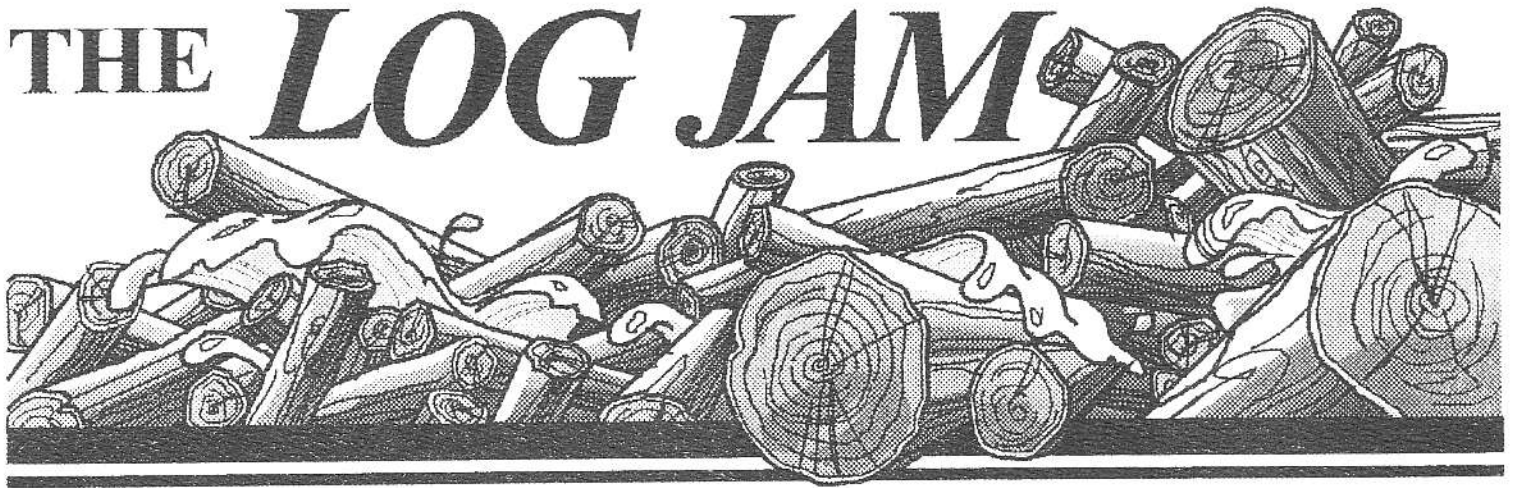


# THE LOG JAM



A newsletter published by the Woodlot Association of Alberta (WAA)

April, 1996

## Debut Issue

# The Log Jam has landed

**O**NE SMALL STEP for the Woodlot Association of Alberta (WAA), One giant leap for woodlot owners in Alberta.

Howdy, and welcome to the first edition of the Log Jam, the official newsletter of the recently formed WAA.

The Log Jam is published four times a year on the 15th of January, April, July and October and is distributed to 1,700 woodlot owners in Alberta.

Both the WAA and the Log Jam are dedicated to the following goals:

▲ To provide information to private land owners on sustainable woodlot management practices throughout Alberta, Canada and the United States through newsletters, field demonstrations and speaker presentations;

▲ To educate all Albertans that forest harvesting and ecosystem maintenance can be accomplished on the same land;

▲ To develop a strong central organization composed of numerous provincial chapters that will



The WAA is dedicated to creating awareness of economic and recreational potential of sustainable woodlot management in Alberta.

... speak to provincial and national issues which affect forestry practices on private land.

*Continued on page 9*

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## Consultant's Corner

**P**RAIRIES ARE NICE, but we always need forests too. Reforestation after harvesting is really the only way to ensure that private land will continue to supply us with wood and homes for our wildlife.

Starting your new forest involves establishing new trees, and sometimes weeding, cleaning and spacing them so they grow into the type of forest you desire.

How you go about replacing the trees you cut will depend on:

- ▲ What you start with (i.e. species mix, tree size, soils.);
- ▲ The kind of cutting you do, (i.e. clear-cut, selection) and;
- ▲ The type of forest you want to have after (conifer, deciduous, mixedwood.)

Forest companies that harvest on provincial crown land begin with a preharvest assessment for each similar stand of trees to be harvested.

They record basic factors such as: the size and distribution of young trees; sources of seed; the depth of duff (leaves and dry material over the mineral soil); and expected invasion of unwanted trees, grass and shrubs.

This information is then combined with management objectives for wildlife and water quality to design a harvest that minimizes negative environmental impacts and helps save money on reforestation.

For example, they may find that a stand of aspen has 400 young spruce per hectare growing in the understory. This is worth saving because they want to regenerate the stand to a mixedwood. Harvesting of aspen is done using techniques

### After the harvest

# Reforesting your private woodlot

which protect the understory, and thus reforestation is confined to cleaning and spacing.

Another example might be harvesting a stand of trees with sizes ranging from small to large. To keep that range in sizes, and always have some tree cover on the land, you could select a portion (i.e. 30%) of all trees greater than 10" diameter. This keeps some small trees for growing stock and leaves some openings for seedlings to get established. The larger trees that are left will provide adequate seed, but you may need to scrape back the duff to prepare a seed bed, or to plant some shade tolerant species like spruce in the small openings.

Pine regenerates well after fire because the duff is burned off in spots and the heat from the fire tends to open cones and release seed. The open condition created by large wildfires are suitable for pine because the young trees need full light to prosper. Similar conditions can be created with patch clear cutting, except that some mineral soil must be exposed and the cones brought down close to the ground where the sun reflecting off the ground will produce enough heat to open them and release the seed.

Site preparation by dragging large chains or barrels across the cutover is the most effective way to create light conditions for pine establishment.

They can often come in too thick

and may need spacing early in the cycle.

You can see that choices multiply very quickly, especially if the forest you start with is not all the same.

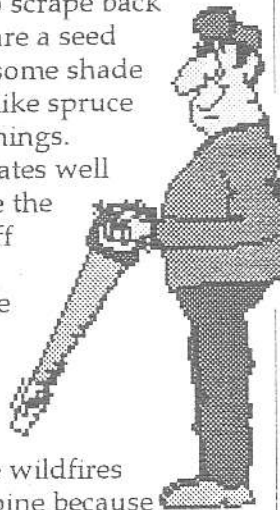
Someone with a lot of silviculture experience can often prevent a costly plantation failure by anticipating what the conditions will be like after logging, or better yet, by designing the logging so the reforestation occurs effortlessly. A silviculture forester is able to:

- ▲ Assess each proposed harvest area and make logging recommendations that complement reforestation;
- ▲ Complete a reforestation prescription, which includes surveys, site preparation techniques, planting, cleaning/weeding, and stand tending;
- ▲ Order seedlings appropriate to the site, the budget, and the timing of treatment;
- ▲ Supervise the various activities to ensure they are carried out effectively.

