



MANAGED
FOREST
COUNCIL

Annual Report 2020 / 2021



November 30, 2021

Honourable Katrine Conroy
Minister of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development
PO Box 9049, Stn. Prov. Govt.
Victoria, BC V8W 9E2

Dear Minister:

With pleasure, I submit the 2020 / 2021 Annual Report of the Managed Forest Council. The report includes a summary of statutory requirements as outlined in Section 10(2) of the *Private Managed Forest Land Act* and commentary on Council and its various activities throughout the year.

There are 278 private managed forests in British Columbia, encompassing 808,000 hectares. In 2020, 2.3 million m³ of timber were harvested on managed forest land, representing approximately 6% of the total provincial timber harvest, and 20% of the timber harvest on the Coast. These properties are located mostly on Vancouver Island, the southern mainland Coast, the Kootenays and the Okanagan- Shuswap.

Some highlights of 2020 / 21:

- Council and its staff worked closely with the Ministry on the provincial Managed Forest Program Review and provided a formal submission to government with several options to strengthen the objectives of the program;
- Participated as a delegate at the 2020 ABCFP virtual convention;
- Conducted 63 inspections of managed forest throughout BC; and
- Through its compliance enforcement program assessed \$7,000 in penalties from owners.

Sincerely yours,

Trevor Swan, RPF, LLB, C Dir
Chair

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Table of Contents

What We Do	2
The Function of Council	3
2020 / 2021 Council	3
Council Biosketches	4
Council Staff Biosketches	5
2020 – 2021 Summary of Council Functions and Activities	6
Program Administration	6
Council 2020 / 2021 Performance Measures	7
Strategic Planning	8
Compliance Reporting	9
Activities Summary	11
Summary of Annual Declarations	12
Annual Activity Level Comparison 2011 – 2020	13

Harvesting across the landscape of an Interior managed forest.



What We Do

The Private Managed Forest Land Council is an independent agency established under the *Private Managed Forest Land Act* (Act). The Act was passed in November 2003 by the provincial government and was fully implemented in August 2004. As of September 2014, the Private Managed Forest Land Council is known by its working name, the Managed Forest Council (Council).

The objective of Council is to encourage forest management practices on private managed forest land and to administer the Managed Forest Program. This includes the monitoring of forest practices and the protection of key environmental values on private managed forest land as established by regulation.

Participation in the program by private landowners is voluntary. The Council budget is 100% funded by fees levied against the program participants.

Key environmental values are:



Soil conservation: to protect soil productivity.



Water quality: to protect human drinking water.



Fish habitat: to retain sufficient streamside mature trees and understory vegetation both during and after harvesting to protect fish habitat.



Critical wildlife habitat: to facilitate the long-term protection of that habitat.



Reforestation: to promptly regenerate the areas with a healthy commercially valuable stand of trees that are not impeded by vegetative competition.



*229 kilometres of road were constructed
by private managed forest owners
in 2020 / 2021.*

The Function of Council

In keeping with its objective Council is responsible for the administration of private managed forest land legislation. This includes four broad functions:

1. Strategic planning, reporting and program administration;
2. Establish and monitor forest practice standards for managed forest land;
3. Enforce standards and perform audits; and
4. Review landowner applications to enter managed forest land class.

This Annual Report covers the period from April 1, 2020 to March 31, 2021. It contains information Council considers relevant to the fulfillment of its objective in the exercise of its powers, performance, duties and functions under the Act.

2020 / 2021 Council

The Council is comprised of representatives from government and managed forest landowners:

- a chair who is jointly appointed by the four members of Council for a three-year term;
- two owner members elected for a three-year term by the private managed forest landowners; and
- two members appointed by the provincial government.

Council members report annually as to their compliance with the Council's established code of conduct. All council members declared that they have abided by the Code of Conduct as written in Section III G of the Council Governance Policy for 2020.

Current Council:

Chair: Rod Davis (until January 31, 2021)

Trevor Swan (as of February 1, 2021)

Owner Elected Members: Will Pryhitko, MF 38 & Blair Robertson, MF 177

Government Appointees: Brian Frenkel & Dennis Lozinsky



Owners of private managed forest land harvested 2.2 million cubic meters of timber throughout the province in 2020 / 2021.

