	Case 2:23-cv-00496-JCC Do	ocument 1	Filed 03/31/23	Page 1 of 6	
1					
1 2					
2 3					
5 4					
, 5					
6					
7	UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT				
8	WESTERN DISTRICT	OF WASHIN	NGTON AT SEA	ΓTLE	
9	AGWEST FARM CREDIT, PCA				
10	Plaintiff,	NO.			
11	V.				
12	YAK-TAT KWAAN INCORPORATED, a Alaska Native Village Corporation,	an COM	IPLAINT ON G	UARANTY	
13	Defendant.				
14					
15					
16	COMES NOW AgWest Farm Credit Services, PCA, formerly known as Northwest Farm				
17	Credit Services, PCA, and for its claims for relief against Defendant Yak-Tat Kwaan Incorporated,				
18	alleges as follows:				
19	I. <u>PARTIES, JURISDICTION AND VENUE</u>				
20	1. Plaintiff AgWest Farm Credit Services, PCA, formerly known as Northwest Farm Credit Services (hereinafter the "Farm Credit" or "Plaintiff") is a corporation organized,				
21	presently existing and doing business as an instrumentality of the United States of America under				
22	the Farm Credit Act of 1971, as amended. Farm Credit services agricultural, timber and				
23 24	commercial fishing loans and borrowers across multiple states and is headquartered in Spokane,				
24 25	Washington.				
25 26					
20					

{04736804.DOCX;5 }

COMPLAINT - 1

2. Defendant Yak-Tat Kwaan Incorporated (hereinafter referred to as "YTK" or "Defendant") is and was at all times material hereto an Alaska Native Village Corporation, with its principal place of business in Yakutat, Alaska. YTK is the parent company of Yak Timber, Inc. (hereinafter, "Yak Timber"), an Alaska Corporation that is not a party to this action.

3. Upon information and belief, YTK regularly conducts business and has assets in Washington and specifically the ports of Seattle. Jurisdiction and venue are proper pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1332(a)(1) and § 1391(b)(3).

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

II. FACTUAL BACKGROUND

9 4. On or about June 23, 2020, YTK's subsidiary Yak Timber executed a Term Loan 10 Agreement (Note No. 6250652), together with all schedules and exhibits thereto, in each case, as 11 amended, restated or otherwise modified or supplemented from time to time (hereinafter the 12 "Term Loan Agreement"), under which Farm Credit extended a commercial loan to Yak Timber 13 in the stated principal amount of \$5,700,000 (the "Term Loan"). See Exhibit A attached hereto. 14 5. On or about January 10, 2022, Yak Timber executed an Operating Loan Agreement 15 (Note No. 6251648), together with all schedules and exhibits thereto, in each case, as amended, 16 restated or otherwise modified or supplemented from time to time (hereinafter, the "Operating 17 Loan Agreement"), under which Farm Credit extended a commercial revolving loan to Yak 18 Timber up to the amount of \$4,000,000 (the "Operating Loan"). See Exhibit B attached hereto.

19 6. On or about March 25, 2021, Yak Timber executed an Equipment Loan Agreement 20(Note No. 6327311), together with all schedules and exhibits thereto, in each case, as amended, restated or otherwise modified or supplemented from time to time (hereinafter the "Equipment Loan Agreement"), under which Farm Credit extended a commercial loan to Yak Timber in the amount of \$600,000 (the "Equipment Loan"). See Exhibit C attached hereto.

- 24 7. On or about January 10, 2022, Yak Timber executed a Tug & Barge Loan 25 Agreement (Note No. 6377521), together with all schedules and exhibits thereto, in each case, as
- 26

21

22

23

COMPLAINT - 2

Case 2:23-cv-00496-JCC Document 1 Filed 03/31/23 Page 3 of 6

I amended, restated or otherwise modified or supplemented from time to time (hereinafter the "Tug
& Barge Loan Agreement"), under which Farm Credit extended a commercial loan to Yak
Timber in the amount of \$3,375,000 (the "Tug & Barge Loan"). See Exhibit D attached hereto.
8. On or about January 10, 2022, Yak Timber executed a Sawmill Building Loan
Agreement (Note No. 6385613), together with all schedules and exhibits thereto, in each case, as
amended, restated or otherwise modified or supplemented from time to time (hereinafter the
"Sawmill Building Loan Agreement"), under which Farm Credit extended a commercial loan to
Yak Timber in the amount of \$750,000 (the "Sawmill Building Loan"). See Exhibit E attached
hereto.

9. The Term Loan, Operating Loan, Equipment Loan, Tug & Barge Loan, and Sawmill Building Loan, are hereinafter collectively referred to as the "Yak Timber Loans."

10. In connection with the Yak Timber Loans, YTK executed a Guaranty Agreement dated June 23, 2020, as amended by the First Amendment dated March 25, 2021, the Second Amendment dated January 1, 2022, and the Third Amendment dated March 30, 2023, together with all schedules and exhibits thereto, in each case, as amended, restated or otherwise modified or supplemented from time to time (the "Guaranty Agreement"). *See* Exhibit F hereto.

11. Pursuant to the Guaranty Agreement, YTK irrevocably, unconditionally, and absolutely promised to pay, and guaranteed payment and performance when due, of the Yak Timber Loans. The Guaranty Agreement further provided that the failure of YTK to promptly pay Lender the guaranteed amounts, upon default of Yak Timber, and demand by Lender, constitutes an event of default under the Guaranty Agreement.

