



Indian Forest Lands Program Reaches the Mid Point

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CANADA

by Mark Atherton, RPF

On September 30, 1987 the Canada-British Columbia Forest Resource Development Agreement reached mid point and the Indian Forest Lands Program reached mid point along with it. Beginning April 1, 1985 the agreement has a five year span terminating March 31, 1990. It hardly seems as though we've started and already we're looking down the other side to the end of the program. Yet the program is still accelerating and much remains to be done.

Inventories and Management Plans

The accomplishments made in the first two and one half years of the program are staggering. To date forest inventories have been completed for 62 Indian bands and 49 forest management plans have been written. Forest inventory and management plan projects are under way with an additional 25 bands and are nearing completion. Inventories are pending implementation with a further 8 bands and management plans to be written for 11 more. By the end of this fiscal year (March 31, 1988) inventories and management plans will have been completed for 95 bands which represents 48% of all B.C. Indian bands.

What have these inventories told us? That the properties surveyed contain 28% mature forest, 17% immature forest and 11% non productive, not satisfactorily restocked and environmentally sensitive areas. The balance of the land base, 44% of total area, is non forest land. When all of this years

projects are completed 180 000 ha of land will have been inventoried at a total cost of \$2 million. This amounts to 53% of all the reserve land in British Columbia!

The net merchantable volume reported so far is 5 080 000 cubic metres from which an annual allowable cut (AAC) of 122 300 cubic metres has been recommended. These figures may appear overly optimistic as the mature volume is generally of poor quality or economically inaccessible (it would cost too much to get to the market), and for many bands the

recommended allowable cut is too small to harvest on an annual basis.

What have the management plans told us? That there has been heavy timber exploitation over the past decades and that the emphasis is rehabilitation. This doesn't come as much of a surprise and the management plans provide a plan of action to bring these properties under professional forest management.

The plans received recommend silvicultural surveys on 5 500 ha and backlog and intensive forest management treatments on 31 300 ha at a total



Ned Kontic, Indian Affairs District Forester, and Glen Vowell Indian Band Councilor Marvin Sampson discuss the band's site preparation project.

cost of \$9.7 million. When all the plans are submitted it is expected that up to \$40 million may be required to carry out all the treatments recommended.

Silviculture

Twenty two bands have received approval to carry out silviculture projects on their reserves over the next three years at a total cost of \$1.1 million. The Canadian Forestry Service share of this is \$875 000.

The emphasis this year is on site preparation and juvenile spacing. Once sites are prepared and seedlings grown the emphasis will shift to planting those areas. A complete breakdown by treatment and fiscal year is provided in the following table.

Some of the highlights included in this table involve the five member bands of the Nicola Valley Indian Administration who will be juvenile spacing 680 ha at a cost of \$377 000. Three Hazelton bands and three Fraser Valley bands will clear 600 ha of deciduous trees and brush species this year and plant those areas in the next two years at a total cost of \$182,000 for the site preparation and

\$151 000 for the planting.

Sources of funding

The program provides up to 80% of total project costs and the bands are obligated to provide the balance from their own finances or other government sources. Many have received partial funding from CEIC programs as well as the Indian Community Human Resources Development Strategy. The Canadian Forestry Service has been flexible in entering creative financing arrangements to make the best use of these programs. Contact Mark Atherton at 388-0705 for further details.

There is still \$640 000 available in the CFS budget to fund work this fiscal year and budgets are still quite healthy for the 1988/89 and 1989/90 fiscal years as well.

Implementation

The Canadian Forestry Service recognizes there are costs involved in having a consultant implement these projects on behalf of the bands and has provided funding within contribution agreements for their time and expenses. Again, contact Mark Atherton for details. ■

Green Gold Grants Available

A fund of \$75 000 has been set up for each of the next two years to provide registered non-profit organizations with financial assistance to support forest education projects within British Columbia.

Operation Green Gold is a federal/provincial government national forestry awareness campaign sponsored under the auspices of the Canadian Council of Forest Ministers.

The campaign is aimed at:

- (1) increasing public awareness of the importance of the forest sector, of forests, and of responsible forest management based on the principles of integrated resource management;
- (2) creating public support for, commitment to and involvement with forest management activities;
- (3) increasing support and recognition of government actions in the forest sector; and
- (4) demonstrating efforts in forest management.

