

Columbia Forest Service, the forest administrative agency for the province. For administration and management purposes, the province is divided into six forest districts with headquarters at Vancouver, Kamloops, Nelson, Williams Lake, Prince Rupert and Prince George. Further decentralization of authority is effected by subdivision into 99 ranger districts. Each district is supervised by a forest ranger who supervises the harvesting of trees by logging companies and plays a vital role in environmental protection. Fourteen directional, servicing or policy-forming divisions constitute the head office of the Forest Service at Victoria: Timber, Training School, Reforestation, Protection, Valuation, Inventory, Research, Administration, Engineering, Personnel, Resource Planning, Information, Accounts, Range, and Special Studies.

Efforts continue to bring BC's forest resources under sustained-yield management even though with an annual scale (1975) of approximately 17,684,686 cunits (50077460 m³) the total inventory would appear sufficient to support current needs in perpetuity. One of the results of sustained-yield administration has been the swinging of a greater proportion of the annual forest harvest to the interior of the province; in 1975 the wet belt forests on the coast accounted for about 42.7% of the total forest cut and the interior for 57.3%. For all practical purposes, the entire interior forest is publicly owned; a large proportion of the privately owned, leased or licensed forests is on the coast. Several systems of timber disposal are in effect. The Tree Farm Licence is a contract between the government and a company or individual whereby the latter agrees to manage, protect and harvest an area of forest land, including any privately held forest land, on a sustained-yield basis. Tree Farm Licences are subject to re-examination for renewal every 21 years. Public Sustained-Yield Units are areas within which the Forest Service manages the Crown timber on a sustained-yield basis. Within the Public Sustained-Yield Units, recognized established logging operators can apply for Timber Sale Licences or Timber Sale Harvesting Licences which entitle them to log at a given rate per year, based on a number of factors including the operator's average rate of production at the time the unit was established.

Forest fire prevention techniques and organization for effective forest fire suppression are vital aspects of planned sustained-yield management. Extensive use is made of aircraft under various terms of contract. Air tankers and fire-spotter aircraft are employed during the fire season and helicopters and other aircraft are employed under contract for patrol duties and for the transport of fire suppression crews. Rugged topography and many remote and sparsely populated areas demand the availability of a variety of transportation methods to achieve early discovery of and attack on forest fires.

Close liaison with the Canadian Forestry Service of the federal Department of Fisheries and the Environment provides detailed information on insect and fungal enemies of the forest and on fire research.

To achieve an efficient administration of multiple use of Crown forest lands, the Forest Service, in conjunction with other government departments, has developed the "Integrated Use" concept. The Forest Service recognizes that inevitably some forest lands will be withdrawn from timber production to accommodate other users. These losses must be offset by increased production on remaining areas.

Statistics of the forest industries

10.1.4

The extensive forests of Canada provide raw materials for several large primary industries: sawmills and planing mills, shingle mills, veneer and plywood mills, particleboard plants and pulp and paper mills, which in turn provide raw materials for a wide range of secondary industries that convert wood products into manufactured goods such as sash, doors, millwork, wooden boxes, furniture, converted papers and paper goods. Much of the output of the primary forest industries is exported; the sawmill industry and the pulp and paper industry, especially, contribute substantially to the value of the export trade of Canada and