



Also Serving – Interior Logging Association (ph 250-503-2199) & North West Loggers Association (ph 250-635-6801)

Issue # 566 Week of June 18, 2010

All seasonal road restrictions throughout the Fort George highway district were lifted this week.

Replaceable contract for sale

Blackwater Timber, a logging company based in Quesnel, has decided to sell its replaceable contract with Canfor Quesnel. The specified replaceable volume is 226,000 cubic metres per year.

Contractors who are interested in exploring this purchase opportunity should contact Blackwater Timber Ltd. at 250-992-9381

Kenworth leaves Northwest

Inland Kenworth Parker Pacific has closed its branches in Terrace and Houston, citing prolonged challenging economic conditions as its reason.

Company president Bill Currie said the company is consolidating operations, primarily back to Prince George, due to a general decline in business for the past several years.

The company will keep one resident field service technician in Terrace and one in Houston. Parts and services will be handled through its branch in Prince George.

China market changing?

The New Brunswick forestry industry was told this week it may be able to use the quality of its lumber to break into the Chinese market, now dominated by B.C. lumber producers.

Ivy Wang, a trade consultant, said there is a perception in China that Canada sells its higher-grade wood to the U.S., leaving its low-grade lumber for China.

"There are people who are looking for quality products. But because the West Coast is really promoting the grade-three wood, the market in China has been swamped by all this low-grade, Canadian lumber, even people who are looking for grade one or two cannot find it. And that's where our advantage is," Wang said.



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Tolko plans biofuel plant at High Level

Tolko has partnered with Ensyn, an Ottawa bio-fuel company to build a \$70-million bio-fuel plant at Tolko's sawmill at High Level, Alta. Operating by 2012, the plant will consume 400 tonnes of biomass a day and produce fuel to run generators and produce electricity for the sawmill and the community. Currently, that biomass is burned as waste. Ensyn is a leader in bio-fuel technology, having developed a process that can very quickly turn any type of biomass material like wood chips into black oil. A company spokesman says that with some additional processing, it can be turned into diesel fuel or gasoline.

Tolko's High level sawmill will be the eighth commercial facility and the world's largest using Ensyn's technology.



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Resource consultation pact signed

The Province and Tsilhqot'in First Nation near Alexis Creek have agreed to streamline consultation on natural resource decisions, provide increased certainty for investors and build on government's New Relationship with B.C. Aboriginal communities. The framework agreement, which covers about 9.7 million hectares west of Williams Lake, and represents nearly 96% of the Tsilhqot'in traditional territory, formalizes a single window for referrals on natural resource applications within the traditional territories. Feedback on the referrals will be collected, consolidated and provided to resource ministries. Government will provide \$1.26 million over three years to hire and train staff and establish an on-line referral submission portal.

Last year, the six Tsilhqot'in Nation communities signed a five-year Forest and Range Opportunities agreement with the Province that provides them with \$7.7 million in shared revenue and access to 844,000 cubic metres of timber. Participating communities are: Alexis Creek Indian Band, Tl'etinqox-t'in Government Office, Stone Indian Band, Xenigwet'in First Nations Government, Toosey Band and Esdilagh First Nations.

Species-at-risk task force to start work

The province has set up a 10-member species-at-risk task force to recommend to cabinet whether legislation needs to be changed to protect endangered animals and eco-systems.

Bruce Fraser, former chairman of the Forest Practices Board heads up the task force, which includes scientists, academics and representatives from environmental groups and First Nations.

The task force's duties will include considering how conservation targets can be met in light of climate change and development demands, and how to protect species and ecosystems at risk on private land while respecting taxpayers' interests.

It is to report to cabinet at the end of the year, and there is no word yet on whether its report will be made public, although a government statement says cabinet intends to make the recommendations public in some form.

There is also no information yet on whether different industry sectors and/or the public will have opportunities to have input before the recommendations are made.
