

4.—Forest Utilization and Depletion, 1959 and 1960, compared with Ten-Year Average 1950-59

Item	Usable Wood			Percentage of Total Depletion		
	Average 1950-59	1959	1960	Average 1950-59	1959	1960
	M cu. ft.	M cu. ft.	M cu. ft.			
Products Utilized—						
Logs and Bolts—						
Domestic use.....	1,511,938	1,645,920	1,714,100 ¹	43.7	50.1	45.3
Exported.....	7,863	4,256	5,900	0.2	0.1	0.2
Pulpwood—						
Domestic use.....	1,119,119	1,146,953	1,304,600	32.4	35.0	34.5
Exported.....	160,186	94,136	97,900	4.6	2.9	2.6
Fuelwood.....	318,237	249,314	240,000	9.2	7.6	6.3
Other products.....	64,886	45,808	51,000	1.9	1.4	1.3
Totals, Utilization.....	3,182,229	3,186,387	3,413,500	92.0	97.1	90.2
Wastage—						
By forest fires.....	275,005	94,444	369,600	8.0	2.9	9.8
Totals, Depletion².....	3,457,234	3,280,831	3,783,100	100.0	100.0	100.0

¹ Includes logs for pulping. ² The figure for depletion does not include wastage caused by agencies other than fire, such as insects, disease and natural mortality, for which no reliable estimates are available. It represents an average annual depletion of 8 cu. feet per acre on the accessible productive forest area; a much higher rate of depletion occurs on the more accessible occupied productive forest lands.

Forest Fire Statistics.—Forest fires in Canada during 1960 numbered 8,881 as compared with 5,383 in 1959 and an annual average of 5,651 for the years 1950-59. The area burned was more than double the 1959 figure but was considerably less than the average area destroyed in the 1950-59 period. The volume of timber lost by fire in 1960 was nearly four times that lost in 1959, and the actual cost of combating the fires greatly exceeded both the amount spent in 1959 and the average spent during the period 1950-59. All the provinces except Alberta experienced heavier losses in 1960 than in 1959, with British Columbia, Quebec, Saskatchewan and Ontario sustaining the greatest estimated dollar losses.

5.—Forest Fire Losses, 1959 and 1960, compared with Ten-Year Average 1950-59

Item		Average 1950-59	1959	1960
Totals, Fires.....	No.	5,651	5,383	8,881
Fires under 10 acres.....	"	4,509	4,436	7,585
Fires 10 acres or over.....	"	1,142	947	1,296
Area Burned.....	acres	2,093,053	702,475	1,616,344
Merchantable timber.....	"	309,004	91,861	427,117
Young growth.....	"	385,843	121,205	493,162
Cut-over lands.....	"	362,492	268,463	198,316
Non-forested lands.....	"	1,035,714	220,946	492,749
Average Size of Fire.....	acres	370	131	182
Merchantable Timber Burned—				
Large material (10 inches or over D.B.H.).....	M cu. ft.	109,191	15,250	159,696
Small material (4 inches to 9 inches D.B.H.).....	"	165,814	79,194	209,910
Estimated Values Destroyed¹.....	\$	6,357,778	4,428,800	10,409,625
Merchantable timber.....	\$	3,552,172	1,086,165	6,848,201
Young growth.....	\$	1,535,564	1,321,277	2,293,906
Cut-over lands.....	\$	303,950	550,796	595,487
Other property burned.....	\$	966,092	1,470,562	672,031
Actual Cost of Fire Fighting.....	\$	3,741,006	4,254,175	9,204,330
Totals, Damage and Fire Fighting Costs.....	\$	10,098,784	8,682,975	19,613,955
Area under protection.....	sq. miles	..	1,336,954	1,378,508

¹ Figures do not include such values as damage to soil, stream-flow, wildlife, recreation and tourist facilities.