Council Biosketches

Rod Davis, *Chair (retired as of January 21, 2021)*

Dr. Davis is a consultant with over 40 years experience working in fish and wildlife ecosystem conservation, forest and range practices, land use planning, environmental protection, and natural resources inventory and analysis. Prior to being appointed chair in 2012, he served on the Council from 2004 to 2011. He is a registered professional agrologist. Dr. Davis was reappointed as Chair for a new three-year term that started in February of 2019.

Trevor Swan, *Chair (appointed as new chair February 1, 2021)*

Mr. Swan is a Registered Professional Forester (RPF), lawyer and chartered director with 40 years experience in natural resource management, including the managed forest program. He is an experienced director having served as President of the Association of BC Forest Professionals, and as Chair for the Managed Forest Council from August 2004 to December 2011. Trevor has a Bachelor of Science in Forestry from the University of British Columbia, a Bachelor of Laws from the University of Alberta and a Chartered Director designation through McMaster University

Will Pryhitko, *Owner elected member, Interior*

Mr. Pryhitko started work with the Beaumont Timber Company in 1984. He was appointed the president and chief executive officer in 1999 and acted in those positions until his retirement eight years ago. He is currently a director of the company and sits on its board. Mr. Pryhitko was involved extensively with various levels of government on a broad range of issues related to private forest land and worked closely with government and forest owners throughout the development of the Private Land Forest Practices Regulation. He has been a Council member since July 2004.

Blair Robertson, *Owner elected member, Coast*

Mr. Robertson was first elected to the Managed Forest Council in 2010. He has been active in private forestry and land management on Vancouver Island since 1990. He is involved in the operation of his family-owned managed forest on southern Vancouver Island. From 1996 to 2004 he was the general manager of the Private Forest Landowners Association. Through his involvement in the Managed Forest Program since its inception he has accumulated substantial experience with local and provincial governments on a variety of resource and land management issues. He has a Bachelor of Commerce in Urban Land Economics and MBA from the University of British Columbia.

Brian Frenkel, *Government appointee*

Mr. Frenkel is a forestry and environmental consultant, business owner, politician and advocate for rural communities. Over the past 35 years he has worked with all levels of government to help provide process driven solutions to many resource sectors, regional districts and communities. He has worked as a forest planner and forestry technician throughout northern British Columbia. His career has allowed him to participate in several land use planning processes such as: the Vanderhoof Land and Resource Management Plan; the PGTSA Cell Allocation Plan; and the Vanderhoof Sustainable Forest Management Plan. He is a founding member of the Nechako Environment and Water Stewardship Society and a member of the Nechako White Sturgeon Recovery Initiative. Mr. Frenkel is also a Councillor with the District of Vanderhoof and has been an active director on the boards of the Municipal Insurance Association of BC, North Central Local Government Association and the Union of BC Municipalities.

Dennis Lozinsky, *Government appointee*

Mr. Lozinsky is a Registered Professional Forester (RPF). He has more than 30 years' experience in the forestry sector in operational forestry, forest certification and forest practices auditing. As the principal of Salix Consulting Ltd., Mr. Lozinsky specializes in providing sustainable forest management systems and forest certification auditing to a wide range of forestry-based organizations in BC and Alberta. He holds a Bachelor of Science in Forestry from the University of Alberta, and a Diploma of Forestry Technology from Selkirk College. Prior to Salix Consulting Ltd., Mr. Lozinsky was a forest certification coordinator for a major forest company on the west Coast, an operational forester in the southern Interior, and as a silviculture forester with the Ministry Forests on north Vancouver Island.

Council Staff Biosketches**Phil O'Connor, *Executive director***

A Registered Professional Forester (RPF) in BC for over twenty-five years, Mr. O'Connor's career has taken him to various locations with both government and the private sector. His government experience includes work as a planning forester on land use issues and timber supply on the central Coast and as regional revenue manager in Williams Lake. In the private sector he has worked as a field forester, as the manager of forestry resources in a Coastal woodlands department and as administrative forester responsible for the management of a TFL and

private lands. His career has taken him through all facets of the industry, from solid wood, to pulp and paper and the value added sector.

