



Harrop Procter Community Co-Op
Progressive Forestry. Quality Wood. Community Owned

Community Forest News

Winter 2023 - 2024

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.

Harrop-Procter Watershed Protection Society

The society's Board of Directors met for their quarterly meeting on January 17th, 2024. The board has expanded considerably following the Annual General Meeting held in October 2023. In addition to all Directors agreeing to another term, seven community members have joined the Board. This is an infusion of energy, skills and experience that will benefit the community, and the society, for years to come hopefully.



2024 Board of Directors (l to r): Bruce Lane, Margot Webster, Jordan Beaumont-Ferri, Bill Macpherson, Marjorie Davidson, Debbie Crichton, Neal Dykes, Rich Newton, Ruth Prosser, Andrea Kortello, Diane Gamble. Absent: Gwen Davis, Tim Davis, Jim Yule

A presentation on private land intakes, diversions and water use was the starting point for a lengthy discussion of measures - water monitoring program expansion, research and community education/involvement, among others - the society could undertake moving forward.

Funding sources, in addition to the \$25,000 commitment made by the cooperative, were also explored. Living Lakes Canada is one source of funding, as are grant opportunities through funding bodies such as the Columbia Basin Trust, scientific organizations and various levels of government.

Residents should know that the HPWPS will test cooperative and society members' water for conductivity, PH levels and turbidity at no cost if their source is a creek/spring that is not being regularly monitored. A sample needs to be received within 72 hours of collection for turbidity to be properly measured.

Testing occurs Thursday mornings at the Procter Schoolhouse. Call 250-229-2271 if you intend to have a water sample tested please.

Testing of water sources for coliform requires a specialized container and a sample delivered to Passmore Laboratories in Vallican within a prescribed period of time - 30 hours maximum. There is a cost to have your sample tested in the laboratory.

Anne Ward Memorial Scholarship

Outlet area parents of students in Grade 12 - or those who have a child already in post-secondary studies - should be aware of HPCC's scholarship program application process and deadline to apply.

The deadline to apply is April 30, 2023. The application form and regulations are available on the cooperative's website hpcommunityforest.org. You can also call the office at 229-2271 or email our administrator: coordinator@hpcommunityforest.org

Using a \$10,000 award for progressive forestry practices from the province in 2017, the cooperative has dedicated those funds to its scholarship program. Established in 2018, it is an ongoing commitment of financial assistance for community and area youth entering and enrolled in post-secondary education.

The regulations were changed in 2020 to be more inclusive geographically and to boost the amount of funding awarded annually. In 2022, the scholarship award was renamed to honour Anne Ward, one of the founding members of the cooperative and an unwavering, enthusiastic supporter until her passing in November 2021.

Past winners:

2018 - Veronica Kearns, Harrop, scholarship - \$1000

2019 - no award given

2020 - no award given

2021 - Kieran Dehnel, Harrop, scholarship - \$2000

- Raleigh Arndt, Longbeach, bursary - \$500

2022 - Roah Levy, North Shore, scholarship - \$2000

- Sebastian Bodine, Harrop, bursary - \$500

- Avie Waterfall, Harrop, bursary - \$500

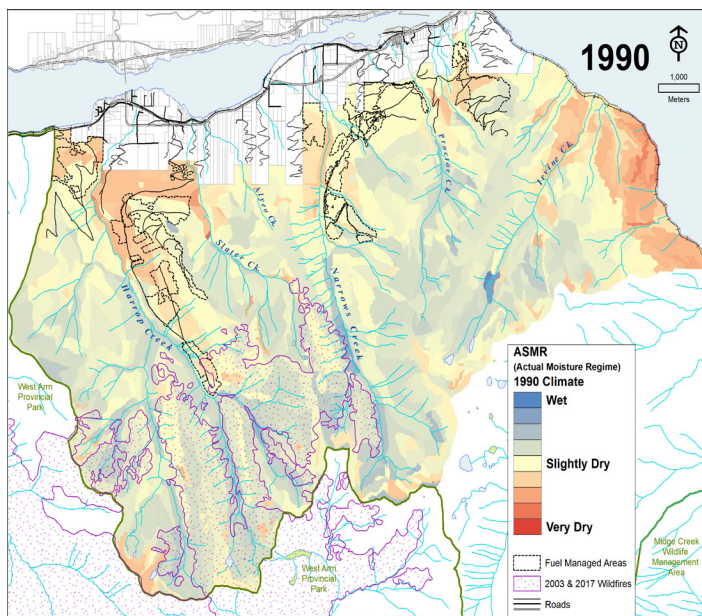
2023 - Mackenzie Brown, Sunshine Bay, scholarship - \$1500

