

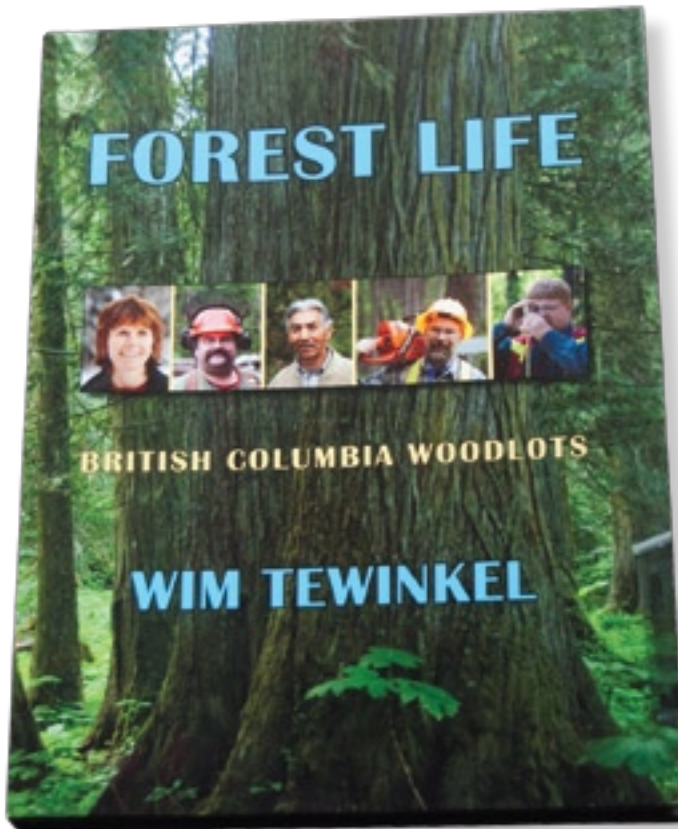
## Forest Life: British Columbia Woodlots

Wim Tewinkel

Federation of BC Woodlot Association, 2009

200pp, illustr.

ISBN 9780981265704



**PART OF THE FOREWORD SAYS IT ALL:** “THROUGH PHOTOGRAPHS AND A few words, this book attempts to capture the seasonal beauty of coastal and interior woodlots as well as the spirit and culture of woodlotter and their families.”

The author has succeeded very well in this attempt: abundant, splendid illustrations depict the scope and variety of BC’s forests. Scenes of woodlot activity show the wide range of practices required to realise all the many management opportunities in a woodlot and thumbnail sketches tell something of the self-reliant operators who dedicate their lives to thoughtful, sustainable management of their forest holdings.

I was surprised not to find mention of two notables in the gallery of woodlot owners—Merv Wilkinson and Tom Wright—and wonder at their omission. My only other criticism is the caption above a picture of burned trees which will mislead an uncritical reader. It says, “A forest destroyed by fire.”

When only a stand of trees has been ‘destroyed,’ the forest remains in being.

This is a handsome and valuable addition to BC’s forest literature. 🍌

**RANKING: 4.5 OUT OF 5 CONES**



Reviewed by

Roy Strang, RPF, (Ret)

**FUEL MANAGEMENT** Continued from Page 14

*fire management? Are there any shortcomings in the current legislation?*

From the perspective of wildfire management branch the *Wildfire Act* and Regulation has been a great advancement in standardizing all aspects of wildfire management. Many of the challenges associated with wildfire management do not arise out of issues with the legislation. They arise out of a lack of understanding of the requirement for proactive wildfire prevention on the part of communities, commercial operations (especially non-forestry operations) and the public in general.

*Overall has the provincial government’s response to the wildfire and forest fire management issue been appropriate given the issues that have been identified?*

Yes. It has taken decades to create the fuel management challenges we now face. This challenge will not be solved quickly. It will take cooperation, planning and funding to keep up and enhance the momentum. These challenges will not be resolved by one party alone but through the concerted efforts and participation of homeowners, all levels of government, industry, and First Nations.

While there has been progress in reducing wildfire risks in interface areas many opportunities still exist. The provincial fuels management

working group is taking proactive steps at addressing wildfire risks:

- The MFR Fuel Management Program has been accelerated
- The Union of British Columbia Municipalities has been coordinating funding and communications for CWPPs with its members
- The First Nations Emergency Services Society and forest fuels management working group of the First Nations Forestry Council have been very active in working directly with First Nations communities to address wildfire risks.

One area of opportunity for the ABCFP and its members is to provide leadership for the development and implementation of CWPPs. Our members are well-placed to contribute, as private land owners, volunteers or representing the provincial government, the MFR, forest and other tenure holders, municipalities or Aboriginal communities. 🍌

*Jackie Hipwell, RFT is resource associate for professional practice and forest stewardship with the ABCFP. Her forestry background includes a diploma from the Northern Alberta Institute of Technology and varied forestry employment with government, consultants and industry.*

This article was prepared in consultation with staff from the Ministry of Forests and Range wildfire management branch, who also provided the photos.