

POTLATCH CORP  
Form 4  
December 09, 2008

**FORM 4**

**UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION  
Washington, D.C. 20549**

OMB APPROVAL

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Check this box if no longer subject to Section 16. Form 4 or Form 5 obligations may continue. See Instruction 1(b).

**STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF SECURITIES**

Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, Section 17(a) of the Public Utility Holding Company Act of 1935 or Section 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person \*  
**RIORDAN MICHAEL T**

(Last) (First) (Middle)

601 W. FIRST AVENUE, SUITE 1600

(Street)

SPOKANE, WA 99201

(City) (State) (Zip)

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol  
**POTLATCH CORP [PCH]**

3. Date of Earliest Transaction  
(Month/Day/Year)  
**12/05/2008**

4. If Amendment, Date Original Filed(Month/Day/Year)

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer

(Check all applicable)

Director  10% Owner  
 Officer (give title below)  Other (specify below)

6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line)  
 Form filed by One Reporting Person  
 Form filed by More than One Reporting Person

**Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned**

1. Title of Security (Instr. 3)	2. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)	2A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year)	3. Transaction Code (Instr. 8)	4. Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5)	5. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4)	6. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	7. Nature of Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)
				(A) or (D)	Amount		
				Code	V		
					Price		

Reminder: Report on a separate line for each class of securities beneficially owned directly or indirectly.

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SEC 1474 (9-02)

**Table II - Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned (e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities)**

1. Title of Derivative Security	2. Conversion or Exercise	3. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)	3A. Deemed Execution Date, if any	4. Transaction Code	5. Number of Derivative Securities	6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year)	7. Title and Amount of Underlying Securities (Instr. 3 and 4)

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(Instr. 3)	Price of Derivative Security	(Month/Day/Year)	(Instr. 8)	Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4, and 5)	Code	V	(A)	(D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount or Number of Shares
Phantom Stock Units <sup>(1)</sup>	\$ 25.85	12/05/2008	A	2,514.507					<u>(2)</u>	<u>(2)</u>	Common Stock	2,514.507 <sup>(3)</sup>

## Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships			
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other
RIORDAN MICHAEL T 601 W. FIRST AVENUE, SUITE 1600 SPOKANE, WA 99201	X			

## Signatures

/s/ Michael S. Gadd, Attorney-in-Fact	12/09/2008
<small>__Signature of Reporting Person</small>	<small>Date</small>

## Explanation of Responses:

- \* If the form is filed by more than one reporting person, *see* Instruction 4(b)(v).
  - \*\* Intentional misstatements or omissions of facts constitute Federal Criminal Violations. *See* 18 U.S.C. 1001 and 15 U.S.C. 78ff(a).
- Phantom stock units are credited to the reporting person's account on the transaction date in accordance with the provisions of the
- (1) Potlatch Corporation Deferred Compensation Plan for Directors II and will be converted to cash and paid on a 1-for-1 basis with the issuer's common stock.
  - (2) Phantom stock units will be converted to cash and paid upon the reporting person's termination from service with Potlatch in accordance with the provisions of the Potlatch Corporation Deferred Compensation Plan for Directors II.
  - (3) Phantom stock unit beneficial ownership represents phantom stock allocated to the reporting person's Deferred Compensation Account since the reporting person's last report. These phantom stock allocations represent an annual award grant.
  - (4) Includes phantom stock allocated to the reporting person's Deferred Compensation Account since the reporting person's last report that represents quarterly dividends.

Note: File three copies of this Form, one of which must be manually signed. If space is insufficient, *see* Instruction 6 for procedure. Potential persons who are to respond to the collection of information contained in this form are not required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB number.