- Landen Kingsland, Harrop, scholarship - \$1500

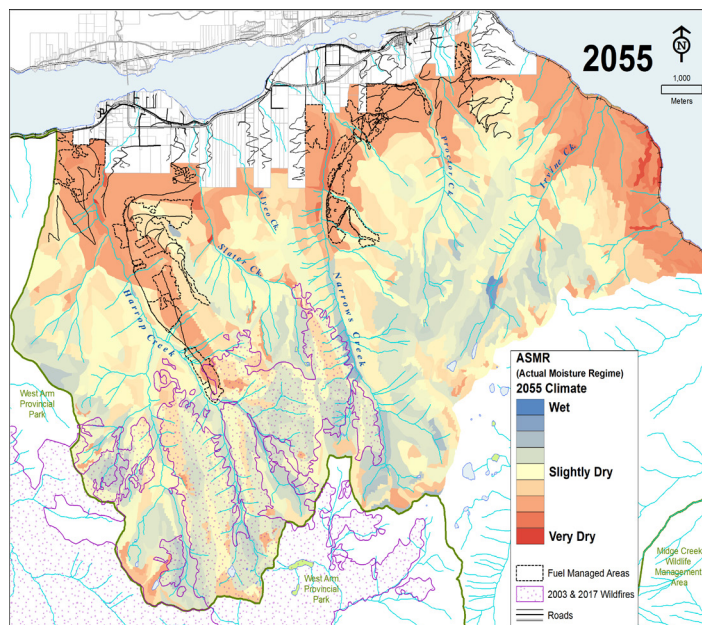
Forest Operations

This winter's low snowpack is leading to widespread concerns about a summer drought. Unfortunately, droughts are becoming more common: as the climate changes and summers on average become hotter and drier, we can expect lower stream flows in the summer and fall, and longer wildfire seasons. We will also have less moisture in the soil during the growing season.

As part of HPCC's climate change adaptation project, we have mapped changes in soil moisture regimes in our community forest over time. Lower elevation areas have always been significantly drier than upper elevations due to lower precipitation levels and higher temperatures. Climate change is intensifying these differences, and lower elevation areas are becoming significantly drier.



Soil moisture regimes, 1990 climate



Soil moisture regimes, 2055 climate

HPCC is working to improve our forest's resilience to droughts. Drought-prone sites at lower elevations are being thinned to lower densities to promote drought-tolerant species like Ponderosa pine, Douglas-fir, and larch. These thinning treatments improve ecosystem resilience and reduce wildfire risks.



Before



After

Low elevation dry forest before and after thinning for climate resilience

Regrettably, moist or wet forests at low elevations are relatively uncommon in our community forest. This is unfortunate as they are critically important for biodiversity, water protection, and carbon storage. These forests are protected by inclusion in HPCC's network of reserves.



Moist forest located in HPCC reserve network

Harrop-Procter Community Co-operative

A number of people have made inquiries regarding who is on the cooperative Board of Directors. Here they are:

Marie Chanton is a long time community resident. She is a Chartered Professional Accountant and a partner in Childs Chanton Chartered Professional Accountants. She is the cooperative's Treasurer and also sits on the Finance, Social and Recreation committees. Marie has served on the Procter Community Society's board in the past, in addition to acting as their Treasurer.

Debbie Crichton is another long time resident, having lived in the community for forty plus years. She is a former business owner and entrepreneur who works part-time at the Procter General Store. Debbie is chair of the Social committee and a member of the Human Resources committee. She is also a long term Harrop Procter Watershed Protection Society (HPWPS) member, currently acting as Treasurer and doing water sample testing on a weekly basis.

Tim Davis is a senior aquatic biologist with the provincial government's Ministry of Water, Lands and Resource Stewardship - Kootenay Boundary Region. Born and raised in Tasmania, Tim is chair of the Recreation committee and a member of the Forest Operations & Planning committee. He was recently acclaimed as vice-president of the HPWPS and collects regular water samples on Procter Creek for the organization.

Mike Drinkwater grew up in Nelson and Harrop. He is a registered professional forester and co-owner of Strathinnes Forestry Ltd. He has over twenty years experience working and consulting with governments, industry, private landowners, woodlot operators and community forest organization. Mike is the co-operatives Vice President and chair of the Forest Operations & Planning committee in addition to being a member of the Finance committee. He and his wife Fée recently welcomed their fourth child to the family.