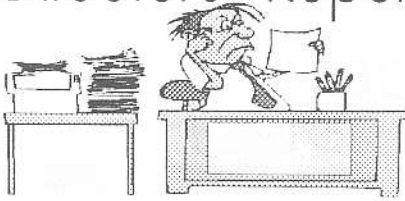
If you are logging and reforesting more than 10 hectares (25 acres) you should be able to justify the \$400-800 cost of a forester to assess your conditions and set you on the right track.

When selling to an Alberta company, ask if their foresters are willing to help you with free reforestation planning, and possibly with site preparation and planting as well.

Colin Bamsey,  
Registered professional forester  
Clear Lake Ltd.  
(403) 488-1858



# Director's Report



By Ken L. Birkett  
Land Use Committee Report

**A**S A RESULT of the input provided at the 1st Annual General Meeting in November 1995, the Executive of the Woodlot Association of Alberta (WAA) has formed a committee to assess land use issues arising in the private forested lands within our membership, and to eventually give input towards public forested lands.

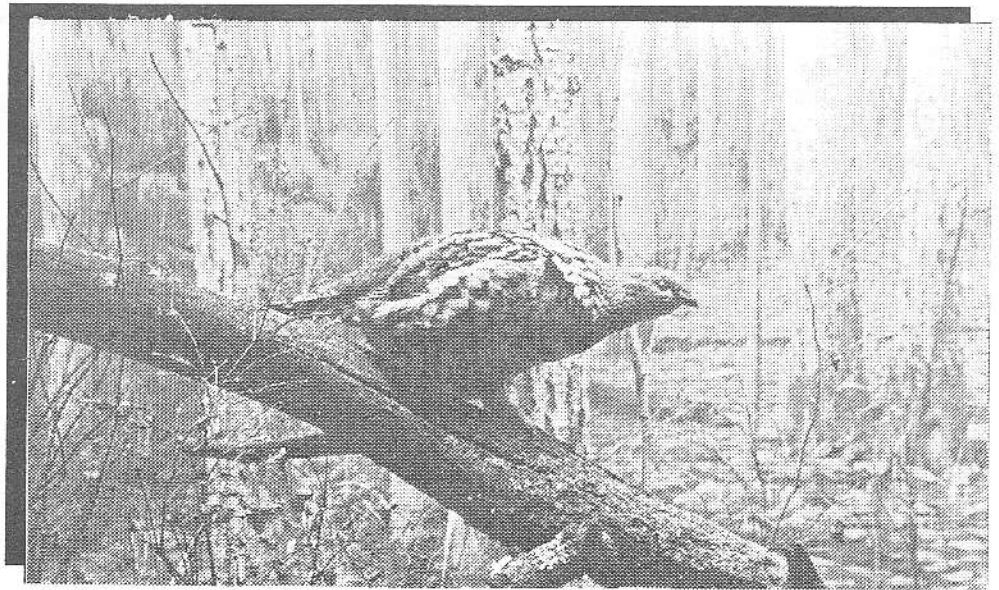
We believe our members want to be leaders in sustainable land management.

To achieve this goal, we need to be educated and then start building a "track record."

The committee's first task is to produce a document that members can utilize during forestry operations on their woodlots and share with other land managers.

It will be a set of guidelines that help to minimize negative environmental impact by promoting proven techniques in forest management.

## Building a track record on sustainable land management



**In part, sustainable forest management standards will focus on the preservation of wildlife habitat.**

To date, we have researched existing documents, both within Alberta and federally, to find similarities. However, during this process we have been enlightened to the new "sustainable forest management standards" which will influence the content of Alberta's proposed land use document.

With growth in the scope, we

are anticipating growth in the quality of our document. We welcome everyone's input.

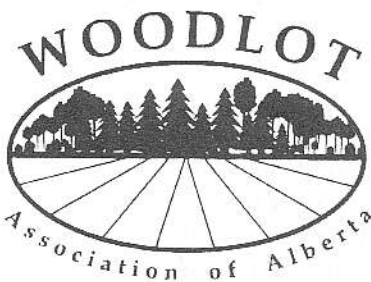
Please contact any of the committee members: Ken Birkett, Ron Ramseyer, Pieter van der Schoot, Ed Nowecki or Dave Lincon.

Call toll free 1-800-871-5680 and ask for the committee members' phone numbers.



### THE LOG JAM

Published by...



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To subscribe or for information on advertising rates contact:

Bruno Wiskel  
Editor, The Log Jam  
Box 194 Colinton, AB.  
T0G 0R0  
Phone and Fax (403) 675-4762

Articles, letters and classified

advertising are welcome. Please mail submissions to the editor no later than the first of each publication month.

Design and production by Shannon Duperron. Printing by the Print Factory, Athabasca.

Front page graphic designed by Dennis Jacobs. Special thanks to Ed Sager.

Permission to reprint contents of the newsletter is required by the editor.

## Al-Pac ups ante on aspen

**A**LBERTA-PACIFIC FOREST Industries recently introduced a Private Forest Program (PFP) and Woodlot Planning Workbook.

The PFP, the first of its kind in Alberta, was initiated to secure a long-term even flow of wood from managed woodlots and to illustrate how small-scale forestry can be used as a store of value, a part of rural diversification and an integral part of a traditional farm enterprise.

The PFP Woodlot Planning Workbook provides an easy "cook-book" type approach for land owners to develop a management plan for privately owned forested areas.



To kick off its private forest program, Alberta-Pacific hosted a planning workshop last fall on Bruno Wiskel's private woodlot located east of Colinton. Turnout was good despite bad weather.

*For those unfamiliar with woodlot inventories or planning, it is also possible to attend an Alberta-Pacific woodlot planning workshop, where forestry professionals will explain in a no-nonsense way the ins and outs of developing a woodlot plan.*

A cash incentive of \$5/hectare of forested land is paid for taking the time to follow the Woodlot Planning Workbook and generating a woodlot management plan.

Once the plan is approved, the woodlot manager will receive a bonus of \$3 per tonne above current market value of logs for every tonne of timber sold under the PFP plan.

Although Alberta-Pacific is primarily interested in obtaining aspen and balsam poplar for its pulp

mill, all other type of trees are eligible for the planning incentive.

Signing the PFP agreement does not mean you have to sell all, or indeed any, of your trees to Alberta-Pacific but it does give Alberta-Pacific the first right of refusal.

For example if mill "A" offers you \$60/tonne for your trees and Alberta-Pacific cannot match that price, you are free to sell to mill "A."

Despite management incentives, the PFP has not been developed as a "get rich quick scheme" and is not meant to encourage immediate liquidation of private forests.

Part of the PFP agreement requires the landowner to adhere to a maximum cut rate of 25 per cent of the total land or timber volume in a five-year period.

The landowner can develop his own management plan by obtaining

a Woodlot Planning Workbook, conducting a woodlot inventory, and then "filling in the blanks."

Once the plan is completed, it is submitted to Alberta-Pacific personnel for review and approval.

For those unfamiliar with woodlot inventories or planning, it is also possible to attend a Alberta-Pacific woodlot planning workshop, where forestry professionals will explain in a no-nonsense way the ins and outs of developing a woodlot plan.

