



AGROFORESTRY PROJECTS

Agroforestry is the planned integration of agriculture and forestry practices on the same plot of land. It includes the combination of agriculture, silviculture and conservation practices to produce systems such as alley cropping, integrated riparian management, shelterbelts/timberbelts, silvopasture, and forest farming. Agroforestry has the potential to diversify the products that we grow on the land and help stabilize the local economy. While agroforestry has been widely practiced in the southern hemisphere for hundreds of years, it is still not common in temperate areas including North America.

What we did

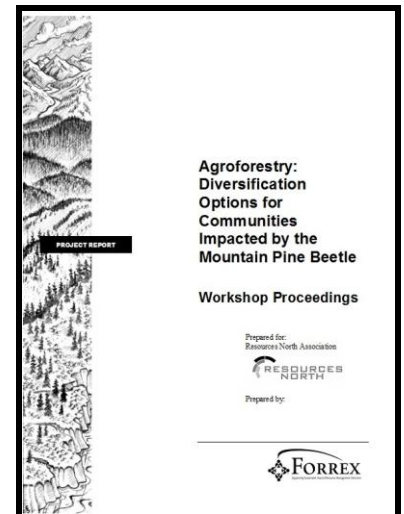
In December 2009, Resources North Association (RNA) and its partners held a two day workshop titled: *Agroforestry: Diversification Options for Communities Impacted by the Mountain Pine Beetle*. Funded by Western Economic Diversification, the workshop aimed to increase awareness of agroforestry, its business potential, feasibility and desirability. Several items were identified to help implement agroforestry in Northern BC including more northern examples, an understanding of what crops grow best in certain locations, and agroforestry education to teach land managers how to implement it.

A community of practice for northern BC

With funding from the Natural Resources Canada, Forest Communities Program, the Agroforestry Industry Development Initiative and the Omineca Beetle Action Coalition, RNA will be the catalyst for establishing an agroforestry community of practice in northern BC that includes forestry and agriculture practitioners, business expertise, government and academic representatives. In the short term, this group will help to implement the objectives of the project which is to implement education and learning events to people in Northern BC. In the long-term, it is intended that the community of practice leads and supports further development and implementation of agroforestry in the region.

Planned activities 2012-2013

- **March 2012, Introductory Workshop** to launch the project, introduce the community of practice concept and identify people who are practicing or interested in practicing agroforestry.
- **September 2012 and September 2013, Learning and Networking Activities**, including field tours, short courses and speakers to provide instruction to those interested in learning about and implementing agroforestry.
- **Identify and Plan for Demonstration Sites** that can provide hands-on learning opportunities.



For more information on this and our other projects, contact us:

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