

# MINISTRY OF FORESTS

Transition Binder 2022

## **MINISTRY OF FORESTS**

# Transition Binder October 2022

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### MINISTRY PROFILE

### Ministry:

The Ministry of Forests (the Ministry) is the Province's agency responsible for the management of forests, lands and range and integrated decision making for water, fish and wildlife, archaeology permits and authorizations and natural resource compliance and enforcement. By a commitment to sustainable natural resource management, and through the advancement of forest policy modernization and new transformational initiatives, the Ministry supports activities that provide economic, environmental, cultural and social benefits to all British Columbians. This work directly contributes to the achievement of the Province's goals of meaningful reconciliation, a strong, sustainable economy and a better future for all British Columbians.

### Ministry Mandate:

The Ministry is the Province's agency responsible for the management of forests, lands and range and integrated decision making for water, fish and wildlife, archaeology permits and authorizations and natural resource compliance and enforcement. The Ministry is also responsible for ensuring the province is well positioned to address natural hazards, including wildfire and flood management. The Ministry is working to address climate change by enhancing the role of forests and forest products as carbon sinks or opportunities to reduce emissions, and by preparing and responding to the impacts of climate change already underway. By a commitment to sustainable natural resource management, and through the advancement of forest policy modernization and new transformational initiatives, the Ministry supports activities that provide economic, environmental, cultural and social benefits to all British Columbians.

The Ministry oversees policy development, operational management and implementation, and administers relevant statutes and associated regulations. The Ministry also supports the Minister in her governance responsibilities for the Columbia River Treaty and associated Crown agencies including the Columbia Power Corporation, Columbia Basin Trust and the Forest Enhancement Society of British Columbia.

### Full Time Equivalents (FTEs):

\* headcount varies throughout the year, most dramatically due to an influx of seasonal auxiliary workers during the summer.

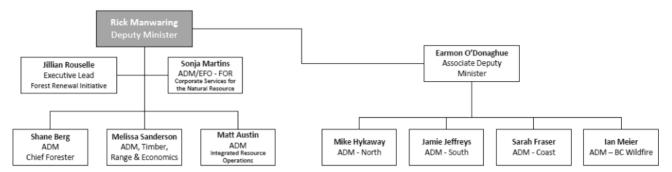
### FOR Headcount - October 1, 2022 [1]

	Crand		Active		(	On Lea	ve
Division	Grand Total	Aux.	Reg.	Sub total	Aux.	Reg.	Sub total
Associate Deputy Minister's Office	46	4	36	40		6	6
BC Wildfire Service	1,595	1,181	355	1,536	47	13	60
Deputy Minister's Office	45	1	41	42		3	3
Integrated Resource Operations	371	34	319	353		18	18
Office of the Chief Forester	271	48	217	265	1	5	6
Regional Operations - Coast Area	524	29	471	500		24	24
Regional Operations - North Area	575	35	509	544		31	31
Regional Operations - South Area	833	67	724	791	1	41	42
Timber, Range, and Economics	172	6	162	168		4	4
FOR Total	4,427	1,405	2,834	4,239	49	145	194

### **Executive Organizational Chart:**

### Ministry of Forests

Executive October 14, 2022



## Budget:

Core Business Area	2021/22 Restated Estimates <sup>1</sup>	2022/23 Estimates	2023/24 Plan	2024/25 Plan
	Operating Expe	nses (\$000)		
Integrated Resource Operations	77,963	81,601	82,384	82,444
Office of the Chief Forester	102,840	111,946	112,948	112,951
Forest and Range Sector Policy	10,473	10,477	10,477	10,477
Fire Preparedness	43,343	43,348	43,348	43,348
Regional Operations	116,551	116,588	116,588	116,588
Executive and Support Services	66,358	67,029	67,047	67,047
Fire Management	136,310	194,285	199,535	199,535
BC Timber Sales Account	233,816	206,742	213,000	232,061
Crown Land Special Account	20	500	500	500
Total	787,674	832,516	845,827	864,951
Ministry Capital Ex	penditures (Cons	olidated Revenue	Fund) (\$000)	
Executive and Support Services	28,287	35,936	30,097	30,097
Fire Management	525	2,575	2,575	2,575
BC Timber Sales Account	49,851	40,671	43,756	42,929
Total	78,663	79,182	76,428	75,601
Otl	ner Financing Tran	sactions (\$000)		
BC Timber Sales Account Disbursements	105,816	96,347	96,222	95,107
Crown Land Administration Disbursements	6,382	6,382	6,382	6,382
Habitat Conservation Trust Disbursements	6,500	6,500	6,500	6,500
Habitat Conservation Trust Receipts	(6,500)	(6,500)	(6,500)	(6,500)
Net Cash Requirements (Source)	112,198	102,729	102,604	101,489
Total Receipts	(6,500)	(6,500)	(6,500)	(6,500)
Total Disbursements	118,698	109,229	109,104	107,989
Total Net Cash Requirements (Source)	112,198	102,729	102,604	101,489

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> For comparative purposes, amounts shown for 2021/22 have been restated to be consistent with the presentation of the 2022/23 Estimates.

 $<sup>{\</sup>color{red}^*} \ Further \ information \ on \ program \ funding \ and \ vote \ recoveries \ is \ available \ in \ the \ \underline{Estimates} \ and \ \underline{Supplement} \ to \ the \ \underline{Estimates} \ and \ \underline{Supplement} \ to \ the \ \underline{Estimates} \ and \ \underline{Supplement} \ to \ the \ \underline{Estimates} \ and \ \underline{Supplement} \ but \ \underline{Supplement} \ \underline{Suppl$ 



Rick Manwaring Deputy Minister Deputy Minister's Office Ministry of Forests

Rick Manwaring was appointed deputy minister of the Ministry of Forests on April 1, 2021. Prior to this role, Rick was associate deputy minister of the Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development from May 2018 to March 2021.

During his 30-year career with the BC Public Service, Rick has lived and worked in remote and rural communities across BC while building relationships and a diverse operational understanding of land and resource management. Rick is a Registered Professional Forester and holds a Bachelor of Science degree in forestry from the University of New Brunswick.



Eamon O'Donoghue Associate Deputy Minister Associate Deputy Minister's Office Ministry of Forests

Eamon started his career with the BC Public Service in 1991 as a park ranger in Mount Robson Park. He moved on to join the Land Use Coordination Office, and then progressed into the role of planning manager with the Ministry of Sustainable Resource Management. Eamon subsequently became regional executive director with the Integrated Land Management Bureau (ILMB) and the Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development (FLNRORD) for 10 years. In October 2018, Eamon was appointed as assistant deputy minister of the North Area Regional Operations Division (FLNRORD). In February 2022, he became the associate deputy minister for the Ministry of Forests.



Jillian Rousselle Executive Lead, Forest Renewal Initiative Deputy Minister's Office Ministry of Forests

Jillian Rousselle began as executive lead, forest renewal initiative on August 29, 2022. Before becoming executive lead, Jillian was the acting assistant deputy minister of the Liquor and Cannabis Regulation Branch in the Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General from November 2021 to August 2022.

During her 15-year career with the BC Public Service, Jillian has worked in several branches of government including engineering, archaeology, deputy minister's offices, and liquor and cannabis regulation.

Jillian holds an undergraduate degree in criminology from Simon Fraser University and a master's degree in public administration from the University of Victoria.



Shane Berg Assistant Deputy Minister, Chief Forester Office of the Chief Forester Ministry of Forests

Shane Berg is a Registered Professional Forester (RPF) and has worked throughout the Ministry of Forests beginning as a silviculture technician in Invermere and also serving as a silviculture forester in Grand Forks, a forest planning manager in Squamish, and eventually as district manager over a span of 14 years with the BC Forest Service in northern BC (Hazelton) and the southern interior (Kamloops).

Shane also spent six years working as a regional executive director with the Ministry of Aboriginal Relations and Reconciliation until he returned to the Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development as executive director, deputy chief forester in April 2017.

As chief forester, Shane continues to work with his natural resource sector partners to manage BC's forests and range lands in a sustainable, ecosystem-based manner incorporating the latest science, culturally relevant data, and public input as the foundation for decision-making.



Melissa Sanderson Assistant Deputy Minister Timber, Range and Economics Division Ministry of Forests

Melissa was appointed as assistant deputy minister for the Forest Policy and Indigenous Relations Division in early 2020. The division was restructured into Timber, Range and Economics with the reorganization of the Ministry of Forests in March 2022. Melissa previously worked with the Ministry of Energy, Mines and Low Carbon Innovation.

Melissa is dedicated to advancing economic development, building strong communities and supporting Indigenous reconciliation. As assistant deputy minister responsible for the forestry intentions paper, she is leading the modernization of the sector to meet today's current challenges and opportunities in forest management. In April 2022, Melissa also became the lead assistant deputy minister for the Ministry of Forests Safety Program.

Melissa holds a Bachelor of Arts in History and Political Science from Simon Fraser University.



Matt Austin Assistant Deputy Minister Integrated Resource Operations Division Ministry of Forests

Matt was appointed as assistant deputy minister for the Integrated Resource Operations Division in April 2018. Matt is responsible for the Archaeology, Compliance and Enforcement, Fish and Wildlife, Water Management, Forest Tenures, Engineering, Lands, and Crown Land Opportunities and Restoration Branches.

Matt holds a Bachelor of Science in Zoology from Western University and a Master of Environmental Design in Environmental Science from the University of Calgary. Matt has been with the BC Public Service for over 24 years. After nearly 10 years as the provincial large carnivore specialist, Matt took a series of progressively more senior roles in a wide variety of program areas across the natural resource ministries, touching on species at risk, forestry, oil and gas, mining, wind power, hydroelectric power, agriculture, geospatial analysis, biodiversity and service delivery, emergency management and environmental assessment. This work has included extensive engagement with First Nations.



Jamie Jeffreys, RPF Assistant Deputy Minister South Area Ministry of Forests

Jamie Jeffreys began as the Ministry of Forests assistant deputy minister for the South Area in June 2022. Jamie is a Registered Professional Forester and is currently vice-president of the Association of BC Forest Professionals.

The South Area includes the Kootenay Boundary Region, the Cariboo Region, and the Thompson Okanagan Region, with eight natural resource districts, within a geographic area of 250,000 square kilometres.

Jamie has been with the BC Public Service for 16 years, working in a variety of roles in the forestry sector with First Nations and industry. Prior to her assistant deputy minister position, Jamie was director of strategic engagement and partnerships for the BC Wildfire Service. Other sectors that Jamie has been involved with include regional operations, FrontCounter BC, and the Ministry of Energy, Mines and Low Carbon Innovation.



Mike Hykaway Assistant Deputy Minister North Area Regional Operations Division Ministry of Forests

Mike has been with the BC Public Service since 2004 and has held a variety of leadership roles in natural resource ministries since 2010. During that time, he gained valuable experience delivering large change initiatives in the areas of program operations and business transformation, First Nations relations, policy, legislation, finance, IT, and HR.

Mike Personal and has a degree in political science from the University of Victoria along with a certificate in business administration. Mike has been the assistant deputy minister of the North Area Regional Operations Division since July 2021.



Sarah Fraser Assistant Deputy Minister Coast Area Ministry of Forests

Sarah is the Assistant Deputy Minister of Coast Area Regional Operations which is comprised of eight natural resource districts reporting through the South Coast Region and the West Coast Region. The coast area includes Haida Gwaii, Vancouver Island, the coastal areas of mainland BC, the lower mainland east to Hope and up the Sea-to-Sky.

Prior to her appointment as Assistant Deputy Minister Coast, Sarah led rural and regional development programs throughout British Columbia and was provincial lead for community transition services.

Sarah has 30 years of experience working in the BC Public Service and holds a Master of Business Administration from Royal Roads University where her thesis focused on comparative governance models in service delivery in North America and the United Kingdom.



Ian Meier Assistant Deputy Minister BC Wildfire Service Ministry of Forests

Ian Meier was appointed Assistant Deputy Minister of the BC Wildfire Service on October 11, 2022. Before his role as Assistant Deputy Minister, Ian was the Executive Director of the BC Wildfire Service from August 2018 to October 2022, and has been part of the service for 25 years total.

Ian is stepping into this new Assistant Deputy Minister role at an exciting time for the BC Wildfire Service, as the organization grows to provide year-round coverage and take an increasing role in risk reduction and all-hazards management.

Ian is a long-standing member of the Executive team. He provides leadership on several corporate committees and is the Executive Sponsor for *Gender Based Analysis Plus* for the Ministry. Ian received his Bachelor of Forestry with a Major in Forest Operations from the University of British Columbia, and is a Registered Professional Forester. Personal Information

# 2022-23 Ministry of Forests Priorities

Natural resource management that supports a strong economy

**Deliver integrated land and resource management**Deliver durable, integrated natural resource management decisions for all values (forestry, range, water, land, fish and wildlife) in a way that supports a new vision for First Nations co-management and effective monitoring and compliance to achieve management objectives.

Create the conditions to support a vibrant forest sector Lead a forest sector transition that is guided by reconciliation objectives, the public interest, supporting resilient communities as well as expanded opportunities for innovation and value-added manufacturing.

# People and organizational excellence

### Invest in our people

Foster the growth and development of our people, engage the knowledge and expertise in our organization, recruit new talent and invest in learning and development.