If you have any questions regarding the Alberta-Pacific Private Forests Program, the cash incentives, or if you would like to order a Woodlot Planning Workbook, please do not hesitate to contact me, Allen Robertson, at phone (403) 525-8537 or fax (403) 525-8097.

# President's Message

## Working to become a successful organization

By Jurgen Moll

**T**HIS ASSOCIATION IS only one-and-a-half years old and as with any new born we are trying to get on our feet and are starting to take our first few steps along the path to becoming a successful organization.

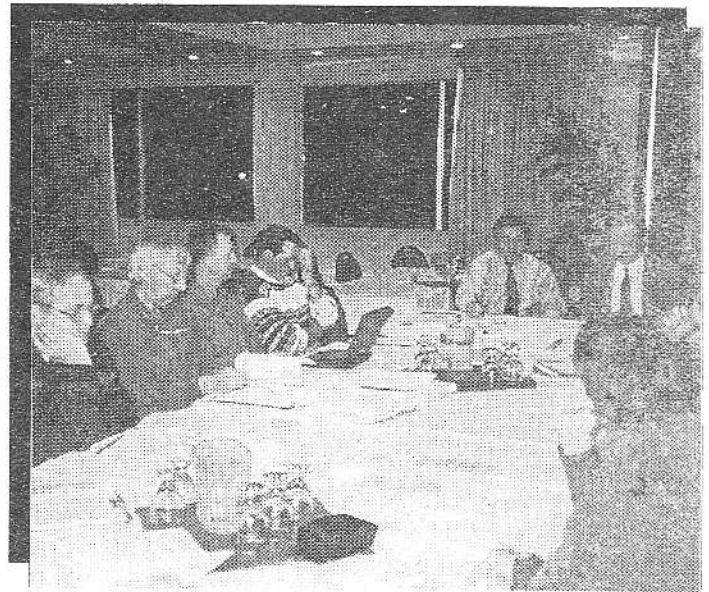
One of the first steps taken was a very successful first annual general meeting held in November, when the directors were elected.

Since that time, the executive has been in contact with various government departments in order to set up a regular form of communication on matters which concern woodlot owners.

Attempts are under way to become a member of the National Woodlot Association, to establish our administration on a firm basis, and a number of committees were formed and are busy working on their projects.

In addition, this newsletter, which is hopefully the first of many, has been produced.

I believe this newsletter, in time, will become a cornerstone of the WAA — a woodlot owner's vehicle by which to network, transfer information, and advertise wares.



**Discussing and resolving mutual woodland concerns at the Canadian Federation of Woodlot Owners meetings are a part of WAA mandate.**

That will depend on demand, contributions and involvement by our membership.

There is one item that every member should take part in, that being to advertise our existence to non-member woodlot owners and encourage them in becoming members.

## Addressing forestry concerns in a territory charged with emotion

By Gordon R. Kerr  
Secretarial, WAA

**P**INCHER CREEK, AB. is best known as Chinook and cattle country for it has some of the best range lands in Canada.

The foothill valleys however, also support prime timber stands which have been the basis of lumber operations since before the turn of the century.

However, high recreation demand, prize trout streams and

increasing subdivisions have resulted in emotionally charged clashes with logging operations.

The municipality of Pincher Creek No. 9 has been in the forefront of legislative efforts to balance the demands, and has suffered the wrath from all sides. It was thus not surprising that the M.D. was an active partner with federal and provincial government departments in organizing the workshop.

The Woodlot Association of Alberta (WAA) was well represented by Ken Birkett, past presi-

dent, Gordon Kerr, secretarial, and several local members such as Gordon and Cody Johnson, of Johnson Sawmills.

Hilton Pharis, past reeve of the M.D., and active woodlot manager for over 35 years, reviewed his woodlot planning experience.

Assisted by Gordon Kelbert, RPF, they presented a convincing story. Other presentations regarding landuse conflict resolution,

*Continued on page 7*

# A little innovation leads to success

**W**E HAVE 25 acres of young-growth lodge pole pine. Two years ago when the race was on for Alberta wood, we joined in the run.

We had several quotes from logging companies which ranged from \$40 per ton on the stump to \$15 per ton.

It was a wide range of mind-boggling quotes.

However, one quote we received had a lasting effect. We were told by one young fellow that if we had a "pencil sharpener" and a debarker, our wood could make thousands of dollars in fence posts and rails and keep up the cash flow for years.

So, we took another look at our wood and saw what he had seen. But, at the same time, we figured a debarker was way out of our reach.

The fact is, we weren't even too sure what a debarker was.

My husband was only acquainted with the huge ones he had worked on in the sawmills.

---

*It took the best part of two weeks for the little machine to become a reality. We needed it to be portable, small and handy.*

---

Anyway, we tracked down one neighbor who had a pencil sharpener, but that's all, just a pencil sharpener.

Another person had a debarker and a pencil sharpener way out in his "bone yard."

He'd used them once or twice years before. It was in two separate parts and not in the least handy.

A commercially manufactured one was out of the question because of cost and size.



**The Reddi-Post efficiently sharpens posts up to eight inches in diameter and will dedebark anything from two-inch fence posts to ten-inch corral posts.**

In the mean time, this little machine, the Reddi-Post, we call it, was shaping up in my husband's mind.

He was a welder and fabricator before we went farming, and over the years has used his trade and talent to over-ride the cost of commercially manufactured items we've found a need for.

It took the best part of two weeks for the little machine to become reality. We needed it to be portable, one unit, small and handy.

And, here we are. We have done at least 3,000 posts since its trial run in May 1995.

It sharpens posts up to eight inches in diameter and debarks anything from two-inch fence posts to ten-inch corral posts.

It runs off the power take-off on the tractor and our 60 horse power Cockshutt is about one-quarter throttle.

It is definitely an asset for anyone who wants to value-add his woodlot or for the farmer or rancher who wishes to save money and do his own fence posts.

For further information contact Hugh Melvin, Box 65, Little Smoky, AB., T0H 3Z0.

**PRODUCT PREMIERES** is a regular feature in *The Log Jam*.

If you have a product you would like to see featured in this spot please prepare a short article with photos and address it to the editor, Bruno Wiskel, at:

Box 194 Colinton, AB.

T0G 0R0

Phone and Fax (403) 675-4762



## Pincher Creek...

Continued from page 5

woodlot marketing and planning landuse after logging were well received.

Gordon Kerr outlined how the WAA is addressing issues of concern and how it could be of assistance to landowners, followed by Ken Glover of the Alberta Woodlot Program on matters of legislation in relation to private forest land operations.

Liability exposure and legal pitfalls to avoid in contract development, as well as detailed insights into corporate and personal income tax, income versus capital gains, and estate planning issues were defined.

Comments about luck in past contracts or how the future approach would be different were evidence of the practical nature of the presentations.

The field trip and demonstrations of the second day separated the eager from the hangers-on, for it was cold and snowing with heavy fog as we departed.

The eager were rewarded however, as the weather cleared on the first stop. K.C. Shenton showed off his family ranch where they have logged for over 100 years.

