

Ministry of  
Forests, Lands and  
Natural Resource Operations

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2012/13  
Annual Service Plan Report

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Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations

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## Message from the Minister and Accountability Statement



During 2012/13 the Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations was able to demonstrate key successes in its second full-year of operation as the province’s “one land manager” and integrated decision-maker on natural resource development projects.

To meet its commitments under *Canada Starts Here: the BC Jobs Plan*, the Ministry continued to invest in reducing the backlogs in mining notice of work applications and *Land Act* and *Water Act* authorizations. The Ministry, in collaboration with the Ministry of Energy and Mines, successfully reduced the backlog in notices of work by 80 per cent two months ahead of schedule.

By the target date of August 2012, the notice of work backlog had been reduced by almost 92 per cent. The backlog reduction target of 50 per cent by December 2012 for *Land Act* and *Water Act* authorizations, was achieved for *Land Act* authorizations, and substantively achieved for *Water Act* authorizations.

In February 2013, new e-online applications for mining notices of work applications were introduced to further streamline application processing times and to help meet the *BC Jobs Plan* target to reduce the average turn-around timelines for notices of work to 60 days by December 31, 2013.

In 2012, the forest sector continued its recovery with number of direct jobs increasing to 56,400, and forest product exports totalling \$10.16 billion.

Recovery in the U.S. housing market has led to a sustained increase in lumber prices, with them being at their highest levels since fall 2005.

Acting on recommendations from the Special Committee on Timber Supply, in

fall 2012, the Ministry released its *Mid-Term Timber Supply Action Plan* which contains nine sustained and 11 new actions. In February 2013, the Ministry released a new *10-year Forest Inventory Strategic Plan*, backed by nearly \$11 million annually.



## Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations

The Ministry also has an active role in heritage, preserving the world-famous McAbee fossil beds in July 2012. Then, in February 2013, the Ministry released a Heritage Strategy to ensure B.C.'s historic places remain an active and dynamic part of B.C. communities.

Our province's natural resources are the backbone of our economy. This Ministry will continue to ensure that our natural resources are managed in an environmentally sustainable way to grow a sustainable economy.

The *Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations 2012/13 Annual Service Plan Report* compares the actual results to the expected results identified in the *Ministry 2012/13 - 2014/15 Service Plan*. I am accountable for those results as reported.



Honourable Steve Thomson  
Minister of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations

June 24, 2013



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# Highlights of the Year

The *2012/13 Annual Service Plan Report* primarily reviews achievements towards the goals and objectives through performance measures set out in the *2012/13-2014/15 Service Plan*. Since the operational mandate of the Ministry is very broad, the ‘Highlights of the Year’ section augments the results captured in the set of performance measures, and includes some of the most notable accomplishments related to some areas not covered by the performance results section of the report. Additional achievements are noted in the ‘Message from the Minister’. Longer term initiatives are described in the ‘Strategic Context’.

## Integrated Decision Making

- Integrated Decision Making (IDM) is a primary driver of the natural resource sector agencies’ shared vision of ‘One Land Base/One Land Manager’ which includes improved management of natural resources in line with the Province’s stewardship and sustainability goals. This vision to manage the land base holistically involves three shifts - the way in which clients interact with sector ministries; the way the land base is managed that considers multiple and often overlapping resource uses and their effects; and the way sector ministries make timely, durable decisions on land use through integrated legislation, systems and processes. In this multi-year, sector transformation, the first step - the vision and governance structure for IDM - were established in 2012/13; a major milestone which enables sector-wide accountability for its further development. IDM builds on the significant progress already achieved through existing initiatives such as an expanded FrontCounter BC presence across the province, streamlined authorizations and increased online self-service tools.

## Cumulative Effects Assessment

- Development and testing of the *Cumulative Effects Assessment Framework* and tools for integrated natural resource decision making is progressing. The proposed framework intends to improve the quality and benefits of development by considering

### *What are cumulative effects?*

*They are the combined effect of past, present and foreseeable future actions or events that have or will effect changes to the economic, environmental and social values on the landscape. Those values include wildlife habitats or sensitive ecosystems, as well as clean air and water.*

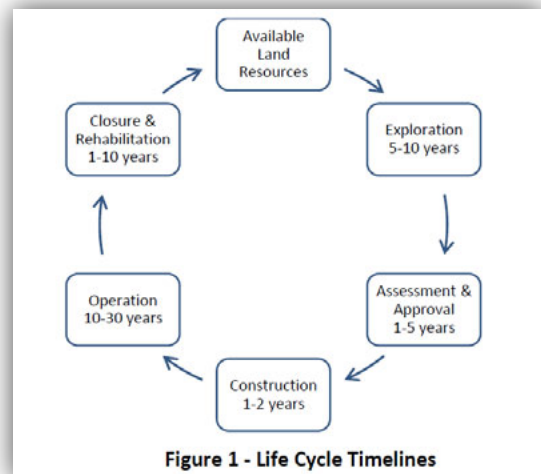
*The growth in natural resource sectors creates competition for the land base, water and resources. Resource sector activities that overlap and contribute to the cumulative footprint all involve particular interests, rights and expectations that a specific use of the land base will be maintained or grown. Some uses that overlap include: mineral, oil and gas exploration and development; hydro projects; transmission corridors for electricity or fuels; wind farms; community water supply storage; forestry and land tenures; grazing leases; and development for recreational use, such as alpine resorts and trails.*

cumulative effects and to improve the durability and efficiency of natural resource management decisions. Begun in 2011, over the last fiscal year (2012/13), the interagency project focused on demonstrating application of the framework in regional project areas, and defining requirements for implementation.

## Natural Resource Authorizations Services

Several improvements were made to authorizations services – while remaining committed to environmentally sustainable resource development, upholding strong environmental standards and consulting with First Nations – that include:

- The [BC Jobs Plan](#) target was to reduce the backlog in the Notice of Work applications by 80 per cent by August 2012; government achieved that goal on May 31, and continues its focus on reducing the backlog further. The additional targets to reduce the backlog of *Land Act* and *Water Act* applications by 50 per cent by the end of 2012 were substantively achieved. The Ministry continues to focus on improving Notice of Work approval turnaround time.
- In partnership with the Ministry of Energy and Mines, on February 28, 2013 the Ministry launched the new electronic application process for all Notice of Work applications. The upgraded virtual FrontCounter BC system provides enhanced electronic communication with clients, including the ability for clients to check the status of their application at any time on-line, making it easier and faster for clients to do business.
- The August 2012 online launch of the [Coordinated Authorizations Guide for Major Mines](#) is an example of how the natural resource sector ministries are advancing the “One Process/One Land Manager” model for delivering authorizations services to sector clients. The guide describes the coordinated authorizations process that is jointly endorsed by this Ministry and the Ministry of Energy and Mines. The guide provides a comprehensive review of the application process for construction, operation and closure over the life of a major mine in British Columbia (see Figure 1).



- A cooperative agreement was established over the last year between this Ministry and the Ministry of Energy and Mines to further streamline delivery of mining and mineral activities in B.C. Ministry-led committees promote effective and efficient mine development reviews by integrating the review of multiple authorization applications in one process. Consultation with First Nations and mining and mineral projects are now combined for all related authorizations on one project to streamline work for both government staff and First Nations reviewers - resulting in better, more durable outcomes. The two partner agencies review their

mutual processes annually to find better ways of working together to promote an economically sustainable and environmentally responsible mining and minerals industry.



- In April 2012, government implemented a new continuous improvement method, ‘Lean’ to improve programs and services for British Columbians. The Ministry is using Lean to streamline existing processes in order to focus on steps that best benefit citizens. One project was to streamline the grazing licence replacement process for grazing on Crown land. With 1,700 licenses and permits and another 400 leases to process from more than 20 districts across the province, Lean yielded a way to serve licence holders more effectively. The Ministry achieved an 87 per cent reduction in application delays, a 60 per cent decrease in process steps, and a reduction in cycle time from 18 plus months to a maximum of three months. Another benefit was that more time could be spent by Ministry range staff and licence holders focusing on range stewardship.

### Timber Supply / Forestry

- On July 18, 2012, a unanimous ruling by the London Court of International Arbitration proved that B.C.’s market-based timber pricing policies under the 2006 Canada-U.S. Softwood Lumber Agreement are fully consistent with the Softwood Lumber Agreement and that B.C. has always honoured its commitments under the agreement. The arbitration panel rejected all of the U.S. allegations in their entirety. B.C. will continue to support the agreement, which was originally signed in October 2006 and has been extended to October 2015.
- On March 21, 2013 to commemorate International Day of Forests, B.C. planted its seven-billionth tree at the UBC Malcolm Knapp Research Forest in Maple Ridge. This



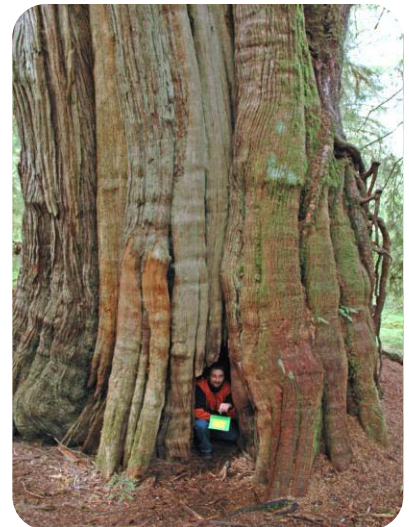


incredible accomplishment demonstrates B.C.'s commitment to remaining a global leader in sustainable forest management.

- In October 2012 *'Beyond the Beetle: A Mid-Term Timber Supply Action Plan'* was released in response to the Special Committee on Timber Supply. Progress in 2012/13 included two key actions: an amendment to the *Forest Act* created a supplemental forest licence which ensures wood fibre can be obtained for bioenergy, pellet producers and secondary manufacturers; and a ten-year forest inventory strategy, developed in consultation with a variety of industry and academic experts, will focus an average annual investment of \$8 million over the life of the plan towards areas where the need is greatest – 35 million hectares to be inventoried in areas affected by mountain pine beetle and other priority areas.