### Foster a positive organizational culture

Continue to strive for a safe, respectful, and engaging organizational culture – one that supports high-performance, trust, cultural and psychological safety, awareness of mental well-being, a sense of belonging and work-life balance.

# Demonstrate our commitment to diversity and inclusion

Work together to deliver our Ministry's mandate, vision, and mission in a way that applies GBA+ principles and commitment to diversity, inclusion and anti-racism.

### Vision

Resilient forests, landscapes, wildlife and watersheds for the benefit of British Columbia, now and for generations to come.

### Mission

Taking care of the land base through an integrated approach, in partnership with First Nations, communities and ministries.

### **Reconciliation Commitment**

Implement the **Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act** action plan, partner with
First Nations in the stewardship of natural
resources and advance the Ministry's
culture towards reconciliation.

# World-renowned stewardship

# Support sound stewardship policy and decisions

Deliver excellent research and scientific analysis to guide policy and allocations for water, fish and wildlife.

### **Guide forest renewal**

Modernize forest policy and legislation and implement new approaches such as Forest Landscape Planning and the recommendations of the old growth strategic review.

# Support CleanBC and climate change adaptation and mitigation

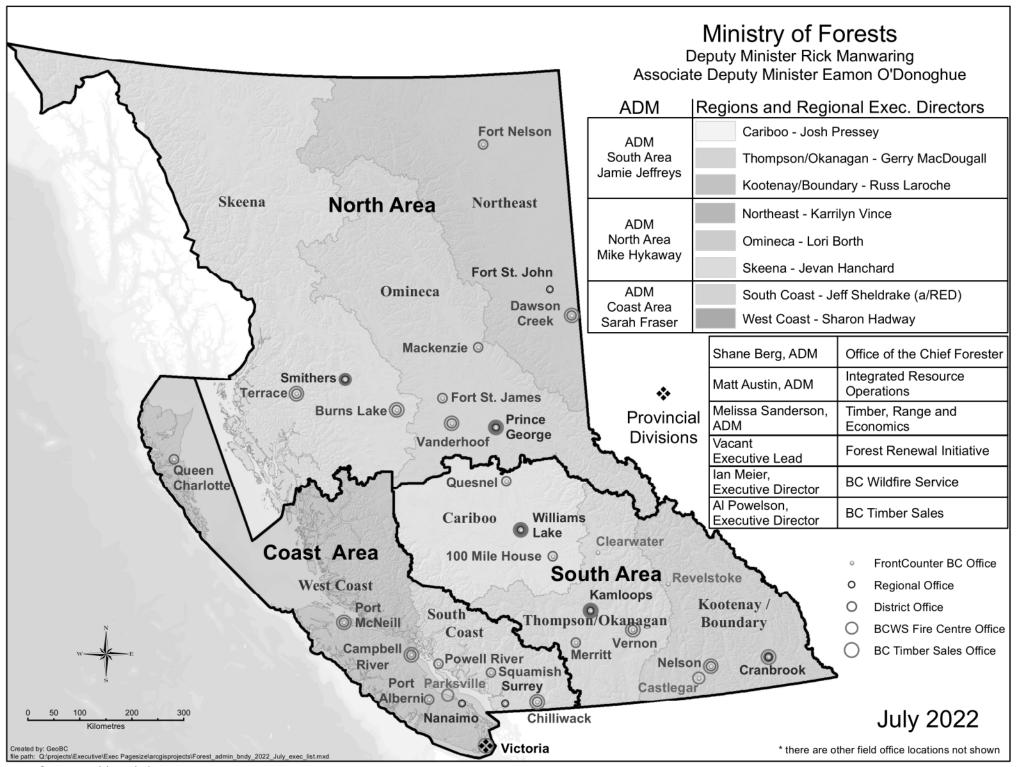
Implement the Forest Bioeconomy Pathway and invest in targeted forest management activities to increase the role of BC's forests in carbon mitigation, facilitate the growth of the Indigenous Forest Bioeconomy program and implement the 2021-2025 Climate Change Strategy.



Proactive and collaborative natural hazard management

Improve natural hazard emergency preparedness, response and land base recovery

- collaborative Improve public understanding and awareness of increased flooding
- Protect BC's land and water through year-round collaborative fire
   management services and lead the BC Flood Strategy to support communities in
   enhancing their resilience, in line with broader efforts under the Sendai Framework
   to reduce disaster risk and enhance disaster preparedness.



## Ministry of Forests KEY STAKEHOLDERS October 2022

Branch	Organization	Contact	Description	Key Issues
All	Association of BC	Christine Gelowtiz, RPF	Business Information	
	Forest Professionals	Chief Executive Officer		
		cgelowitz@abcfp.ca Personal		
		c. 250-920-8864		
		Mike Larock, RPF		
		Director of Practice		
		mlarock@abcfp.ca		
		604-331-2324	-	
South	BC Cattlemen's	Kevin Boon, General Manager		
Area	Association	bccattle@cattlemen.bc.ca		
		250-573-3611		
		Judy Madden, President		
		BC South Peace River Stockmen's		
		Association		
		Doublem@pris.ca		
		250-782-7875		
			_	
RSD	BC Fishing Tourism	Matt Jennings		
Coast	Association	Fishing BC Marketing Manager		
North		matt@fishingbc.com		
South		250-374-6836		

Branch	Organization	Contact	Description	Key Issues
ROTE Coast North South	BC Community Forest Association	Jennifer Gunter Executive Director jgunter@bccfa.ca 250-384-4110  Susan Mulkey, Manager Communication and Extension smulkey@bccfa.ca 250-353-1477	Business Information	
DMO ROTE Coast North South	BC Forest Safety Council	Robert Moonen CEO rob.moonen@bcforestsafe.org w. 250-739-5163 c. 250-619-7220		
DMO FPIR	BC Pulp and Paper Coalition	Joe Nemeth Project Manager Personal Information		
RSD	BC Wildlife Federation (BCWF)	Chuck Zuckerman President president@bcwf.bc.ca 604-882-9988 ext. 205  Jesse Zeman Executive Director Jesse.zeman@bcwf.bc.ca 250-878-3799		

Branch	Organization	Contact	Description	Key Issues	
DMO OCF	BC Wood	Brian Hawrysh, CEO 1-877-422-9663 ext. 244 bhawrysh@bcwood.com	Business Information	•	
BC Wildfire Service	Canadian Interagency Forest Fire Centre	Kim Connors  Executive Director  Kim.connors@ciffc.ca 204-784-2030  admin@ciffc.ca			
Coast	Coast Forest Conservation Initiative	Scott Mitchell BCTS Personal Scott.mitchell@gov.bc.ca			

Branch	Organization	Contact	Description	Key Issues
DMO TRE Coast	Coastal First Nations/Great Bear Initiative	Paul Kariya Senior Policy Advisor pkariya@coastalfirstnations.ca 604-696- 9889  Christine Smith-Martin CEO ceo@coastalfirstnations.ca	Business Information	
DMO TRE	BC Council of Forest Industries (COFI)	Susan Yurkovich President and CEO yurkovich@cofi.org Tel:604.880.1895  Adam McPhee Manager Public Affairs Personal Information mcphee@cofi.org		
IRO – Forest Tenures	Federation of BC Woodlot Associations	Brian McNaughton General manager and rep. to Minister's Forest and Range Practices Advisory Council gen_manager@woodlot.bc.ca 250-305-9257 1-866-345-TREE (8733)		

Branch	Organization	Contact	Description
DMO TRE	First Nations Forestry Council	Lennard Joe CEO len@forestrycouncil.ca 604-971-3448	Business Information
OCF	FP Innovations	Stéphane Renou President and CEO  Tim Caldecott  Government & Strategic Partnerships Leader <u>Tim.Caldecott@fpinnovations.ca</u>	
BC Wildfire Service IRO	Fraser Basin Council	David Marshall Executive Director dmarshall@fraserbasin.ca 604-488-5350	

**Key Issues** 

Branch	Organization	Contact	Description	Key Issues
IRO	Freshwater Fisheries Society of BC	Andrew Wilson President Andrew.wilson@gofishbc.com  250-414-4201 Personal Information	Business Information	
IROD	Guide Outfitters Association of BC	Sean Olmstead President sean@prophetmuskwa.com 250-789-9494		
IRO	Habitat Conservation Trust Foundation (HCTF)	Dan Buffet CEO Dan.buffett@hctf.ca Personal (direct) 250-940-9780 (office)		
Coast North South	Independent Wood Processors Association of BC	Brian Menzies Executive Director brianmenzies@iwpabc.com 250-213-5397		

Branch	Organization	Contact	Description	Key Issues	
TRE South	Interior Logging Association	Todd Chamberlain, General Manager 250-503-2199 todd@interiorlogging.org	Business Information	•	
DMO TRE South	Interior Lumber Manufacturers Association	Dan Battistella President Dan.batistella@ilma.com  250-319-4119			
DMO	Land Title and Survey Authority (LTSA)	Al-Karim Kara President and CEO Al-Karim.Kara@ltsa.ca Phone: Personal Information Cell:Personal			

Branch	Organization	Contact	Description	Key Issues
TRE IRO North	Northwest Loggers Association	John Nester Personal Information	Business Information	
IRO	Private Forest Landowners Association	Megan Hanacek, CEO megan.hanacek@pfla.bc.ca 250-642-4300		

Branch	Organization	Contact	Description	Key Issues
DMO	Public and Private Workers of Canada (PPWC)	Kelly Johnson, President nationalpresident@ppwc.ca 604-731-1909 (office number, no personal number confirmed)	Business Information	
IRO DMO	Truck Loggers Association	Bob Brash Executive Director, TLA 604-684-4291 bob@tla.cabob@tla.ca		
DMO IRO	Unifor	Jon Hawkins, National Representative Personal Information		

Branch	Organization	Contact	Description	Key Issues
DMO TRE	United Steel Workers	Jeff Bromley, USW Wood Council Chair ibromley@usw.ca Office Direct Personal Cell (250) 426-9870	Business Information	
Coast	No mention of this organization on CLIFF or Google	Terence W. Ryan President ryanconsulting@universe.com 250-701-9995		
DMO TRE	Western Forestry Contractors of BC	John Betts, Executive Director hotpulp@gmail.com admin@wsca.ca 250-229-4380 604-736-8660		

Branch	Organization	Contact	Description	Key Issues
IRO	Wildlife Stewardship	John Henderson	Business Information	
	Council	President		
		wildlifestewardship@gmail.com		
		w.Personal		
		c.Personal		

MINISTER OF FORESTS		
Column 1	Column 2	
ACT	DETAILS	
Boundary		
Canadian Pacific Railway (Stone and Timber) Settlement		
Columbia Basin Trust		
Creston Valley Wildlife		
Dike Maintenance		
Drainage, Ditch and Dike		
Environmental Management	Section 5 (f) as that provision relates to the portfolio of the Minister of Forests.	
Fish and Seafood	The Act as it relates to licensing respecting the growing of aquatic plants and the harvesting of wild aquatic plants.	
Forest	The Act except as it relates to  (a) the collection of public money, as defined in section 1 of the <i>Financial Administration Act</i> , other than a fine, or  (b) the administration of deposits and securities payable.	
Forest and Range Practices	The Act except the following:  (a) as it relates to  (i) the collection of public money, as defined in section 1 of the Financial Administration Act, other than a fine, or  (ii) the administration of deposits and securities payable;  (b) sections 56 and 57;  (c) section 58 as that provision relates to recreation resources and the management of public recreation use on Crown land;  (d) section 118 (2) (d);  (e) Part 8.1;  (f) sections 141 and 143 as those provisions relate to the portfolio of the	

	Minister of Land, Water and Resource Stewardship; (g) sections 142, 146 and 147 as those provisions relate to the portfolio of the Environment and Climate Change Strategy and Minister Responsible for TransLink and Minister Responsible for TransLink; (h) section 148; (i) section 166 as that provision relates to the portfolio of the Attorney General and Minister Responsible for Housing.
Forest Practices Code of British Columbia	The Act except as it relates to  (a) the collection of public money, as defined in section 1 of the <i>Financial Administration Act</i> , other than a fine, or  (b) the administration of deposits and securities payable.
Forest Stand Management Fund	The Act except as it relates to  (a) the collection of public money, as defined in section 1 of the <i>Financial Administration Act</i> , other than a fine, or  (b) the administration of deposits and securities payable.
Forestry Revitalization	
Forestry Service Providers Protection	
Great Bear Rainforest (Forest Management)	
Greenbelt	
Heritage Conservation	
Hunting and Fishing Heritage [The]	
Industrial Operation Compensation	
Land (Spouse Protection)	
Land	The Act except section 6.