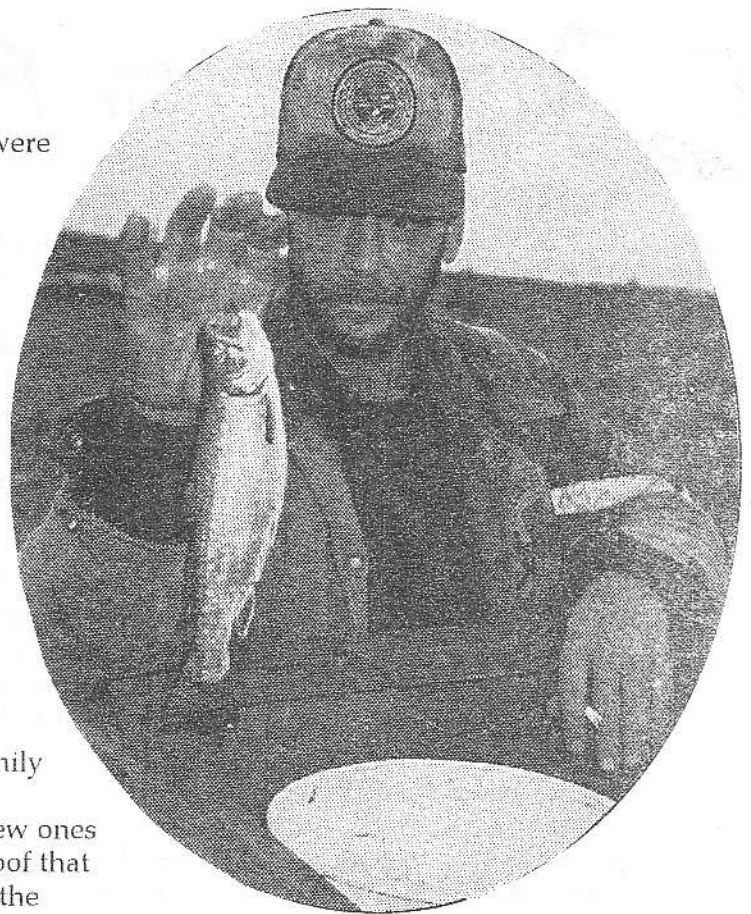
We saw his grandfather's and father's stumps and new ones of his own next to trees approaching maturity. It was proof that sustainable forestry can be realized and a profit made in the process.

Mac Main proudly toured us through the MX Ranch and explained the elaborate plan for the area as developed by a entire stable of experts; most impressive.

Also impressive was the fact the representatives of environmental groups attended and participated in all events. With this kind of information exchange there is hope for sound management and all interested input.

Surely, we can't go wrong with more of these workshops.

(Top and bottom picture) Clashes between fishermen and loggers have arisen in the Pincher Creek area.



## CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING

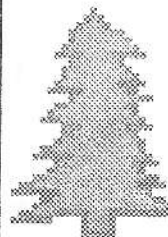
*Classified advertising in The Log Jam is free of charge to members of the WAA. Direct your ad to the editor, address on page 3.*

Need logger, 161 acres near Athabasca, estimated 800 tonne spruce, 4,500 tonne aspen. Aspen in two stands, one 20 years (35-40 ft. high) other 45 years (about 60 ft. high). Need references, wish to select log only. 1-403-438-0213.

Aerial photographer for logging, subdivision, etc. (GPS, GIS) Reasonable rates, VISA, MC and AMEX. Top Shot Photo Ltd. 1-403-438-0213. (Also digital mapping and ground truthing)

## Saw Your Own Lumber

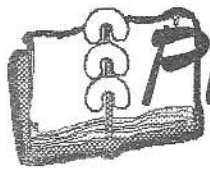
Completely Portable  
Strong-Sturdy Frame  
24-inch Bandsaw Wheel  
Ideal for Custom Sawing  
Made in Canada



**(403) 937-2040**

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# PUBLICATION PREVIEW

**Beattie, M.; Thompson, C.; Levine, L. 1993 Working with your Woodland: A Landowner's Guide. Revised ed. University press of New England, Hanover, N.H.**

**P**ACKED WITH INFORMATION and illustrations, *Working with Your Woodland* has given woodland owners all the basics necessary for making key decisions since it was first published in 1983.

The revised edition reflects fundamental changes in the way private woodlands are viewed. Today they must be seen as part of the whole earth rather than as owner-managed islands.

The 1993 edition of *Working with Your Woodland* provides necessary updating of the technological, environmental, tax, and legal concerns associated with woodland management.

Three chapters have been completely rewritten, and there is new information on wetlands management, global warming, acid deposition, and rare or endangered species.

**Denig, J. 1993. Small Sawmill Handbook. Miller Freeman, inc., San Fransico, Calif.**

**T**HIS BOOK SHOWS small sawmills how to survive and ensure future profitability.

It explains sawing philosophies, high-yield equipment, simple and efficient mill layouts, quality lumber drying, and value-added techniques.

It will serve as a guide for the small mill operator who is not

satisfied with the status quo and wants to shape his mill for the future.

It's also an excellent introduction for novices who want to develop a good understanding of the theory as well as the practical aspects of sawmill operations.

**Chapman, A.G.; Wray, R.D. 1989. Christmas Trees for Pleasure and Profit. 3rd ed. Rutgers university press, Newbrunswick, N.J.**

**T**HE THIRD EDITION of this successful book is for the farmer who has some extra land, for the prospective commercial grower with several hundred acres, or for the hobbyist who may want to supplement his income.

Both the novelist and the experienced grower will benefit from its account of growing Christmas trees for the market.

Covering basic principles as well as specific practices, the book guides the reader through the various stages of establishing and maintaining a Christmas tree plantation.

Subjects include: a general overview of the Christmas tree industry; selection of land; what species to grow and where to get planting stock; and comprehensive information on tree planting.

The business side includes information on grading trees, harvesting and marketing.

**Knowles, H. 1995. Woody Ornamentals for the Prairies. Revised ed. University of Alberta, Faculty of extension, Edmonton, AB.**

**T**HERE IS NO one better to lead you on a discovery of the trees and shrubs of the prairies than Hugh Knowles, Professor Emeritus at the University of Alberta and recognized prairie landscape architect.

He knows woody plants and their uses, and how they can thrive on our landscape.

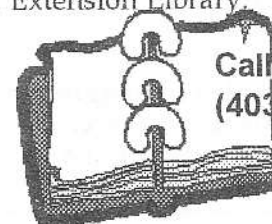
The open, accessible, and beautiful pages of *Woody Ornamentals for the Prairies* sets out everything you need to know about planning your garden; cultivation and preparation for planting; and routine care and special needs.

For each of the 250 specimens, *Woody Ornamentals for the Prairies* describes: cultivars, cross referencing their Latin and common names; form, size, habit, shape, texture, foliage, bark and fruit for each specimen; and best uses, plus good and bad habits.

A detailed chart cross-references the species, presenting over 40 important features for each, including size, shape, flowers, fruit and special features.

Comprehensive, authoritative and informative, this book should be in every prairie gardener's hands.

These, and other publications can be borrowed from the Woodlot Extension Library.



