



MANAGED
FOREST
COUNCIL

Annual Report 2024 / 2025



October 31, 2025

Minister of Forests
PO Box 9049, Stn. Prov. Govt
Victoria, BC V8W 9E2

Dear Minister Parmar:

With pleasure, I submit the Managed Forest Council's Annual Report for 2024 / 2025. The report includes a summary of statutory requirements as prescribed in Section 10(2) of the *Private Managed Forest Land Act*, as well as an overview of Council's key activities and achievements for the year.

In 2024, there were 287 private managed forests in British Columbia, encompassing 803,875 hectares. 3.85 million m³ of timber were harvested on managed forest land, representing approximately 9.9% of the total provincial timber harvest. Managed Forests are located mainly on Vancouver Island, the southern mainland Coast, in the Kootenays and the Okanagan-Shuswap.

Some highlights from 2024 / 2025 are:

- Proposed amendments to the *Private Managed Forest Land Act*
- Maintained active engagement with the Ministry on forest carbon policy
- Represented Council at the FPBC, UBCM, AVICC, and PFLA conventions
- Welcomed a new Council member appointee
- Processed eight applications for new managed forests
- Conducted 60 inspections of managed forests throughout BC, which achieved 100% owner compliance rate, and followed up on previous inspection outcomes
- Monitored and tracked owner activity including:
 - 11,000 hectares harvested
 - 7,280 hectares restocked
 - 10,100 hectares successfully regenerated

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Trevor Swan", written over a horizontal line.

Trevor Swan, RPF, C Dir
Chair

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Managed forest owners reported 10,100 hectares of successfully regenerated harvest areas in 2024 / 2025

What We Do

The Private Managed Forest Land Council is an independent agency established under the *Private Managed Forest Land Act* (Act) that was fully implemented in August 2004. Since 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 considering the social, environmental, and economic benefits of those practices. Council administers the Managed Forest Program, including the monitoring of forest practices and protection of key environmental values on private managed forest land as established by regulation.

Participation in the program by private landowners is voluntary. The Managed Forest Program is 100% funded by fees levied on 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 disturbed areas with a healthy commercially valuable stand of trees that are not impeded by vegetative competition



Managed forest owners harvested 3.85 million cubic metres in 2024/2025, including volume from partial cutting systems - such as this harvest block on the coast

Function of Council

Council is responsible for the administration of private managed forest land legislation. This includes four broad functions:

1. Carry out strategic planning, reporting and program administration
2. Establish and monitor forest practice standards
3. Enforce standards and perform audits and inspections
4. Review landowner applications to enter managed forest land class

This Annual Report covers the period April 1, 2024 to March 31, 2025. It includes information Council considers relevant to fulfilling its mandate and executing its powers, duties and functions under the Act.

2024 / 2025 Council

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
- two members appointed by the Minister of Forests

Council members report annually on their compliance with Council Standards for Conduct. For the 2024/2025 reporting period, all council members declared they abided by the Standards for Conduct as outlined in Council's Governance Policy Section III G.



Water quality and fish habitat are two of the key environmental values protected by Council regulation

Council:

(profiles available at: www.mfcouncil.ca/about/who-we-are/)

Chair:

Trevor Swan

Owner Elected Members:

Will Pryhitko, MF 38

Blair Robertson, MF 177

Government Appointees:

Brian Frenkel

Dennis Lozinsky (until Aug 31 2024)

Ione Brown (as of Sept 1 2024)

Executive Director:

Ann Donaldson

Council Activity

Program Administration

Financials

2024 / 2025 Operations		Revenue Sources	
Revenues	\$574,816	Administrative Fees	= \$250 general fee
Expenditures	\$420,319		+ \$0.3882/ \$1000 Bare Land Value
Excess revenues over expenditures	\$154,497		Total: \$563,300
Expense change over 2023-24	29.5% ↓	Interest Income	\$11,516
Net assets at year end	\$229,334	Revenue change over 2023-24	26.6% ↑

- Decrease in expenses is related primarily to lower investigation expenditures and inspection efficiencies.
- Grant Thornton LLP, an independent third-party accounting and auditing firm, conducted a Review Engagement of the 2023 fiscal year financial statements. Council accepted this Review in September 2024.

Management Commitments & Amendments

- Council receives management commitments from new applicants and from purchasers of existing managed forest land. Management commitments are evaluated and accepted within established time frames.
- Throughout the year, managed forest owners may submit management commitment amendments to add or remove land, revise forest management strategies, or update forest inventory. Amendments are processed in a timely manner to facilitate landowner planning and operations.