Land Settlement and Development (Repeal)	
Land Survey	
Land Surveyors	
Land Title	The Act except the following:  (a) section 77.2;  (b) section 219 (1), (2), (3) (a) and (b), (4) – (9.2), (10), (11) (a), (12) and (14) as those provisions relate to the portfolio of the Environment and Climate Change Strategy and Minister Responsible for TransLink and Minister Responsible for TransLink or to the portfolio of the Minister of Municipal Affairs.
Land Title and Survey Authority	
Land Title Inquiry	
Land Transfer Form	
Libby Dam Reservoir	
Ministry of Agriculture and Food	Section 3 as that provision relates to the portfolio of the Minister of Forests in relation to the treatment of the Lymantria Moth.
Ministry of Environment	Sections 4 (2) (b), (d), (f) and (g) and 6.1 as those provisions relate to the portfolio of the Minister of Forests.
Ministry of Forests and Range	The Act except the following:  (a) as it relates to  (i) the collection of public money, as defined in section 1 of the Financial Administration Act, other than a fine, or  (ii) the administration of deposits and securities payable;  (b) sections 4 (c), 5, 6 (a) and 6.1 as those provisions relate to the portfolio of the Minister of Land, Water and Resource Stewardship;  (c) section 4 (d) (ii) and (e) as those

	provisions relate to the portfolio of the Minister of Agriculture and Food.
Ministry of Lands, Parks and Housing	The Act except the following:  (a) sections 3 (3), 5 (b), 6 and 9 as those provisions relate to the portfolio of the Environment and Climate Change Strategy and Minister Responsible for TransLink and Minister Responsible for TransLink;  (b) sections 5 (b.1) and (c), 8.1 and 10.
Natural Resource Compliance	
Off-Road Vehicle	
Plant Protection	The Act as it relates to the treatment of the Lymantria Moth.
Private Managed Forest Land	
Protected Areas Forests Compensation	
Railway	Section 33.
Range	The Act except as it relates to  (a) the collection of public money, as defined in section 1 of the <i>Financial Administration Act</i> , other than a fine, or  (b) the administration of deposits and securities payable.
Riparian Areas Protection	
Special Accounts Appropriation and Control	Section 5.
Tugboat Worker Lien	
University Endowment Land	Sections 2 (1) (a) and (d) and 3 (b).
Water Sustainability	The Act except the following:  (a) section 43;  (b) Division 4 of Part 3;  (c) section 115;  (d) section 124 as that provision relates to the portfolio of the Minister of Land, Water

	and Resource Stewardship; (e) sections 132 and 142.
Water Users' Communities	
Water Utility	
Weed Control	
Wildfire	The Act except as it relates to  (a) the collection of public money, as defined in section 1 of the <i>Financial Administration Act</i> , other than a fine, or  (b) the administration of deposits and securities payable.
Wildlife	The Act except the following:  (a) section 3 as that provision relates to the portfolio of the Minister of Land, Water and Resource Stewardship;  (b) sections 6 and 108 (2) (a).
Wood First	
Woodworker Lien	
Zero Net Deforestation	

### **MINISTRY OF FORESTS**

### Deputy Minister's Office and Associate Deputy Minister's Office

**DM and Associate DM Responsible:** Rick Manwaring, DM; and Eamon O'Donoghue, Associate Deputy Minister

Core Business/ Program Area Description/Critical Business Processes:

The Executive Operations Group within the Deputy Minister's Office supports the Deputy Minister, Associate Deputy Minister and the Ministry through day-to-day management and coordination of corporate issues and projects. The Director of Executive Operations and the Managers of Executive Issues and Executive Services act as the primary liaison with the Minister's Office, Premier's Office, and Cabinet Operations. The Executive Operation Group provides oversight of Ministry document and information flow, including: Information Briefing Notes, Decision Briefing Notes, Cabinet and Treasury Board submissions, Estimates material, briefing materials for large events such as FNLG and UBCM, and MLA information requests.

The Correspondence Services Section Team provides oversight of the executive correspondence services for the Ministry including management of the CLIFF correspondence tracking system and eApprovals. This team works with subject matter experts in a variety of different business areas within the Ministry to draft quality responses to a high volume of incoming correspondence in a timely manner.

**The Freedom of Information and Records Management Team** is responsible for the coordination and response of *Freedom of Information and Privacy Protection Act* requests and oversight of the corporate records management systems.

The Strategic Priorities Group is a subset of the Deputy Minister's Office delivering four primary business service functions. The Internal Communications and Online Content team manage the internal and external web presence for the Ministry (the internet and intranet). They operate inter-divisionally to ensure web information is accurate, complete, current and functional. They develop and publish executive messaging throughout the year, such as all-staff video calls and email messaging. The Legislation team manages, maintains and evolves the legislative framework the ministry is responsible for. They work collaboratively across divisions with policy and subject matter experts to identify problems that require solutions, and customize solutions that can form amendments to legislation, regulation or orders. This includes 58 statutes and related regulation.

There are two managers focused on litigation (or potential) litigation matters who provide insight and supports to statutory decision makers and other staff; one manager is focused on administrative law and the other aboriginal law (both are practicing lawyers). The Executive Director and Division Administrator support the Deputy Minister and the Executive Operations and Issues group, respectively in projects or programs that are cross-functional in nature, and often of a priority nature.

### **Budget:**

The Deputy Ministers Office has a current budget of Government

Full Time Equivalents (FTEs): 45

### **Related Legislation:**

The Deputy Minister's Office is not the natural manager of any direct piece of legislation or regulation. However, the Legislation Branch within Strategic Priorities Group is directly responsible for adapting policy change into the policy framework, either by legislative or regulatory amendment, or by an Order. Therefore, they are heavily involved in legislation.

### Associate Deputy Minister's Office Overview

The Executive Director Operations Office assists the Associate Deputy Minister in developing, planning, directing, and implementing executive-level strategies and performance plans across Regional Operations Divisions and Business Areas. The Executive Director's Office is responsible for the overall delivery of the Associate Deputy Minister's Office operations carried out across the Province, working collaboratively with leadership teams comprising seven Regional Operations Divisions and Business Areas.

The Executive Director, Operations reports to the Associate Deputy Minister, works directly with the Deputy Minister, and is a standing member of both the ministry's Executive Committee and Operations Executive Leadership Team.

Forestry Suite of Applications Modernization Program is responsible for the modernization of the aging forestry suite of applications into new digital products and services that will better serve and align with the strategic mandates of the Ministry. Multi-disciplinary teams are leading the way in systems development using an agile approach that focuses on human-centred design principles to deliver new digital products and services based on the needs of proponents, Indigenous Peoples, Natural Resource Ministries staff, product users, and other stakeholders.

Critical Incident Stress Management Program is an organized, comprehensive and thoughtful approach that deals with preventing, reducing and controlling harmful stress symptoms resulting from a Critical Incident. This program is part of the Executive's commitment to supporting the health and well-being of ministry employees. The Associate Deputy Minister's Office leads the program with approximately 20 volunteers who provide peer support.

Operations Business Effectiveness is responsible for providing secretariat support to various executive and strategic level committees and working groups, including the Operations Executive Leadership Team, Joint Operations leadership Team, IT Investment Executive Steering Committee and Working Group. The Operations Business Effectiveness holds oversight for Ministry-wide initiatives such as the Voluntary Apparel Program while supporting other ministry initiatives like GBA+.

**Natural Resource Authorizations** provides oversight of the Ministry's performance in processing natural resource applications and efforts to continuously improve service delivery to the public. The team also manages the FrontCounter BC Contact Centre, which consists of ten frontline staff and handles 85,000 transactions annually in response to client enquiries and applications related to natural resources, e.g., Lands, Water, Forests, Fish & Wildlife and BC Parks.

**Indigenous Relations Branch** provides leadership in the Ministry to advance reconciliation in forestry and forest stewardship, including lands, wildlife and water. IRB is for delivering systems, tools and advice that enable quality and streamlined consultation supporting the Ministry of Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation in agreement negotiation, treaty and reconciliation initiatives, and developing appropriate policy and legislation.

**Chief Negotiator** intends to increase alignment of the forestry negotiation strategy between the Ministry of Forests and Ministry of Indigenous Relations and Reconcilliation with focus on increasing capacity in reconciliation negotiations and policy development for forestry. This is implemented through an inter-

agency approach which includes guidance on FOR CN and MIRR CN alignment, integrated negotiations in FOR, MIRR and LNRO, and through the Forestry/Stewardship Negotiations Steering committee. The FOR CN sits in the FOR Associate Deputy Minister's office, but reports to both the FOR Associate Deputy Minister, and the MIRR Assistant Deputy Minister of Regional Operations and Negotiations.

Budget: Governmen

Full Time Equivalents (FTEs): 46

### MINISTRY OF FORESTS - TIMBER, RANGE AND ECONOMICS

ADM Responsible: Melissa Sanderson

Core Business/Program Area Description/Critical Business Processes:

Timber, Range and Economics (TRE) Division is committed to advancing broad provincial objectives and ministry priorities through six key business areas: Timber Pricing, Economics and Trade, Compensation and Business Analysis, Range, Resource Worker Safety, and BC Timber Sales. The Intentions Paper, the Softwood Lumber dispute, the Forestry Worker Supports & Community Resiliency Council, Value-Added Forestry, and Industry Relations are key files.

Timber Pricing Branch is responsible for the development of timber pricing-related policies and procedures that serve to assert the financial interests of the government and encourage a vigorous and competitive forest industry. Accountabilities include billing for stumpage and waste, cruising, scaling, stumpage policy, waste assessment and forest revenue forecasting.

Economics and Trade Branch supports B.C.'s interests related to the long-standing Canada-United States softwood lumber dispute. It works extensively with many other branches and ministries, the federal government, other provinces, and legal counsel to ensure B.C.'s interests are accurately and strongly represented in any negotiations or litigation. Financial and economic analysis relating to B.C.'s forest policy is provided along with monitoring and reporting on forest sector markets, impact analysis of ministry initiatives, and stakeholder relations. The branch also manages the province's log export permitting process and policies as well as those relating to the Manufactured Forest Products Regulation.

Compensation and Business Analysis Branch is responsible for compensation claims arising out of government policy, land-use decisions, First Nations treaty settlements, and competition assessments in support of transactions under Section 54 of the *Forest Act*. The branch also works on fibre access support, business, investment, and resource economic analysis in support of sector competitiveness, investment, and forest policy decision making.

Range Branch has four program areas: Policy, Legislation and Tenure Administration; Rangeland Stewardship and Practices; Ecosystem Restoration; and Invasive Plant Management. The branch provides policy leadership and encourages maximum productivity by managing, protecting and conserving the government's range resources for the immediate and long-term benefits of British Columbians. They plan the use of range resources in consultation and cooperation with other ministries, agencies of government and with the private sector to encourage a vigorous, efficient and world competitive ranching sector in B.C.

Resource Worker Safety is responsible for the Ministry of Forests Safety Management System which supports SAFE Company Certification. The Director of Resource Worker Safety (DRWS) provides strategic advice, builds partnerships, and develops solutions for complex safety issues, taking a leadership role in resource worker safety and cultural change in working towards the goal of zero fatalities across British Columbia. The DRWS is responsible for developing and implementing the Performance Management System to track and report progress and accomplishments in resource worker safety.

BC Timber Sales (BCTS) supports the timber Market Pricing System (MPS). BCTS operates under a self-funding special account within the *Forest Act* that defines the activities on which it can earn revenues and expend funds. The goal of BCTS is to provide credible representative price and cost benchmark data for the MPS through auctions of timber harvested from public land. The objectives are to 1) sell the full BCTS apportionment over the

business cycle, consistent with safe practices, reconciliation with Indigenous peoples, and sustainable forest management, 2) generate direct net revenue and indirect revenue for the province over the business cycle, and 3) pursue continuous improvement within BCTS, across government, and with third party partners and customers. BCTS also supports, the value-add sector by providing some volume through restricted bidding pools.

# **Budget: Government**

\*BCTS Provincial Operations is not included in the TRE working budget. BCTS operates under a self-funding special account within the *Forest Act* that defines the activities on which it can earn revenue and expend funds.

Full Time Equivalents (FTEs): 177

## Related Legislation:

- Forest Act
- Forest Revenue Audit Regulation
- Log Salvage Regulation for the Vancouver Log Salvage District
- Manufactured Forest Products Regulation
- Minimum Stumpage Regulation
- Scaling Regulation
- Special Forest Products Regulation
- Timber Definition Regulation
- Timber Marking and Transportation Regulation
- Forest & Range Practices Act (FRPA)
- Private Managed Forest Land Act
- Range Act
- Ministry of Forest and Range Act
- Weed Control Act

## Organizational Chart:



#### MINISTRY OF FORESTS - OFFICE OF THE CHIEF FORESTER

ADM Responsible: Shane Berg

## Core Business/Program Area Description/Critical Business Processes:

The Office of the Chief Forester (OCF) provides provincial leadership for forest stewardship – caring for BC's forests from seed to product. The Chief Forester and Deputy Chief Forester are the statutory decision makers that set the allowable annual cuts for the Province of British Columbia. The OCF is comprised of seven key business areas:

Provincial Old Growth Strategy team provides strategic leadership for the Ministry of Forests on the implementation of the New Future for Old Forests report.

Forest Carbon and Climate Services Branch leads the ministry's response to climate change and provides strategic leadership across government's natural resource sector on climate change science, policy, and programs. The branch leads the development of a carbon management regime within BC's forests.

Forest Investment and Reporting Branch ensures coordinated delivery and reporting of forest investments, including: reforestation, fertilization, fibre utilization, and road rehabilitation. The branch also provides oversight and coordination for integrated investment planning around the province.