Call Diana Triggs  
(403) 435-7264



# REFLECTIONS ON OUR TREES

By Theresa Keeson

WE SAT AROUND the campfire  
The lighting it was low  
And up above an open sky  
The moon she was aglow

They told tales of planting trees  
And of living out in the wood  
They spoke of things that they had done  
And others that they should

They told tales of woodlots  
Of the thinning out their tress  
They told of scares they'd had with bears  
That set to rattling their knees

We talked about our forests  
That are disappearing fast  
We hope that by the way we're living  
We have some trees that last

So as you gaze upon your woodlot  
And decide to fall a few  
Be thinking of the future  
To your prosperity take a view

Will they have some trees to fall  
And be able to watch others grow  
To watch them autumn, spring, and summer  
And to see them weighted down with snow

So as you fall, be planting  
With an eye to our prosperity  
And we hope by our liven  
They will have a tree

Or maybe a whole woodlot  
That's been managed well with time  
Where they can gaze upon the trees  
And think upon this rhyme

## The Log Jam lands... Continued from front

To further these initiatives, the Log Jam will feature a wide range of woodlot-related articles from a variety of sources including the WAA executive, industry, government, consultants, equipment manufacturers, the Alberta Forest Association, the federal woodlot library, and you, the woodlot owner.

If you would like to be a contributor to the Log Jam, our editorial staff are interested in hearing from you.

Submissions should be no longer than one type written page and should include one or more photographs related to the article topic.

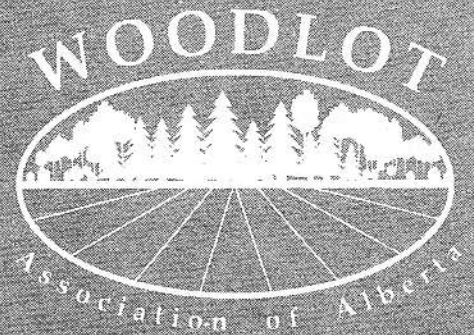
If you would like to advertise in the Log Jam, rates are available from our editorial office.

All submissions and advertisements are subject to editing for length, spelling and libelous content.

Submissions must be received no later than the first of each publication month.

This issue of The Log Jam is free.

If you would like to continue to receive The Log Jam, join the WAA. Look for details on page 16 of this issue.



# High Level Forest Products lauds Forest Care

**F**OREST CARE IS a program initiated by the Alberta Forest Products Association (AFPA) which represents 58 forest companies in Alberta to develop an ethic on which members conduct their business.

The forest industry is now the third largest industry in Alberta, employing some 56,000 people.

As a result, the industry plays a significant role in the prosperity of the province.

Its activities impact communities, forests, and the environment, now and in the future.

Understanding and assuming this responsibility, the industry has undertaken a program to assure the public that member companies are committed to ensuring they contribute strongly to the province's prosperity today and tomorrow, while protecting the forest, the environment and the communities in which we work and live.

High Level Forest Products Ltd. has committed itself to the Forest Care program.

Forest Care was reviewed and revised through a round-table forum representing a large range of community interests including government, general public, academia, Metis Nation, parks and wildlife associations.

It was developed around six guiding principles which centre on forest management, environmental protection, health and safety, community awareness and sustainable development.

From these guiding principles, three codes of practice were developed.

They are:

- ▲ Care of the Forest;
- ▲ Care of the Environment;
- ▲ Care of the Community.

Each of these codes are further examined relative to the activities of

High Level Forest Products Ltd. and other member companies.

It is the intent of the program to remain current and reflect the needs and values of Albertans.

Therefore, as community needs, scientific knowledge and technolo-

gies change, the codes will be reviewed and updated.

Ultimately, the company's performance will be evaluated and audited according to the Forest Care codes and the results of the audit will be reported to the public.

## *Ezra Consulting Limited*

*Professional Foresters with more than 30 years of combined experience in forestry, agriculture and land use.*

### *Woodlot Services*

- |                               |                              |
|-------------------------------|------------------------------|
| ▲ <i>Contract Negotiation</i> | ▲ <i>Timber Assessment</i>   |
| ▲ <i>Marketing</i>            | ▲ <i>Logging Supervision</i> |
| ▲ <i>Timber Scaling</i>       | ▲ <i>Education</i>           |

*Helping you plan sustainable management by advising on timber volumes, harvest levels, harvest methods and reforestation. Call us for more details.*

*Byron Grundberg (Edmonton) (403) 944-1722*

*Paul Folkmann (Athabasca) (403) 675-5709*

# Future success hinged on learning from past

**C**ONGRATULATIONS TO THE Woodlot Association of Alberta (WAA) on your inaugural newsletter issue.

To move forward, you must learn from the past, and the messages that should be observed from past events and applied to the future are as follows:

- ▲ Economics are an essential and likely the most powerful motivating factor;
- ▲ We are generally a society that is "forestry" illiterate;
- ▲ Anti-forestry sentiments dominate main stream media and the sustainable forestry advocates are silenced over the roars;
- ▲ Education may prove to be a superior tool over regulation in terms of assuring sustainable-wise private land forestry management; however, education sprinkled with incentives will most certainly be superior to that of regulation.

---

*... I cannot help but hold an optimistic view of the future in Alberta for private woodlots.*

---

Today, many forces are at work that can potentially influence the Alberta woodlot movement. To name a few:

- ▲ Alberta Municipal Affairs' review of the Standards Assessment Regulation which can impact land owner property taxes and the assessment of any standing timber;



**Help us to grow – join the Woodlot Association of Alberta.**

- ▲ Funding for the WAA which may always be of concern, but may be manageable through more aggressive fund raising or cooperative initiatives;
- ▲ The open markets – supplies and demands – what the industry will pay for the landowners' products;
- ▲ Viability and the land owners' wish to go it alone and secure enough land base to feasibly operate a sustainable woodlot for profit;
- ▲ Stemming from a concern over fibre security, there are opportunities with the forest industry for landowners;
- ▲ The agriculture versus timber debate constantly looms. Hopefully, advocacy groups will not dominate the floor over the real mutual objectives of rural diversification and the betterment of the farm family;
- ▲ Genetically improved stock, and making a woodlot "crop" conceivable within the lifetime of today's woodlot owner;
- ▲ Political pressures and policies,

for the most part, are always a question mark.

With the woodlot scene being as vulnerable as it is at this time, there is considerable need for the WAA and its members to gel and get focused.

These are extremely exciting times in Alberta for one with an interest in woodlot management. I cannot help but hold an optimistic view of the future in Alberta for private woodlots.

Alberta has only begun to "experience" this issue, and we have a whole host of other woodlot-experienced provinces and states from which to draw upon.

Good Luck WAA, and let's continue to work and grow together!



# Not just fair weather friends

**I**N RURAL AREAS, shelterbelts are useful in just about every aspect of farming.

They have been proven to reduce heat loss in homes, increase livestock and crop returns, reduce wind and water erosion and increase wildlife populations. The list is virtually endless.

The primary purpose of most shelterbelts is to provide a "wind shadow" to the crops, dwellings and livestock. The wind shadow is the area of relative calm on the lee (downwind) side of the shelterbelt.