## Biodiversity

- As of February 2013, an additional 38,560 hectares in old growth forest management areas on the Sunshine Coast and Lower Mainland are now legally established to protect biodiversity and old growth values. The areas are excluded from commercial timber harvesting and protect a wide range of forest ecosystems, plant communities and animal habitats, and First Nations cultural values as well as provide for recreational opportunities. The consultative planning process provided opportunity for review and comment by the public, First Nations and other stakeholders.
- Important wildlife habitat near Parksville, Penticton and Valemount are now better protected due to new additions and establishments of Wildlife Management Areas totalling approximately 6,900 hectares, designated in March, 2013. The management areas help to maintain and restore B.C.'s ecological diversity of fish and wildlife and their habitats.
- Mountain goat winter range for the Sunshine Coast Timber Supply Area was legally designated after more than a decade long process to establish this designation of 46,825 hectares as Ungulate Winter Range. The process included convening a professional panel to review the issue of helicopter-logging adjacent to these habitats.
- As a result of private and public sector collaboration, the Nechako White Sturgeon Conservation Centre and



hatchery will be operational by spring 2014. This project developed over ten years and involves the White Sturgeon Recovery Initiative, the province, Rio Tinto Alcan, the Freshwater Fisheries Society of B.C. and the District of Vanderhoof. The facility will release 12,000 juvenile sturgeons each year to rebuild the population.

- Progress was made in establishing Wildlife Habitat Areas and Specified Areas, which lead to the protection of important habitats for species and ecosystems at risk. In 2012/13, six Wildlife Habitat Areas were approved for Western Screech Owls in the Cascade and Rocky Mountain Forest Districts, and field work to locate important habitat was conducted on thirteen species and ecosystems at risk. These designations support government's stewardship objectives and, by providing precise locations of where high-value habitats exist, allow greater development planning certainty for forest licensees and oil and gas operators.



## Climate Adaptation

- The Ministry successfully led a series of workshops across the province which brought together government and industry practitioners, decision makers and scientists to share information and discuss future actions required to successfully adapt to a changing climate. The Ministry collaborated with the Ministry of Environment, the forest industry and the forest professional association to deliver the workshops on adaptation to climate change in forest ecosystems.
- The Province recognized the value of proactively reducing wildfire risks in its wildland-urban interface fuel reduction and landscape fire management programs. The program was identified as a key objective towards adapting to the effects of climate change in several ministry strategic documents, such as the [Climate Change and Fire Management Research Strategy](#), and in the recommendations of the report of the Mid-Term Timber Supply Review Committee. The Ministry is leading the natural resource sector's approach to development of policy, legislation and a provincial framework for coordinated landscape fire management planning initiatives.
- Released in June 2012, the [Professional Practice Guidelines – Legislated Flood Assessments in a Changing Climate in British Columbia](#) was commissioned by the Ministry to the

Association of Professional Engineers and Geoscientists of B.C. The document intends to guide professional practice for flood assessments, to identify the circumstances when risk assessments are appropriate, and to emphasize the need to consider climate change and land use changes in such assessments. It includes guidelines for conducting floodplain mapping in coastal areas subject to sea level rise.

## Resource Management and Stewardship

- A new 'Natural Resource Officer' designation is a result of the *Natural Resource Compliance Act* that came into effect in 2012. Previously Compliance and Enforcement Officers could only enforce acts that they were specifically designated to uphold. As Natural Resource Officers, they are now able to enforce a broader range of statutes, shorten response time and improve their effectiveness in the field.



- The Ministry worked closely with the [Invasive Species Council of B.C.](#), provincial and federal agencies, and international partners to respond quickly and decisively to a threat of invasive zebra and quagga mussels (see photo, left) at Shuswap Lake in July 2012. The introduction and establishment of these mussels into B.C. would change the biodiversity of water systems, threaten native species and fisheries, and increase maintenance costs related to the operation of hydroelectric, industrial, agricultural and recreational facilities.

- In November 2012, a new delivery model for the Fish & Wildlife Compensation Program was rolled out after extensive consultation with environmental groups, community organizations, stakeholders and First Nations in the Columbia region. The BC Hydro funded program conserves and enhances fish and wildlife, and their supporting habitats, affected by the creation of facilities owned and operated by BC Hydro. The program's Board consists of members of the public, First Nations, BC Hydro, Fisheries and Oceans Canada, the Ministry of Environment and this Ministry. Now a portion of the program is integrated into Ministry operations, while still retaining strong links with the other program partners,



BC Hydro and Fisheries and Oceans Canada. The model aims to strengthen the program's focus on regional priorities and local decision making and has several advantages, including being able to share knowledge, ease permitting, reduce overhead, and allow the public to continue to have access to biologists.

- Industrial growth in the Northeast Region has resulted in increased demand for water, and increased need to enhance existing streamflow information to support informed water allocation decisions. To reduce the time and cost required to prepare, comment on, and adjudicate water use applications, the Ministry collaborated with the Oil and Gas Commission and Geoscience BC hydrologists to develop the [Northeast Water Tool \(NEWT\)](#) for use by proponents, authorization staff, and the public. Launched in 2012/13, this Geographic

Information System (GIS) based tool uses longterm streamflow data, vegetation cover, climate and topography to generate streamflow information for any given point on a river system in northeast British Columbia. In April 2012, the BC Water and Waste Association's "[Award for Excellence in the Water and Waste Community](#)" was presented in recognition of the Ministry-led, three-year extensive Okanagan Water Supply and Demand Study, to the Okanagan Basin Water Board and its 13 partners. The Board also has a [tool](#) used by the local water suppliers in the Okanagan Basin to record and report the water used by their customers. A version of this tool is also being used in coastal communities.



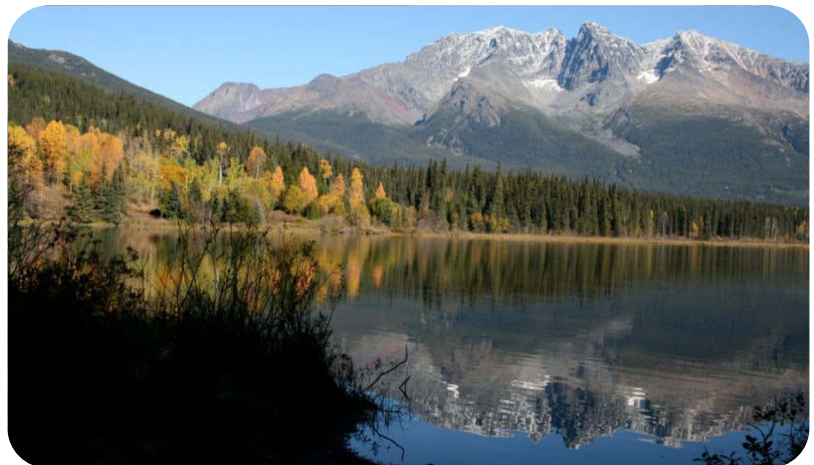


- On July 19, 2012, the internationally recognized McAbee fossil beds were formally protected as a provincial heritage site (see photo, left); a significant milestone in the history of fossil management in British Columbia. This initiative has provided an integrated natural resource decision-making model that can be used to guide future decisions about the protection of important fossil sites.

- Released last year, the [Heritage Strategy for British Columbia: Our Heritage, Historic Places](#), aims to ensure B.C.'s historic places remain an active and dynamic part of B.C. communities. The report provides strategies and actions to achieve economic diversity, environmental stewardship and a strengthening and renewal of British

Columbia's identity, through heritage conservation. Key to these goals is increased collaboration of governments at all levels, along with community groups and organizations, First Nations and businesses.

- Along with the launch of the new Heritage Strategy, new funding of \$500,000 was targeted to strengthen heritage conservation in communities through Heritage BC. As well, \$21 million over three years was allocated to strengthen the role of the Provincial Heritage Properties as economic drivers in their regions to bolster tourism and jobs. Provincial heritage sites are significant tourism attractions that play a valuable economic, educational and cultural role.
- In April 2013 the Ministry confirmed the [Trails Strategy for BC](#) as a key policy direction and its ongoing implementation, with recommendations that will lead to the development of a successful and sustainable world-class trail system that serves all types of users. The strategy was a collaborative effort from the outset and included stakeholder groups,



local governments, First Nations and several agencies such as BC Parks, Tourism BC, the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure, and many others who played an important role in its development. Progress has been made in implementing the strategy and, as it continues, the Ministry seeks to develop innovative partnerships and find new ways to maximize the benefits.

- BC Heritage week in February 2013 celebrated heritage neighbourhoods across the province. The theme explored the character and warmth of historic homes, and the timeless appeal of older neighbourhoods with vintage gardens, landscaping, trees and boulevards - developed in an era when the automobile was a less dominant feature of daily life.
- Several Ministry branches (Wildfire Management, Heritage, GeoBC and Recreation Sites & Trails) focussed collective efforts on the Forest Fire Lookout Restoration Project to honour B.C.'s wildfire fighting history and increase local recreation and heritage opportunities. Five forest fire lookouts restored in 2012/13 included: Thornhill (Terrace – as shown in the photo, below); Owen Hill (Houston); Mara (Enderby); Buchanan (Kaslo); and Nahatlatch (Boston Bar). The fire lookouts played an instrumental role in the early detection of wildfires until they were replaced by new technology, improved public reporting and aerial detection. More recently, the lookouts have become important recreational and historical assets for residents and tourists.



## Bio-economy

- The [B.C. Committee on Bio-Economy](#), made up of Members of the Legislative Assembly, recommended improved access to forest biomass fibre and feedstock to help accelerate the growth of B.C.'s emerging bio-economy. Amendments to regulations under the *Forest Act*, the *Forest and Range Practices Act*, and the *Wildfire Act* will bring into effect a residual forestry licence to cut, as well as a fibre supply licence to cut, for wood biomass. *Forest Act* amendments and 6 amended regulations were brought into force to implement the new fibre recovery licences as one tool to increase the use of wood waste.
- The B.C. Committee on Bio-Economy examined what was needed to further develop the forest sector recovery. The Ministry responded by forming the Bio-economy Transformation Council (Bio-Council) - including representatives of industry, government and research organizations - to identify new areas of opportunity for forest products. In December 2012, the Bio-Council produced an action plan with recommendations and incremental steps that can help position B.C. to take advantage of the opportunities that lie ahead while recognizing the critical need for collaboration in order to succeed.

## First Nations

- Fiscal 2012/13 marked significant success for the Province and First Nations in reaching agreements to increase First Nations' involvement in the natural resource sector:
  - 28 new Forest Tenure Opportunity Agreements were signed, far exceeding the target of 13. For instance, the Canim Lake band negotiated the second First Nations Woodland License in the province - a 25 year area-based tenure providing the First Nation with greater forest management responsibility. Also, after four years of negotiations Kitselas and Kitsumkalum First Nations have signed second generation agreements - allowing them to build on their success in forest management by providing long-term (up-to 20 years) forest licenses.



## Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations

- 9 per cent of the provincial Annual Allowable Cut is now held by First Nations in various forms of direct award forest tenure, surpassing the original target of 8 per cent set in 2003.
  - Comprehensive agreements were signed with Tseshaht and Hupacasath First Nations concluding a five-year negotiation and mediation process; setting aside litigation regarding a decision in 2004 that removed private lands from Timber Farm Licence 44 in Alberni Valley.
  - A non-binding agreement was signed with Haisla First Nation where they will acquire a lease and/or sale of land to support a Liquid Natural Gas facility in the Kitimat Valley.
- The Ministry partnered with the First Nations Forestry Council and federal Aboriginal Skills Education and Training to reinstitute the forest technical training program. Students will receive training over two years from various colleges and universities across the province, and BC Timber Sales will mentor students through summer employment. The program helps First Nations students develop their skills and knowledge of the forest industry with the goal of building capacity for First Nations to be full partners in the sector.
  - The First Nations Forest Sector Technical Support Program continued in 2012/13 and has helped create, maintain or expand 20 businesses since its inception in 2010. In collaboration with [FPInnovations](#) (a private, not-for-profit forest research centre), the program helps First Nations groups with economic development in the forest and wood products industries by helping to develop new and existing forest-related businesses. Participants are provided with technical advice and hands-on expertise, such as best practices in harvesting, transportation, equipment selection, mill layout, manufacturing, market intelligence and market opportunities.
  - Seven interagency Strength of Claim (SOC) Regional Teams have been formed, to provide expert SOC analysis to government decision makers and negotiators for specific projects, or over a First Nation's traditional territory. An interagency steering committee was formed to guide teams and working groups, and facilitate consistent analysis and use of tools. Committee membership includes this Ministry, the Ministry of Aboriginal Relations and Reconciliation, and Ministry of Justice and Attorney General.





## Safety

- In 2012/13 the Ministry established a new Safety Management System, which is currently being implemented. The new system is a common framework and accountability structure across the agency that addresses safety for workers in the natural resource sector, sector clients and the public.
- The development of a tool to predict site specific, five-day flood projection levels for 79 sites along the Fraser River was completed last year. The Fraser River Hydraulic Model was completed in three phases: the first two focused on stream reaches from Laidlaw to the ocean, and were completed by consultants between 2000 and 2008; the Ministry completed the final phase, which focused on the Hope to Mission reach, and merged with the previous phases' models in 2012/13. The tool helps communities and flood responders prepare for anticipated flood levels.
- In 2012/13 the Ministry developed a new *Capital Prioritization Risk Matrix* for planning capital resource road and bridge projects and, in 2013/14, used it for planning maintenance on critical Forest Service Road infrastructure that provides access to communities or high value natural resources. This new planning tool assesses key criteria in the areas of accessibility and public safety to ensure the Ministry addresses its highest priority road and bridge replacements and repairs. Priorities are set based on several criteria including: size of the community accessed; distance of any alternate route; recreational impact; and economic consequences; etc. In addition, priorities are set using an engineering risk analysis that looks at consequences to people, utilities, or the environment, as well as bridge and road criteria, such as age or condition of the structure, public safety concerns, frequency of incidents or flooding risk.
- Also in 2012/13, with input from the Ministry and other stakeholders, the B.C. Forest Safety Council produced a revised [\*Resource Road User Safety Guide\*](#).
- Information related to wildfire safety achievements are discussed under the heading, 'Climate Adaptation' above, and in the 'Strategic Context' section.



## Purpose of the Ministry

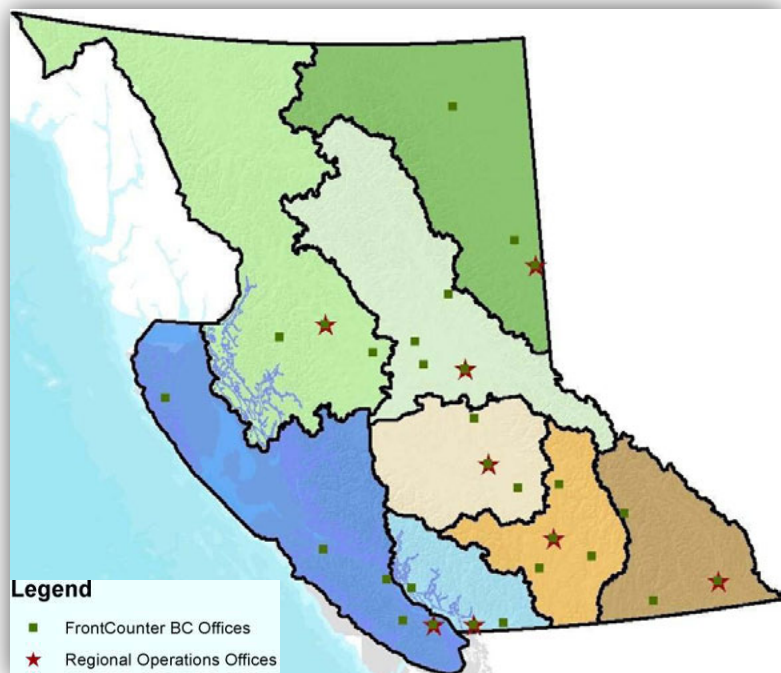
The Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations delivers integrated natural resource management services for British Columbians. With a long-term vision of economic prosperity and environmental sustainability, it is the main agency responsible for establishing the conditions for access to and use of the province's forest, land and natural resources. The Ministry incorporates forests and lands policy with operational resource management while supporting policy in all areas of the natural resource sector. This policy alignment and streamlining of operations in delivering services enables effective stewardship and sustainable management of B.C.'s land base for a variety of uses.

Working with stakeholders, the Ministry develops policies, programs and legislation to promote industry competitiveness, and encourage investment in and development of natural resources. It also ensures that ministry activities support sustainable development and protect the public's interest in these resources. Bringing provincial natural resource operations together into one ministry enables durable decisions that fully consider the environmental, social and economic factors of land use.

The Ministry auctions Crown timber to support the timber pricing system through [BC Timber Sales](#). This includes preparing forest stewardship plans and logging plans; developing timber sale licences; constructing and maintaining logging roads and bridges; undertaking silviculture and forest protection treatments; and ensuring the work is carried out in a safe manner.

### Aligning and Streamlining Resource Authorizations with Resource Management

The Ministry holds the legislative authority for provincial permitting and licensing activities which are facilitated through its coordinated, "one-window" service at [FrontCounter BC](#) offices throughout the province. Behind the counter, "One Process" administration melds numerous single agency processes for issuing authorizations, eliminating overlap and duplication while maintaining environmental standards. These streamlined processes will create predictability in the natural resource sector, better attract global investment, and provide the means to turn proposed projects into actual worksites and jobs.



## Sharing Service Delivery - Provincially and Regionally

The Ministry is part of a coordinated system with provincial oversight through the Natural Resource Board and the Environment and Land Use Committee (ELUC). By working as part of a system that supports shared service delivery regionally and provincially, the Ministry ensures operational decisions on the land base match policy development, and consider regional interests in land use.



## Natural Resource Sector Coordination

When Government's structure to manage Crown land and natural resources was reconfigured in the spring of 2011, it created an improved arena for coordination and integration. The natural resource ministries involved include: Aboriginal Relations and Reconciliation; Agriculture; Energy and Mines; Natural Gas Development; Environment; Forests, Lands, and Natural Resource Operations; and Jobs, Tourism and Skills Training. Under the direction of the Natural Resource Board, these ministries are making bold changes to service delivery in the natural resource sector. This sectoral approach promotes streamlined authorization processes and enhanced access to public services across the province. The reconfiguration facilitates more consistent engagement and consultation with industry, stakeholders, partners and clients. It also enhances inclusion of Aboriginal, economic and environmental considerations into decision making. The ministries are working together to make these improvements and meet the commitments of the [BC Jobs Plan](#).

An integrated approach to permitting enhances our ability to meaningfully consult with First Nations. The Ministry of Aboriginal Relations and Reconciliation remains responsible for the overarching Crown-First Nations relationship as well as consultation policy, and supports all natural resource sector ministries on strategic consultation issues such as proposed policy or legislation changes. Through its New Relationship with First Nations, the Ministry of Aboriginal Relations and Reconciliation, along with government as a whole, remains committed to constructive consultation with Aboriginal peoples on socio-economic issues and opportunities.

## Open Data

In keeping with the [Citizens@the Centre: B.C. Government 2.0](#) strategy, the Ministry is a major contributor to the natural resource sector's efforts to improve citizen engagement and open up sector data to the public. [GeoBC](#) provides online access to foundational geographic products and services along with the [Integrated Land and Resource Registry](#) which offers users a complete view of B.C. Crown land status. It is a comprehensive register of legal interests, rights, designations and administrative boundaries on Crown land, including information on land and resource restrictions, reservations (e.g., parks) and locations of private land.

# Strategic Context



## Environmental and Economic Operating Context

The Ministry operates within the most ecologically rich jurisdiction in Canada. B.C.'s natural capital consists of ecosystem resources, land, water, forests, and plant and animal species upon which people's lives depend and which support industry. Resource industries like forestry, ranching, mining, clean energy production and outdoor recreation require continued, sustainable supplies of ecosystem goods. The Ministry balances the preservation, stewardship and safe use of natural capital with its role in encouraging a prosperous economy.

Global economic trends include a continuing rise in demand for natural resources, while government is faced with economic pressures, ecosystems are nearing their capacity, and land managers are dealing with increasingly complex decisions on use of the land base. The health of B.C.'s natural environment will continue to be impacted by habitat fragmentation and invasive species as well as factors related to climate change which includes wildfires, floods, landslides and debris flows, droughts and outbreak of disease such as mountain pine beetle. However, a healthy environment with resilient ecosystems is necessary to support resource development.

The mandate of the Ministry is broad and includes (but is not limited to): resource stewardship; research; monitoring and assessment; permitting and approvals; standards and regulation; recreational service delivery; ecosystem renewal; wild land fire management; water management; timber sales; compliance and enforcement activities; heritage conservation; and creating a competitive and innovative business environment for natural resource investments.