Examples of the types of projects which will be considered for funding include printing posters and brochures; preparation of audio-visuals; interpretation areas; seminars; workshops, etc. The opportunities are limitless providing your project meets the objectives in paragraph 3 and fits the criteria outlined in the applications form.

Deadline for the current fiscal year ending March 31, 1988 is October 30, 1987 and deadline for next year is March 15, 1988. Applications forms may be obtained by writing:

Green Gold Grants,
Box 4115, Station A,
Victoria, B.C.,
V8X 3X4. ■

PROGRAM COMMITMENTS \$ 000's

Treatment	1987/88			1988/89			1989/90		
	Tot \$	CFS \$	Ha	Tot \$	CFS \$	Ha	Tot \$	CFS \$	Ha
Surveys	9342	651	41 900						
Seedlings	40	32	n/a	17	13	n/a	27	21	n/a
Site prep.	182	151	600	60	48	440			
Planting	32	26	100				188	150	480
Brushing	6	5	70	13	11	60	25	20	60
Conifer rel.	31	31	50				9	8	30
Juvenile sp.	523	389	930						
Fertilization Implementation	57	46	n/a	14	11	n/a	28	23	n/a
Total	1805	1331	43 650	104	83	500	277	222	570
CFS Budget		1971			2000			2000	
Free balance		640			1917			1778	

United States Intertribal Timber Council Indian Forest Management Symposium

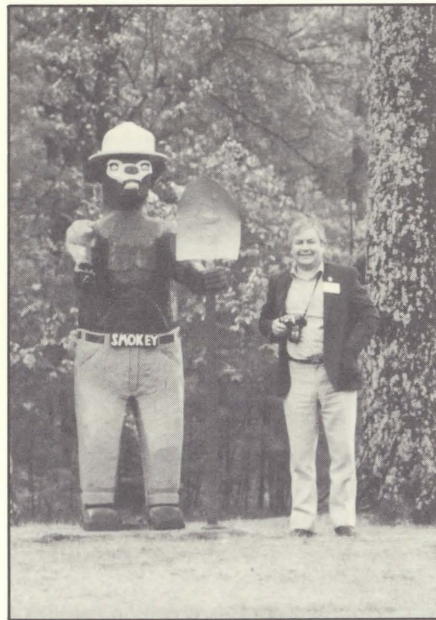
by Mark Atherton, RPF

The Eleventh Annual National Indian Timber Symposium held in Green Bay Wisconsin, May 15-21, 1987 drew a number of Canadian participants including the five native members of the Indian Advisory Board, foresters from the Canadian Forestry Service and Indian Affairs, as well as personnel from Tanizul Timber Ltd., the Carrier-Sekani Tribal Council and the Cowichan Band.

The theme of the meeting was "Indian Forest Management — It's Not Just Trees" and featured three and a half days of speakers and workshops, a simulation game, and a field trip to a tribal forestry operation. The Canadian delegation was encouraged to participate in all facets of the symposium and added an international flavour to the meeting. They found the meeting to be quite impressive exceeding all their expectations.

Many interesting and informative presentations were made by U.S. and Indian government leaders and by assorted consultants, lawyers, lobbyists, foresters and other specialists. Frank Jozwiak, Attorney for the Makah Tribe of Neah Bay, Washington spoke on trust responsibility and Indian forests while Dr. Frank Ryan, Deputy to the Assistant Secretary for Indian Affairs of the Department of the Interior, spoke on Economic Development and the Indian Forest. A particularly lively discussion on U.S. government policy followed Dr. Ryan's presentation.

Doug McClelland, Fiscal Services Branch Manager for the Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs, Oregon, led a panel presentation on native American natural resources marketing, trade and business development activities. The panel presentation included the results



Wes Modeste of the Cowichan Indian Band and his friend "Smokey" at the Menominee Forestry Center

of the Intertribal Timber Council forest product marketing and business development study and a summary of other native American trade and business development activities.