Interior mixed age stand shows many years of forest management activity

2024 / 2025 Performance Measures

Council reports on performance measures outlined in its annual Corporate Plan. These measures are established to assess progress toward achieving corporate goals and fulfilling Council's mandate.

Performance Measure # 1: Program Entry

Performance Measure	2024 / 2025 Target	2024 / 2025 Result
Days to process management commitment applications	30	Achieved

Discussion: Timely decision-making results in efficiencies for both Council and landowners. Council has reduced processing times by strengthening communication with new applicants and the professionals managing their applications.

Performance Measure # 2: Inspections

Performance Measure	2024 / 2025 Target	2024 / 2025 Result
% of managed forests inspected within past 5 years	95	Achieved

Discussion: Council staff and contract inspectors conducted 60 managed forest inspections across the province, achieving a 99% compliance rate with this performance measure. Minor variation in scheduling occurs to accommodate geographic locations and efficiencies.

Performance Measure # 3: Training

Performance Measure	2024 / 2025 Target	2024 / 2025 Result
Training events per Council member	2	Achieved

Discussion: Training is carried out for Council and staff to stay informed with respect to administrative law, compliance and enforcement, and evolving issues. Training included presentations and participation at local government conventions and the Forest Professionals BC conference, BC Council of Administrative Tribunals continuing education, and a field tour to view recent forest operational planning and activity.

Performance Measure # 4: Meeting Attendance

Performance Measure	2024 / 2025 Target	2024 / 2025 Result
% meeting attendance	90	Achieved

Discussion: Regular attendance at Council meetings supports effective achievement of Council's statutory mandate. Council generally holds one regular business meeting per month. Twelve meetings were held in 2024-25, with overall attendance exceeding 90%.

Performance Measure # 5: Stakeholder Engagements

Performance Measure	2024 / 2025 Target	2024 / 2025 Result
# of stakeholder engagements	10	Achieved

Discussion: Stakeholder engagement is a key component of Council’s ongoing communication strategy. Sixteen engagements were carried out with various stakeholders during the 2024 fiscal year.

Strategic Initiatives
Risk Assessment Review - Ongoing

Risk assessment evaluates the potential for forest management activities to negatively impact key environmental values and the potential consequences if such impacts occur.

The annual inspection program includes ongoing risk assessment where an owner is carrying out, or plans to carry out, forest activities including harvesting, road building, and road deactivation, or has significant road maintenance and reforestation obligations. Inspectors document the tools used by owners to assess risk, the assessments owners carry out prior to initiating operations, and use of qualified professionals to plan, carry out, and supervise forest activity. Results guide the frequency of future inspections, owner communication, and potential policy initiatives.

Communication Strategy

Council engages with stakeholders to increase their understanding of the private managed forest land legislative framework and Council’s regulatory role, to promote open communication, and to address stakeholder concerns.

Engagements included participation at local government conventions, regular meetings with the Private Forest Landowners Association and Ministry of Forests, and ongoing collaboration with BC Assessment. Council has an inquiry and complaints process that ensures timely communication with stakeholders, including the public, who express concerns about activity on private managed forest land.

Potential Legislative Amendment

Council identified potential amendments to the Private Managed Forest Land Act and engaged with stakeholders including the Ministry of Forests and the Private Forest Landowners Association. Council continues to work to advance the potential amendments.

Council’s objective is to encourage forest management practices on private managed forest land, considering the social, environmental and economic benefits of those practices.

Compliance Reporting

Inspections

- The Private Managed Forest Land Council Regulation (Council Regulation) sets clear requirements for owners, contractors, employees and agents to support the management objectives in the Act for soil conservation, water quality, fish habitat, reforestation, and critical wildlife habitat.
- Council's annual Inspection Program is an important component of Council's function to monitor and enforce forest practice standards. Council has a policy to inspect all managed forests at least once every five years. The inspections are carried out by registered forest professionals.
- Of the 60 managed forests inspected in 2024 / 2025, 15 were located in the interior and 45 on the coast. The inspections covered a mix of small, medium, and large managed forests.
- Inspections include discussions with the owners regarding their recent forest management activities and practices, program requirements, and any concerns they may have. Inspections focused on recent harvesting, protection of water quality and fish habitat, practices related to newly constructed, maintained or deactivated roads, and the regeneration status of both older and more recent cutblocks.
- The 2024 / 2025 inspection program indicated that owners are managing their land in accordance with Council Regulation. No potential compliance issues were identified with the regulatory requirements.