### *B.C.'s economic trends:*

*British Columbia's real GDP increased by 1.7 per cent in 2012 (according to preliminary GDP by industry data from Statistics Canada), following growth of 2.8 per cent in 2011. Annual gains in the domestic economy during 2012 were observed in employment, consumer spending and housing starts. B.C.'s exports fell during the year, however, as global demand weakened and prices fell for some key commodities. Several risks to British Columbia's economy remain, including further slowing of domestic economic activity, renewed weakness in the US economy, the ongoing European sovereign debt crisis threatening the stability of global financial markets, exchange rate volatility, and slower than anticipated economic growth in Asia dampening demand for B.C.'s exports.*

The Ministry oversees a total land base and freshwater area that covers 94.8 million hectares with a diverse resource base. Each resource has a market sector with interests in its development and use and, with competing and overlapping demands for resources, a key challenge is offering timely and sustainable decisions on resource use. Meeting ministry goals must be done in a way that also considers climate change adaptation, the Ministry's management of the resource base, and how it can contribute to economic recovery.

### Issues, Impacts and Implications

In response to these global and provincial pressures, the Ministry, and natural resource sector as a whole, has adopted an integrated approach to natural resource management in recent years. This sector-wide approach has afforded the opportunity to bring consistency to how B.C.'s resources are managed. Crown land management plays an important role in the operation of the province. The natural resource sector agencies regulate and influence activities on Provincial Crown land, which accounts for 94 per cent of the province's land base, and are responsible for implementing over 130 provincial statutes that provide for the sustainable management, protection and use of B.C.'s natural resources.

The following section looks back at 2012/13, and how the Ministry assessed the external issues that impacted its operations, and the implications for its ability to achieve its goals and objectives in future.

In addition to the implications and examples of strategic initiatives that relate to these issues, below, further information on achievements is presented in the 'Highlights of the Year' section of the report.

#### Issue: Adapting to climate change.

Seemingly small changes in climate can have significant ecological, social and economic consequences, for example:

- Slightly warmer winters have contributed to the devastating mountain pine beetle infestation in the B.C. interior, which has implications for mid-term timber supply. The current infestation is the largest in North America's recorded history.

#### Natural Resource Context Quick Facts:

- The total size of British Columbia is 94,872,896 hectares. Provincial Crown land accounts for 94% (89,512,571 hectares).
- B.C. is home to a rich diversity and abundance of native species and habitats, including 488 species of birds, 480 species of fish, 136 species of mammals, 20 species of amphibians, and 16 species of reptiles.
- B.C. has one of the largest, most productive and biologically diverse areas of forest land in the world – 55 million hectares of B.C. is forested.
- More than 14% (13.5 million hectares) of the province is set aside in over 1,000 parks and protected areas.
- There are 203 First Nation Bands in B.C., of the 600 total in Canada.
- More than half of Canada's mining exploration companies are based in B.C. Mineral exploration spending in B.C. has increased more than a 15-fold since 2001.
- Electricity generators in British Columbia produce approximately 64,000 gigawatt-hours of electricity per year. Of this total, hydroelectricity accounts for nearly 90%, with biomass and wind providing three to four per cent. Natural gas generation accounts for most of the remainder.
- B.C. has an enormous natural gas resource base comprised of an estimated 52 trillion cubic feet of conventional and 100 trillion cubic feet of unconventional (shale and tight gas) resources.



- There are growing concerns about summer water shortages on the coast and in the agriculturally-significant south central interior.
- Rising sea levels due to global warming may affect coastal communities over the next 90 years and beyond. The National Round Table on the Environment and the Economy predicts that economic damages from existing flooding risks and climate change-related risks could translate into an annual per capita cost of over \$2,000 in B.C. by the 2050s<sup>1</sup>.
- Warmer and drier conditions predicted for the southern half of the province could increase the incidence and severity of wildfires over the next 80 years in that area. The threat to human health and infrastructure is a growing concern, as evident in the frequency of 'record' years of undesired wildfires, such as 2003, 2004, 2006, and in the many evacuation orders and alerts occurring during the summers of 2009 and 2010.
- Increased frequency and severity of wildfires and outbreaks of pests in the forest can also potentially contribute to increased landslides and debris flows.
- Snow avalanches are being linked to changes in the underlying structure of snow pack and the pattern and intensity of rainstorms that are attributed to climate change.



The Ministry considers climate change in its management of natural resources; the decisions made today need to consider multiple scenarios for future climate change impacts. A better understanding of the relationship between climate change and events can help prepare for risks to the public, property and infrastructure, from small scale - such as designing road culverts to carry increased water flows over present normal levels - to large scale – actions to mitigate risks from catastrophic floods, wildfire or landslides.

- The Ministry is supporting implementation of the provincial [\*Climate Change Adaptation Strategy\*](#), which calls on all government agencies to consider climate change and its impacts by assessing business risks and opportunities.
- The [\*Forest Stewardship Action Plan for Climate Change Adaptation\*](#) aims to reduce risks to and improve the resilience of B.C.'s forests to withstand the full amplitude of climate change. A tree planted today needs to be the species and provenance most likely to survive changes in temperature, rainfall and in surrounding plants and organisms. Planting seedlings adapted to

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<sup>1</sup> National Round Table on the Environment and the Economy. (2011). *Paying the Price: The Economic Impacts of Climate Change for Canada*.

future climates by assisted migration is currently underway to help maintain healthy, productive forests, and capture gains from decades of selective breeding.

- [‘Beyond the Beetle: A Mid-Term Timber Supply Action Plan’](#) sets out opportunities to reduce the risk to mid-term timber supply caused by the mountain pine beetle epidemic. The key elements of the action plan focus on reforestation, forest inventory, fuel management and intensive and innovative silviculture.
- The Ministry initiated landscape fire management planning to mitigate the threat of wildfire, as part of the [B.C. Wildland Fire Management Strategy](#). Those plans include creating landscape-level fuel breaks to reduce risks to communities, wildlife habitat and endangered species, recreation and tourism sites, water quality and supply, and infrastructure such as hydro lines.
- The [BC Drought Response Plan](#) guides the provincial response to water supply shortages. The Ministry coordinates its implementation and will continue to update the plan in order to improve the province’s resiliency in the face of changing climatic conditions.
- The [“Cost of Adaptation – Sea Dikes and Alternative Strategies”](#) is an in-depth analysis of the long-term demands that rising sea levels will place on the current dike system. The Ministry will work closely with local governments to develop a regional flood protection strategy; developing cost-effective solutions that also consider resilience to earthquakes and coastal wave and storm surge.



**Issue: Managing multiple, competing and overlapping demands for natural resources.**



The growth in natural resource sectors creates competition for land, water and natural resources and presents challenges when managing the use and stewardship of natural resources sustainably. As development levels increase, corresponding pressures are placed upon environmental and social values on the landscape. Cumulative effects are the combined effect of past, present and foreseeable future actions or events that have or will

effect changes to those values, which include wildlife habitats or sensitive ecosystems, as well as clean air and water. There is a need to recognize and balance the cumulative footprint of development on social, economic and environmental outcomes that are of primary importance to British Columbians.

The increasing numbers of major natural resource projects gathered momentum in 2012/13 which is expected to grow and add to concerns about water use, cumulative effects and corresponding impacts to First Nations' interests. Industrial growth in the northeast has resulted in a significant increase in demand for water, and air quality issues are coming to the forefront with anticipated oil and gas refinery developments.

The Ministry, in collaboration with the Ministry of Environment, is building tools to integrate competing and overlapping resource use information into government's decision-making. An integrated approach to landscape level management will benefit the resource sector with more efficient service, a sustainable environment, and resources' long-term viability while protecting habitat and other resource values. Resource stewardship is a high priority and, combined with robust monitoring, is incorporated into decision-making to enable the Ministry to manage resources sustainably.

**Issue: Timely resource decisions in support of jobs and economic recovery.**

Forestry, tourism, mining and energy related industries are primary and important natural resource sector employers in many of British Columbia's communities. A thriving resource sector needs resilient communities that enjoy safe, economically viable and sustainable opportunities. With the current economic recovery in the sector creating increased demand for land and resource use, any delay in resolving applications can result in lost opportunities.

The traditional forest sector is showing signs of recovery. As well, B.C. has an abundance of natural



**Forest Sector Recovery Quick Facts:**

- During 2012/13, Crown forest revenues continued to show signs of modest recovery compared to 2011/12.
- The U.S. housing market improved slightly and both lumber and log exports to China remained solid.
- Improving coast and interior stumpage rates strengthened stumpage revenues during 2012/13 as compared to 2011/12.
- Softwood Lumber Border Tax revenue was less than expected due to fairly significant increases in lumber commodity prices which both reduced and eliminated the export tax rate for several months during the year.
- Although softwood lumber exports to the U.S. increased by 15 per cent last fiscal versus 2011/12, the affect of lower or no export tax reduced overall revenue associated with the Softwood Lumber Border Tax by \$46 million, year over year
- Overall Crown harvest levels were down slightly to 62.6 million cubic metres during 2012/13 – a decrease by less than one per cent from the previous year (63.2 million cubic metres in 2011/12).
- Corresponding stumpage revenues increased by 49 per cent last fiscal compared to the previous year due to increased stumpage rates – a rise from \$250.8 million in 2011/12 to \$375.4 million in 2012/13.



resources encompassing both the fossil fuel economy (coal and natural gas) and the bio-economy (forests, marine and agriculture) which present additional investment and development opportunities.

Between 2013 and 2022, tens of billions of dollars are projected to be invested in liquefied natural gas (LNG) projects in British Columbia. When resource-based industries increase their investments in new projects, one effect is a larger workload in permitting and approvals. The increased volume, coupled with increasingly complex reviews, can create delays and backlogs. The Ministry continues to work to reduce the backlog and shorten turnaround times for resource applications by streamlining processes, with the need for expediency balanced with consideration of environmental and Aboriginal interests.



**Issue: Safe development and use of natural resources.**

Safety for the general public, as well as natural resource workers, is a value that permeates ministry business. Part of keeping safe involves monitoring and planning for events, and effectively responding when required.

The most significant freshet in the Province in over 40 years occurred in spring and summer 2012, causing record-breaking flood levels in some areas, and flooding in almost every part of British Columbia. Large snow packs, a cold spring that delayed snow melt, and heavy spring and summer



rains resulted in extreme flooding, landslides and debris flows. The Ministry, in part due to having all natural resource operational staff together in one agency – played a key role in the provincial integrated flood response by providing specialist technical expertise in flood forecasting, observation, assessment, mitigation and site support. The Ministry deployed 100 technical and professional staff and 750 sandbagging staff throughout the affected areas as part of the [BC Flood Response Plan](#).