Workshop presentations focused on the technical side of forestry. Marshall Pecore, forester for the Menominee Tribe of Wisconsin, led a workshop on the challenges of Lake States forestry. The workshop addressed inventory and management planning, habitat classification and even-aged and uneven-aged silviculture. The themes of other workshops included forest protection, multiple use and economic threats to the forest.

A simulation game, "Still Lost In

The Woods", was specifically developed for the symposium to provide insight into Indian timber management decision-making processes used by tribal and U.S. government personnel. The game centered on a mythical property called the Standing Tree Reservation. The objective of the game was "How to secure the maximum benefit from the Standing Tree timber stand".

To play the game the room was divided into two sides and all participants were assigned a role to play. On one side was the tribe which included a tribal council, tribal staff (business manager, lawyer, planner and foresters), a council of elders, tribal families, an allottees association and non Indian land owners. On the other side was the U.S. Congress, Department of the Interior, Indian Affairs area and agency offices, logging companies, consultants, and special interest groups. The master of ceremonies made sure that each side had a good mix of Indians and non Indians to ensure a proper amount of role reversal.

The game was designed to keep up an intense pressure on the decision makers (Indian Affairs and the tribal council) to make timely social economic decisions that were in the best interest of the tribe. When all the dust settled the consensus was that neither Indian Affairs nor the tribal council had made the best decision possible. However, everybody agreed that they had gained considerable insight into the problems of decision making through the role reversal process and, after all, that was the real objective of the game.

A tour of the Menominee Tribal and Forestry operations was another highlight of the program. The Menominee reservation covers 950 square kilome-



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Canada-British Columbia Forest Resource Development Agreement

Indian Affairs Hires a New Forester

Shannon Stone has joined Indian Affairs as the District Forester for the Prince George District effective May 4, 1987. Ms. Stone goes to Indian Affairs from the Canadian Forestry Service (CFS) Prince George Office and replaces Jennifer Parkinson who left Indian Affairs to take up a post with the CFS. It may sound like a straight trade but both individuals received a promotion in the process.

Ms. Stone received her degree from Lakehead University in 1982 and gained considerable forest management experience in Ontario working for the Ministry of Natural Resources before deciding to seek her fortune in British Columbia. We all wish her success with Indian Affairs. Indian bands seeking advice in the Prince George and Williams Lake Districts should contact her at 561-5148 for

assistance.

Other resignations by Indian Affairs foresters have created vacancies within the organization that remain unfilled. Grant Scott has resigned as the Regional Forester while Karl Maier has resigned as the forester for the Central District. Both individuals are pursuing careers in forest consulting. ■

Timber council continued from page 3

ters of Northern Wisconsin. Approximately 94% of the property is intensively managed forest land.

The tribe employs a forest manager, five foresters and a number of forest technicians. In addition, the Bureau of Indian Affairs and the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources each employ two foresters that are dedicated to managing the Menominee Reservation. All of the foresters work in cooperation with one

another.

The Menominee forest is a healthy, productive and complex forest made up of 4 distinct timber types — each one managed differently. The type of harvest system to be used, the types of trees to be cut and the number of trees to be left after cutting are all detailed in the forest management plan. Each part of the forest is harvested once every 15 years and a continuous salvage cutting program is also being carried out to remove and process dead and dying trees while they are still usable.

Significant harvesting has taken place on the reservation since 1865 and the property has been under proper forest management since 1909. The volume cut in 1986 was over 200,000 cubic metres.

Their first sawmill was built in 1908 and today the Menominee Tribal Enterprises (MTE), owned by the members of the Menominee Indian Tribe, produce and market fine quality hardwood and softwood lumber and other forest products.

The Menominee people are proud of the manner in which MTE has grown. Because MTE uses good forest management practices, the Menominee people are assured the continuation of

a complex mix of Great Lakes timber species for future generations.

The Canadian delegation returned home to British Columbia wearier but wiser in the ways of our American cousins and picked up many useful ideas. Many of these will likely be incorporated in the charter of the B.C. Intertribal Forestry Council currently being formed. If our B.C. forestry council becomes as successful as the American one forest management on Indian land will take on a whole new character. One that we will all look forward too!

“The Menominee forest is a healthy, productive and complex forest made up of 4 distinct timber types — each one managed differently.”

TREE TALK

Indian Forest Lands Program

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