Forest Analysis and Inventory Branch collects and maintains the forest cover inventory for the province, and provides a wide array of data, information, analysis, and analytical expertise to support government policy development and decision making. The branch also provides forest resource information and analysis support to other ministries, federal government, and external stakeholders.

Forest Improvement and Research Management Branch manages BC's forest genetic resources to enhance forest value, resilience, and genetic conservation, ensuring that BC's forest tree seed supply and storage is safe. The branch develops provincial policy to ensure that the provincial tree seed is used appropriately. The branch also manages and coordinates the ministry's natural resources research program to deliver high-quality research and scientific analysis to inform sound resource management policy and decisions.

Forest Science, Planning and Practices Branch is responsible for B.C.'s forest management framework, including silviculture research and practices, forest health research and practices, and ecology. The branch is also accountable for continuous improvement of the legal and policy framework for silviculture and forest stewardship under the *Forest and Range Practices Act*, including monitoring through the Forest and Range Evaluation Program, and the introduction of the new Forest Landscape Planning regime.

Innovation, Bioeconomy and Indigenous Opportunities Branch leads broad forest sector innovation and transformation, focusing on developing BC's bioeconomy. The bioeconomy represents value-added, forest-derived bioproducts that generate new employment, businesses, and improve fibre utilization. Many of these bioproducts support a circular and low-carbon economy by using residuals and providing an alternative to fossil inputs. The branch also works closely with Indigenous communities across the province to identify and pursue bioeconomy projects.

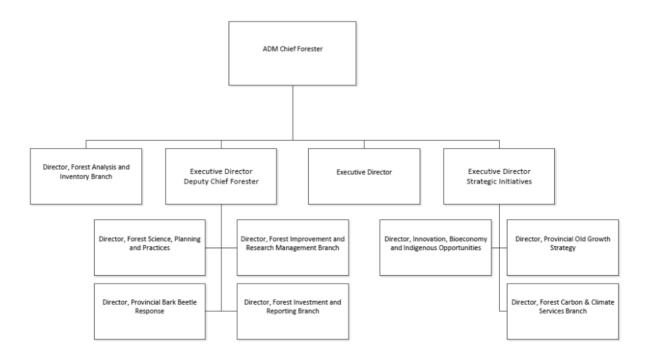
Budget: Government

Full Time Equivalents (FTEs): 349

# Related Legislation:

- Forest and Range Practices Act
- Forest Act
- Chief Forester's Standard for Seed Use

# Organizational Chart:



#### MINISTRY OF FORESTS - INTEGRATED RESOURCES OPERATIONS

ADM Responsible: Matt Austin

Core Business/Program Area Description/Critical Business Processes: IROD consists of eight diverse provincial programs: Archaeology, Compliance and Enforcement, Crown Land Opportunities and Restoration, Fish and Wildlife, Water Management, Lands, Forest Tenures, and Engineering.

Archaeology Branch: The Archaeology Branch administers the *Heritage Conservation Act* (HCA) and supports archaeological resource management. The branch's core responsibilities include maintaining the Provincial Heritage Register (over 60,000 sites), overseeing HCA permits to support archaeological assessments and alterations to sites.

Compliance and Enforcement Branch: Trusted to safeguard and regulate British Columbia's valued cultural and natural resources, the Compliance and Enforcement Branch (CEB) has the responsibility and oversight of natural resource stewardship. The branch enforces several pieces of legislation applied across the province, and covers compliance and enforcement activities related to forests, land, water, wildfire, heritage sites and resource roads.

Fish and Wildlife: The Fish and Wildlife Branch leads the development of legislation, policy and regulations related to the oversight, allocation and sustainable management of wildlife and freshwater fish throughout the province. The branch functions as the provincial fish and wildlife experts and provides ongoing policy interpretation, advice, and information to government.

Water Management: The Water Management Branch is responsible for the operational delivery of provincial water programs including the River Forecast Centre, flood safety, dam safety, water utilities regulation, water allocation, and water business. These programs help ensure that the use, allocation, and oversight of provincial water resources is done in a safe, fair, and sustainable manner that also protects public safety.

Lands Branch: The Lands Branch delivers Crown land policy and pricing advice, guidance and tenure documents to regional colleagues, partner ministries, agencies, and executive for implementation of the Crown land program. Projects also include development of legislation and policy to support decision making with, and land transfers for, First Nations. The branch maintains and enhances the Crown Land Registry as the province's inventory of Crown land and related records, current and historical. The branch also provides the operational link between Crown land and private registry systems through oversight of the Land Title and Survey Authority of British Columbia and associated legislation, including the operating agreement with Land Title and Surveyor General offices.

Crown Land Opportunities and Restoration Branch: The Crown Land Opportunities Section leads the delivery of complex and/or high value Crown land sales, including liquified natural gas. The section also leads the resolution of complex Crown land dispositions (leases and licences). These sales and dispositions support broader government goals, including First Nations reconciliation and provincial economic development. The Crown Contaminated Sites Program manages prioritized, high-risk contaminated sites on Crown land for which there is no existing responsible party, where no responsible ministry can be identified, or where government has accepted responsibility through some form of legal arrangement.

Forest Tenures Branch: The Forest Tenures Branch has three main functions. Forest Land Acquisitions provides exclusive, centralized provincial administration of Ministry of Forests property and right-of-way acquisition, forest land acquisitions, and property management including lease negotiation and administration. Business

Applications provides system support for managing legal and financial risks to enable statutory decision makers to make informed, accurate and durable tenure decisions. There are 55 dependent systems, including the business-critical support for enabling the billing of stumpage (\$1.6 billion) and leasehold payments (\$4 million). Timber Tenures leads policy development on forest tenures legislation, provincial tenure administrative policies and tenure agreement templates.

Engineering Branch: The Engineering Branch provides a safe resource road network that balances public, community, First Nations, commercial and industrial use. The resource road network is comprised of about 60,000 kilometres provincially, of which 12,000 kilometres are capital roads accessing communities, rural residences, and high value recreation sites. The branch provides professional and technical oversight of the provincial engineering program (branch and district staff and resources), works collaboratively with land managers, and develops and implements engineering standards and practices for use by internal and external stakeholders.

### Related Legislation:

- Boundary Act
- Cremation, Interment and Funeral Services Act
- Dike Maintenance Act
- Drainage Ditch and Dike Act Environmental Assessment Act
- Great Bear Rainforest Act
- Greenbelt Act
- Environmental Management Act
- Financial Administration Act and Budget Transparency and Accountability Act
- Fisheries Act
- Forest Act
- Forest and Range Practices Act
- Forest Practices Code of BC Act

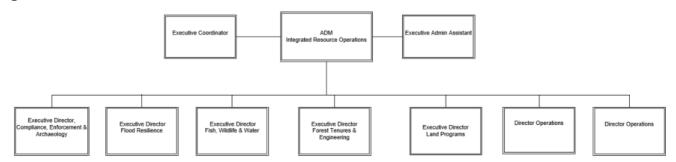
- Forest Service Provider Protection Act
- Forest Revitalization Act
- Heritage Conservation Act
- Land Act
- Land (Spouse Protection) Act
- Land Survey Act
- Land Surveyors Act
- Land Title Act
- Land Title Inquiry Act
- Land Transfer Form Act
- Land Title and Survey Authority Act Land Act
- Local Government Act
- Off Road Vehicle Act
- Occupiers Liability Act
- Oil and Gas Activities Act

- Private Managed Forest Land Act
- Professional Governance Act
- Mines Act
- Ministry of Lands, Parks and Housing Act
- Motor Vehicle Act
- Museum Act
- Soldiers Act
- University Endowment Lands Act
- Utilities Commission Act
- Wildfire Act
- Wildlife Act
- Water Sustainability Act
- Water Users' Communities Act
- Water Utility Act
- Water Protection Act

Budget:Government

Full Time Equivalents (FTEs): 387

# Organizational Chart:



#### MINISTRY OF FORESTS – AREA OPERATIONS – COAST AREA

ADM Responsible: Sarah Fraser

Core Business/ Program Area Description/Critical Business Processes:

Coast Area Regional Operations are comprised of seven natural resource districts and three timber sales business areas reporting through the South Coast and West Coast Natural Resource Regions.

The Coast Area covers a geographical area of 213,530 square kilometers which includes Haida Gwaii, Vancouver Island, the coastal areas of mainland British Columbia, the Lower Mainland east to Hope and up the Sea-to-Sky. The Coast Area is unique as it manages over 20,000 kilometres of shoreline and marine foreshore as well. It is also home to the Great Bear Rainforest, an internationally recognized conservation and sustainable economic model of forest management and environmental stewardship lead in partnership between the province and First Nations.

The Coast Area has an estimated population of 3.6 million residents, representing 78% of the population of BC and 61% of the province's MLAs and MPs. The Coast Area also encompasses the traditional territories of approximately 113 First Nations, representing over 50% of all Indigenous Peoples in BC.

The competing demands on the land base, population density and overlapping First Nation traditional territories translates into significant complexities and expectation for managing and accessing public lands and resources (e.g., public safety, recreation and social pressures, recreational growth, and affordability).

The Coast Area Regional Operations Division has primary accountabilities for:

- · Forestry, range, water, land, wildlife and fish authorizations and monitoring
- Indigenous consultation
- Major projects authorizations
- Operation of regional offices providing client access to natural resource authorizations (Front Counter BC), geographic information and Crown land sales.
- · Revenue management
- Drought and flood response
- Emergency Management BC and BC Wildfire Service (BCWS) support
- Wildfire Risk Reduction (funding from BCWS)
- Wildfire rehabilitation and recovery
- Resource stewardship (resource value monitoring and assessment)
- BC Timber Sales regional timber sale
- Investment and reporting on forest management to the Office of the Chief Forester and timber sales reviews for region
- Strategic initiatives and forest landscape planning
- Silviculture project delivery
- Resource roads and infrastructure including access and land management issues.
- Manage the authorization for the aquaculture program for the province (finfish, shellfish and marine plants).

## **Budget:Government**

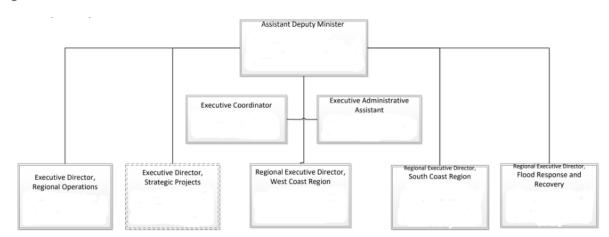
\*CSNR Finance is still working to correct our final budget after the re-org where we lost approx. Gov from our critical base

# budget

Full Time Equivalents (FTEs): 540

Related Legislation: Regional Operations works with all legislation under FOR responsibility.

# Organizational Chart:



#### MINISTRY OF FORESTS - AREA OPERATIONS - SOUTH AREA

ADM Responsible: Jamie Jeffreys

Core Business/Program Area Description/Critical Business Processes:

The South Area includes the Kootenay-Boundary, Cariboo, and Thompson-Okanagan regions. There are eight natural resource districts within those regions. The South Area covers two time zones, several mountain ranges, large portions of the Fraser River and Columbia River watersheds, and a geographic area of 250,000 square kilometres. An estimated 682,000 people reside within the area boundary and there are approximately 87 First Nation bands and tribal councils within the three regions.

Climate change is having a significant impact throughout the South Area resulting in extreme weather events, including severe wildfire seasons, flooding such as the atmospheric river event of November 2021, landslides, and ongoing droughts. South Area staff play a critical role in managing the land base in response to and recovery from these events. Ongoing population growth in the South Area has resulted in the expansion of the urban-woodland interface, leading to an increased number and more complex land and water issues as we continue to move towards meaningful reconciliation with Indigenous Peoples and co-management of the landbase.

The South Area is home to a thriving recreational freshwater fishing industry, for which staff monitor and manage the objectives and health of ecosystems. It also maintains a large network of aging dams and dikes that are critical to water resource management. Other priority areas of business focus include advancing old growth deferrals, supporting the Modernization of Forest Policy initiatives, and launching forest landscape planning. There are several apportionment determinations pending, including the 100 Mile House, Cranbrook, and Invermere timber supply areas.

## **South Area Regional Operations Division** has primary accountabilities for:

- Forestry, range, water, land, wildlife and fish authorizations and monitoring
- Indigenous consultation, reconciliation, and implementation of UNDRIP principles
- Major projects authorizations
- Operation of regional offices providing client access to natural resource authorizations (FrontCounter BC), geographic information and Crown land sales
- Revenue management
- Drought and flood response
- Emergency Management BC and BC Wildfire Service support
- Wildfire Risk Reduction program delivery with funding from the BC Wildfire Service
- Wildfire rehabilitation and recovery
- Resource stewardship (resource value monitoring and assessment)
- BCTS regional timber sales
- Investment and reporting on forest management to Office of the Chief Forester and timber supply reviews for all regions
- Strategic initiatives and forest landscape planning
- Silviculture project delivery
- Resource roads and infrastructure including access and land management issues
- Ongoing MOF client sector engagement and support
- Community collaboration on wildfire and flood resilience

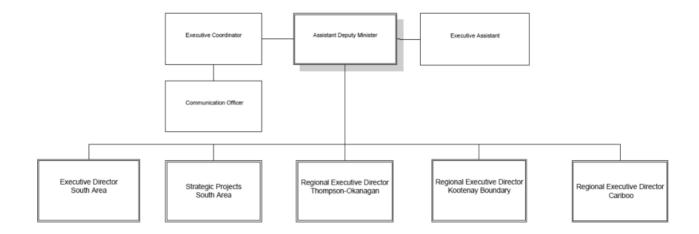
Budget: Government

Full Time Equivalents (FTEs): 903

Related Legislation: Regional Operations works with all legislation under FOR responsibility.