The Ministry and partners' response to the tragic landslide of Johnsons Landing and the Fairmont Hot Springs debris flow event (as shown in the Emergency Info BC photos, above and right) demonstrated the value of the integrated agency at the regional level. The Ministry was one of over 20 agencies that participated in search and recovery efforts at the site of the Johnsons Landing mudslide near Kaslo on Kootenay Lake in July 2012. Despite the extremely treacherous conditions the recovery effort was conducted safely. At Fairmont, regional staff took a leadership role working closely with local government in risk assessment and, for both events, continues to participate in post-event reviews in planning and response with local governments and Emergency Management BC.



In 2012/13 a total of 1,660 wildfires started in B.C. and 48,045 hectares burned. Of this total, 1,486 wildfires were 'full response', or managed with full suppression to minimize impacts to communities and the natural resource values of British Columbia. Of the full response fires, almost 90 per cent



were contained to within four hectares. In addition to full response fires, 174 wildfires were managed as ‘modified response’ fires, which are those where suppression efforts ensure the fire does not move beyond a predetermined perimeter. Modified response encourages healthy ecosystems by allowing natural, beneficial fire to take place, reduces the severity of fires in the future, and reduces the overall cost of wildfire control on fires that do not threaten values.

The Ministry is delivering the [Strategic Wildfire Prevention Initiative](#) (a fuels management program) in partnership with the First Nations’ Emergency Services Society and the Union of B.C. Municipalities. The initiative supports communities to mitigate risk from wildfire in the wildland-urban interface, which is any area where wildland fuels (combustible vegetation) are found adjacent to homes, farm structures or outbuildings. This unique cooperative program has reduced wildfire risks on over 46,000 hectares of wildland-urban interface since 2005.

British Columbia has been one of the world’s major mining jurisdictions since the mid-1800s beginning with coal mines on Vancouver Island and the placer gold camps of the Cariboo. Since then, the mining of minerals such as gold, silver, copper, lead, zinc, molybdenum and many others has been an important source of employment and government revenue. With development of these provincial natural resources has come a legacy of contaminated sites, the majority of which are from historical industrial activities

that occurred before potential impacts to human health and the environment were fully understood. The Province continues to demonstrate its commitment to environmental stewardship through ongoing remediation of contamination, having invested more than \$237 million into the program to identify and clean up high-risk contaminated sites on Crown land since the program began in 2003.

The abandoned Atlin-Ruffner mine (as shown in

the photo to the right) located in the extreme northwest of the province was remediated in 2012/13. The [Crown Land Restoration Program Biennial Report 2012](#) describes the many successes to date.



# Report on Performance

The Ministry in its current state has operated for two years. The set of nine performance measures established for the *2012/13-2014/15 Service Plan* accommodates the fuller mandate that resulted when most natural resource operations were brought together into this Ministry in March 2011. All performance measures are reported as defined in the *2012/13-2014/15 Service Plan*. One performance target was not achieved, while the majority of targets were substantively achieved, achieved or exceeded.

## Performance Results Summary Table

<b>Goal 1: Efficient, citizen-centred public service delivery</b>	<b>2012/13 Target</b>	<b>2012/13 Actual</b>
For greater detail see pages 30 to 32		
<b>1.1 Streamlined authorizations processes</b>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Number of outstanding mining Notice of Work (NoW) applications</li> <li>Average number of days turnaround time for new mining NoW applications.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>N/A</li> <li>60 days (By Dec. 2013)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>N/A</li> <li>73 days</li> </ul> SUBSTANTIVELY ACHIEVED
<b>1.2 Integrated and coordinated client services</b>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>FrontCounterBC client satisfaction success score</li> </ul>	82	77.6 NOT ACHIEVED
<b>Goal 2: Coordinated and sustainable management, use and stewardship of B.C.'s natural capital.</b>	<b>2012/13 Target</b>	<b>2012/13 Actual</b>
For greater detail see pages 33 to 40		
<b>2.1 The development and use of natural resources are accomplished within the standards set out in the Ministry's legislative and regulatory framework.</b>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Per cent of the regulated community's compliance with statutory requirements</li> </ul>	80%	88.1% ACHIEVED
<b>2.2 Natural resource productivity is optimized through conservation, stewardship, and effective policy, legislation and external relationships.</b>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Number of Mountain Caribou herds in recovery</li> <li>Number of hectares of ecosystems in recovery mode</li> </ul>	4 12,000	4 13,400 EXCEEDED

## Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Timber volume gain (millions of cubic metres) expected in 65 years from silviculture treatments completed</li> </ul>	7.7	7.4 SUBSTANTIVELY ACHIEVED
<b>2.3 Safe and environmentally responsible natural resource management practices.</b>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Percentage of owners of High and Very High Consequence Classification dams that complete the required inspections and return the Inspection Compliance Form</li> </ul>	92%	98% EXCEEDED
<b>Goal 3: Productive, thriving natural resource sector and resilient communities</b>	<b>2012/13 Target</b>	<b>2012/13 Actual</b>
For greater detail see pages 41 to 45		
<b>3.1 Natural resource decisions and dispositions support community needs and provincial priorities, and encourage private investment</b>		
	2	2 ACHIEVED
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Number of new mines in operation</li> </ul>	4	1 SUBSTANTIVELY ACHIEVED <sup>2</sup>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Number of operating mines with upgrades or expansions</li> </ul>		
<b>3.2 Economic benefits of natural resource development are optimized</b>		
<b>3.3 Generate revenue from B.C.'s natural resources</b>		
Government revenue derived from the use of Crown land and natural resources		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Forests</li> </ul>	\$ 504 M	\$ 521 M EXCEEDED
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Crown Lands</li> </ul>	\$ 76 M	\$ 69 M SUBSTANTIVELY ACHIEVED
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Natural Resource Operations</li> </ul>	\$ 449 M	\$ 453 M EXCEEDED
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Total Ministry gross revenue</li> </ul>	\$ 1,029 M	\$ 1,043 M ACHIEVED

<sup>2</sup> Responsibility for achievement of this *BC Jobs Plan* target is shared by the Ministry of Energy and Mines and this Ministry. The service plan target of four operating mines with approved upgrades or expansions in 2012/13 was substantively achieved since it was exceeded in the previous fiscal year. Although the year-by-year tracking suggests that the 2012/13 target was missed, significant progress was made earlier than expected with six expansions approved in 2011/12, three of which were approved in the first three months of 2012. This meant that fewer expansions than targeted were approved in 2012/13. Please see page 42 for more detail.

# Goals, Objectives, Strategies and Performance Results

## Goal 1: Efficient, citizen-centred public service delivery.

### Objective 1.1: Streamlined authorizations processes.

#### Strategies

- Develop and implement a set of common standards and a coordinated, streamlined approach to resource use authorizations, particularly for projects requiring multiple approvals.
- Expand the efficiency of online service delivery and improve timelines by developing and implementing electronic licensing, payment and permitting options, and client-directed authorizations.
- In collaboration with natural resource agencies, federal agencies and municipalities, improve business processes to better serve clients through ongoing identification and implementation of streamlining opportunities.

#### Performance Measure 1: Natural resource authorizations backlog reduction.

Performance Measure	2011/12 Baseline	2010/11 Actual	2011/12 Actual	2012/13 Target	2012/13 Actual
Number of outstanding mining Notice of Work (NoW) applications <sup>1</sup> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Average number of days turnaround time for new mining NoW applications.</li> </ul>	229 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 110 days</li> </ul>	N/A <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• N/A</li> </ul>	59 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 85 days</li> </ul>	N/A <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 60 days</li> </ul>	N/A <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 73 days</li> </ul> SUBSTANTIVELY ACHIEVED

**Data Source:** Ministry of Energy and Mines.

<sup>1</sup> Targets for 2011/12 and 2012/13 reflect commitments in the *BC Jobs Plan* to reduce the backlog by 80 per cent by 2013. Targets for new mining Notice of Work applications convert to maintenance of an average 60 day turnaround time by December 31, 2013 and onwards.

#### Discussion of Results

This performance measure was new in 2011/12 and supports commitments from the [BC Jobs Plan](#). It assesses one aspect of the broader Ministry commitment to streamline the regulatory framework for managing the province's forests, lands and natural resources. Tracking backlog reduction with this performance measure helps the Ministry assess its progress in streamlining authorizations processes, and in enhancing efficiency, predictability and transparency in its delivery of authorizations services.

The target to reduce the backlog in the mining-related Notice of Work applications by 80 per cent was achieved two months ahead of schedule. The remaining target is to maintain an average 60-day turnaround time from 2013 onwards, which is measured as an average of 60 days over the course of 2013. A related Ministry target reflected in the *Jobs Plan*, to reduce the backlog of *Land Act* and *Water Act* applications by 50 per cent by the end of 2012, was substantively achieved.

Responsibility for achievement of the targets is shared with the Ministry of Energy and Mines. The Ministries are well on the way to achieve the 60-day turnaround target. Recently implemented time saving initiatives, such as the electronic submission of Notices of Work, are expected to further reduce the average turnaround time leading to achieving the 60 day target over the course of 2013. In January 2013, additional funding was announced supporting continuation of the backlog reduction program through September 2013. This funding allows for hiring of temporary staff to keep the number of backlogged applications at or below target levels. Additionally, the funding supports further efforts towards improved process efficiencies and tools to better support First Nations consultation.



**Objective 1.2: Integrated and coordinated client services.**

**Strategies**

- Provide client-focussed service that is responsive to the needs and interests of citizens and businesses seeking assistance with preparing applications for natural resource-use authorizations.
- Provide excellent provincial land, natural and heritage resource information and advisory services.
- Collaborate on the new *Government 2.0* Technology and Transformation open data initiative.

**Performance Measure 2: Client Satisfaction with natural resource authorizations services.**

Performance Measure	2007/08 Baseline	2010/11 Actual	2011/12 Actual	2012/13 Target	2012/13 Actual
FrontCounter BC client satisfaction success score.	71	75.0	75.6	82	77.6 NOT ACHIEVED

**Data Source:** FrontCounter BC Authorization Tracking System and BCStats Client Satisfaction Survey.

## Discussion of Results

This measure assesses the overall client satisfaction with services provided by FrontCounter BC staff. The success score combines two aspects of FrontCounter BC's client satisfaction survey: business and individual's ability to obtain information and assistance with preparing applications for resource-use authorizations; and client satisfaction with the overall authorization process across natural resource sector ministries.