Investigations and Compliance Mechanisms

- Council investigates potential contraventions of the Council Regulation based on public or other stakeholder inquiries, inspection findings, or information provided in owners' mandatory reporting of landslides or debris flows.
- The Act establishes mechanisms to ensure compliance with regulatory requirements. The main mechanisms are consent agreements, administrative contravention determinations, stop work orders and offences.
- One investigation was completed in 2024 / 2025, initiated in 2023 following an inspection finding. The investigation concluded with Council entering into a consent agreement with the owner regarding a harvest area that was not restocked within the required five-year period.



Inspectors assess owners' reforestation obligations as set out in the Council Regulation. It is rare to find non-compliance with these obligations.

MF Program Summary

Section 10(2) of the Act requires Council to report on managed forest owner and administrative penalty data. The data for 2024 / 2025 is reported in the following table.

SECTION	DESCRIPTION	NUMBER	COMMENT
a)	Number of owners subject to the Act	287 281	As of April 1, 2024 As of March 31, 2025
b)	Number of hectares subject to the Act	803,875 805,338	As of April 1, 2024 As of March 31, 2025
c)	Number of management commitments withdrawn	4	
d)	Number and nature of inspections performed	60	Routine inspections
e)	Number and nature of consent agreements	3 1	Failure to provide Notice of Sale Failure to restock within 5 years
f)	Amount of penalties collected and owing	\$8,000	
g)	Number and nature of remediation orders made	0	
h)	Number and nature of stop work orders made	0	
i)	New regulations enacted by Council	0	