\*Primary accountability for the Creston Valley Wildlife Management Area (CVWMA). The CVWMA mandate is directed by British Columbia's Creston Valley Wildlife Act passed in March 1968. The CVWMA mandate is to manage the Creston Valley Wildlife Management Area to conserve 7,000 hectares of provincial Crown land for the preservation of highly important habitat for waterfowl, waterbirds, and Species at Risk.

# Organizational Chart:



#### MINISTRY OF FORESTS - AREA OPERATIONS - NORTH AREA

ADM Responsible: Mike Hykaway

Core Business/ Program Area Description/Critical Business Processes:

The North Area is a large and diverse geographic area spanning the northern 65% of the province. The area is subdivided into the Northeast, Omineca and Skeena regions. A significant portion of the area is remote wilderness with approximately 160,000 people living in rural communities. Sixty-three First Nations are located within the North Area and are all actively engaged with the province on a spectrum of reconciliation agreements from shared interests to Treaty. The North Area is the backbone of the province's natural resource economy driven by forestry, oil, natural gas, and Mining.

Sector*	% of Sector in North	North Area related Sales	# North Area Jobs as	North Area related
	Area	and Expenditures (\$M)	Direct Employment	Direct Payments to the
				Crown (\$M)
Forestry	55% of interior timber	\$4,200	9,500	\$300
	annual allowable cut			
Oil & Gas	100% of current	\$5,700	3,300	\$600
	drilling and 95+% of			
	facilities and pipelines			
Mining	23% of mining	\$2,000	4,000	\$15 <sup>2</sup>
	production value <sup>1</sup>			
	TOTAL:	\$11,900	16,800	\$915

<sup>\*</sup>Statistics for 2019.

The North Area Regional Operations Division has primary accountabilities for:

- Forestry, range, water, land, wildlife and fish authorizations and monitoring
- Indigenous consultation
- Major projects authorizations
- Operation of regional offices providing client access to natural resource authorizations (Front Counter BC), geographic information, and Crown land sales.
- · Revenue management
- Drought and flood response
- Emergency Management BC and BC Wildfire Service (BCWS) support
- Wildfire Risk Reduction (funding from BCWS)
- Wildfire rehabilitation and recovery
- Resource stewardship (resource value monitoring and assessment)
- BC Timber Sales regional timber sales
- Investment and reporting on forest management to the Office of the Chief Forester and timber sales reviews for regions
- Strategic initiatives and forest landscape planning
- Silviculture project delivery
- Resource roads and infrastructure including access and land management issues.

Budget: Government

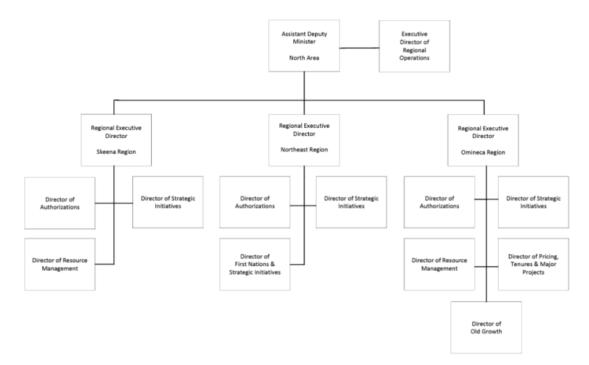
Full Time Equivalents (FTEs): 589

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> North Area also has 68% of provincial mineral exploration expenditures totalling \$225M in 2019.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Provincial mineral tax based on sector profitability.

Related Legislation: Regional Operations works with all legislation under FOR responsibility.

# Organizational Chart:



#### MINISTRY OF FORESTS – BC WILDFIRE SERVICE

ADM Responsible: Ian Meier

Core Business/Program Area Description/Critical Business Processes:

The BC Wildfire Service (BCWS) delivers wildfire management and emergency response on behalf of the Government of British Columbia to protect life and values at risk, and to encourage sustainable, healthy, and resilient ecosystems. To meet its mandate, BCWS:

- provides for the safety of its workers and the public,
- delivers effective, innovative, and cost-efficient wildfire management services,
- provides emergency response support and services, and
- ensures strong and collaborative relationships with stakeholders, partners, and clients.

BCWS is a provincial line-of-sight delivery agent that has provincial coordination through BCWS Headquarters offices located in Kamloops and Victoria. The organization delivers wildfire prevention, mitigation, and response services through six fire centres strategically positioned across the province (the Northwest, Prince George, Coastal, Cariboo, Kamloops, and Southeast Fire Centres). Each fire centre is divided into zones, and each zone is further divided into tactically located fire bases from which fire fighters are dispatched.

BCWS responds to wildfires on Crown land and supports wildfire response on public and private lands through service and cost-sharing agreements. When allocating resources, human life and safety are the highest priorities for wildfire response. Other priorities include the protection of communities, infrastructure, and other assets; mitigation of impacts on key environmental values; and the maintenance of other natural resource values using prescribed and natural wildland fire. BCWS supports national and international wildfire response through various agreements and supports the province's response to other natural hazards. An average of 2,000 wildfires occur in B.C. each year with approximately half being human-caused and half activated by lightning.

### **Budget**

BCWS has allocated \$38.98 million for Fire Preparedness. These activities include fire prevention, fire operations, strategic initiatives, corporate wildfire services, wildfire risk and litigation, research and innovation, partnerships and strategic engagement, Geographic Information Systems (GIS), and organizational development.

The Fire Management Vote provides for authorized expenditures under the Wildfire Act including:

- direct fire control,
- abatement of public safety risks resulting from fire control,
- abatement of public safety risks on Crown land resulting from fire,
- · rehabilitation of land damaged by fire control,
- rehabilitation of Crown land damaged by fire,
- abatement of fire hazard risks on Crown land, and
- compensation to the owner of private land and any tenant of private land for damage caused by the government while carrying out fire control, prevention, and preparedness.

Over the past five years, BCWS averaged \$493 million in direct fire control costs and related expenditures. This includes a high of \$808 million in 2021 and a low of \$182 million in 2019 during this period. The current voted appropriation for fire management increased from \$136.310 million in 2021/22 to \$194.285 million in 2022/23. It is set to increase to Government in 2023/24 and 2024/25.

BCWS has Government in capital funding for 2022/23. This figure includes Government for facilities, Go

million for air tanker bases, Governm million for specialized equipment, and Govern million for vehicles.

# Full time employees

The BCWS workforce consists of approximately 400 regular staff and 1,600 seasonal staff. During the wildfire season, the organization takes on approximately 700 TEAMS resources drawing from other departments in the provincial government as well as up to 1,500 out-of-province and out-of-country resources.

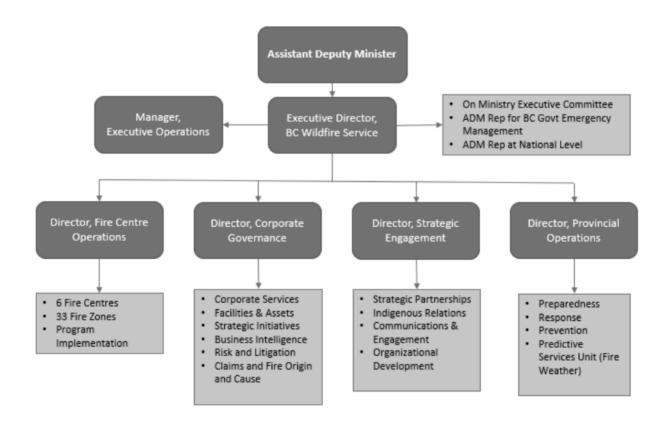
## **Related Legislation**

The Wildfire Act and Wildfire Regulation define the legal responsibilities and obligations that everyone in B.C. must abide by. When BCWS places bans or restrictions in an area, the Wildfire Act and Wildfire Regulation make them enforceable. This legislation came into effect on March 31, 2005. Its key goal is to specify responsibilities and obligations on fire use, wildfire prevention, wildfire control, and rehabilitation.

The B.C. Government has recently made minor amendments to the Wildfire Regulation, B.C. Reg 38/2005.

Other related legislation: Forest and Range Practices Act, Parks Act, Environmental Management Act, Hydro and Power Authority Act, Forest Act, Special Accounts Appropriation and Control Act, Annual Rent Regulation, and Emergency Program Management Regulation.

# **Organizational Chart**



Ministry: FOR

Issue: Developing a B.C. Flood Strategy: opportunities, considerations, and next steps

## Background:

The Ministry of Forests (FOR), supported by Emergency Management B.C. (EMBC), is leading development of a B.C. Flood Strategy (the Strategy) to support progress toward a more flood resilient British Columbia in a changing climate. It will address Provincial commitments in the B.C. Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act (Declaration Act) and align with the U.N. Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction (Sendai Framework) relating to flood and drought management in the province. The Strategy is intended to address ongoing flood management challenges and climate change, increase partnerships with First Nations and local governments, and improve public safety.

The Province started work towards the Strategy 2020, with plans for a Flood Resilience (Implementation) Plan to follow. Early conversations with First Nations, local governments, and federal government agencies in the summer of July 2021 led to an Intentions Paper for the Strategy. The Intentions Paper is a proposed strategic framework that includes a Vision, Outcomes, and Principles for flood resilience in the province. The framework sets four strategic 'program areas' and associated potential actions for future implementation. The Strategy will remain high level and leave more granular decisions for geographically based implementation plans.

Strategy development with industry, academia, professionals, and non-government agencies (NGOs) was delayed due to paused engagement and redirection of resources toward response and recovery to the November 2021 flood events. In July 2022, provincial government direction supported a request to re-initiate engagement on the Strategy, and release the Intentions Paper in fall 2022.

#### Opportunity:

The atmospheric river events of November 2021 caused floods and landslides triggering billions of dollars in damages and unprecedented impacts to critical infrastructure such as roads and bridges, extensive losses to the agricultural sector, the evacuation of over 17,000 people, and the tragic loss of five lives. There is a high level of interest in taking timely action to mitigate future risk and strengthen flood risk governance. The 2019 B.C. Preliminary Strategic Climate Risk Assessment showed that flooding has the highest consequence of all climate-related risks assessed.

A comprehensive Strategy and Implementation Plan(s) will help to reduce flood risks while enhancing our resilience to more frequent extreme flood events in the future. The vision of the Intentions paper states, "Together, we are leaders in innovative, holistic flood risk management, enhancing B.C.'s flood resilience for the 21<sup>st</sup> century." The core themes proposed for the Strategy, as informed by the four pillars of the Sendai Framework, include understanding flood risk; strengthening flood risk governance; enhancing flood preparedness, response, and recovery; and investing in flood resilience.

The Strategy is framed as an "all of society" approach to flood resilience in alignment with the Sendai Framework. This approach proactively addresses priority risks across the province and extends targeted supports to First Nations and local governments who can plan and manage for their risks locally and in context of their neighbouring communities. This supports greater emphasis and investment in disaster risk reduction, which has been shown to save disaster response and recovery costs in multipliers of 1:7 or more.

EMBC and FOR are taking a proactive approach to communicate how recovery, mitigation, and preparedness work over the last year by local authorities and the Province has started to address community concerns related to the coming fall flood season. Budget and Fiscal Plan 2022/23 to 2024/25 commitments are improving the Province's flood safety and river forecasting capacity, reflecting another positive step since the November 2021 flood events.

Development of the Strategy will address recommendations of the Auditor General's report Managing Climate Change Risks: An Independent Audit (February 2018) and the Abbott-Chapman report Addressing the New Normal: 21st Century Disaster Management in British Columbia (April 2018). Development of the B.C. Flood Strategy is included in Objective 1.2 of the current Ministry of Forests Service Plan.

## **Next Steps:**

The next phase of engagement will expand on a multi-ministry approach and include releasing the Intentions Paper publicly in October 2022. Alderhill Planning (an Indigenous owned and operated consulting firm) will facilitate six engagement sessions (three in-person and three virtual) organized by water basin between October and December. These sessions are focused on First Nations and local governments to support relationship building for ongoing flood and resilience planning. Additionally, Simon Fraser University's Morris J. Wosk Centre for Dialogue will lead two virtual engagement session targeted at private industry, academia, professionals, and non-government agencies (NGOs), and will support public engagement through EngageBC. Advice/Recommentations

Advice/Recommentations

Partnership opportunities will be sought with interested First Nations to dive deeper into policy questions and co-develop the Strategy. The collective engagement undertaken to inform the Strategy will result in a well-articulated vision on where and how government plans to address flood resilience planning. The inclusive and responsive engagement approach with First Nations and partners in developing the Strategy is setting the stage for successful implementation over the next 10 years.