The measure continues in the 2013/14-2014/15 Service Plan, but the wording of the performance measure is updated to more accurately reflect client satisfaction with natural resource authorization services offered through FrontCounter BC. In addition, the target for 2013/14 has been held at 82 points for another year in anticipation that the launch of electronic application forms, which are a significant change in client service, may impact client satisfaction temporarily as clients and staff adapt to the new processes.

While the target success score of 82 was not fully achieved in 2012/13, the fiscal year's overall score to date has improved by 2.0 points over the previous year. Over the past six years, client satisfaction scores have been trending upward with an increase of 6.6 points since the first survey baseline was set in 2007/08. Several internal factors contributed to the variance between the 2012/13 actual score and the target.

## Ministry Response

Targets are valuable tools to help staff and an organization focus on what is important – so FrontCounterBC managers and the provincial team are building strategies to improve client satisfaction. This includes analysing client feedback and identifying opportunities to direct improvements to what is important to the client.

Continued efforts in 2013/14 to enhance awareness and implement strategies are expected to result in further increases in the overall client satisfaction scores. The implementation of electronic application forms for various business lines will help to improve long-term client satisfaction by improving communications with clients, improved workflows and faster processing. Other strategies include strengthening client service by providing training to managers and staff. While still in the early stages of implementation, Government's Lean initiative to streamline Ministry operational processes is expected to have a positive impact for the client, which in turn could improve client satisfaction scores.





## Goal 2: Coordinated and sustainable management, use and stewardship of B.C.'s natural capital.



**Objective 2.1: The development and use of natural resources are accomplished within the standards set out in the Ministry's legislative and regulatory framework.**

### Strategies

- Support government's Climate Change Adaptation Strategy with natural resource management practices and standards that are adaptive for a changing climate and enhance ecosystem resilience.
- Enhance natural resource stewardship through effective compliance and enforcement actions that include major projects monitoring, Crown land tenures and trespass, dam safety, forestry and range practices, and actions that support wildlife management.
- Partner with sector agencies to ensure standards and effective practices are relevant and contribute to sustainable management and use of B.C. natural resources.
- Enhance public trust in natural and heritage resource management practices and operations.

### Performance Measure 3: Monitoring statutory requirements within the resource management sector<sup>1</sup>

Performance Measure	2010/11 Actual	2011/12 Actual	2012/13 Target	2012/13 Actual
Per cent of the regulated community's compliance with statutory requirements <sup>2</sup>	94%	92%	80%	88.1% ACHIEVED

**Data Source:** Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations Compliance Information Management System

<sup>1</sup> The title of this performance measure was changed over the last two years – in the 2011 plan it was "Compliance with resource laws" and in the 2012 plan it was "Meeting management and use standards"

<sup>2</sup> Regulated community' includes all persons (including licensees, contractors, public and government) subject to statutory obligations within the Ministry's mandate.

<sup>3</sup> With the restructure of the natural resource sector, the Ministry's compliance and enforcement obligations expanded significantly beyond forest-related Acts and Regulations; including statutes that are new to the program, i.e., *Land Act*, *Water Act* and *Wildlife Act*.

## Discussion of Results

This is a measure of how well the regulated community is complying with their statutory obligations under various natural resource management Acts and their associated regulations. The regulated community includes a majority of individuals and the public who are active in the natural resource sector, and forestry, mining, bio-energy and ranching companies, who are subject to statutory obligations within these Acts and regulations.



This indicator is measured as the number of inspections that lead to an enforcement action against the total number of inspections completed. Inspection priorities are based on an assessment of risk to public health and safety, as well as contributing to significant social and economic values.

The measure was achieved due to the high level of compliance within traditional forest sector activities; however, activities within the broadened mandate of the Ministry show a significantly lower level of compliance. The result may not reflect the true level of compliance due to a high level of effort focused toward promoting compliance through orientation and education and forgoing more formal actions in cases where relationships were not established with the regulated community, and the presence of officers was not readily known by the broadened regulated community. In addition, the anticipated impact of expanding the Ministry mandate was unknown and estimated in determining the targeted level of the performance measure. Resources and presence will be allocated in the future to address these activities to promote compliance among these sectors of the Ministry mandate.

Over the next three years, compliance targets under this objective may be adjusted to reflect:

- Enhanced knowledge for both the regulated community and staff with respect to the expanded mandate of compliance within the new Ministry;
- The move to a new streamlined compliance legislative framework designed to facilitate more effective and efficient compliance actions across the sector;
- Resource focus toward those activities under a broadened mandate across the Natural Resource Sector that show higher levels of non-compliance; and

- Increased community presence of Natural Resource Officers through the recognition of those officers and the compliance verification role they play within the Natural Resource Sector.

**Objective 2.2: Natural resource productivity is optimized through conservation, stewardship, and effective policy, legislation and external relationships.**

**Strategies**

- Work in partnership with natural resource ministries to modernize natural resource policy and legislation that recognises requirements for resilient ecosystems and species, while streamlining regulation that improves competitiveness.
- Advance professional reliance through clear accountabilities and an environment that supports innovative practices.
- Integrate decision-making that is well informed of landscape level impacts across sectors, including identification, conservation and preservation of historic and archaeological resources.
- Facilitate bioenergy and other natural resource opportunities through ministry policy, legislation and external relationships.
- Promote and foster consultation with First Nations and local governments to achieve local approaches to landscape level management.
- Increase timber quality and supply through silviculture and carbon investments and sustainable forest management practices, and mitigate mid-term timber supply impacts caused by the mountain pine beetle.
- Work collaboratively with multi-sector partner groups and First Nations to increase ecosystem health by restoring degraded ecosystems through invasive plant management, ecosystem restoration, remediation and best management practices.



**Performance Measure 4: Mountain Caribou herds meeting recovery objective**

Performance Measure	2010/11 Actual	20011/12 Actual	2012/13 Target <sup>2</sup>	2012/13 Actual
Number of Mountain Caribou herds in recovery <sup>1</sup>	N/A	N/A	4	4 ACHIEVED

**Data Source:** Fish and Wildlife Recovery Implementation Section, Fish Wildlife and Habitat Branch, Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations

<sup>1</sup> Mountain Caribou are a species at risk and herds are in decline. The Ministry is under Cabinet directive to halt the decline by 2014. Targets are the progressive accumulation of Mountain Caribou herds that are expected to be stable or increasing.

<sup>2</sup> Herds were designated as stable or increasing based on most recent aerial surveys conducted in late winter. It does not consider recruitment level. Caution is necessary in interpretation of short term trends.

**Discussion of Results**

British Columbia is home to all of the world’s mountain caribou but herds have been in decline over the last decade or more due to historic overhunting and habitat alteration. Mountain caribou currently face significant predation pressure from wolves, cougar and bears. In 2007, the government announced the Mountain Caribou Recovery Implementation Plan with goals to stop the decline by 2014 and set recovery numbers to 2,500 by 2027. The recovery plan supports B.C.’s commitments to the national [Protection of Species at Risk Accord](#).



The Ministry has completed management action to protect high value habitat, reduce disturbance from motorized winter recreation and reduce predation. Augmenting small populations and more aggressive predator control will occur as the need arises over the next few years. Winter surveys of caribou herds, at least every third year, will assess how effective these management actions are at meeting the Mountain Caribou Recovery Implementation Plan goals, specifically stopping the decline by 2014.

Based on survey results over the last 4 to 8 years, depending on the herd, 4 of 14 mountain caribou herds appear to be stable. The remaining herds appear to be in decline. To achieve future ministry performance targets requires strong commitment to the measures recommended in the Mountain Caribou Recovery Implementation Plan.

**Performance Measure 5: Recovery of open forest and grassland ecosystems**

Performance Measure	2010/11 Actual	20011/12 Actual	2012/13 Target <sup>1</sup>	2012/13 Actual
Number of hectares of ecosystems in recovery mode	0	6,000	12,000	13,400 EXCEEDED

**Data Source:** Land Based Investment Strategy - Categories: Range Remediation; Ecosystem Restoration; and Invasive Plant Management. Invasive Alien Plant Program database. District range reports. Ecosystem Restoration Steering Committee reports.

<sup>1</sup> Targets are cumulative over the three year period and include an aggregate total of Range Remediation, Ecosystem Restoration, and Invasive Plant Management annual targets.

**Discussion of Results**

This performance measure assesses one aspect of the Ministry’s efforts to maintain natural capital through the recovery of open forest and grassland ecosystems, which include riparian and subalpine types that are affected by commercial and recreational use.

The Ministry exceeded the 2012/13 target of adding 6,000 hectares to the cumulative total of 12,000, by 1,400 hectares of open forest and grasslands. The additional 1,400 hectares were moved into recovery mode by applying range remediation, ecosystem restoration and invasive plant management.

The actual performance of 13,400 hectares over the two years (2011/12-2012/13) exceeded the target because of an exceptionally

cool spring, which allowed for a longer time period to use the ‘prescribed fire’ method to restore ecosystems. Over the longer term, weather patterns will influence the program’s ability to restore ecosystems, so the overachievement this year may compensate for any potential underachievement due to adverse weather conditions in future.



**Performance Measure 6: Timber volume gain from silviculture investments.**

Performance Measure	2010/11 Actual	20011/12 Actual	2012/13 Target	2012/13 Actual
Timber volume gain <sup>1</sup> (millions of cubic metres) expected in 65 years from silviculture treatments completed <sup>2</sup>	7.1	7.4	7.7	7.4 SUBSTANTIVELY ACHIEVED

**Data Source:** Volume gains (millions of cubic metres of wood) estimated using data submitted by licensees and the Ministry, to RESULTS (Reporting Silviculture Updates and Land status Tracking System) and SPAR (Seed Planning and Registry System).

<sup>1</sup> Gain as compared to basic reforestation using natural unimproved seed sources. “Timber Volume gain” includes incremental growth associated with planting using select seed, rehabilitation, juvenile spacing, and fertilization and is based on the estimated total accumulated volume gains in 65 years.