Ann Donaldson, *Program manager*

Ann Donaldson is a Registered Professional Forester (RPF) with more than 20 years experience working in natural resource management on the Coast and in the Interior of BC. Ann has worked mostly as a consultant for both industry and government, with experience ranging from silviculture, forest inventory, development planning, management plans, and timber supply analysis. She has also worked as an administrative forester responsible for ensuring adherence to legislation and policy. She began working with the Managed Forest Council as a part time consultant in 2004, becoming full time in 2016.



The risk of fire on private managed forest land is greatly reduced through an owners residue reduction activities.

2020 – 2021 Summary of Council Functions and Activities

Program Administration

2020 – 2021 Budget

- For the 2020 fiscal year, the Budget was \$476,000, revenue was \$478,500 and expenses were \$425,000. The revenue surplus was \$55,255.
- The annual fee levied on managed forest owners is made up of a general administration fee and a fee based on application of a mill rate to the bare land value of the property. Council established the mill rate for the 2020 / 2021 fiscal year at 0.321/\$ 1,000 of Bare Land Value. The general administration fee was \$ 250 for each managed forest. The 2020 / 2021 annual fee represents a 13.0 % decrease in revenue from fees over the 2019 fiscal year.
- Council expenses for the 2020 / 2021 fiscal year were \$ 425,000, 8.0% lower than those for the 2019 / 2020 fiscal year.
- Council objective is to retain a contingency reserve of \$150,000. For each of the past four years, Council has had a surplus of revenue over expenses. Council net assets (contingency reserve plus any revenue surplus) at the beginning of the 2020 / 2021 fiscal year were \$ 171,644. To align its net assets with its contingency reserve, Council adopted a strategy of running a small annual deficit. At the end of the 2020 / 2021 fiscal year, Council net assets increased to \$ 227,000. The increase in net assets at the start of the 2020 / 21 fiscal year is a reflection of the impacts of Covid-19 on Council achieving its strategic goals.
- Grant Thornton LLP, an independent third-party accounting and auditing firm, was retained to conduct a Review Engagement of the 2019 fiscal year financial statements. Council accepted the Review Engagement in fall 2020.

Management Commitments for Managed Forests

- Council receives a number of new management commitments from new entrants to the program or from new owners who have purchased existing managed forest. New management commitments are evaluated and accepted within time frames established by Council. Staff works with the landowners to resolve errors or omissions with the submissions.



A drinking water intake within a managed forest. Managed forest owners must protect licensed drinking water intakes in accordance with regulations established under the Private Managed Forest Land Act.

- Throughout the year Council receives numerous management commitment amendments from existing managed forest owners. The amendments may be to add or remove land, change or update forest management strategies, or update forest inventory. Council has a policy to process these amendments in a timely fashion, and includes a performance measure in its Corporate Plan to ensure its objective of processing these amendments within 30 days.

Council 2020 / 2021 Performance Measures

Council reports on a series of performance measures established within its annual Corporate Plan. The performance measures were established to analyze and report on Council’s performance in meeting its corporate goals in the delivery of its mandate.

Performance Measure # 1: Administrative Efficiency

Performance Measure	2020 / 2021 Target	2020 / 2021 Result	2021 / 2022 Proposed	2022 / 2023 Proposed
# days to process MC applications and amendments	30	√ Achieved	30	30

Discussion: Council office received 10 new Management Commitments and nine Management Commitment Amendments. Of these new Management Commitments and Amendments 80% were processed within 30 working days. The other 20% took longer than 30 days to process either because of their submission date relative to Council meeting dates, or they required significant revision prior to Council approval.

Performance Measure # 2: Inspections

Performance Measure	2020 / 2021 Target	2020 / 2021 Result	2021 / 2022 Proposed	2022 / 2023 Proposed
# of inspections	62	√ Achieved	60	60

Discussion: During spring and early summer of 2020 Council staff and contract inspectors completed 63 inspections of managed forests throughout BC. Since the 2014 inspection year staff have aggressively pursued Council target of conducting field inspections of each managed forest at least once every five years. The result is a rebalanced inspection program that meets Council inspection target while leading to an increase in the frequency of future inspections. The 63 inspections completed in 2020 reflect the achievement of a rebalanced inspection schedule. Going forward, future Council inspections to achieve this goal should average 60 inspections per year.

