

The Forest Surveys and Planning Branch maintains the provincial forest inventory and prepares and maintains detailed inventories by management units; prepares long- and short-term management plans; provides timber application forest-type maps; conducts other work pertaining to photogrammetry and forest-cover maps; develops and supervises recreational area plans; provides regulation of geophysical activities in the forest area; and provides technical drafting and mapping services to the Forest Service and the general public.

The Forestry Training Branch prepares training material and conducts training programs for Departmental personnel and other persons concerned with activities of fire control, forest management, forest protection and conservation. It also provides the facilities and instruction for the second year of a two-year forest technology course provided by the Northern Alberta Institute of Technology. The Branch organizes and supervises the activities of the Junior Forest Warden Clubs.

One Forest and part of two others are included in the Rocky Mountains Forest Reserve. This area is administered by the Alberta Forest Service but decisions of the Director of Forestry are based on policies of wise watershed regulation formed by the Eastern Rockies Forest Conservation Board. The Board comprises one federal and two provincial members. This reserve includes part of the headwaters of the main Prairie Provinces river system. Research in general is carried out by the federal Department of Forestry and Rural Development, which maintains the Kananaskis Experiment Station.

British Columbia.—The productive forest land of British Columbia is inventoried (1958) at 208,411 sq. miles with an additional 59,227 sq. miles of forest land classed as non-productive. Of the productive area, immature timber occurs on 95,739 sq. miles; 84,275 sq. miles carry mature timber estimated at 251,000,000 M cu. ft.; and 28,397 sq. miles are unclassified, including areas of burn, cut-over or windfall not yet restocked.



Of Canada's annual production of lumber, which reached a record 10,000,000 M ft. b. m. in 1965, British Columbia contributes about 68 p.c. of the total and 72 p.c. of the softwood. Although the Canadian economy consumes about 96 p.c. of its hardwood lumber, almost two thirds of the softwood is exported, making this commodity one of the country's major export items.