



**ELK CREEK**  
FOREST PRODUCTS

**Quality, Integrity,  
Commitment to Service.**

Specializing in premium Douglas-fir timbers and lumber. We supply the best.



## **ECFP KD TIMBERS**

### THE ART OF DRYING DOUGLAS-FIR TIMBERS

Over the course of the last 10-15 years, many attempts have made to develop the proper techniques in kiln drying timbers, many with mixed results. Elk Creek Forest Products has endeavored in this pursuit and with the benefit of time and overall scale of business, is able to KD timbers to meet the market needs.

By considering factors such as the dimension, age and density of fiber, and origin of the stock, Elk Creek matches the raw material with kiln facilities best suited to dry that particular fiber. Additionally, multiple kiln schedules have been developed to the degree of dryness of the finished product. Elk Creek further employs a Quality Control team that closely monitors each kiln charge to further ensure the finish product meets the quality standards our customers require.



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## WHY KD FOHC TIMBERS?

FREE-OF-HEART-CENTER (FOHC) Timbers are cut away from the center “pith” of the log. As timbers acclimate either naturally or via kiln drying, they are going to check to some degree. The further away from the heart the timber is sawn, typically, the less severe the checking is going to be.

Timbers that are KILN DRIED accelerate the acclimation process allowing much of the moisture to escape. Kiln drying also sets the pitch, and helps stabilize the fiber to help limit twist, cup, and bow. Through years of kiln drying experience, Elk Creek analyzes the origin, age, grade, and grain of the fiber, and then utilize our custom conditioning and kiln drying schedules to ensure the best possible outcome and performance.



**BOXED HEART**



**FREE OF HEART**



## HISTORY OF KD FOHC TIMBERS

In the late 1990's a handful of individuals recognized a growing need and demand for exposed Douglas Fir Timbers with the idea that setting the pitch, and ideally, controlling the check, split, twist & bow that can occur during the natural acclimation of Green fiber.

These early pioneer/innovators set out trying dry timbers in any kind of combination of sizes, quantity, kiln schedule, or type of kiln. The mixed results yielded a variety of proprietary “dry” timbers marketed under several trade names, with limited sustainable success. However, the demand for a better performing dry timber continued to grow.

Over the past 10 years, and even more accurately, the last 5 years, the art of kiln timbers has evolved into a more of a science instead of just an experiment. Because of Elk Creek's scale, we are able provide a more consistent and stable product. We can customize our drying procedures during the conditioning process to tailor the finish product to meet the end-use.

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