

Rooted in BC: Economic Impact of Forestry

BC Council of Forest Industries Economic Impact Study

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

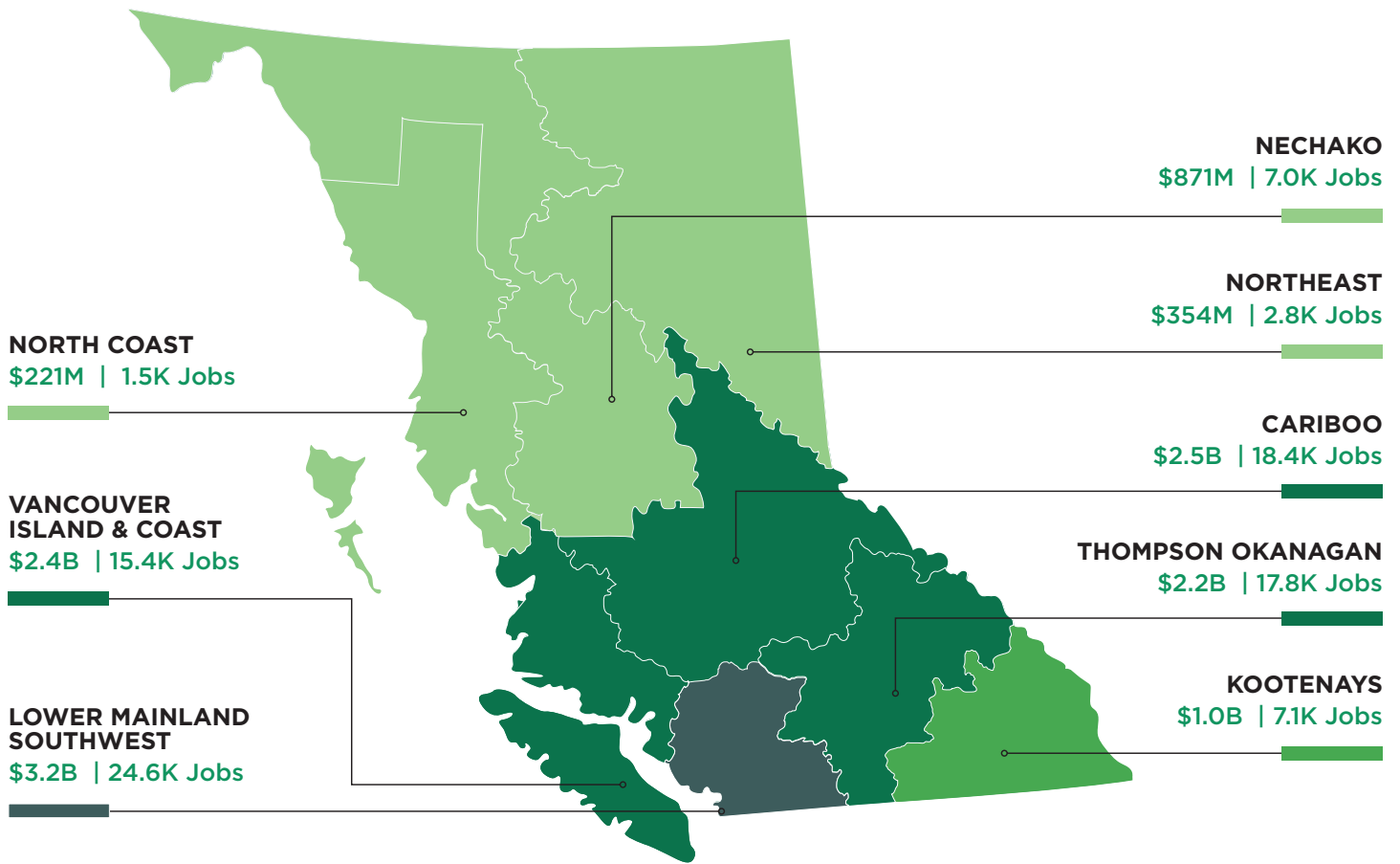
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The Economic Impact of British Columbia's Forest Sector

Amidst significant trade disruptions, shifting global markets, and evolving land-use priorities, the forest sector remains a cornerstone of British Columbia's prosperity. Forestry supports good-paying jobs in every region, funds vital public services like healthcare and education, and fosters Indigenous participation in the economy. This study, led by COFI Chief Economist Kurt Niquidet, Ph.D., uses Statistics Canada data to evaluate the impact of the industry's operations and capital investments in 2024. Covering forestry, logging, and wood, pulp, and paper manufacturing, the report presents localized findings for BC's eight economic regions, with methodology independently validated by BDO Canada LLP. A copy of the full Technical Report can be found at cofi.org.

Economic Regions: GDP & Jobs Supported



Gross Domestic Product (GDP) Created:



FOREST INDUSTRY Economic Impact Study



Published April 2026 with data up to December 2024

SPEND

\$14.4 billion

invested in BC operations over 10 years (2015-2024)

ECONOMIC IMPACT



\$12.8 billion

to BC's GDP

95,000

direct, indirect & induced jobs for British Columbians



\$9 billion

in wages, salaries & benefits

\$3.4 billion

in government revenue to support healthcare, education & more



BC Forest Industry Represents

KEY FACTS



1 in 5

BC manufacturing jobs



26%

of forestry jobs are based in the Lower Mainland



21%

of BC's merchandise exports by value are forest products

2,600

Indigenous people directly employed

8%

of total jobs in the Kootenays

19%

of total jobs in the North Coast & Nechako

22%

of total jobs in the Cariboo





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