

# British Columbia Forest Overview

British Columbia is Canada's leading supplier of wood construction and finishing wood products and is one of the world's largest exporters of wood fibre. The Province is also a world leader in sustainable forest management, and has been recognized for its forest management standards.

## BRITISH COLUMBIA HAS 55 MILLION HECTARES OF PUBLIC FOREST LAND

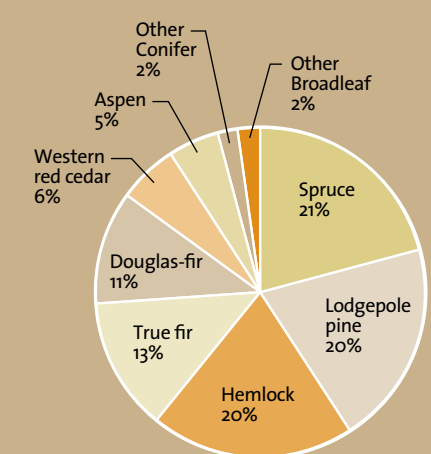
B.C. has a vast and diverse array of forests and rangelands with almost 60 per cent or 55 million hectares classified as forest land. Coniferous trees dominate 83 per cent of B.C.'s forests. In descending order, spruce, lodgepole pine, hemlock, true fir and Douglas-fir are the five most common forest types.

Generally, western hemlock, western red cedar and Douglas-fir can be found in the temperate rainforests along the Pacific Coast, while pines and spruces come from the dry and cooler forests of the interior of British Columbia.

B.C.'s forests contain enormous volumes of timber – roughly 11 billion cubic metres – with spruce, lodgepole pine, and hemlock being 61 per cent of the growing stock. Approximately half of the crown forest is considered harvestable.

The area harvested on public forest land has averaged 180,000 hectares per year since 1990, plus there is an estimated additional 20,000 hectares that is harvested each year on private forest land.

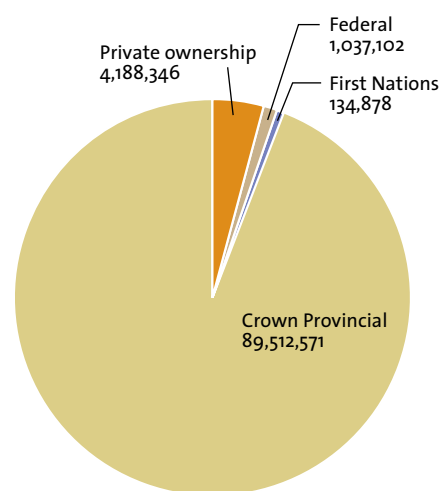
## Tree Species in B.C. Forests



For more than a century, British Columbia's forest sector has been the cornerstone of the province's economy. The forest industry is one of the key components of British Columbia's manufacturing sector. Moving into the future, B.C.'s forest sector is well-placed in its role as a leading supplier of wood construction and finishing wood products and as one of the world's largest exporters of wood fibre. B.C. has a skilled workforce, well-established primary manufacturing infrastructure, an entrepreneurial value-added sector, talented researchers and world-class forests.

B.C.'s forests are primarily owned by the Province with about 95 per cent being in public ownership. The provincial government manages forests in the public interest, balancing environmental, economic, and social issues while ensuring long-term sustainability.

## Ownership of Provincial Lands 2009 (ha)



Total Provincial land base 94,872,896 (ha)

## FAST FACTS

The Allowable Annual Cut (AAC) is the maximum amount of timber that may be harvested per year from a specified area of land. Currently, the overall AAC in B.C. is 85 million cubic metres. The AAC is set at a sustainable level for a 10 year period. The Province's Chief Forester reviews the timber supply on a regular basis, normally every ten years. Following that review, the AAC may increase, decrease or remain unchanged.

## TOP TEN HOLDERS OF AAC – 2010\*

- 1 BC Timber Sales
- 2 Canadian Forest Products Ltd. (Canfor)
- 3 Western Forest Products Inc.
- 4 West Fraser Mills Ltd.
- 5 Tolko Industries Ltd.
- 6 International Forest Products Limited (Interfor)
- 7 Tembec
- 8 Louisiana-Pacific Canada Ltd.
- 9 RPP Holdings Inc.
- 10 Abitibi Consolidated Company of Canada

\*in order of AAC holding and as of March 31, 2010.

