



The bad news.....All log prices dropped again in March with the exception of export quality hemlock, and cedar which stayed about the same. Heavy snow in the mountains did not seem to affect prices even though log deliveries have slowed considerably. Not a lot of logs are needed right now and that is all there is to it. Lumber futures remain stubbornly low compared to last year. Pulp logs are difficult to impossible to sell right now. Alder logs are not in demand and some mills are not even offering purchase orders.

The good news.....mill log inventories are dropping now with fewer log deliveries, very few non-industrial harvest permits are being processed in SW Washington, meaning landowners are not planning on logging much in the near future, Canadian mills are shutting down or taking down time which will limit lumber imports from Canada. All this points to a possible log supply shortage if we have a demand for lumber when the building season starts this spring. An uptick in log prices is expected, some say sooner this spring, some say third quarter. Bottom line...if you can leave your trees on the stump for now, do so.