

drained lands, or at high altitudes, or are subject to other adverse site conditions. They perform valuable functions, however. They help to protect watersheds and conserve water supplies; they provide fuel and building materials to natives and travellers in remote areas; and they are the habitat of valuable fur-bearing and game animals.

The productive forests covering more than 813,000 sq. miles are considered capable of producing continuous crops of timber suitable for domestic and industrial purposes. A considerable proportion of these forests is not yet accessible for commercial operations, but constitutes a valuable reserve for the future. About 435,000 sq. miles of productive forests are considered to be economically accessible at the present time. One-half of the productive forest area bears trees large enough for use as sawlogs, pulpwood or fuelwood, and the other half is occupied by young growth of various ages, kinds and degrees of stocking.