Advice/Recommentations; Cabinet Confidences; Government Financial Information

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Advice/Recommentations; Cabinet Confidences; Government Financial Information

Ministry: FOR

Issue: Intentions Paper and Old Growth

## Background:

In June 2021, the Province released the <u>Intentions Paper</u> (IP) and made a commitment to modernize and diversify the forest sector by increasing forest sector participation, enhancing sustainability and stewardship of our forests, and ensuring ongoing support of forestry across BC. In addition, we have started the work to enhance sustainability and stewardship of our forests and increase public license for forestry across BC. Twenty priority actions have been outlined in the Intentions Paper to create the path to our new vision and we are making progress. The province is committed to working in consultation and cooperation with Indigenous Nations on this work, aligned with obligations in the Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act (Declaration Act).

The vision to modernize forest policy (MFP) has been informed by extensive engagements since 2017 with Indigenous Nations, the forestry industry, local governments, stakeholders, and the public. During the summer and fall of 2021, the Province heard from 125 Indigenous Nations and organizations on proposed changes to MFP. The Province heard unanimously that the work to modernize forest policy is important, and Indigenous Nations want to be meaningfully involved in the forest sector as Rights and Title holders. Extensive engagements with local governments and the forest sector also occurred. A significant amount of progress has been made to date specifically on policy and legislation that enhanced legal mechanisms to redistribute tenure, provided clarity on compensation, protect jobs, as well as made improvements to the *Forest and Range Practices Act* (FRPA) that also provided improvements to forest management and greater roles in decision making and stewardship for Indigenous Nations.

The Intentions Paper complements government's ongoing work to implement the independent panel's recommendations on old growth forests. Government accepted all 14 recommendations from *A New Future For Old Forests* report, which identified implementation advice from the Old Growth Strategic Review (OGSR) process. To date, implementation centered around Recommendation 6 – defer development in old forests in ecosystems at very high risk. In November 2021 government announced harvesting deferrals in areas at high risk of biodiversity loss. From now through 2023, the focus is on engagement across sectors and stakeholders, developing an action plan that guides long-term implementation, and building an ecosystem health declaration and principles for a more inclusive governance model. Government will collaborate with First Nations and will engage with industry, environmental organizations, labour groups and local governments in identifying the required key actions.

The implementation of all 14 recommendations is characterized by a longer-term paradigm shift in how

we manage old forests, which includes a shift to including the full involvement of Indigenous leaders and organizations in policy development and implementation, and the prioritization of ecosystem health and resilience as a primary value in forest management. The implementation of this plan will have varying impacts across the Natural Resource Sector.

## Issue/Opportunity:

While much work on the Intentions Paper continues through established processes on updating guidance and policy direction, a number of IP items require further engagement with Nations in support of achieving the requirements of the *Declarations Act*, legislative and regulatory development.

## Next Steps:

Cabinet Confidences; Advice/Recommentations

Ministry: FOR / LWRS

Issue: Northern Wildlife Co-Management Initiatives

## Background:

- The North Area is a large and diverse geographic area spanning the northern 65% of the province. The Area is subdivided into Northeast, Omineca and Skeena Forest Regions. A significant portion of the Area is remote wilderness with ~160,000 people living in rural communities. Sixty-three First Nations are located within North Area; all actively engaged with the province on a spectrum of reconciliation agreements from shared interests to Treaty. North Area is the backbone of the province's natural resource economy driven by forestry, oil, and natural gas, and mining.
- The far north is of vital economic importance to the Province with rich oil and gas reserves in the Northeast and one of the most valuable mineral deposits in the Northwest of the province. These resources underly some of the most pristine wildlife habitats in BC.
- Hunting is central to the way of life of Indigenous people in the north; BC's remote north is also a popular destination for hunters and outdoor enthusiasts across BC and the globe.
- Intergovernmental Communications
- For example, this past year the Province has negotiated agreements with both Treaty 8 Nations in the Northeast and the Tahltan Central Government in the Northwest that commit to pursuing wildlife co-management and shared decision making.
- Intergovernmental Communications
- Advice/Recommentations; Intergovernmental Communications

• In 2018 the Province launched the 3Nations-BC Collaborative Stewardship Forum (CSF), which includes Tahltan, Taku River Tlingit and Kaska Nations, to advance shared management of wildlife across the collective territories of the 3 Nations.

•	Intergovernmental	Communications
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• The 3Nations-BC Collaborative Stewardship Forum and the newly formed Treaty 8-BC Wildlife Working Group, are each focused on joint monitoring of hunting efforts this season to be able to inform any potential revisions to hunting regulations prior to next hunting season.

## Issue/Opportunity:

Hunting regulations are often divisive and working to focus efforts to the broader common interest in wildlife objective setting is critical. Advice/Recommentations; Intergovernmental Communications

Advice/Recommentations; Intergovernmental Communications

Through the Treaty 8-BC Wildlife Working Group, and the 3Nations-BC Collaborative Stewardship Forum, LWRS and FOR staff are working together with Nations to design a principled and transparent approach for exploring potential regulation changes prior to the 2023 hunting season that is responsive to outcomes and lessons learned from this year's hunting regulation decision.

Advice/Recommentations; Government Financial Information; Intergovernmental Communications

Advice/Recommentations; Intergovernmental Communications

Advice/Recommentations; Intergovernmental Communications
Next Steps:
Advice/Recommentations; Intergovernmental Communications
Advice/Recommentations; Government Financial Information; Intergovernmental Communications

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Advice/Recommentations ; Intergovernmental Communications

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Advice/Recommentations ; Intergovernmental Communications

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Advice/Recommentations; Intergovernmental Communications

Ministry: FOR

Issue: 365 readiness and implications (broader coordination with EMBC)

## Background:

- The BC Wildfire Service is recognized provincially as a lead agency in emergency preparedness and response and has been increasingly engaged in non-wildfire preparedness and response activities to support the province. (e.g localized flooding, atmospheric river support, landslides, etc.)
- The BC Wildfire Service is committed to an evolving emergency management role under a
  unified, 365-day-a-year approach that considers the demands, challenges, and opportunities in
  applying our organizational capacity and expertise to Provincial emergency preparedness and
  response.
- As dictated by the Emergency Program Regulation, in a state of emergency, the BC Wildfire Service is responsible for Provincial Aviation Management, and supporting response by supplying available personnel, assets and resources.
- The 2022 Provincial Budget provided direction to BCWS to focus on preparedness & response
  capacity for all disasters, not just wildfire. This will be accomplished by increasing our full-time
  crew capacity, additional training and education, and collaboration with other Ministries.
- Development of the internal capacity, training, processes and procedures required to support all hazard preparedness and response activities is underway.
- This includes establishing protocols for external engagement, and defining collaboration across multiple agencies, including Emergency Management BC.
- This project, known as "365 Readiness" is developing the strategy for preparing for and responding to any provincial emergency at any time as a support agency.
- BCWS is also co-leading the development of the "BC all hazard preparedness and response strategy" with Emergency Management BC. This project will be developed in parallel with the 365 readiness project.

### Issue/Opportunity:

- Prior to the 2022 budget, BCWS was not resourced or structured to fully realize the vision of being prepared to respond to hazards in BC 365 days a year. As a largely auxiliary workforce, the resource capacity during portions of the year is significantly lower then needed to meet the needs of other Ministries and the citizens of BC.
- Driven by climate change, natural disasters are increasing in frequency and severity making it

- imperative for governments, businesses, non -profit organizations, citizens and visitors to be prepared and ready.
- BC's geography, geology and climate present diverse and complex hazards such as earthquakes, wildfires, flooding, and severe weather events (e.g., ice, snow and windstorms)
- Emergencies have devastating impacts often long-lasting on citizens, visitors, communities, businesses, and critical infrastructure.
- Indigenous communities are often disproportionately impacted by emergencies, due to their relatively remote locations, lack of access to services, and reliance on natural ecosystems.

# **Next Steps:**

- In collaboration with other agencies, BC Wildfire Service will develop and implement a multihazard preparedness and response strategy that incorporates 365 Readiness and focusses on building a framework for BC Wildfire's evolution into multi-hazard preparedness and response organisation.
- Evolve BC Wildfire Service into an organization with broad capability for emergency response, including catastrophic emergency response action functions year-round.

## Ministry: FOR

#### Issue:

 Given the importance of the BC Timber Sales (BCTS) program to the Softwood Lumber Agreement and any related trade disputes as well providing supplemental fibre to the sector, BCTS performance is closely monitored by stakeholders across the province.

# Background:

- BCTS is a self-financing program within the Ministry of Forests.
- BCTS has one goal, three objectives, and three overarching principles:

#### Goal:

To provide credible representative cost and benchmark data for the Market Pricing System through auctions of timber harvested from public land in British Columbia.

## Objectives:

- 1. Sell the full BCTS apportionment over the business cycle, consistent with safe practices, reconciliation with Indigenous peoples, and sustainable forest management.
- 2. Generate direct net revenue and indirect revenue for the Province over the business cycle.
- 3. Pursue continuous business improvements across government and with third party partners and customers.

**Principles**: Forest Sector Safety, Reconciliation with Indigenous Peoples, and Sustainable Forest Management.

# Issue/Opportunity:

Advice/Recommentations: Government Financial Information

Advice/Recommentations; Government Financial Information				

# Additional Information:

- BCTS continues to play a critical role in the forest sector and the economies of rural communities. Each year BCTS puts over \$150 million directly into communities through tendering of its service contracts. It's activities also support between 4,500 to 7,500 direct and about 10,000 indirect well-paying jobs each year. With falling volumes sold in 2021/22 and 2022/23 due to the impacts of the Old Growth Strategy these benefits to the Province will decline.
- Since inception in 2003, BCTS has:
  - sold over 200 million cubic metres of timber into the forest economy through competitive auctions; and,
  - o earned over \$1.6 billion in net revenue for the Province, the majority of which supported other government priorities such as education, health, parks and recreation.
- BCTS publishes quarterly and annual public performance reports.

Ministry: FOR

Issue: Forest Bioproducts Strategy for British Columbia

## Background:

British Columbia (BC) is implementing policies to shift its forest sector from high volume to high value, increase fibre utilization, and minimize the burning of slash piles.

The forest bioeconomy is one of eight pathways in the CleanBC plan, and broader natural resource sector diversification policies are prioritized in the Old Growth Review, StrongerBC, Intentions Paper, and strategies under development like the Manufacturing Strategy.

The forest bioeconomy, and specifically forest bioproducts, have potential to support many cross-government objectives.

Past investments in forest bioproduct research and development with partners such as FPInnovations and the BC BioAlliance have identified innovative bioproduct opportunities that could become commercial products through targeted investments.

The BC Bioproducts Strategy aims to set BC's priorities and guide the development of a domestic bioeconomy.

### Issue/Opportunity

BC is uniquely positioned to capitalize on the forest bioproduct sector. High quality, sustainably managed fibre, abundant hydro-electric resources and established infrastructure all make BC an attractive location for forest bioproduct production.

Well established relationships with industry, academia, and research institutions position BC to grow into a leadership role for the sector. BC has the opportunity to emerge as a leader in forest bioproducts globally.

The Strategy sets the priorities and approach that BC should take in expanding the province's bioeconomy and has four key objectives:

- Improve forest fibre utilization by reducing harvest and sawmill waste, and slash pile burning;
- Lead the transition to a low-carbon economy by reducing fossil fuel-based inputs;
- Advance forest sector innovation by supporting bioproduct research and development;
- Support commercialization and diversification through value-added manufacturing.

Ministry: FOR
Issue: Changing Tides Reconciliation Framework with Haida Nation (recognition of Aboriginal title and implementing short term measures).
<ul> <li>The GayGahlda 'Changing Tide' Framework Agreement (Framework Agreement), signed in August 2021, is a tripartite agreement between the Council of the Haida Nation (CHN), British Columbia and Canada, and outlines a pathway to negotiate Haida "inherent" title on Haida Gwaii to occur over a timeline estimated to take 10 to 20+ years.</li> <li>Advice/Recommentations; Intergovernmental Communications</li> </ul>
Intergovernmental Communications
Advice/Recommentations; Government Financial Information; Intergovernmental Communications
•
Government Financial Information; Intergovernmental Communications



Ministry: FOR

Issue: A Notice of Civil Claim was filed in 2020 by Grand Forks residents for damages resulting from 2018 flood, pursuant to the Class Proceeding Act.

Background:

Unprecedented snowpack and heavy rainfall caused the flooding of Grand Forks.

The suit alleges that overharvesting and harvesting practices resulted in the flood. The Chief Forester's office, BC Timber Sales and Forest District decision makers are all named in the suit, as well as all licensees who have authority to harvest in the Kettle River Watershed. An amended suit names individual decision makers in the Ministry of Forests. The suit has not been certified as a class action, a hearing date for certification is scheduled for mid-2023.

Advice/Recommentations

Issue/Opportunity: Advice/Recommentations
Advice/Recommentations

The Selkirk District is working to improve relationships with the community and has been involved in the Kettle River Watershed Advisory Committee. A Cumulative Effects assessment was undertaken to help inform decisions around cut block location and roadbuilding.