12. The Guaranty further contained certain financial covenants applicable to YTK, including the timely provision of financial statements and reports as further set forth therein.

A 13. On November 2, 2022 Farm Credit issued a Notice of Event of Default and
Comply with financial reporting covenants, payment defaults on all of the Yak Timber Loans, and

COMPLAINT - 3

CAIRNCROSS & HEMPELMANN, P.S. ATTORNEYS AT LAW 524 2nd Ave, Suite 500 Seattle, WA 98104 office 206 587 0700 fax: 206 587 2308

Case 2:23-cv-00496-JCC Document 1 Filed 03/31/23 Page 4 of 6

1 failure of the YTK to comply with the financial covenants in the Guaranty Agreement ("First 2 Notice of Default").

14. On January 31, 2023 Farm Credit issued a Second Notice of Event of Default and Reservation of Rights, wherein Yak Timber and YTK were notified of continued and additional failures to comply with financial and reporting covenants, continuing and existing payment defaults, failure to comply with other covenants, failure to comply with insurance requirements, and denial of a restructuring application related to all Yak Timber Loans and the Guaranty Agreement ("Second Notice of Default").

15. Yak Timber has made no payments under the Yak Timber Loans since mid-2022.

10 16. On March 9, 2023, Farm Credit issued a Final Demand, Notice of Acceleration, and Reservation of Rights to Yak Timber and YTK ("Final Demand"). See, Exhibit G hereto.

12 As set forth in the Final Demand, the balance owing under the Yak Timber Loans 17. as of March 21, 2023, was \$13,301,336.39, exclusive of continually accruing interest, default interest, prepayment fees, attorney fees, and other advances or costs paid by Farm Credit. By virtue of the Guaranty Agreement, YTK is indebted to Farm Credit for this amount.

18. The events of default stated in the First Notice of Default and Second Notice of Default continue and have not been cured or remedied. Neither YTK nor Yak Timber has made any payment in response to the Final Demand or otherwise.

III. **COUNT I: BREACH OF CONTRACT – GUARANTY AGREEMENT**

19. Plaintiff realleges and incorporates the foregoing paragraphs as though fully set forth herein.

20. The Guaranty Agreement is a valid, binding, and enforceable agreement under which the Defendant agreed to satisfy Yak Timber's obligations under the Yak Timber Loans.

21. In the Guaranty Agreement, the Defendant irrevocably and unconditionally guaranteed payment and performance of Yak Timber's obligations under the Yak Timber Loans.

22. Yak Timber is in default under the Yak Timber Loans.

COMPLAINT - 4

CAIRNCROSS & HEMPELMANN, P.S. ATTORNEYS AT LAW 524 2nd Ave, Suite 500 Seattle, WA 98104 office 206 587 0700 fax: 206 587 2308

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

11

13

23. Demand upon Defendant for payment of the Yak Timber Loans has been made.

24. Defendant has failed to the amounts due and owing under the Yak Timber Loans, and is therefore in default under the Guaranty Agreement.

25. Plaintiff has been damaged in an amount equivalent to that owed under the YakTimber Loans.

26. Accordingly, Plaintiff is entitled to a judgment against Defendant for breach of the Guaranty in the amount of \$13,301,336.39, plus continually accruing interest, default interest, prepayment fees, attorney fees, and other advances or costs paid by Farm Credit through to the date of judgment, the exact amount to be proven by affidavit or at trial, plus post-judgment interest at the applicable rate.

IV. PRAYER FOR RELIEF

WHEREFORE, having alleged the foregoing facts and stated its cause of action, Plaintiff respectfully prays for the following relief:

27. For judgment against Defendant for the amounts owed under the Yak Timber Loans, which as of March 21, 2023 was \$13,301,336.39, plus continually accruing interest, default interest, prepayment fees, attorney fees, and other advances or costs paid by Farm Credit through to the date of judgment, the exact amount to be proven by affidavit or at trial, plus post-judgment interest at the applicable rate.

28. For judgment against Defendant for Plaintiff's attorneys' fees, costs, and expensesincurred in enforcing the Yak Timber Loan Documents, as permitted under the GuarantyAgreement.

For such other and further relief as the Court deems just and proper.

24 25

26

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

COMPLAINT - 5

29.

CAIRNCROSS & HEMPELMANN, P.S. ATTORNEYS AT LAW 524 2nd Ave, Suite 500 Seattle, WA 98104 office 206 587 0700 fax: 206 587 2308

{04736804.DOCX;5 }

	Case 2:23-cv-00496-JCC Document 1 Filed 03/31/23 Page 6 of 6
1	DATED this 31st day of March, 2023.
2	CAIRNCROSS & HEMPELMANN, P.S.
3	
4	/s/ Binah B. Yeung
5	Binah B. Yeung, WSBA No. 44065 Email: <u>byeung@cairncross.com</u>
6	John R. Rizzardi, WSBA No. 9388 Email: <u>jrizzardi@cairncross.com</u>
7	524 Second Avenue, Suite 500 Seattle, WA 98104-2323
8	Telephone: (206) 587-0700
9	Facsimile: (206) 587-2308 Attorneys for AgWest Farm Credit, PCA
10	
11	
12	
13	
14	
15	
16	
17	
18	
19	
20	
21	
22	
23	
24	
25	
26	
	COMPLAINT - 6 CAIRNCROSS & HEMPELMANN, P.S. ATTORNEYS AT LAW 524 2nd Ave, Suite 500 Seattle, WA 98104 office 206 587 0700 fax: 206 587 2308

{04736804.DOCX;5 }