Consider joining and getting involved in the organization! The cost to join is minimal - $10/individual, $20/family – and the society does essential work that benefits the entire community.

The importance/value of water continues to grow as an issue of global concern – getting involved at the local level is important, rewarding and relevant. Call the office at (250) 229-2271 to join or volunteer skill sets.

UBC Masters of Sustainable Forest Management students in the community forest in August.

Forest Operations

Road building in Narrows Creek was completed by Dosenberger Excavating in early May. The road was built to a high standard, as prescribed and certified by Chris Perdue, our geotechnical engineer. A tour of the Narrows Creek Road was held in June, with over 20 local water users attending.

(continued on next page)
HPCC has decided to delay logging in CP148 Block 3 (as had been described in the spring 2015 newsletter) until the road has had another year to settle and green up.

Logging plans were delayed until late summer and were moved further upslope to Block 6. Logging Block 6 began in late August and was completed in October. Block 6 is a 5-hectare block at the end of the Narrows Creek Road. It was harvested as a seed tree cut with scattered dispersed and group retention. This part of Narrows Creek is very dense with a thick cedar and hemlock understory, and no herb or shrub layer. The objective in Block 6 is to regenerate more drought tolerant and fire resistant tree species such as Douglas-fir and larch, and encourage the development of a deciduous herb and shrub layer. This will diversify the ecology of the area and begin to lower the very high fire hazard in the valley.

Gord Hale is currently logging in CP150 Block 1. Block 1 is a 20-hectare block located on dry, moderately sloping terrain at 4 km on the Narrows Creek Road. It will have mixed retention levels, including areas where a viable cedar understory will be retained along with scattered overstory and veteran trees. Also, a more diverse herb and shrub layer will be encouraged.

Approximately 75% of the Narrows Creek watershed was protected in HPCC’s 2012 management plan. Protected areas include all riparian and headwaters areas, unstable slopes, and caribou habitat. HPCC’s current plans in Narrows Creek involve less than 6% of the watershed.

Google Earth image showing location of Block 6 at the end of the Narrows Creek road. Note the uniformly dense coniferous forest throughout. Other blocks will also be developed in this area.

Public Consultation Efforts to Date: Narrows Creek

Public consultation regarding the building of the Narrows Creek logging road and planned logging operations has been ongoing since 2013 and has been a part of operational planning within the cooperative since the late 1990’s.

The Narrows Creek drainage was the natural choice for forestry operations once logging was completed in the Harrop/Mill Creek drainage. Two kilometres of old logging road already existed and the forest is extremely dense with 100 year-old fire origin stands. Less than 6% of the drainage will be impacted by operations; daily extraction equals two to three logging trucks for a finite period of time. Once initial layout and plans were completed in Narrows Creek, public consultation and the opportunity for input into planning began.

2013
- Letter to Narrows Creek water users detailing plans and inviting feedback (April)
- Spring newsletter
- Public meeting specific to Narrows creek plans; feedback encouraged (May)
- Input encouraged via website
- Individual meetings with Narrows water users

2014
- Spring newsletter
- Phone calls to all Narrows water users re: public meeting
- Public meeting re: Narrows creek; feedback encouraged (May)
- Tour of road location with builder and forester
- Fall newsletter

2015
- Spring newsletter
- Public meeting re: Narrows Creek; feedback encouraged (May)
- Phone calls to all Narrows water users re: June road tour
- Tour of road with geo-technician and 20 local water users
- Tour of road with individual water users
- Consultation period for input to water contingency plan extended for all Narrows water users
The milling division of the Harrop – Procter Community Cooperative (HPCC) continues to grow. Sales and revenue are up considerably for the third straight year – a testament to the quality of the products milled and the service provided to customers.

As of mid-November, HPFP revenue totalled $589,000. Over the same period last year the total was $425,000, a significant increase. Expenses to date are significantly lower than revenue. Full year financials will be available shortly after the December 31 financial year-end.

The increased productivity enabled HPFP to employ two additional workers full time – sawyer Darryl Fincham and yard worker Floris Disselhoff. As the operation grows, the need for a proper office is apparent, and overdue. At its October meeting, the HPCC Board of Directors approved the construction of a small office facility with a budget not to exceed $11,000. The office will be built on skids so it can be moved if needed. To that end, discussions have begun regarding the present arrangement currently in place with Mill Creek Enterprises. Various options, including purchase of the land the mill is on, are being explored.

Mill manager Rami Rothkop recently completed a report to the Southern Interior Beetle Action Coalition (SIBAC) that details the expenditure of a grant provided to HPCC by the organization to further explore the greater utilization of hemlock, as well as conduct market research into expanding our Douglas fir timber markets. The report is available by request if you wish to read it.

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<tr>
<th>Harrop-Procter Forest Products</th>
<th>Donations (2015 year to date)</th>
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<td>Avalanche Awareness Society</td>
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<td>Harrop &amp; District Community Centre Society</td>
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<td>Harrop Harvest Festival</td>
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<td>Nelson Food Cupboard</td>
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<td>Procter Community Society</td>
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<td>Waldorf School</td>
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<td>West Arm Outdoors Club</td>
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<td><strong>Total Donated</strong></td>
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*Additional small donations under $100 to other area and Nelson organizations – LV Rogers School, Balfour Community Garden are a couple of them – brings the donation value for 2015 to just under $6000.

To request a donation, not-for-profit groups simply need to provide details of the project and community benefits on their letterhead and submit it to: office@hpcommunityforest.org

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**Lumber Sale (while supplies last)**

By the lift only! (lift = 700 - 1100 board feet) Band saw finish Douglas Fir

1" lumber – .35/board foot

2" lumber - .50/board foot

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**FSC**
In the Community

Project Profile – Pavilion at the Harrop Hall

The idea for this project came from Dave Johnson, who felt that an outdoor structure such as a confectionary stand would increase use of the Harrop Hall grounds.

While its final shape is significantly different from the original structure envisioned by the long-term HPCC and HDCC board member, there is no denying the ‘pavilion’ - for lack of a better term – has done what was imagined. Donations of Harrop-Procter Forest Products wood over several years were integral to building a solid structure that serves the community, and enhances the grounds.

After some ongoing design debates within the Harrop & District Community Centre (HDCC) executive, work started in the summer of 2013. HPFP donated half the cost of the timbers, flooring, decking and rafters - over $2500 worth of wood products.

Over the course of a week, Walter Harms, Dale Williams, Bill Macpherson, Dave Johnson and Christian – a young German ‘woober’ working at Dave’s – put up the structure and laid the floor. Local contractor (and HPCC President) Terry Huva donated his time and talent in producing drawings and plans for the structure and permit approval. Another local contractor, Don Faust, donated his time and equipment in digging the foundation and preparing the site for the build.

The next year saw another donation of wood ($1500) for railings, the back wall and steps, built by Dale Williams, Tom Ferrier and Dave Johnson. The project was completed in the spring of 2015, with wheelchair accessibility added to the east side of the structure. Tom Ferrier built the ramp and again HPFP donated the necessary lumber. Local electrician Kevin Shepherd then wired the entire structure with 200 amp service, ensuring plenty of power for outdoor events.

The pavilion has already served many functions: a serving/dining area for the annual Harvest Festival, a dance floor/bar=head table area for numerous weddings, a stage for theatre productions and as an outdoor yoga facility. Thanks to donations from HPFP, the sturdy structure will host many more memorable functions over the coming decades.

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