Next Steps:Legal Information

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Advice/Recommentations; Legal Information

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Advice/Recommentations; Legal Information

Ministry: FOR

Issue: Cultural and prescribed fire

# Background:

- Fire is a natural, normal process in many of BC's ecosystems and is necessary to maintain a healthy forest and the diversity of plant and animal life.
- Many Indigenous Peoples have oral histories which speak of the use of fire on the land as a traditional stewardship practice since time immemorial.
- In the early 1900's, laws and policies were established by the Province which severely restricted the traditional use of fire, and focused on suppression of natural wildfires to protect the forest industry and rural communities.
- As a result of this suppression-focused wildfire management model, forest fuels have accumulated on the land base and now present heightened risks of catastrophic wildfires. These risks are being exacerbated by climate change.
- Today, cultural fire refers to the deliberate use of fire on the land by Indigenous peoples, based
  on traditional protocols and practices. Prescribed fire refers to the planned use of fire to achieve
  land management objectives, typically guided by Western science and provincial policies.
- Wildfire management professionals in many jurisdictions, as well as First Nations and stakeholders, have advocated for the expanded use of cultural and prescribed fire as a strategy to mitigate the risks of catastrophic wildfires driven by climate change.
- The Ministry has committed to expand the use of cultural and prescribed fire in partnership with First Nations and in collaboration with the forest industry, ranching community, wildlife stakeholders and other partners.
- Expanding a cultural and prescribed fire program is a core part of the Ministry's shift from a seasonal, suppression-focused wildfire management model to a year-round model focused all four pillars of emergency management - risk reduction, preparedness, response and recovery.
- There are inherent risks to using fire on the landscape, which may be mitigated through careful planning and due diligence. Safety is always the Ministry's paramount priority.

# Issue/Opportunity:

- The use of prescribed burning as a forest management tool peaked in the 1990's, with approximately 150,000 hectares burned per year. Since the mid-1990's, less than 10,000 hectares has been burned each year.
- The 2018 Abbott-Chapman Report recommended that the Province expand the use of cultural and

- prescribed fire in partnership with First Nations. In the Modernizing Forest Policy Intentions Paper, the Ministry committed to working on consultation, collaboration and cooperation with First Nations to re-integrate prescribed and cultural fire as a core part of the forest management toolkit.
- Expanding the use of Indigenous cultural burning is an action in the draft 2022-2027 Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act Action Plan. The Ministry is developing a strategy for working in consultation and cooperation with Indigenous peoples to implement this action.
- As part of this strategy, the Ministry is scoping policy and program changes to recognize Indigenous cultural burning, integrate Indigenous knowledge, and build capacity.
- Cultural and prescribed fire is a vegetation management activity within the seven FireSmart
  disciplines and will be one of the activities that will be supported through BC Wildfire Service's shift
  to a year-round wildfire management model.
- The 2022/23 Ministry Service Plan sets an objective of doubling the number of cultural and prescribed fire projects developed by or co-developed with First Nations, to 20 in 2022 and 40 in 2023.
- There are currently approximately 60 cultural and prescribed fire projects planned for implementation in the 2022 spring and fall burning seasons. Actual delivery of these projects will depend on finalizing burn plans and is subject to favourable seasonal weather conditions.
- Cultural and prescribed fire planning and burn projects are eligible activities for funding under the
  Community Resiliency Initiative (CRI) and the Crown Land Wildfire Risk Reduction and FireSmart
  Community Funding Support programs. In 2021/22, these programs approved \$15M in operational
  treatments, of which approximately \$3.4M was allocated to cultural and prescribed fire projects or
  related activities.
- First Nations have been working to re-vitalize their traditional burning practices. Since 2019, the
  Ministry has provided \$200,000 to the First Nations Emergency Services Society (FNESS) to support
  First Nations' efforts to review and develop Indigenous knowledge related to cultural fire use.
- FNESS has received an additional \$2.55M from the Ministry to participate in and support the CRI
  Working Group and BC FireSmart Committee and engage with indigenous communities on wildfire
  risk reduction opportunities, which includes cultural and prescribed fire.
- Operational costs for BC Wildfire Service staff to participate in cultural and prescribed fire projects are funded through the Fire Management Vote.

# Next Steps:

Advice/Recommentations; Cabinet Confidences

•

- The Ministry intends to implement the cultural and prescribed fire modernization strategy through a co-development approach with Indigenous Peoples.
- As the modernization strategy advances, the Ministry will continue to work in partnership with
  First Nations and in collaboration with other partners to expand the number of cultural and
  prescribed burns conducted in BC, while also building capacity and building public support for an
  expanded program.

Ministries: FOR, PSSG

Issue: Flood recovery and mitigation efforts in the Sumas Prairie Advice/Recommentations; Intergovernmental Nooksack Transboundary Flooding Initiative

### Background:

- The November 2021 Atmospheric River event caused flooding in various parts of the City of Abbotsford (City), and most notably widespread flooding in the Sumas Prairie, due to the Nooksack River overflow from Whatcom County in Washington state. Since the devastating impacts, the City has transitioned from response related activities to short term recovery planning (Disaster Financial Assistance funding) as well as development of broader Sumas Prairie flood mitigation options.
- The City has provided information on four options developed in conjunction with services by Kerr Wood Leidal Associates. While options include Build Back Better aspects and managed retreat, material change to existing land use is limited due in part to the high degree of private land, infrastructure development and importance of agricultural production from the Sumas Prairie. Information regarding the four proposed options has been shared publicly.
- The City announced their preferred option on June 13, 2022 and sent a letter to the Premier on June 27th sharing the preferred option and a request to advance funding for a new Sumas River pump station, limited scope dike improvements and improvements to the Barrowtown pump station (Phase 1). The City has identified the new Sumas River pump station as a critical need to address flood box deficiencies which caused the back-up of the Sumas River in November and subsequent flooding. Government Financial Information; Intergovernmental Communications
   Government
- Advice/Recommentations; Intergovernmental Communications

In March 2022, Premier Horgan and Washington Governor Inslee announced cooperation to
convene an ongoing Nooksack Transboundary Flooding Initiative to address flooding prevention and
to identify sustainable solutions to mitigate risks of Nooksack River overflow flood events, which
includes flooding across the border into Sumas Prairie. An interim working group of staff from First
Nations, Local, Provincial and State governments has begun to meet to discuss design of the
initiative. Advice/Recommentations; Intergovernmental Communications

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Advice/Recommentations ; Intergovernmental Communications

Ministries: Ministry of Forests (FOR), Ministry of Tourism, Arts, Culture and Sport (TACS), Oil and Gas Commission (OGC)

**Issue:** Heritage Conservation Act Transformation Project (HCATP)

#### Background:

- The purpose of the *Heritage Conservation Act* (HCA) is to encourage and facilitate the protection and conservation of B.C.'s unique cultural heritage.
- The Provincial Heritage Register lists nearly 60,000 protected heritage sites, of which over 90% are
  of First Nations origin.
- For many years, Modern Treaty Nations, First Nations, and other interested parties (industry, local/regional governments, heritage organizations, etc.) have voiced various concerns with the HCA and its administration and have called for change.
- Advice/Recommentations
- In 2007, the Joint Working Group on First Nations Heritage Conservation (JWGFNHC) was formed between the Province and First Nations Leadership Council (FNLC) to collaboratively deliver on the mandate to "explore options and provide recommendations to improve the protection, management and conservation of First Nations cultural and heritage sites".
- The JWGFNHC is currently comprised of 3 Provincial and 4 First Nations representatives. Provincially
  this work is being led through the Integrated Resource Operations Division (IROD) under executive
  champion ADM Matt Austin, and project leadership from Jean-Paul Salley, Director of Operations,
  IROD Assistant Deputy Minister's office, and Jessica Ruskin, Archaeology Branch Director.
- First Nations continue to call for an enhanced role in the management of their cultural heritage, increased protection of culturally sensitive sites, and implementation of the United Nations
   Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP). More recently, First Nations have identified the HCA as a priority body of legislation for alignment with UNDRIP per Section 3 of the Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act (Declaration Act).
- The HCA has not been significantly amended since 1996 despite administrative amendments in May 2019 which added further compliance and enforcement measures.
- Advice/Recommentations

A	Advice/Recommentations
• 4	Advice/Recommentations; Cabinet Confidences
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•	
•	Minister Conroy, with JWGFNHC co-chairs ADM Matt Austin and Dr. Judith Sayers, introduced and took questions regarding the HCATP on June 3, 2022 while attending the Union of B.C. Indian Chiefs (UBCIC) Chiefs Council meeting in Vancouver. JWGFNHC members provided a similar introduction and overview of the HCATP at the First Nations Summit meeting on June 15, 2022.
•	An engagement plan, backgrounder (including an initial HCA/UNDRIP alignment table), presentation materials, and feedback survey have been collaboratively developed through the JWGFNHC with assistance from technical staff from the UBCIC and the Province.
•	Intergovernmental Communications
•	External stakeholder engagement (nearly 500 invitations sent out) commenced in mid-September
	and comprised of three in-person sessions followed by 10 virtual sessions, will be concluding in mid-

# Issue/Opportunity:

October.

- The Province recognizes the need to transform the HCA to better meet the needs of all British Columbians
- Advice/Recommentations; Intergovernmental Communications

- Advancing this work will support the fulfilment of Declaration Act Action Plan 2022-27 commitment
   4.35 which states the Province will "work with First Nations to reform the Heritage Conservation Act to align with the UN Declaration, including shared decision-making and the protection of Indigenous cultural, spiritual, and heritage sites, and objects"
- This work presents an opportunity to develop a model for collaboration with First Nations on legislative and programmatic reform, including the alignment of law with the UNDRIP
- Advice/Recommentations; Cabinet Confidences
- Advice/Recommentations; Government Financial Information

### **Next Steps:**

- Advice/Recommentations; Intergovernmental Communications
- Advice/Recommentations; Cabinet Confidences
- Advice/Recommentations; Cabinet Confidences
- Advice/Recommentations; Intergovernmental Communications

Ministry: FOR

Issue: Forestry and Stewardship Negotiations with the Carrier Sekani First Nations

Background:

The Carrier Sekani First Nations (CSFN) is comprised of Takla Nation, Nak'azdli Whut'en, Tl'at'en First Nation, Ts'il Kaz Koh, Nadleh Whut'en, Stellat'en First Nation and Saik'uz First Nations. The CSFN and B.C. have reached successive government-to-government agreements (G2G) since 2014, all of which have influenced reconciliation policy in positive ways. In 2019, CSFN and BC reached agreement on the Pathways Forward 2.0 ("Pathways") framework, which enables the scoping and development of a Comprehensive Reconciliation Agreement (CRA).

The implementation of Pathways occurred during the COVID pandemic, which impacted the parties' ability to implement all aspects of the agreement. Progress on the scoping of a CRA has been slow as a result. That said, significant progress has been made in the development of a comprehensive approach to resolving aboriginal title interests in forestry.

Advice/Recommentations

Issue/Opportunity:

Issue: Advice/Recommentations; Intergovernmental Communications
Advice/Recommentations; Intergovernmental Communications

Opportunity: Advice/Recommentations; Intergovernmental Communications Advice/Recommentations; Intergovernmental Communications

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Advice/Recommentations; Intergovernmental Communications

Ministries: FOR, MAG, MIRR

Issue: Nuchatlaht First Nation litigation for Aboriginal Title

# Background:

The Nuchatlaht First Nation is a small Nation with a registered population of 168 members. Nuchatlaht's primary community is Ocluje, which is located near the Village of Zeballos on the western side of Vancouver Island. Nuchatlaht are also a member Nation of the Nuu-chah-nulth Tribal Council.

In 2017, Nuchatlaht submitted a notice of civil claim to the Supreme Court of British Columbia claiming Aboriginal title for the Nuchatlaht Indian Reserves and a portion of their asserted territory on the northern part of Nootka Island. Nootka Island is located on the western side of Vancouver Island, near the Village of Zeballos and the Village of Tahsis. The trial commenced on March 21, 2022. Oral arguments are being held in October 2022, and a decision is expected in the spring of 2023.

The Mowachaht/Muchalaht First Nation (MMFN) and Ehattesaht Chinehkint First Nation (EFN) have territory that is adjacent to Nuchatlaht First Nation. Intergovernmental Communications; Legal Information

Issue/Opportunity:

Advice/Recommentations; Intergovernmental Communications

Advice/Recommentations; Intergovernmental Communications

The claim area includes existing rights issued to third parties, including a Forest License held by Western Forest Products (WFP). WFP was initially included in the civil claim but was removed on April 5, 2022.

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Advice/Recommentations; Intergovernmental Communications; Legal Information

Ministry/Ministries: Ministry of Forests (Sea to Sky District); and Ministry of Environment & Climate Change Strategy (Recreation Sites & Trails BC)

Issue: The Visitor Use Management Framework: Piloting a Recreation Management Tool on Crown Land in the Sea to Sky Corridor

Over the last decade, the Sea-to-Sky Natural Resource District has seen dramatic increases in use by outdoor, all-season recreationists. The increased density and frequency of use have produced a measurable impact on the environment and wildlife, increasing wildfire risk, placing pressure on existing infrastructure, and infringing on First Nations' quiet use of important cultural sites. The magnitude of those pressures is best documented at Joffre Lakes Provincial Park but is reflected extensively across the district in all types of Crown lands. The Visitor Use Management Framework described here is a contemporary approach that addresses this resource pressure.

