

in conjunction with the governments of New Brunswick and Nova Scotia and with private industry.

Quebec. Forests with economic potential cover 264,000 sq miles (684 000 km²), about 45% of the total area of the province. This forest cover stretches northward to an irregular line near 52°N in the east and west and 53°N in the centre of the province. The forests may be divided into two separate tenure groups, private and public. Private forests cover an area of 27,000 sq miles (70 000 km²). Public forests cover 237,300 sq miles (614 600 km²) of which 190,000 sq miles (492 000 km²) are productive and under management plans. Public forests carry a volume of almost 134,335 million cu ft (3 804 million m³) of standing timber of various species; private forests contain 16,600 million cu ft (470 million m³). Coniferous species make up 75% of the total volume. Public forests under management and private forests supply the pulp and paper mills and the sawmills of Quebec. Private forests account for about 20% of the annual cut, about two million cunits (5.7 million m³). Forests account for about 25% of the gross provincial product.

Management of public forests and assistance to private forestry is carried out by the Forestry Branch of the Department of Lands and Forests which controls development and the use of woodlands, and undertakes conservation measures. Principal management controls are: the annual inventory of some 30,000 sq miles (78 000 km²) of forest land; study and regulation of silvicultural practices for this area and the zoning of the land for its best use; and restoration of lands destined for forestation by replanting or by proper treatment. To achieve this Quebec maintains some 100 million plants in nursery stock. Regulations governing the use of the forests cover operational control, the issuance of permits for establishment of mills and cutting permits, measurement of wood harvested on Crown land, aid to development of private forests, and building and maintenance of forest roads. Through regional conservation groups this branch is responsible for forest protection against insects, fire and fungus attack.

Ontario. Forested land in Ontario amounts to 310,369 sq miles (803 852 km²), of which 164,472 sq miles (425 981 km²) are classified as forest land bearing or capable of bearing timber of a commercial character suitable for regular harvest and not withdrawn from such use. About 90% of the productive forested land is owned by the Crown, administered and managed by the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources through three main programs: Land Management, Outdoor Recreation and Resource Products.

The Forest Management Branch is responsible for the regeneration, tending and improvement of the forests under The Woodlands Improvement Act. It also has the task of promoting forestry on privately owned lands through its extension program. The branch operates 10 forest tree nurseries with a current production target of about 74.3 million trees. Complementing this are up-to-date tree improvement and nursery soil management programs. The branch, directly or indirectly, supervises all planting projects on Crown lands but regeneration agreements have been signed with all major licensees under which the latter assume responsibility for planting projects.

During 1974, 41.7 million nursery-produced trees were planted on about 57,300 acres (23 200 ha) of Crown and Agreement lands, and 5.4 million tubed seedlings were planted on about 5,350 acres (2 165 ha). Other silvicultural treatments included the direct seeding of 59,870 acres (24 230 ha), treatment for natural regeneration on 42,740 acres (17 300 ha) and stand improvement (cleaning, spraying, thinning and pruning) on 75,000 acres (30 350 ha). In all, 240,400 acres (97 300 ha) of Crown and Agreement lands were silviculturally treated in 1974 to promote regeneration or to improve the forests. Owners of private lands may purchase planting stock for forestry purposes from government nurseries at nominal prices and may also receive free professional advice on any forestry matter, including silviculture, harvesting and marketing. In 1974 (spring and fall), planting stock furnished for private lands totalled 17.8 million units.