<sup>2</sup> Data are submitted, according to legislated requirements, before June 1 each year for the previous year ending March 31. The information used to calculate the volume gain is found in detailed statistical information posted at: [www.for.gov.bc.ca/hfp/silviculture/statistics/statistics.htm](http://www.for.gov.bc.ca/hfp/silviculture/statistics/statistics.htm)

**Discussion of Results**

This performance measure continues unaltered in the current service plan. It indicates the estimated future gains in timber volume as a result of investing in various silviculture activities that enhance Crown forest productivity. “Timber volume gain” is a high-level indicator of the benefit from investments in the land base, forest resource stewardship, and timber productivity.

The target for 2012/13 is considered to be substantively achieved because the minor shortfall is due to increased lodgepole pine planting densities to improve future value and health. The Forests for Tomorrow Program is promoting increased planting of lodgepole pine seedlings, which was not accounted for in the calculation of timber volume gain; therefore, refinements to the calculation will be explored in 2013/14.

Silviculture treatments primarily aim to increase timber volume and quality as well as shorten harvest rotations by planting with select seed, spacing juvenile trees, and fertilization. Other benefits from



silviculture include: increased short- and mid-term timber supply through fertilization; increased carbon storage; accelerated development of mature or old-growth characteristics for wildlife, conservation and biodiversity; higher wood quality; and reduced wildfire hazard through spacing and pruning. All together these treatments create more pleasing visual landscapes, and provide short- and long-term employment opportunities.

BC Timber Sales and major tenure holders have a legal obligation to reforest harvested areas. Where planting is undertaken, the law requires the use of select seed wherever available. Use of select seed is currently providing the largest future volume gains and will assist in ameliorating shortfalls in the timber supply. Mid-term timber supply can be further improved through activities such as strategic juvenile spacing and fertilization.

**Objective 2.3: Safe and environmentally responsible natural resource management practices.**

**Strategies**

- Collaborate with the Ministry of Environment on implementation of the Conservation Framework.
- Effectively monitor and manage risks to the environment and public health and safety, such as flood hazard, contaminated sites and interface wildfire.
- In cooperation with industry, enhance collaboration to improve environmental and safety management through ministry business and policy development.

**Performance Measure 7: Dam Safety Inspection Compliance**

Performance Measure	2002/03 Baseline <sup>1</sup>	2010/11 Actual <sup>1</sup>	2011/12 Actual <sup>2</sup>	2012/13 Target <sup>2,3</sup>	2012/13 Actual <sup>2</sup>
Percentage of owners of High, Very High and Extreme Consequence Classification dams that complete the required inspections and return the Inspection Compliance Form.	62%	93%	96%	92%	98% EXCEEDED

**Data Source:** Water Management Branch, Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations

<sup>1</sup> Percentage of owners of High and Very High Consequence Classification dams that returned the Inspection Compliance Form.

<sup>2</sup> Dams previously classified as High and Very High have been reclassified as High, Very High and Extreme through an amendment to the British Columbia Dam Safety Regulation brought into force in 2011. Since the measure is calculated as a percentage, it is still possible to make a valid comparison over time.

<sup>3</sup> The target for 2012/13 was decreased to 92% due to addition of 23 dams that had a change in consequence classification as a result of reviews conducted by Dam Safety Officers in 2012.

**Discussion of Results**

In British Columbia, the *Water Act* holds dam owners accountable for any damage caused by the construction, operation or failure of a dam. Under the [BC Dam Safety Regulation](#), all B.C. dam owners are required to undertake a dam inspection and maintenance program. For High, Very High and Extreme Downstream Consequence Classification dams, the Ministry requires dam owners to report on their dam inspection and maintenance program through an Inspection Compliance Form. The performance measure reported is the percentage of inspection compliance forms



returned by dam owners each year. The Dam Safety Program uses the results to determine whether dams are being inspected and maintained to required standards by the owners, and to assist dam owners in ensuring that they meet required standards. Where the inspection compliance form is not received or dam owners have otherwise not met their obligations under the Regulation, Ministry staff follow-up directly with the dam owner.

Data for the performance measure has been collected since the beginning of British Columbia's Dam Safety Program Compliance Strategy in 2002/03, providing a well established baseline. The result achieved for 2012/13 was 98 per cent compliance with Inspection Compliance Forms returned for 334 of 339 high, very high and extreme consequence classification dams, exceeding the target of 92 per cent.

## Ministry Response

Dam Safety Program staff contact dam owners to remind them to return their compliance forms and in some cases to assist them with the completion of these forms. This extra effort and positive relationship-building has resulted in exceeding the performance target. To augment the owner inspection compliance forms, Dam Safety Officers periodically undertake dam audits and conduct site visits with the dam owners. During these visits, compliance with the Regulation is assessed and dam owners have the opportunity to discuss the status of their dams and their inspection and maintenance programs. The Dam Safety Program also offers broader educational workshops for dam owners and



provides information through the Dam Safety Program website and through direct mail outs.

For the safety of British Columbians, dam owner inspection, maintenance and reporting is a legal requirement under the *Water Act*. Dam safety staff continue to encourage compliance by dam owners; however those owners that do not meet the requirements of the BC Dam Safety Regulation are subject to a process of escalating enforcement.

Compliance and audit results are available after May 31 in the [Dam Safety Program Annual Report](#).





### **Goal 3: Productive, thriving natural resource sector and resilient communities.**

**Objective 3.1: Natural resource decisions and dispositions support community needs and provincial priorities, and encourage private investment.**

#### **Strategies**

- Manage and resolve high value land disposition proposals, often involving multiple government agencies and parties, to advance government priorities and provide broad public benefit.
- Encourage industry and private investment to improve natural resources by providing clarity and predictability in permitting.
- Remove barriers and create the conditions that encourage investment, access and development of forests, land and natural resources and developable Crown land.
- Ensure durable decisions and improved delivery of natural resource sector major projects that are within the Ministry mandate.
- Foster an efficient and innovative market-based operating climate.
- Support the diversification of natural resource product markets, and Crown land utilization.
- Continue to work with communities, First Nations and key stakeholders to address impact of the mountain pine beetle and its effect on timber supply.
- Develop and coordinate consistent and effective First Nation consultation function for the natural resource sector to respect First Nation interests in the land base.

**Performance Measure 8: New mines and expansions to operating mines.**

Performance Measure	2010/11 Actual	2011/12 Actual	2012/13 Target <sup>1</sup>	2012/13 Actual
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Number of new mines in operation</li> </ul>	N/A	1	2	2 ACHIEVED
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Number of operating mines with upgrades or expansions</li> </ul>	N/A	6	4	1 SUBSTANTIVELY ACHIEVED

**Data Source:** Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations Major Projects Office; Data analysis by Ministry of Energy and Mines.

<sup>1</sup> Annual targets are discrete (not cumulative) with the total numbers of 8 new mines and 9 operating mines with upgrades or expansions by 2015 reflecting commitments as set out in the *BC Jobs Plan*.

**Discussion of Results**

This performance measure was new in the 2012/13 service plan and is intended to track on a year-by-year basis the [BC Jobs Plan](#) targets to see, in concert with the private sector, a total of eight new mines and nine expansions to existing mines by 2015. Responsibility for achieving *Jobs Plan* targets is shared jointly with the Ministry of Energy and Mines. Currently the ministries are more than halfway to reaching the *Jobs Plan* targets with two new mines in production, three under construction and six expansions approved. However, targeting outcomes for each year of a three-year overall target has proved challenging because of several factors that influence when permitting decisions can be made and when companies will proceed with their investment decisions, including world market prices, corporate funding, market funding and current reserves.

The service plan target for the actual number of new mines in operation was achieved in 2012/13. The service plan target of four operating mines with approved upgrades or expansions in 2012/13 was substantively achieved since it was exceeded in the previous fiscal year. Although the year-by-year tracking suggests that the 2012/13 target was missed, significant progress was made earlier than expected with six expansions approved in 2011/12, three of which were approved in the first three months of 2012. This meant that fewer expansions than targeted were approved in 2012/13. The Gibraltar mine expansion was approved in February 2013, making it the sixth expansion approved since the *Jobs Plan* was released and the seventh expansion in the last two years.



A major project, such as a mine, can create hundreds of jobs throughout its lifecycle. Selecting mining projects as an indicator, the measure can help the Ministry assess the predictability of the regulatory review process for major projects. To advance the commitment to the “One Process” model, the Ministry established the [Major Projects Office](#) with accountability for overarching, effective project management and leadership on major projects. The Ministry is working collaboratively with the Ministry of Energy and Mines and other natural resource agencies to identify opportunities to streamline the authorization process for natural resource sector major projects, and ensure durable decisions.

**Objective 3.2: Economic benefits of natural resource development are optimized.**

**Strategies**

- Support priority treaty and reconciliation initiatives led by the Ministry of Aboriginal Relations and Reconciliation.
- Expand First Nations participation in the forest sector through the First Nations Forest Sector Strategy.
- Continue to build partnerships with local governments, other agencies and First Nations to identify sustainable resource development opportunities.
- Support the implementation of initiatives that contribute to a globally competitive and sustainable sector.
- Improve forest fibre utilization to support further manufacturing and bioenergy.
- Partner and work with all levels of government and the heritage sector to build capacity for community heritage conservation, foster the sustainability and rehabilitation of the historic built

environment, and promote the exemplary recognition and conservation of historic places in British Columbia.

- Market and maintain public [recreation sites and trails](#) in partnership with communities that support rural economic and health benefits provided by outdoor recreation opportunities.
- Collaborate with industry and ministries to focus the B.C. Resort Strategy on enabling success of existing all-season resorts.



**Objective 3.3: Generate revenue from B.C.'s natural resources.**

**Strategies**

- Support the sustainable use of natural resources to generate government revenue.
- Ensure effective management of ministry revenues.
- Ensure BC Timber Sales continues to provide credible data to establish market-based stumpage rates.
- Ensure timely, accurate and complete measurement and billing of Crown timber.

**Performance Measure 9: Government revenue derived from the use of Crown land and natural resources.**

Performance Measure	2010/11 Actual	2011/12 Actual	2012/13 Target <sup>1</sup>	2012/13 Actual <sup>2</sup>
Forests	\$ 433 M	\$ 523 M	\$ 504 M	\$ 521 M EXCEEDED
Crown Lands	\$ 65 M	\$ 83 M	\$ 76 M	\$ 69 M SUBSTANTIVELY ACHIEVED
Natural Resource Operations	\$ 367 M	\$ 412 M	\$ 449 M	\$ 453 M EXCEEDED
Total Ministry gross revenue	\$ 865 M	\$1,018 M	\$ 1,029 M	\$ 1,043 M ACHIEVED

**Data Source:** Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations Harvest Billing System and Ministry of Finance, Corporate Accounting System.

