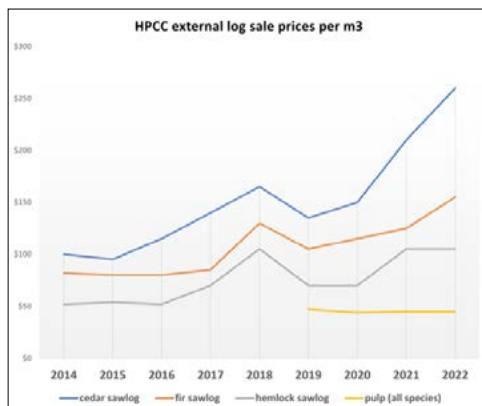
In March, the Board of Directors and managers held a special meeting to consider a Finance Committee analysis that summarized critical factors likely to have a significant impact on the cooperative's future operations and profitability. Here are a few pertinent slides from the presentation on our forestry operations.

Graph 1 shows the change in HPCC's log harvest profile over time. Pulp log harvest has occurred since wildfire risk reduction operations ramped up in 2019. HPCC's



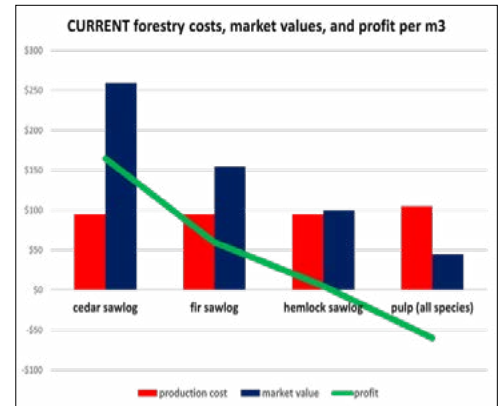
fuel treatment and climate change adaptation work requires that large amounts of smaller and lower-value logs be removed in thinning operations to improve forest resilience. Simultaneously, Douglas-fir sawlog harvest has decreased significantly because it is a preferred retention species due to its fire and drought tolerance. Cedar sawlogs account for just 15 per cent of our harvest profile; cedar butt rot is prevalent on drier sites, diminishing the sawlog yield considerably. The result is fewer high-value sawlogs and increasing lower-value hemlock and pulp volumes.

Graph 2 shows log market prices over the past eight years. The sawlog price increases over the past couple of years - particularly substantial for cedar - have benefited the organization



considerably. However pulp log prices (delivered to the Celgar pulp mill in Castlegar) have remained very low.

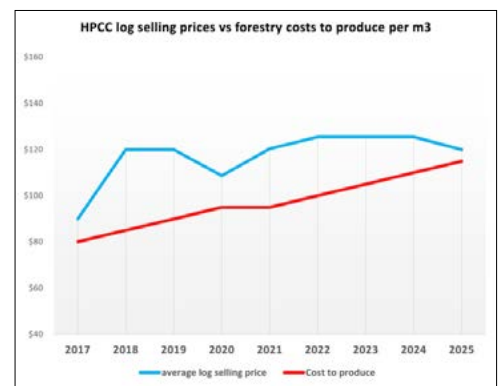
Graph 3 shows profit margins for sawlogs and pulp logs. Cedar and Douglas-fir sawlogs are profitable, hemlock sawlogs are marginally



profitable, and pulp is sold at a loss. As discussed, low-value pulp harvest is generally required to practice good forest management, especially when doing fuel treatments.

Graph 4

summarizes the combined impact of the first three graphs. Despite recent surges in sawlog prices, the increased low-value pulp component



of our harvest profile means a plateau in average selling price. (The sawlog market is also unlikely to stay at current record high levels.) At the same time, our cost of production is climbing due to increased labour, equipment, and fuel prices. HPCC's careful, higher retention logging practices are also more expensive to implement.

There are many other considerations to factor in but - as shown above - the future will almost certainly be different regarding HPCC's forestry and sawmill operations. The board and managers are continually adjusting to changing markets and evolving community priorities such as wildfire risk reduction and climate change adaptation.

Harrop Procter Forest Products (HPFP)

Another successful year is projected for the community mill in 2022. Sales to date have been strong and gross sales of around \$1.3 million is forecast for the year. Recent record-high log and lumber prices, especially in cedar, have been a key contributing factor. Given the volatility of both markets though, the estimated revenue could fluctuate considerably. Management and the board recognize the cyclical nature of the business and are planning accordingly, now, and looking forward over the upcoming years.