### Background:

The Sea-to-Sky Land and Resource Management Plan (LRMP) was published in 2008 and provides an over-arching, government-to-government land use zoning structure that addresses protection of First Nation cultural sites, conservation of biodiversity, as well as traditional resource extractive uses such as forestry and mining. However, at that time almost 15 years ago, the pressure on natural resources produced by outdoor recreation, both commercial and non-commercial, was not fully realized, predicted nor adequately addressed by the LRMP.

The Sea to Sky Corridor traverses the traditional territories of the Coast and Interior Salish peoples of the Skwxwú7mesh (Squamish), the Selílwitulh (Tsleil-Waututh), the xwməθkwəyəm (Musqueam), the Lilwat7úl (Lil'wat), the N'Quatqua, the In-SHUCK-ch, and the Stó:lō. As the magnitude of management challenges with over-crowding at and damage to parks, recreation sites, and other Crown lands began to emerge, the Ministry of Forests (Sea-to-Sky District) and First Nation partners recognized a strategic gap in land management direction that needed immediate attention and action.

A planning framework for visitor management developed by a U.S. government inter-agency council in 2016 seemed particularly relevant to the challenges being identified in the Sea to Sky Corridor. Its main purpose was to provide guidance on assessing and managing visitor use on federally managed lands and waters. In so doing, it also created a legally defensible, transparent decision-making process that met U.S. law and policy requirements while ensuring agency accountability.

The Framework can be both proactive and adaptive, thereby increasing the probability of achieving and maintaining successful outcomes. An integral component of adapting the process to BC involved building in co-management actions, with First Nation's stewards being present on the land.

Issue/Opportunity:

Together, Squamish Nation, Lil'wat Nation, Tsleil-waututh Nation, N'Quatqua and the Ministry of Forests have worked through the Visitor Use Management Framework and produced Strategies for Squamish River Valley, Háwint (Tenquille Lake) as well as Nqw'elqw'elústen (Meager Creek) and Múmleqs (Keyhole) Hot Springs in their respective traditional territories. A fourth strategy for Shannon Basin is nearing completion. Advice/Recommentations; Government Financial Information; Interests of an Indigenous People Advice/Recommentations; Government Financial Information; Intergovernmental Communications

Among the key learnings and progress to-date are:

- Language is important to culturally significant landscapes; First Nations' place names and placebased stories enrich the visitor experience and can change visitor behaviors
- The presence of Indigenous stewards on the land strengthens their ties to the land, creates many opportunities to engage and share knowledge among First Nations members and with the greater public, and is proving to be an effective co-management approach
- · Governments working together with stakeholders can find consensus on sustainable visitor use
- Advice/Recommentations; Intergovernmental Communications
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Overall, success is contingent on harnessing champions among all partners, including

- o First Nations members (and their non-member staff),
- dedicated Ministry staff and
- o motivated community members (ex. volunteers of the Pemberton Wildlife Association)

#### **Next Steps:**

The four Visitor Use Management Strategies being applied to pinch points in the Sea to Sky Corridor continue to be implemented and evaluated. The management process may organically flow into a second phase at some locations while stalling at others. The formula for success can be clearly linked to resourcing, effective communication, and a strong commitment from all partners. Advice/Recommentation Advice/Recommentations

Ministry: FOR

Issue: Support for the Value-Added Forest Sector

# Background:

- The Annual Allowable Cut (AAC) in BC is declining as result of the impacts of the Mountain Pine Beetle epidemic, several years of devastating wildfires and other downward pressures emerging from Old Growth actions, Species at Risk requirements and managing for First Nations values. Transitioning the forest sector from high volume to high value to sustain a viable future industry is a priority.
- In June 2021, Premier Horgan presented governments "Modernizing Forest Policy in BC" Intentions Paper, and reinforced the provinces commitment to modernize policies towards the value-added sector.
- The Ministry of Forests (FOR) Minister's 2022 mandate letter has directed the ministry to: "Lead the transition of our forestry sector from high volume to high value production, increasing the value-added initiatives of our forest economy, including making mass timber a priority in public buildings moving forward. Furthermore, to advance the mass timber action plan, and by working with industry and labour, dedicate a specific portion of the AAC toward higher value producers who can demonstrate their ability to create new job for workers in BC, and to champion innovation in our forestry sector that aligns with Clean BC objectives and improves sector efficiency."
- Generating more value from BC's forests requires a number of concurrent initiatives and actions
  that includes an accountability framework to ensure future Value Add results. A key focus area
  of the provinces renewed support to BC's Value-Add sector will come via it's BC Timber Sales
  (BCTS) program.
- BCTS currently has two registration categories<sup>1</sup>:
  - Cat 1 which is available to market loggers and timber processors, and
  - Cat 2 which is restricted only to timber processing facilities (value-add) provided they do not hold more than 10,000 m³/year of replaceable quota.
- BCTS auctions most of its Timber Sale Licences (TSLs) around the province each year as open to both categories.
- Cat 2 TSLs are distinguished by a timber processing obligation, whereby the holders must process a minimum amount of volume, proportional to the TSL volume, through their facilities during the term of the licence.
- Cat 2 auction results do not contribute to the Market Pricing System (MPS), because the
  auctions are directed at a restricted bidding pool.
- The value-added sector would like more volume directed towards Cat 2 auctions. This sector has stated that it requires approximately 6 to 8 million m³ per year to meet their capacity needs.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> As of February 7, 2022, BCTS had 747 persons registered in Cat 1 and 135 in Cat 2 for a total of 882.

- BCTS has successfully auctioned roughly 1 million m³/year as Cat 2 timber sales since 2013 until 2019. In 2019/2020 the Cat 2 volume auction was 880,000 m³, for 2020/2021 the Cat 2 volume auction was 797,000 m³ and for 2021/2022 the Cat 2 volume auction was 686,000m³.
- Feedback from Cat 2 registrants and stakeholders indicates that the current program designed
  to supply primary sawmilling is not servicing the fibre needs of the growing value-added sector.
  BCTS has been tasked with developing a new program that is focussed on the value-added
  sector and that will replace the existing Cat 2 program. This is being developed as part of the
  Intentions Paper and the program will be phased in as components are created.
- A working group has been established through the Intentions Paper process to look for avenues
  to obtain additional volume for the value-added sector (Cat 2) and to bring the volume offered
  as Cat 1 TSL to 20 percent of the provincial AAC.

Issue/Opportunity:

Three themes are informing the design of the proposed value-added category (Cat Value added).

#### 1) Focusing on the Value-added Sector

A broad interpretation of value-added covers the entire spectrum of operations from those that minimally process wood fibre to those that produce highly processed products. For the Value-added program to be effective, the province needs to ensure that the "right log goes to the right mill" as best it can. The design of the new value-added program needs to ensure each component, either BCTS CAT value-added or work with the fibre-based sectors, sources the right material through new and existing Ministry programs.

#### 2) Reducing the Diversion of Timber Volume from the Program

Value-added facilities often require specialized feedstocks that may not be directly sourced from a TSL. As a result, the value-add sector relies upon a network of private business arrangements that, at times, uses timber as currency to exchange for appropriate input material. Left unchecked, there is a risk that timber is exchanged into the broader market but with little or no resulting value-added activity by the value-add facilities. This risk can be effectively mitigated by establishing a proactive program registration structure combined with strict reporting requirements and rigorous monitoring/enforcement regimes.

Effective administration of the Value-added programs will rely upon ensuring compliance with the program rules. This will entail mandatory reporting requirements for participants, coupled with regular internal and external auditing and monitoring and strict enforcement by BCTS and Compliance and Enforcement.

## 3) Eliminating Systemic Barriers to Value-added Businesses

Value-added sector stakeholders identified systemic barriers that discourage smaller operations from participating in the BCTS program. The timber processing obligations require the TSL holder to process, at a minimum, a specified amount of timber proportional to the timber volume of the TSL which can disfavour facilities that produce disproportionately greater value from the inputs consumed. It is

proposed to replace the input-based timber processing obligation with an output-based value-added obligation. This provides equity for highly efficient operations that produce high value end products.

BCTS will also tailor Cat Value-added TSLs suitable for the market.

Next Steps:

Advice/Recommentations; Intergovernmental Communications

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# **CROWN AGENCIES**

Name: Association of BC Land Surveyors

Legislative Authority: Land Surveyors Act, s. 6 (9)

Mandate: To set educational requirements, examine for admission, and regulate professional land surveyors to perform legal surveys within British Columbia, Canada.

#### **Current Appointees:**

- Neil Hain
- Abigail Fulton

# Appointments required:

- 30 Days: Appointment for Neil Hain's replacement is required on or before December 22, 2022, (though this may be resolved prior to consideration of this material).
  Government appointments are confirmed through Order in Council.

# Issue(s):

Based on discussions with Crown Agencies and Board Resource Office, there are currently no known issues.

# **Key Contact:**

Kelly Stofer Chief Administrative Officer, Association of BC Land Surveyors 250-655-7222

# **CROWN AGENCIES**

Name: Creston Valley Wildlife Management Authority (the Management Authority)

Legislative Authority: Creston Valley Wildlife Act, s. 16

Mandate: To manage the Creston Valley Wildlife Management Area, a 7,000-hectare (17,000-acre) area of provincial Crown land, for conservation and natural species diversity through active habitat and wildlife management, research and education.

# **Current Appointees:**

Lyle Saigeon

# Appointments required:

- No upcoming appointments within 30, 60, or 90 days
- Government appointments are made by Ministerial Order.

# Issue(s):

 In July 2022, the Crown Agencies and Board Resourcing Office identified a long-term vacancy on the Management Authority for a lay member. There has been no recent effort to appoint a lay member, and it has been vacant for over eight years. Intergovernmental Communications Intergovernmental

#### **Key Contact:**

 Andre Breault Federal Government Member and Chair, Creston Valley Wildlife Management Authority 604-350-1962

#### **CROWN AGENCIES**

Name: Forestry Worker Supports and Community Resiliency Council (the Council)

Legislative Authority: The Council is established as an advisory body for the Minister under a strategic review of BC's old-growth forest management practices, named *A New Future for Old Forests*. Members are appointed by letter from the Minister and there is no legislative authority for the Council.

#### Mandate:

- 1. To advise the Province on the implementation of the Old Growth Strategic Review, Recommendation 14: Supporting forest sector workers and communities as they adapt to changes resulting from a new forest management system; and
- 2. To inform government's vision for resilient, thriving communities through the development of innovative and forward-looking economic development and diversification initiatives.

# **Current Appointees:**

- Parliamentary Secretary for Forests, Doug Routley (Chair)
- Sarah-Patricia Breen
- Titilope Kunkel
- Todd Chamberlain
- · Cynthia (Cindy) Oliver
- Daniel Macmaster
- Jolleen Dick
- Gavin McGarrigle
- Jim Stanford
- Bob Simpson
- Dolores Funk
- Scott Lunny
- Kelly Johnson
- Brian Menzies
- Lori Ann Forgeron
- Corinne Stavness
- Brian Fry
- Sunny LeBourdais
- Sharie Minions

#### Appointments required:

- No upcoming appointments within 30, 60, or 90 days. Appointments were completed on September 8, 2022, and Advice/Recommentations
- Appointments are for a term of one year, with the potential for a one-year extension, as per the Council's Terms of Reference.
- Government appointments are done through ministerial letters.

# Issue(s):

- The Council is new and only recently established. The Province established the Council to provide advice
  on developing a suite of forest worker and community support (FWCS) programs.
- Advice/Recommentations

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Key Contact:
 Doug Routley
 Chair, Forestry Worker Supports and Community Resiliency Council (250) 387-3655

# **CROWN AGENCIES**

Name: Land Title and Survey Authority (LTSA)

Legislative Authority: Land Title and Survey Authority Act, section 2

Mandate: The LTSA is a statutory corporation responsible for managing the land title and survey systems of BC. These systems provide the foundation for all real property business and ownership in the province.

# **Current Appointees:**

- Robert Simmons
- Sarf Ahmed

# Appointments required:

- No upcoming appointments within 30, 60, or 90 days
- Government appointments are confirmed through a Ministerial letter.

# Issue(s):

Based on discussions with the Crown Agencies and Board Resource Office, there are currently no known issues.

# **Key Contact:**

 Kelly Orr Director, Corporate Governance Operations and Corporate Secretary, Land Title and Survey Authority 250-410-0575

#### **CROWN AGENCIES**

Name: Private Managed Forest Lands Council (the Council)

**Note**: Under the *Private Managed Forest Land Act*, the Council is the "Private Managed Forest Lands Council" but is generally referred to as the "Managed Forest Lands Council".

Legislative Authority: Private Managed Forest Land Act, Part 2

Mandate: To administer the Managed Forest Program and protect key public environmental values on private managed forest land in British Columbia. The Council may make regulations with respect to the objectives in the Act for soil conservation, water quality, fish habitat and reforestation.

# **Current Appointees:**

- Dennis Lozinky
- Brian Freknel

#### Appointments required:

- No upcoming appointments within 30, 60, or 90 days.
- Government appointments are made by Ministerial Order.

#### Issue(s):

- Based on discussions with the Crown Agencies and Board Resource Office (CABRO), there are currently no known issues.
- Advice/Recommentations

#### **Key Contact:**

 Phil O'Connor Executive Director, Private Managed Forest Lands Council 250-386-5737