Performance Measure # 3: Training

Performance Measure	2020 / 2021 Target	2020 / 2021 Result	2021 / 2022 Proposed	2022 / 2023 Proposed
Training opportunities per person or for the group	1	√ Achieved	1	1

Discussion: Training options were limited throughout the 2020 / 2021 fiscal year as a result of the restrictions in place associated with the Covid -19 pandemic. Despite these restrictions Council staff members had the opportunity to participate in online training sessions offered by the BC Council of Administrative Tribunals and the Association of BC Forest Professionals. Training on Covid – 19 safety protocols developed by Council was provided to Council, its staff and, the consultants involved with the 2020 Inspection program.

Performance Measure # 4: Meeting Attendance

Performance Measure	2020 / 2021 Target	2020 / 2021 Result	2021 / 2022 Proposed	2022 / 2023 Proposed
Meeting attendance minimum 80%	80%	√ Achieved	80%	80%

Discussion: Council is comprised of five members and meets once a month throughout the year. An 80% attendance record represents a total of 48 person days. This year Council attendance at monthly meetings represented 59 person days, 18% above the targeted performance measure for 2020.

Performance Measure # 5: Stakeholder Engagements

Performance Measure	2020 / 2021 Target	2020 / 2021 Result	2021 / 2022 Proposed	2022 / 2023 Proposed
# of stakeholder engagements	10	√ Achieved	10	10

Discussion: Stakeholder engagement is a key component of Council's ongoing communication strategy. For the 2020 fiscal year a performance measure of 10 engagements was established. Despite the difficulties associated with the Covid – 19 pandemic, Council completed a total of 15 engagements with various stakeholders throughout the year. Many of the stakeholder engagement events were completed remotely due to the ongoing Covid – 19 pandemic.

Strategic Planning**Provincial Program Review – Ongoing**

- The Province announced a review of the Managed Forest Program in January 2019 as part of its Coastal Revitalization Strategy. Council supports this review and is pleased the province has welcomed its participation as the regulator of forest practices on private managed forest land. Since the province's announcement, Council has had the opportunity to participate in several meetings to discuss the Ministry progress and to share Council views on areas of legislation that would strengthen its ability to administer the program and its role as the regulator of forest practices on private managed forest land. Late in 2019, Council made a formal submission to the Ministry outlining its views on proposed changes aimed at strengthening the program.

