



BC COUNCIL  
OF FOREST  
INDUSTRIES

# Sustainable Forestry

## Forestry in BC is environmentally sustainable

**Less than 0.4%**  
of BC forests are  
harvested annually



**Forest Health  
and Biodiversity**  
are central to land use planning



**Over 250 million**  
seedlings are planted every year, with  
3 trees planted for every tree harvested

Sustainability

### Responsible forest stewardship

British Columbia is home to beautiful parks, expansive protected areas, old-growth forests and a forest industry that supports communities throughout the province and provides sustainable products to the world.



### 44 million hectares

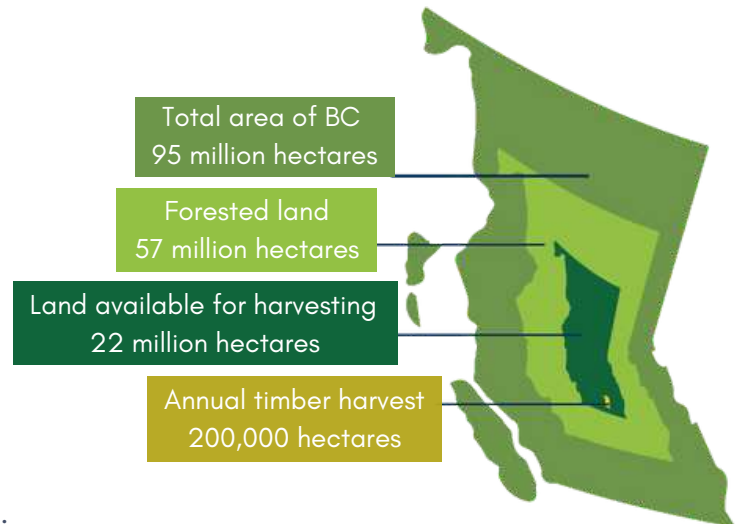
are certified by third-parties to international standards of sustainable forestry management, more than any other jurisdiction in the world.

Conservation

## Conserving old growth forests and protecting biodiversity

Much of BC's landscape remains largely untouched, with only 3% of the province's land base converted to other uses like farming, ranching, or urban development. All harvested areas are replanted to ensure forest regeneration.

Harvest volumes for each region are set by the Chief Forester, an independent officer of the provincial government. Land use plans are developed with Indigenous and local communities to ensure forests are managed responsibly for environmental, social, economic and cultural values. New strategies for climate adaptation, conservation and environmental protection are integral to regional and Indigenous land use planning.



Frameworks



## BC forests are managed under a rigorous and transparent legal framework

Forests in BC are subject to Indigenous title and regulated by the provincial government, based on policies that protect resilience, watersheds, wildlife, ecosystems, biodiversity, and cultural uses.

BC has a robust forest management framework that is constantly evolving. Forest policies emphasize the importance of conservation, reconciliation, and sustainable forest management within a holistic framework that integrates social, Indigenous and economic values.

\*References for data points are available at [cofi.org/forest-facts](http://cofi.org/forest-facts)



## 1. Less than 0.4% of BC forests are harvested annually

Calculation:

$(200,000 \text{ ha harvested} / 57,000,000 \text{ total ha forested land}) = 0.0035 * 100 = 0.35\%$

= approximately 0.4%

- 200,000 ha harvested
  - [Statistics Canada](#) - Forest Management
- 57,000,000 total ha forested land
  - Government of BC [Timber Tenures in British Columbia \(2023\)](#)

## 2. Over 250 million seedlings are planted every year

- [Government of BC](#) - A billion trees planted will benefit B.C. for generations
- [Government of BC \(305 million in 2023\)](#)

## 3. 3 trees planted for every tree harvested

Calculation:

Average Trees planted (2013 -2021) = 269 million

Average Harvest (in m<sup>3</sup> from 2013-2021, as per COFI economic dashboard): 58.8 million m<sup>3</sup>

Given that a tree harvested in BC is roughly 1m<sup>3</sup> in volume:

$269 \text{ million} / 58.8 = 4.57 \text{ trees planted} / \text{ tree cut} * (75\%) = 3.4$

\*75% takes into account natural regeneration for 25% of the land base

## 4. 44 million hectares are certified by third-parties

- [CertificationCanada.org](#) - 2023 Year-end Statistics

## 5. Conservation graphic (total forested area and timber harvestable land-base)

- [Government of BC](#) - Forests For Tomorrow

## 6. 3% of province's land base has been converted to other uses

- [Naturally Wood](#) - Forest Management

## 7. BC forested land cover 57 million hectares

- Government of BC - [Timber Tenures in British Columbia \(2023\)](#)

## 8. BC has one of the most robust forest management frameworks in the world

- [Naturally Wood](#) - Forest Management