Reducing the wind speed results in a corresponding reduction in heat lost to the atmosphere from warm blooded animals and heated buildings.

The average unsheltered home will have heating costs 35 per cent higher than the heated equivalent and ranchers can save up to \$50 per head by sheltering cattle from the wind compared to the neighbor who doesn't.

Shelterbelts are also effective in the summer for increasing crop yields as well as preventing wind and water erosion. Fields protected by shelterbelts will exhibit an average yield of 12 per cent higher than a similar crop grown on a wind swept field.

Crops benefit in two ways:

▲ Less snow blown from the fields in winter results in a higher snow melt in the spring

▲ By reducing the wind speed, the evaporation rate is also reduced, making more moisture available to the plants.

The benefits of summer shelterbelts don't end with higher crop yields. The trees also provide shade for livestock, resulting in healthier, happier, faster-growing

animals.

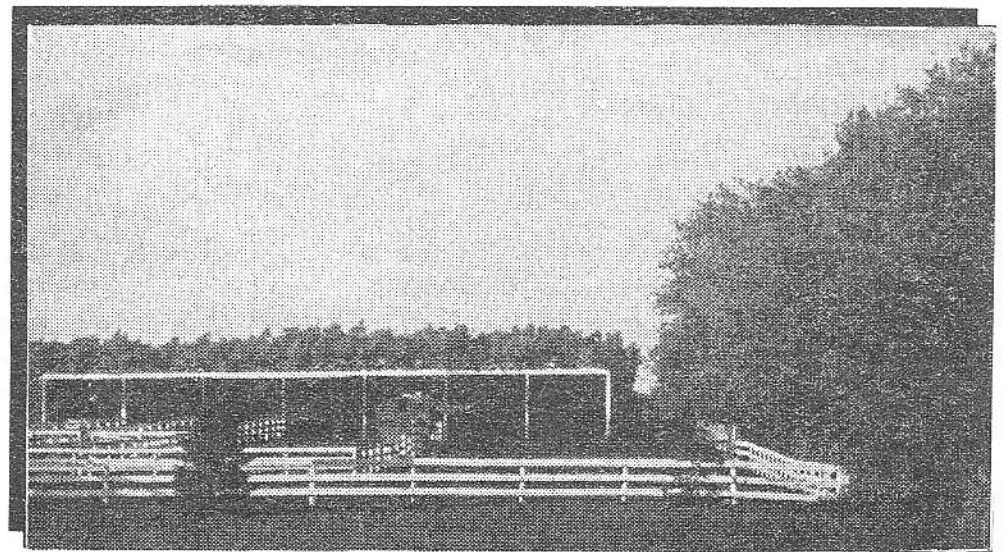
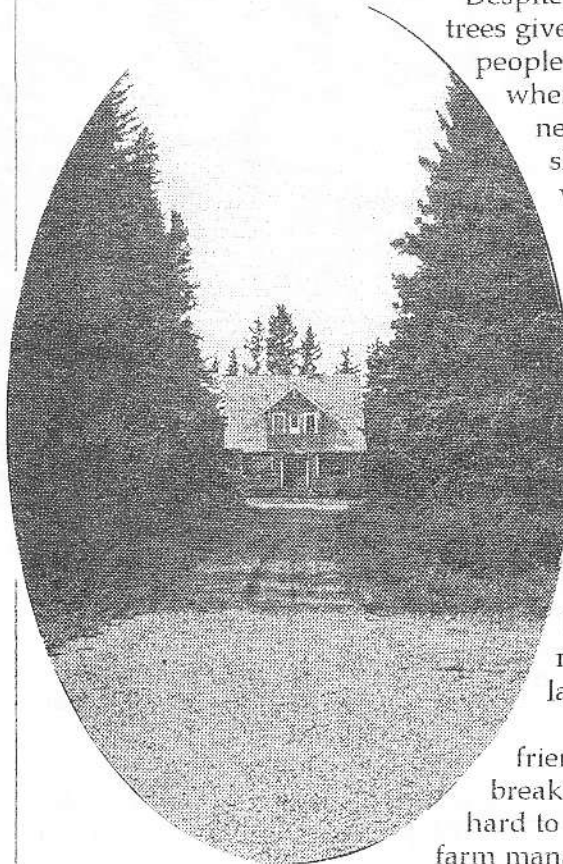
Shade trees also reduce domestic air conditioning costs and who doesn't like to relax with an ice-cold glass of lemonade under a shade tree?

Despite the many benefits that shelterbelt trees give when they are standing, few people realize their economic potential when older or weather-damaged trees need to be harvested. Many shelterbelt trees are extremely valuable when sawed into lumber. Even the lowly poplar tree is gaining widespread recognition as a species valuable for hardwood flooring.

Shelterbelts also provide many intangible benefits as well. They simulate a "forest edge," where small animals such as rabbits and grouse can feed while having protection close by.

They are also favoured as nesting sites by birds of prey because they offer an uninterrupted view of the surrounding landscape.

Shelterbelts are indeed a farmer's friend in all seasons. Despite all the breakthroughs in farm technology, it is hard to find a tool available to the modern farm manager that is as effective, productive, and as cheap to maintain as the good old farm shelterbelt!



Shelterbelts provide a multitude of practical benefits to the farmer, his livestock and wildlife in the area as well as aesthetic ones too.

## WAA executives explore new ideas, techniques on Canadian and US trips

**W**OODLOT ASSOCIATION OF Alberta (WAA) executives and alternates recently traveled to the State of Oregon on a Canadian Forest Service (CFS) field school.

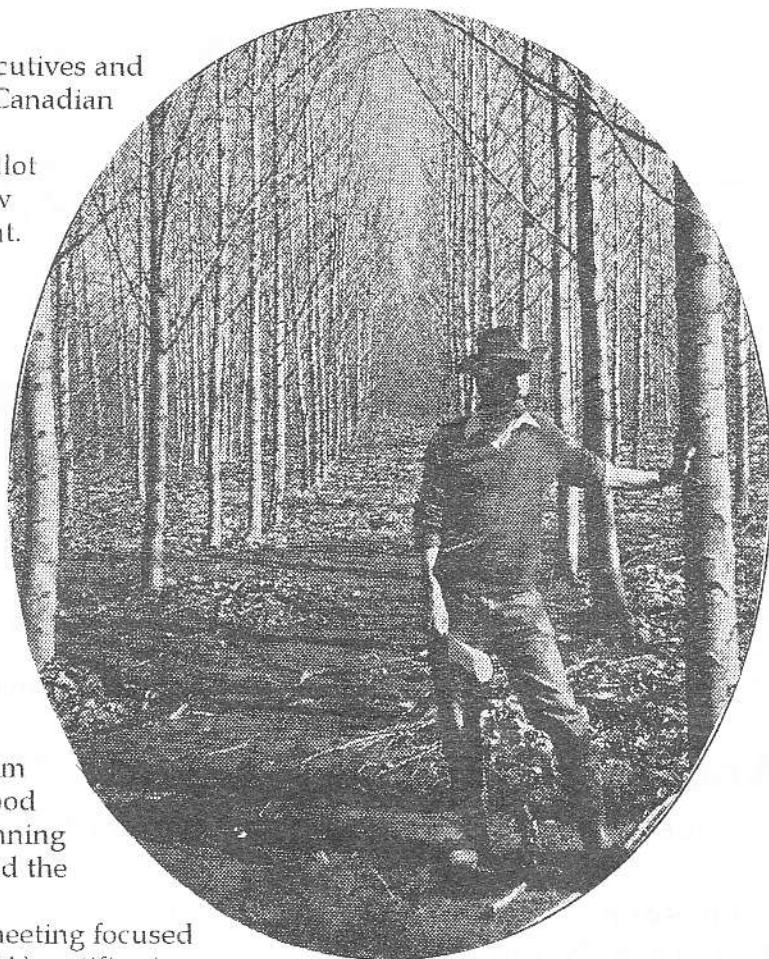
Two delegates were also sent to the Canadian Woodlot Federation annual general meeting held in St. John, New Brunswick courtesy of the CFS and Alberta Environment.