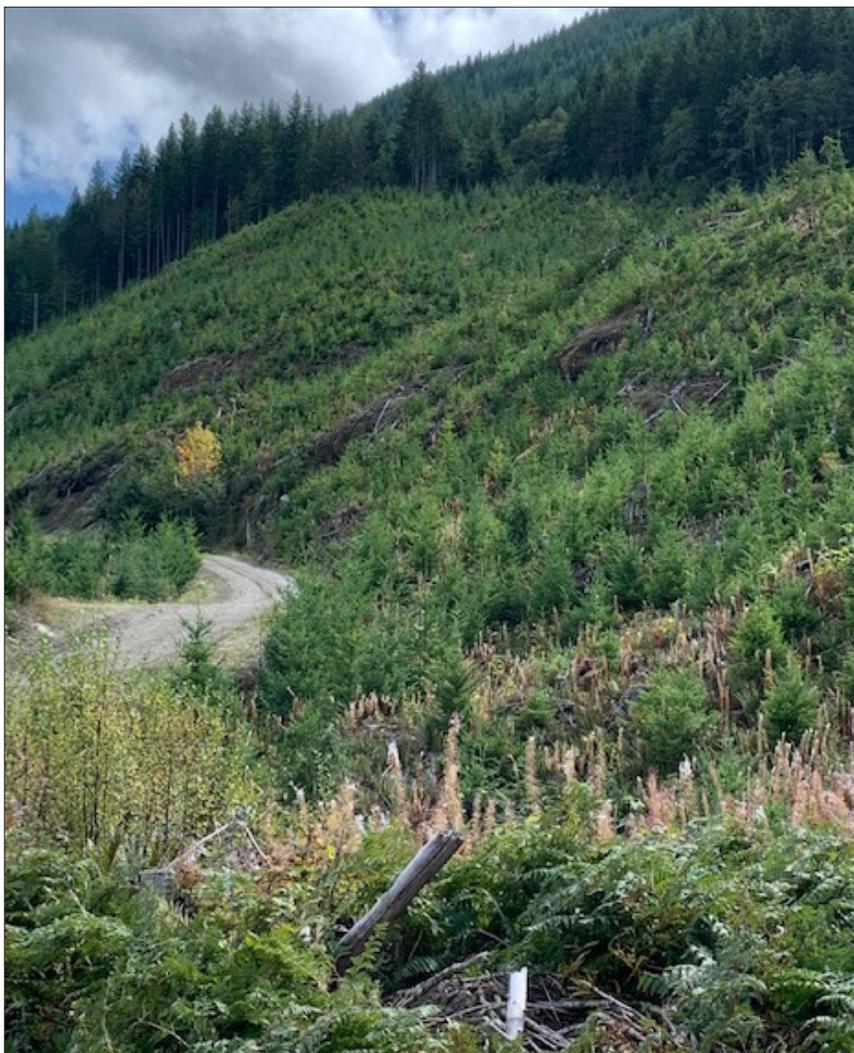


Across the province owners restocked 14,770 hectares of private managed forest land.

Compliance Reporting

Inspections

- The Inspection Program is designed to assess owners' compliance with the Council regulations.
- Each year Council engages a team of independent registered forest professionals to complete inspections of selected managed forests. Over the past five years Council staff has increased their participation in the field component of the inspection program. These inspections are an important component of the Managed Forest Program and Council's function in monitoring the implementation of forest practices on managed forest land. Of the 63 managed forests inspected in 2020, 19 were in the Interior of the province and 44 were on the Coast. This sample represents approximately 22% of managed forests in the program and was comprised of a series of small, medium and large size properties.
- During each inspection discussions are held with the owners regarding their recent forest management activities. Owners are provided an opportunity to discuss Council regulation and bring forward questions or concerns they have regarding the program. A sample of the owner activities are inspected. The sample may include recent harvesting, an owner's practices with respect to protecting fish habitat, the condition of newly constructed or maintained roads, and the regeneration status of both older and more recent cutblocks.
- The 2020 inspection program indicated that overall owners are managing their properties in accordance with their management commitments and the regulatory requirements of the *Private Managed Forest Land Act*. Recommendations were made to some owners suggesting they monitor the status of regenerating cutblocks to ensure they comply with reforestation requirements within the legislated time frame.



Owners successfully regenerated 10,417 hectares of private managed forest land across the province in 2020 / 2021.

Field Reviews, Investigations and Determinations

- Council conducts field reviews and investigations into various regulatory aspects of the managed forest program. Investigations by Council are initiated in a variety of ways. They may be initiated through a concern or inquiry from the public, a non-compliance issue identified through its inspection program, or from the legally required reporting of landslides or debris flows from an owner of private managed forest land. Council may also initiate an investigation on its own into any area or aspect of the program.
- The Act and regulations place many requirements on owners of private forest land. The Act also establishes several mechanisms that may be used to ensure compliance with the owner's requirements. The main mechanisms are: consent agreements, stop work orders, administrative contravention determinations and offences.
- During the 2020 / 2021 reporting period, no formal investigations were initiated by Council.
- Council received notification of eight debris flows or slides into streams. These owner-reported debris flow/slide reports are reported in accordance with Section 26 of Council regulation. Each report is assigned a slide number and assessed for probable cause. An owner follow-up and proposed mitigation actions are reviewed as part of the Council slide review.

The Council's objective is to encourage forest management practices on private managed forest land, taking into account the social, environmental and economic benefits of those practices.

Road maintenance and deactivation are critical activities to properly manage water resources on private managed forest lands.



Activities Summary

Section 10(2) of the Act requires Council to report on managed forest owner and administrative penalty data. The data for 2020 / 2021 is reported in the following table.

