



2005 Annual Report

New Developments

Loon Lake Research & Education Centre

2005 saw the opening of our first major new building at Loon Lake. In June, UBC President Martha Piper and Trevor Linden attended the grand opening of the “Loon Lake Student Center” along with over 60 guests and friends of the Forest. This facility includes the former “Yacht Club”, a new 24 bed dormitory and computer lab as well as the Cadillac Fairview Trevor Linden Gymnasium. With the support of Ronald MacDonald House Charities and the Canadian Cancer Society, a new dock was completed in front of the Student Center. An emergency generator was installed with generous support from Gallant Enterprises of Maple Ridge.

In addition, work began in August on the \$2.5 million Loon Lake Lodge. This spectacular new building will be the centerpiece of Loon Lake’s revitalization and will provide a modern conference facility capable of hosting 40 guests in all seasons.

Loon Lake hosted its second Camp Goodtimes in conjunction with the Canadian Cancer Society and recorded a record breaking 14900 overnight stays in 2005.

MKRF Sawmill Expansion

In late 2004, work began on a major expansion of our sawmill. In partnership with Gallant Enterprises of Maple Ridge, the mill opened in February 2004 and began cutting specialty beams and components for timber frame buildings which are rapidly gaining popularity around the world. Capable of producing planed timbers up to 30” wide and 64 feet long, the mill specializes in cutting specialty and value added materials. The mill consumed approximately 10% of MKRF log production in 2005 and supplied all timbers and finishing material for the Loon Lake Student Center, new dock and the Loon Lake Lodge. Total 2005 lumber production was over 500,000 board feet.



UBC Forestry Dean Jack Saddler, UBC President Martha Piper, Trevor Linden, CCS outgoing Chair Mike Mahony, Tom Knoepfel of Cadillac Fairview, and CCS incoming Chair John Jacobson at the opening and dedication of the Loon Lake Student Center – June 6, 2005

Operations

2005 harvesting at MKRF is summarised below:

Silviculture system	Area (ha)	Volume harvested (m ³)
Clear-cut	28.3	13,465
Shelterwood	-	-
Group Selection	-	-
Patch cut	7.3	5,562
Salvage	-	-
Commercial thinning	20.6	5,316
Roads/utilities	1.3	687
Total	57.5	25,030

Despite extremely difficult market conditions that persisted throughout 2005, the MKRF harvesting program continued to supply the major proportion of operating revenues that support the forest. Our commercial thinning program continued at a reduced size due to market conditions.

Harvest methods employed in 2004 included ground based and multispan skyline.

A total of three research cutblocks were harvested in 2005. Two cutblocks were partial cut replicates of the riparian management experiments and one cutblock was the site of Phase II of the High Density Silviculture Trial.

New road construction in 2005 totalled 640 meters. In addition, 1050 meters of existing road was reactivated or upgraded.

In late 2005, construction began on a new log home construction training facility adjacent to the MKRF sawmill. That facility will be the site of education and research into log and timber frame construction. It will be operated jointly by UBC

and Artisan Log Construction of Mission, B.C. New structures both for Loon Lake and elsewhere on the Forest will be built by students while training at this facility.

Silviculture

Once again in 2005, our silviculture program focussed on basic silviculture. Four native conifer species and two deciduous species were planted. A summary of silviculture program achievements is as follows:

Silviculture activity	Hectares	Trees
Planting	26.6	53,790
Brushing	-	-
Juvenile spacing	-	-
Surveys	140.9	-
Total	167.5	53,790

For more information, please contact Cheryl Power.

Education and Extension

2005 was another busy year for education on the Forest. Twenty-four UBC students attended the annual Spring Field School at Loon Lake in April. Conservation Field School was also held at the forest in October.

High school programs and recruitment activities continued in 2005. In total, over 250 K-12 students participated in forestry and conservation curriculum and recruitment activities at MKRF during the year.

In conjunction with FORREX, a field tour on stand management and wood quality was held at MKRF in April. With funding support from the BC Forest Science Program, a number of signs, extension projects and trails were updated on the forest in 2005.

Funding was obtained for two major extension initiatives in 2005. A web-based GIS mapping utility was brought on-line which enables researchers and other users to create maps of field sites and view research project locations interactively. Work began on an image database which will include our entire library of images from 55 years of projects.



Top: 24"x24" beam being cut at the MKRF sawmill

Bottom: Grand opening of the mill held on February 15, 2005

Research

Seventeen new research projects were initiated in 2004, bringing the total number of active projects to 123. In total, 838 projects have been initiated since the forest was dedicated in 1949.

Highlights of the program were:

- Expansion of the riparian buffer study to a replicate of partial cutting in three watersheds
- Installation of Phase II of a high density multi-species stand management trial
- A lumber recovery study of Hybrid Poplar was carried out at the MKRF sawmill.

With a grant from the BC Forest Sciences Program, long term research installation funding was used to maintain and improve access and signage for several major projects on the Forest such as the Spacing, Provenance, and Rectangularity Trials.

For more information, please contact Ionut Aron.

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