Diane Gamble is a Saskatchewan native who has lived here for sixteen years. She holds a Ph.D in Nursing and is now retired from a lengthy career in nursing academia, research, and management. She has worked across much of western Canada and the territories in the course of her career. Diane is a member of the Strategic Planning committee and the Community Engagement committee. She is also a Director with HPWPS.

Gerry Held lived in Nelson for a short time as a child then spent much of her adult and professional life in Alberta. She and her husband Tim bought their property in 1992 and spent the summers enjoying their time in the Kootenays. They built their house in 2007 and in 2008 moved permanently to BC. Retired from her career as a social worker and contract manager with the Alberta government, Gerry has been on the board for over 10 years and is chair of the Human Resources committee. She is also a member of the Community Engagement committee.

Katie Hill was an initial member of the HPCC board when it was created in 2000. Her career in the health care field took her to Victoria and ever-increasing levels of responsibility provincially - and completion of a MBA - for many years. She rejoined the HPCC board in 2020, and continues to do some consulting work for health care-related organizations. Katie is the chair of the Strategic Planning committee and is also a member of the Human Resources committee.

Naomi Legg is a relative newcomer to the area, and the board, although her father has lived in the community for many years. She works as an Indigenous educator for School District Number 8 in Nelson, and is a member of the Metis Nation of BC but comes from Treaty 6 in Edmonton. Naomi is active in the Harrop & District Community Centre Society (HDCC) as well as managing the summer markets at the Harrop school-house. She is a member of the Strategic Planning committee.

Bill Macpherson is the current president of the organization. A long-time board member and resident, he is also president of the HPWPS. Bill is chair of the Community Engagement committee and a member of the Human Resources committee. He is retired from a career in government and corporate communications while continuing to do some magazine writing. He is a long-term member and former chair of the HDCC.

Jim Yule has lived in the community for many years. He has had a lengthy career as a forestry professional with the Ministry of Forests and private organizations, specializing in timber pricing. Jim is a licensed log scaler and is a member of the Forest Operations & Planning committee. In addition, he is on the HPWPS board and conducts water sampling for the organization when required.

Donations

**Kootenay Lake East Shore Men's Shed
(picnic tables for campground)**

\$645.00

**Procter Community Society
(building upkeep)**

\$8500.00

Procter Gymnastics Club

\$300.00

Total

\$9445.00

2023 Total Donations

\$22,065

Harrop Procter Forest Products

Mill improvement project

Currently, things are on a bit of a hold as plan/site modifications required to obtain the necessary permits are undertaken. Most of the new materials/machinery has been paid for and are either on-site or being shipped. A contractor, Jake Plater of Northwinds Custom Carpentry, has been hired to adapt several outbuildings - lumber shed and electrical room - once permits are in place.

Other initiatives

HPFP is now certified to grade and stamp our timber production. This will allow contractors to use our timbers for their new builds, which is a requirement under new building regulations.



Timber stamps

A test program for biochar utilization is underway in conjunction with Pacific Regeneration Technologies Growing Services Ltd. (PRT Harrop) and UBC researchers.

Fourteen thousand seedlings from two species will be sown this spring and receive a percentage of biochar produced by the mill. The trial will measure biochar's influence on the rate of growth on seedlings in the nursery, and later mortality/success rates once planted in the field.

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New Employees

Jonathan Chapplow-Hansen has recently joined the crew at Harrop Procter Forest Products. Born and raised in northwestern British Columbia - Terrace and Smithers - Jonathan has worked as a tree-planter and a crew boss for nine years. He has lived in the Kootenays for seven years, the last couple of years in the community, and has a diploma from Selkirk College's Forestry Technology program.

Geoff Daloise is another recent addition to the crew. Geoff is Nelson born and raised. He completed a Cabinetmaker (Joiner) Apprenticeship program at North Island College after high school graduation. Geoff has previously worked in the construction industry and spent several years at Pacific Insight doing quality control/production work. Prior to joining HPFP, Geoff worked at Kalesnikoff Mass Timber.

Welcome Geoff and Jonathan!



Jonathan Chapplow-Hansen

Geoff Daloise

Follow Harrop Procter Forest Products on social media

 @hpsawmill

 Harrop Procter Forest Products

Local residents get a 10% discount, 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: coordinator@hpcommunityforest.org