SECTION	DESCRIPTION	STATUS	COMMENT
a)	Number of owners subject to the Act	278 281	As of April 1, 2020 As of March 31, 2021
b)	Number of hectares subject to the Act	807,758 805,315	As of April 1, 2020 As of March 31, 2021
c)	Number of management commitments withdrawn	7	
d)	Number and nature of inspections performed	63	Routine inspections
e)	Number and nature of consent agreements	4	3 failures to provide notice of sale 1 failure to maintain minimum number of trees in riparian area
f)	Amount of penalties collected and owing	\$ 3,000 \$ 4,000	Consent Agreement Council Reg s. 11 Consent Agreement Council Reg s. 29(1)
g)	Number and nature of remediation orders made	7	1 administration procedure to ensure future notices of sale 6 administration procedures re: harvest supervision and verification of stream class
h)	Number and nature of stop work orders made	0	None issued

Retention over a range of ages and tree sizes within a private managed forest.



Summary of Annual Declarations

By May 1 of each year, owners of private managed forest land are required to submit to the Council a declaration of the operations completed in the previous reporting period. The reporting period is January 1 to December 31 for owners on the Coast, and April 1 to March 31 for owners in the Interior. The following table provides a summary of information provided in the owners' 2020 annual declarations.

	Total # Owners	No Activity	Harvest Activity	Destroyed Timber	Road Construction	Road Deactivation	Reforestation	
							Restocked	Successfully Regenerated
Coast	203	159 owners	29 owners 5,020 ha 1,966,988 m ³	7 owners 68.6 ha	38 owners 204.7 km	1 owner 1.1 km	30 owners 12,900 ha	18 owners 10,000 ha
Interior	75	57 owners	14 owners 1,256 ha 291,052 m ³	1 owner 8.6 ha	4 owners 24.3 km	1 owner 1.0 km	12 owners 1,870 ha	8 owners 417 ha
TOTAL	278*	216 owners	43 owners 6,276 ha 2,258,040 m ³	8 owners 77.2 ha**	42 owners 229.0 km	2 owners 2.1 km	42 owners 14,770 ha	26 owners 10,417 ha

