

a year for restocking cutover and burned over lands. It also is responsible for a tree improvement program.

Basic research in the forestry program is contracted out to universities and other agents funded through the Alberta Forestry Research Trust Fund Act and also by the federal forestry service through its research laboratory in Edmonton.

British Columbia. Over 52 million hectares, or 60% of British Columbia's area, is classified as forest land. This includes over 8 million cubic metres of mature merchantable timber, most of it coniferous. Of this, 94% is publicly owned and managed by the provincial ministry of forests.

Forest and range legislation in 1978, The Ministry of Forests Act, The Forest Act and The Range Act, identifies the functions of the ministry and new directions for managing forest and range resources.

For management purposes the province is divided into six forest regions administered from offices in Vancouver, Prince Rupert, Prince George, Williams Lake, Kamloops and Nelson. In each forest region district managers are responsible for administering the forest and range acts, putting ministry policies into practice, and administering the programs in the field. Directional headquarters remains in Victoria.

The management of forest resources for a balance of growth and harvest continued; the annual allowable cut (1978) was 86.5 million cubic metres. This cut would permit a harvest sustainable in perpetuity.

Sustained yield administration stabilizes the industry and with improved small wood use technology, uses a greater proportion of the annual harvest from the interior. In 1978 coast forests accounted for about 41% of the total cut and the interior 59%. Public sustained yield units are areas in which the forests ministry manages the Crown forest and range lands. In these units, established logging operators can apply for licences to log at a given rate per year.

Almost all interior forest is publicly owned. Most privately owned, leased or licensed forests are on the coast. There are several systems of timber disposal. The tree farm licence is a contract between the government and a company or individual to manage an area, including any privately held forest land, on a sustained yield basis. Tree farm licences are re-examined for renewal every 21 years. Under The Forest Act (1978), tree farm licences have a 25-year term but may be replaced in the 10th year with a new 25-year licence.

Forest fire prevention and suppression are vital to sustained yield management. Contracted air tankers, fire spotter aircraft and helicopters are employed during the fire season for early discovery of forest fires.

Liaison with the federal forestry service provides information on insect and fungal problems, fire research, silviculture, nursery, soils and wood products.

For administration of Crown forest lands, the forests ministry, along with other ministries, has developed an integrated use concept. Some forest lands may be withdrawn from timber production for other uses. These losses may be offset by increased production through intensive forest management.

Statistics of the forest industries

10.1.4

Canada's forests provide raw materials for several large primary industries. Much of the output of the forest industries is exported; the sawmill industry and the pulp and paper industry contribute substantially to export trade providing a large part of the foreign exchange necessary to pay for imports. Other statistics of manufacturing activity, the wood industries and the paper and allied industries are given in Chapter 18.

Logging industry

10.1.4.1

Tables 10.4 and 10.5 give the estimated quantities of wood cut in Canada, by province and by type of product, for 1974-77. The total volume increased from 140 million cubic metres in 1976 to 149 million in 1977.

Wood industries

10.1.4.2

The standard industrial classification subdivides the wood industries group into sawmills and planing mills, shingle mills, veneer and plywood mills, sash, door and other