The Oregon trip began in Portland, Oregon with meetings with two non-profit organizations; Eco Trust (ET) and Sustainable Northwest (SN). Both were developed to promote conservation-based development with ET concentrating on the temperate rain forest region from northern California to Alaska and SN focusing on interior regions.

Next on the agenda was a meeting with the Oregon Forest Research Institute (OFRI) which is similar in nature to the Alberta Forest Products Association. OFRI mandate was one of proactive issue management and education of the growing urban population.

Meetings were also held with the Oregon Small Woodlands Association (similar to WAA), Oregon Tree Farm System and Oregon State University (OSU). Field demonstrations were observed at Georgia Pacific—stream rehabilitation site, OSU tree farm, Weyerhaeuser Topwood Optimization project, Smith Tree Farm pruning and thinning demonstration, Dee Anderson Douglas Fir Tree farm and the Clackamas Community Tree School.

The Canadian Woodlot Federation annual general meeting focused its attention on the Canadian Standards Association (CSA) certification



pilot program in the Lac St. Jean region of Quebec.

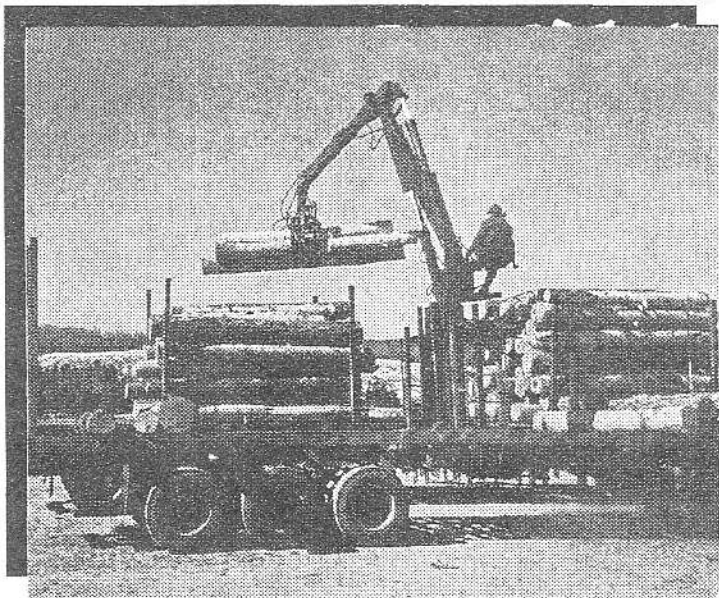
The pilot program was initiated when a group of European forest product buyers indicated that within the next five or so years no forest products would be purchased from non-certified sources. The European buyer suggested a certified woodlot or group of woodlots must be shown to be managed for sustained yield and implement environmentally friendly silviculture techniques.

While the exact details of certification process are somewhat vague, the Quebec Woodlot Association has decided to become proactive on this issue because "It's better we come up with a certification process we can live with than have someone else's shoved down our throat."

Other federation business was to formally accept the WAA application for membership.

The meetings ended with a tour of the SNB Woodlot Cooperative log handling and pole processing yards.

The SNB Co-op allows woodlot owners to haul in as little as one log. Single logs are graded and grouped with other logs that have similar characteristics. The full group is sold to local as well as international log buyers.



(Top) A five-year-old hybrid poplar grown at the OSU experimental plots. (Above) Logs with similar characteristics are stockpiled and sold as a load.

# ALBERTA FORESTRY ASSOCIATION

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## UPDATE

### Program Highlights...

#### Alberta's Focus on Forests

Now in their second year of use, the manuals are more popular than ever due to the changes to the Grade Six science curriculum and the introduction of the Career and Technologies Studies forestry component. A second printing of Focus in modular format is almost sold out. So far in 1996 over a

dozen teacher and training workshops have been presented.

#### Forever a Tree

This popular program, which provides students with the opportunity to plant and maintain trees in their school yard or community, was in danger of being cancelled. Therefore, AFA gratefully acknowledges and thanks Tree Canada Foundation and Superior Propane Ltd. for their kind sponsorship of this year's

program. This year's quota of recipients was reached in less than two weeks; 25 schools and community projects will begin to receive trees in May. Applications have already been received for 1997.

#### School Visits

The 1994-95 school year was the most successful year ever for our school visits program with over 8,500 students attending presentations.

### Woodlot Information Series

A series of pamphlets written by the Alberta Forestry Association is now available. Titles are:

#### Call the AFA

at (403) 428-7582 to order

Taking Inventory of  
Your Forest Resources

Forests, Fish and Wildlife

Preparing a Management Plan

Business Plans for Woodlots

Logging and Selling Your Timber

Environmental Protection

Reforesting Your Woodlot

Practicing Agroforestry  
in the Prairies

Add Value to Your  
Forest Products

Converting Forested Land to Agriculture: Environmental Concerns

Clearcut or Selection Logging?