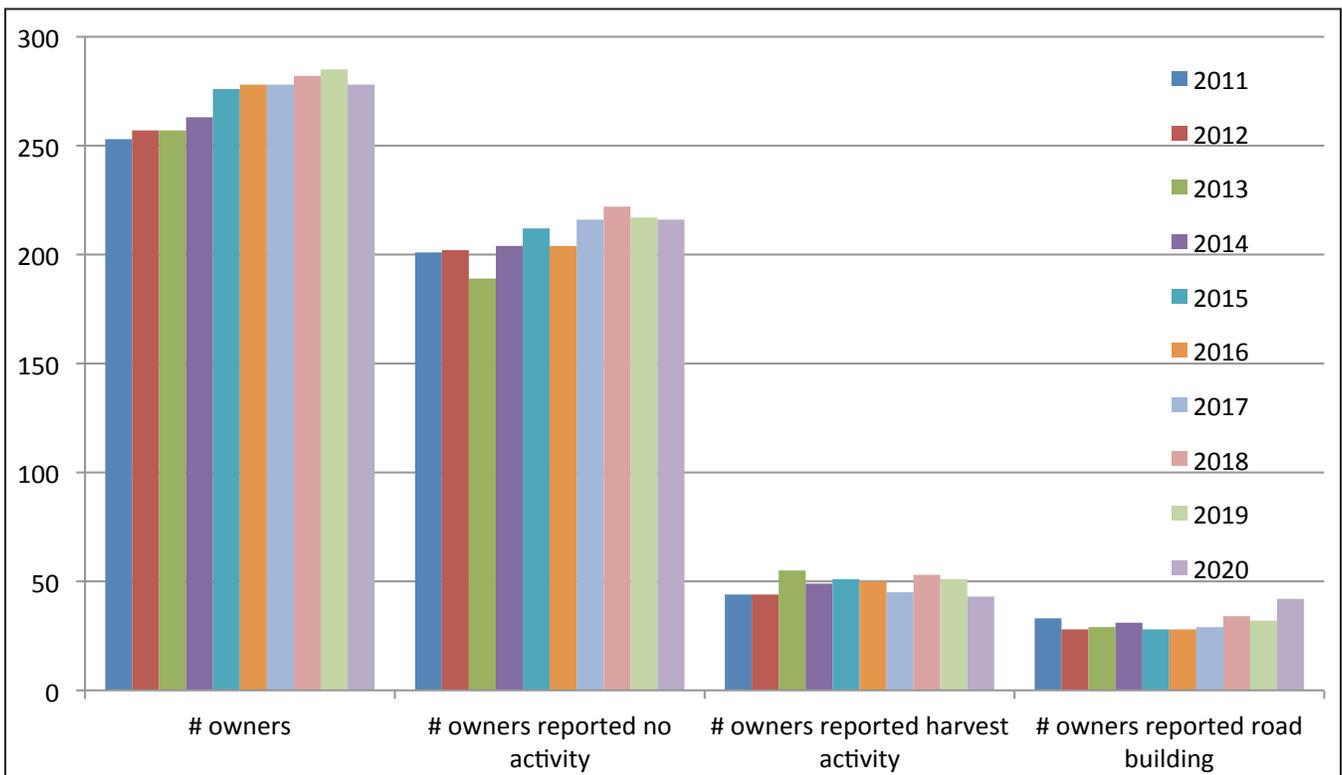
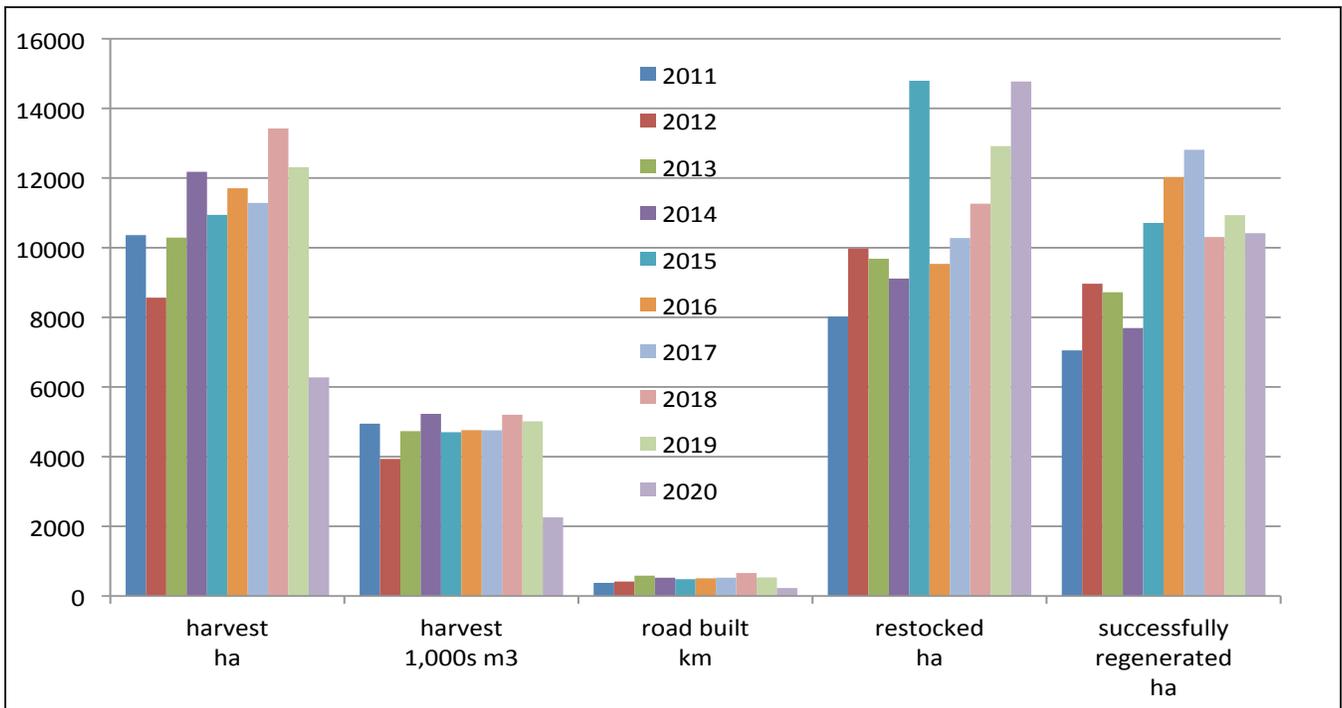
* Total number of owners does not equal the sum of no activity owners and owners reporting activity due to differing combinations of activities by some owners.

** Destroyed timber: fire, blowdown, landslide, disease

Private managed forest lands help protect important wetland habitats.



Annual Activity Level Comparison 2011 – 2020





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