Owner Annual Declarations Summary

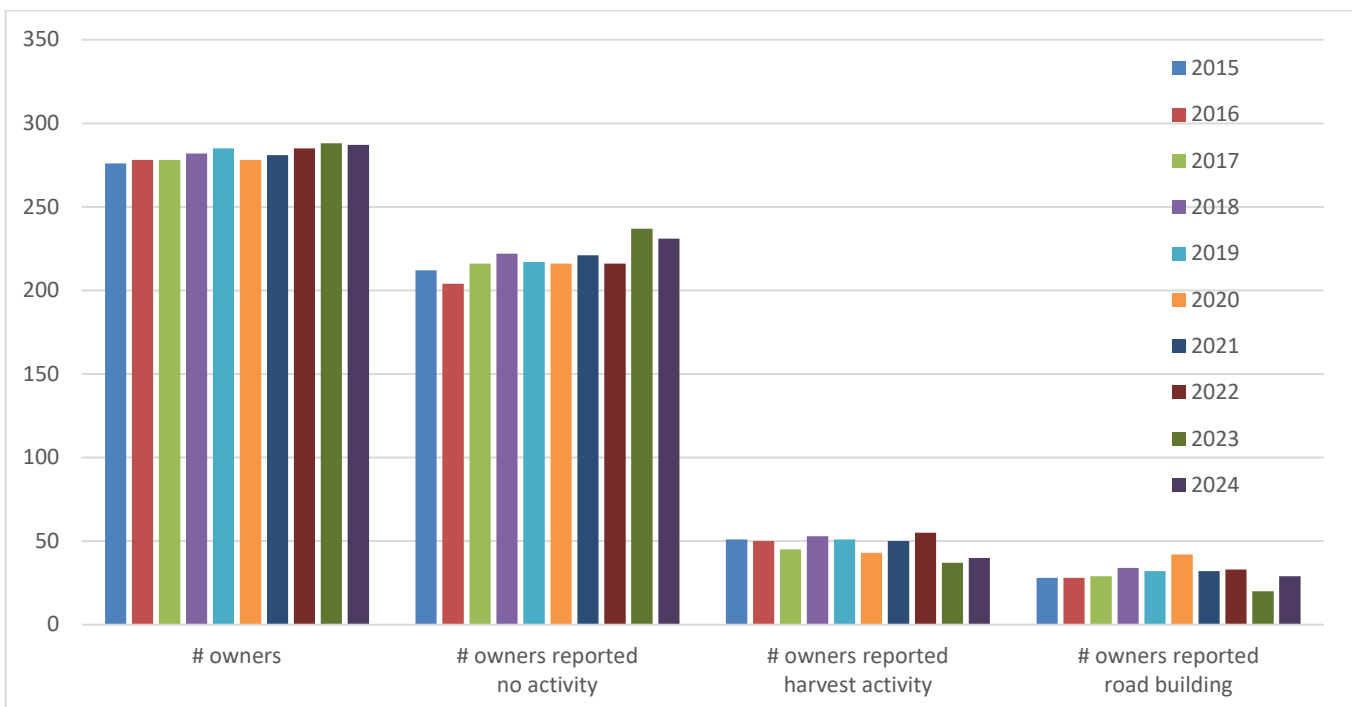
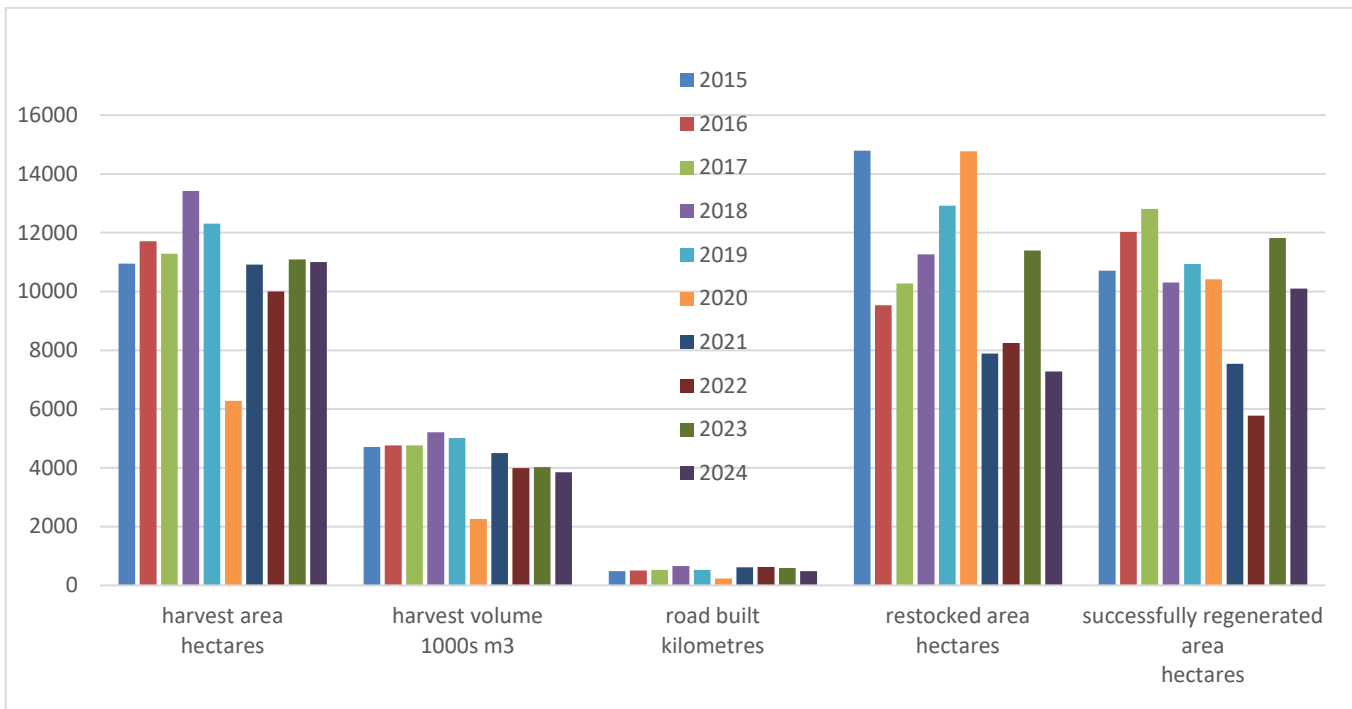
By May 1 of each year, owners of private managed forest land are required to submit to Council a declaration of the operations completed in the previous reporting period. The 2024 / 2025 reported activity is as follows:

	Total # Owners	No Activity	Harvest Activity	Destroyed Timber	Road Construction	Road Deactivation	Reforestation	
							Restocked	Successfully Regenerated
Coast Jan 1 - Dec 31	211	171 owners	28 owners 9116 ha 3,545,367 m ³	2 owners 5 ha	21 owners 446 km	5 owners 108 km	19 owners 6,873 ha	17 owners 9,420 ha
Interior Apr 1 - Mar 31	76	59 owners	12 owners 1,890 ha 306,711 m ³	3 owners 16 ha	8 owners 37 km	2 owners 10 km	7 owners 408 ha	8 owners 681 ha
TOTAL	287*	230 owners	40 owners 11,006 ha 3,852,078 m ³	5 owners 21 ha**	29 owners 483 km	7 owners 118 km	26 owners 7,281 ha	25 owners 10,101 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.

** 50% of destroyed timber was caused by fire; the remainder was due to pests, disease, blowdown and site rehabilitation

Annual Activity Level Comparison 2015 – 2024





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