



- Japan Fir Export
- Domestic Fir
- - - Hemlock Export
- Alder 12\" Sawlog

Most log prices have dropped fast in the last few weeks due to low lumber demand and low lumber prices, plus too much log inventory in the yards. Hopefully, we have hit the bottom of the drop.

Several large lumber producers have cut back or are taking down time to slow lumber production and reduce inventory. Some local mills have a need for logs, but others are putting quotas on log deliveries or stopping deliveries all together. Export prices still have a good spread above domestic logs and are still in demand.

Overall, log prices are about where they were in 2020 and 2021. We just enjoyed record level pricing in 2022 and its hard to go back, just when we thought these high prices were the new normal.

On the plus side, lumber prices are starting to recover from the recent low, perhaps due to sawmills cutting back on lumber production. The demand for housing in the US is still high as supply is still tight. Mortgage rates are trending down this month. The Canadians are shipping much less lumber to the US. With all these factors, we think that log prices will recover as soon as mill inventory of logs and lumber reaches a better balance.

To all small landowners with less than 5000 acres! The DNR through the Washington State Forest Action Plan is promoting cost share programs for forest landowners on the west side of the state now. This includes cost share funding for forest health, tree planting, fire hazard reduction, thinning and brush control on private forestlands. If you or someone you know would like to more information on managing forestlands, have them contact the local DNR Service forester Mackenna Milosevich at 360-688-6300 or mcackenna.milosevich@dnr.wa.gov.

It does not cover expenses for planting on lands that were recently logged. That expense is part of the logging requirement.