Woodlot Management to  
Diversify Farm Income

Definitions—A Short List

Forestry Units of Measure

Selection Harvesting

Putting a Price on Your Timber

Managing Riparian Zones  
in Your Woodlot

Forest Soils

Understanding a  
Forest Inventory

Thinning to Improve Timber

Minimizing Fire Hazard  
in Your Woodlot

How Trees Grow

Shelterbelts

Growing Christmas Trees

Grazing and Reforestation

Setting Up a Logging Contract

Attracting Wildlife to  
Your Woodlot

Contracts for the Sale  
of Standing Timber

Selecting a Timber Buyer

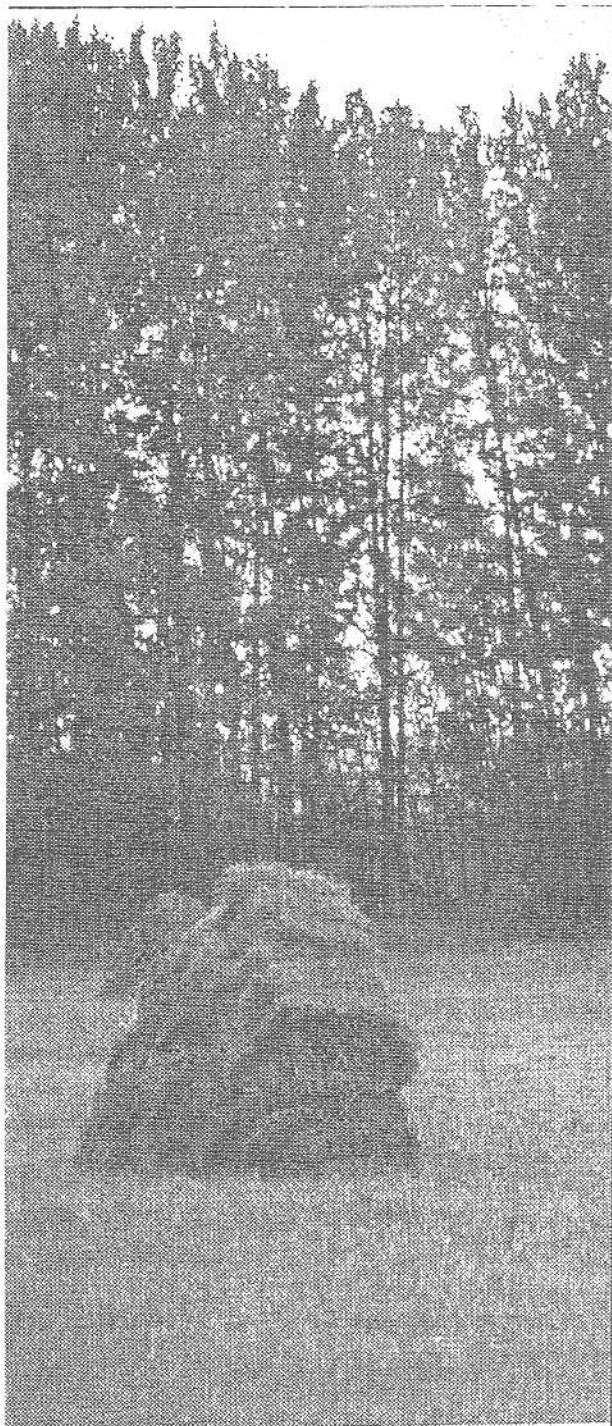
The Woodlot Extension Library



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PACIFIC**

**FOREST INDUSTRIES INC**

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- 🌲 An Easy to Follow "Woodlot Planning" Workbook
- 🌲 Woodlot Plan Designed for Sustainable Yield, Long-Term Cash Flow
- 🌲 Cash Incentives for an Approved Woodlot Management Plan
- 🌲 Woodlot Planning Workshops and Field Demonstrations
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- 🌲 Cash Premium Above Market Price for Managed Timber

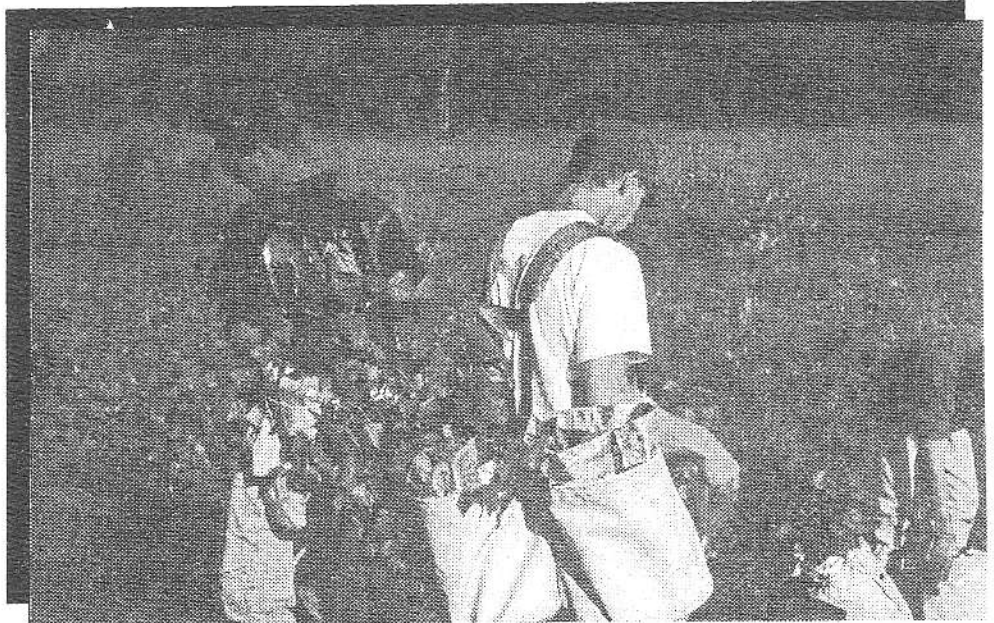
For More Information, or to Order a "Woodlot Planning Workbook," Call Allan Robertson, Alberta-Pacific Forest Industries at (403) 525-8357 or Toll-Free at 1-800-661-5210

# Woodlot management essential for future crops

**L**UMBER PRICES REACHED an all-time high in 1994 and the early part of 1995.

Sawmills throughout northern Alberta and B.C. were offering record prices to private landowners for their resource.

Foresters at Canadian Forest Products Ltd. (Canfor) in Hines Creek predicted that most private land timber, within reasonable haul distance, would disappear within five years if the trend continued.



*Woodlot management skills are essential to the landowner to get the most out of the next crop.*

**If a woodlot owner desires to produce subsequent successful crops of trees it is essential he educate himself in woodlot management skills.**

Hines Creek decided to offer free reforestation as part of the timber purchase contract.

This included mounding scarification if needed and planting one-year old spruce or pine stock, whichever best suited the site.

During the 1995 planting season, 15 private woodlots were planted with a total of 34,320 seedlings.

This planting season, the plan is to plant 22 private woodlots with a total of 105,000 seedlings.

Once the trees are planted, the

silviculture responsibilities are turned over to the landowner.

Woodlot management skills are essential to the landowner to get the most out of the next crop.

For more information call Leslie Proudfoot, (403) 494-4011



## YES! I Want to Join the Woodlot Association of Alberta!

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Call the WAA at 1-800-871-5680

Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_

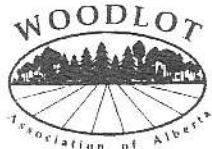
Legal Land Description \_\_\_\_\_

Town/City \_\_\_\_\_ Province \_\_\_\_\_

Postal Code \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

*Please make your cheque or money order payable to:*

The Woodlot Association of Alberta  
Room 101, Alberta Block  
10526 Jasper Avenue  
Edmonton, AB.  
T5J 1Z7



### Membership Rates

	<u>1 Year</u>	<u>Two Years</u>
Regular	<input type="checkbox"/> \$30	<input type="checkbox"/> \$50
Associate	<input type="checkbox"/> \$30	<input type="checkbox"/> \$50
Junior		<input type="checkbox"/> \$10
Corporate/ Sustaining	<input type="checkbox"/> \$100	