There have been several capital investments made recently. Most importantly, the purchase of a transformer that will enable three-phase power has been initiated.

Unfortunately, there is a lengthy wait, upwards of two years, before it can be secured and delivered by Nelson Hydro. The total cost - purchase, trenching, civil engineering, installation and pad construction - will be around \$200,000.

Three-phase power is critical to improving efficiency and being able to run various pieces of equipment simultaneously. Right now, the mill is hampered by an underpowered electrical service. Frequent stoppages and parts replacement caused by overloads and/or blown fuses are inefficient and costly, as is the inability to run both saws, WoodMizer and Scragg, at the same time. The move to 600 amp three-phase service will resolve these and numerous other limitations (inability to upgrade aging equipment, for example) by ensuring ample, continuous power.

The addition of another second-hand tele-handler in February increases operational mobility and efficiencies in the yard. Changing from forks to bucket or grapple was commonplace with a single machine. It rarely happens now.

On the staffing front, the mill has two new part-time employees doing cleanup on Wednesday evenings and Saturdays. Ryder Nash and Oliver Hale (third generation of the family to work here) both started in March.

Harrop Procter Watershed Protection Society (HPWPS)

The society has been monitoring all four major creeks in the community forest for over a year now. Late last year, testing for conductivity, temperature, ph levels and turbidity was moved in-house.

This provides some local employment and reduces costs.

Recently, Pacific Regeneration Technologies (PRT) generously offered to take over sampling on Slater Creek as they are the primary user. This is another cost-saving measure for the society - thank you to PRT for stepping up and being part of the water monitoring program.

HPWPS is looking for someone prepared to sample Procter Creek on a regular basis. Post-freshet it means going up to the gauge site (half a kilometre

up Carson Creek Road) twice a month ordinarily, sometimes four times/month. For each sample taken (approximately 50 per year) the individual is paid \$8.00. Contact the office at 229-2271 or coordinator@hpcommunityforest.org if you are interested.

Donations

Balfour Golf and Recreation (gazebo)	\$720.00
Mountain Lakes Care Facility (resident carpentry program)	\$460.00

Total:	\$1,180.00
Year to Date:	\$13,180.00

In the Community

2022 Anne Ward Memorial Scholarships

One graduating high school student and two others already studying at post-secondary institutions will receive financial assistance from the cooperative.



Roah Levy, a Grade XII student at LV Rogers Secondary School from the north shore, will receive \$2000 towards her upcoming post-secondary studies. Roah will be enrolled in the heavy equipment operator certificate program at Vancouver Island University in Nanaimo this fall.

"I have decided to follow in my dad's footsteps and plan to work in the resource industry as a machine operator," she says. "I have found a comprehensive training program that provides training in all aspects of the workplace as well as extensive hands-on training on heavy equipment."

Athletic - captain of the LVR women's rugby squad - and a lover of the outdoors, Roah's planned career path not only honours her late father but also provides a challenge she looks forward to.

"I am a woman going into trades and currently only 1.5% of machine operators are women. I would like to be a leader in this field and to demonstrate to

women that they can work in any field they want to."

The coursework enables students to specialize in various types of heavy machinery while providing a foundation in industry orientation, tools and equipment, civil engineering principals and work site preparation leading to an Industry Training Authority Certificate of Completion.

Sebastian Bodine, completing the welding program at Thompson Rivers University this July, and Avie Waterfall, entering her second year of Sociology studies at the University of Victoria in September, were each awarded \$500 scholarships. Both grew up in Harrop.

Miscellaneous

A series of video shorts on the community forest and some of its initiatives is now complete. Created by the local film production company Watershed Productions, the films and trailers can be viewed on HPCC's YouTube channel or the HPCC website. Links to the short films can also be sent electronically on request.

The Anne Ward Memorial Scholarship sub-committee is looking to fill one (1) of its two public representative positions. This is a volunteer position - reviewing and scoring applicants and meeting annually to determine scholarship funding distribution.

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HPCC members get a 10% discount, so send us your email address if you would like to be informed of upcoming specials!



To request a donation, not-for-profit groups simply need to provide details of the project and community benefits on their letterhead and submit to: office@hpcommunityforest.org