<sup>1</sup> The 2012/13 Target was amended to show that revenue from Land Registry Fees (\$ 25M) was transferred from Forests to Natural Resource Operations.

<sup>2</sup> Actual 2012/13 revenue (Unaudited) is subject to verification by audit by the Office of the Auditor General. This revenue will continue to fluctuate minimally until Closing Adjustment #3 is completed by the Office of the Auditor General on or before June 30, 2013. Data shown are as at April 30, 2013.

**Discussion of Results**

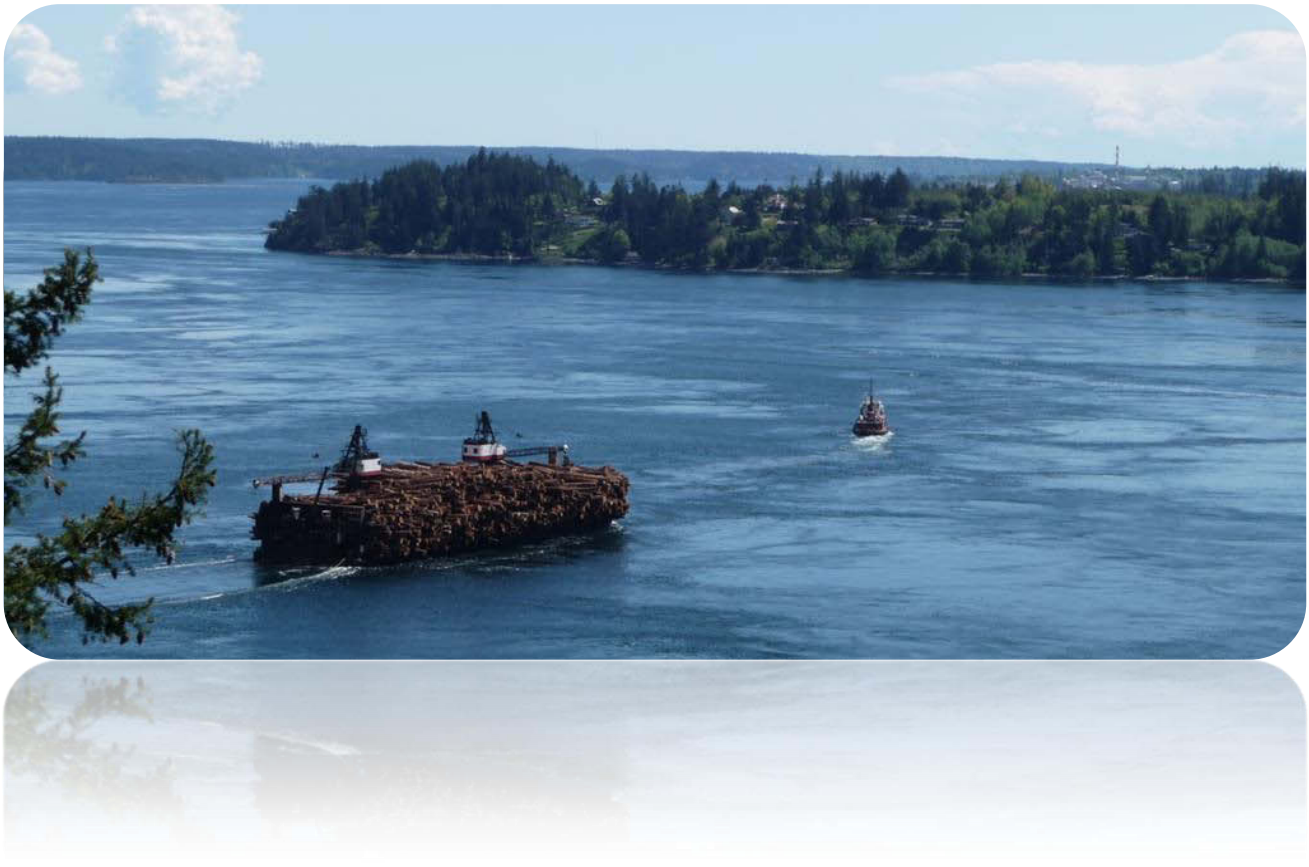
The total revenue for fiscal 2012/13 of \$1,036 million includes stumpage from timber tenures and BC Timber Sales, revenues from other forestry activities, Crown land sales, tenures and royalties, water licence revenue, land registry fees and fish and wildlife permits and licences. Additionally, significant revenues are received as a result of Softwood Lumber Border Tax payments from the Government of Canada to British Columbia. This is attributable to the Softwood Lumber Agreement which came into effect October 12, 2006.

The overall 2012/13 Ministry target for revenues from all natural resource sector sources was achieved. Crown land revenue exceeded expectations, though the target was only substantively achieved with the exception of Crown land sales, where some transactions that were forecast to

## Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations

complete in March 2013 were delayed until fiscal year 2013/14. The target for forests was slightly exceeded as it was \$10 million above the original target. It continues to be below the Ministry's historical revenue performance benchmark range of slightly less than \$600 million over the past five years.

The residual impacts of the global and North American economic downturn, along with suppressed U.S. housing starts, credit rationing and harvest of lower value stands of Crown timber, will continue to materially affect the Crown timber harvest in B.C. and the associated revenue. Harvesting activity dropped off slightly during 2012/13 due in part to the cautious recovery of the North American economy and a slowing economy in China and other Asian countries.



# Report on Resources: Ministry Summary Table

	Estimated <sup>1</sup>	Other Authorizations	Total Estimated	Actual	Variance
<b>Operating Expenses (\$000)</b>					
Integrated Resource Operations	58,989	2,069	61,058	69,535	8,477
Resource Stewardship	102,211	397	102,608	90,798	(11,810)
Tenures, Competitiveness and Innovation	13,637	48	13,685	8,480	(5,205)
Timber Operations and Pricing	23,889	62	23,951	17,045	(6,906)
Regional Operations	116,092	6,469	122,561	137,308	14,747
Executive and Support Services	65,261	30	65,291	65,988	697
<b>Subtotal – Operating Expenses</b>	<b>380,079</b>	<b>9,075</b>	<b>389,154</b>	<b>389,154</b>	<b>0</b>
Adjustment of Prior Year Accrual <sup>2</sup>	0	0	0	(2,031)	(2,031)
<b>Total – Operating Expenses</b>	<b>380,079</b>	<b>9,075</b>	<b>389,154</b>	<b>387,123</b>	<b>(2,031)</b>
Direct Fire	62,901	70,736	133,637	133,637	0
BC Timber Sales	159,034	0	159,034	150,586	(8,448)
Crown Land	20	0	20	0	(20)
Forest Stand Management Fund	0	0	0	0	0
Agriculture Science and Policy	0	100	100	103	3
Strategic Industry Partnerships	0	180	180	187	7
Executive and Support Services	0	3	3	2	(1)
<b>Total Ministry</b>	<b>602,034</b>	<b>80,094</b>	<b>682,128</b>	<b>671,638</b>	<b>(10,490)</b>
<b>Ministry Capital Expenditures (Consolidated Revenue Fund) (\$000)<sup>3</sup></b>					
Executive and Support Services	27,723	0	27,723	24,127	(3,596)
BC Timber Sales	27,500	0	27,500	19,091	(8,409)
<b>Total</b>	<b>55,223</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>55,223</b>	<b>43,218</b>	<b>(12,005)</b>

<sup>1</sup> "Other Authorizations" include Supplementary Estimates, Statutory Appropriations and Contingencies. Statutory Appropriation – \$70.736m, Contingencies – \$9.075m and Government Reorganization (from Ministry of Agriculture) - \$0.283m . Amounts in this column are not related to the "estimated amount" under sections 5(1) and 6(1) of the Balanced Budget and Ministerial Accountability Act for ministerial accountability for operating expenses under the Act.

<sup>2</sup> The Adjustment of Prior Year Accrual of \$2.031million is a reversal of accruals in the previous year.

<sup>3</sup> Capital funding is primarily used for Roads, Recreation Sites, Systems, Buildings and Equipment.

(Ministry Summary Table is continued on the next page.)

**Report on Resources: Ministry Summary Table, continued.**

	Estimated	Other Authorizations	Total Estimated	Actual	Variance
<b>Other Financing Transactions (\$000)</b>					
<b>BC Timber Sales Disbursements</b>					
Receipts	0	0	0	0	0
Disbursements	61,900	0	61,900	50,112	(11,778)
<b>Net Cash Source (Requirements)</b>	<b>61,900</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>61,900</b>	<b>50,112</b>	<b>(11,778)</b>
<b>Crown Land Administration</b>					
Receipts	0	0	0	0	0
Disbursements	5,878	0	5,878	778	(5,100)
<b>Net Cash Source (Requirements)</b>	<b>5,878</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>5,878</b>	<b>778</b>	<b>(5,100)</b>
<b>Crown Land Special Account</b>					
Receipts	70	0	70	69	1
Disbursements	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Net Cash Source (Requirements)</b>	<b>70</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>70</b>	<b>69</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Tourism Development</b>					
Receipts	0	0	0	0	0
Disbursements	600	0	600	385	(215)
<b>Net Cash Source (Requirements)</b>	<b>600</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>600</b>	<b>385</b>	<b>(215)</b>
<b>Habitat Conservation Trust</b>					
Receipts	6,000	0	6,000	5,995	5
Disbursements	6,000	0	6,000	5,995	(5)
<b>Net Cash Source (Requirements)</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Total Receipts</b>	<b>6,070</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>6,070</b>	<b>6,064</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>Total Disbursements</b>	<b>74,378</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>74,378</b>	<b>57,270</b>	<b>(17,108)</b>
<b>Total Net Cash Source (Requirements)</b>	<b>(68,308)</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>(68,308)</b>	<b>(51,206)</b>	<b>(17,102)</b>

# Report on Resources: Forest Practices Board

## Forest Practices Board

The Forest Practices Board is an independent watchdog for sound forest and range practices in British Columbia’s public forests and rangelands. It informs both the British Columbia public and the international marketplace of forest and range licensees’ performance in carrying out sound practices and complying with legal requirements. It also ensures that resource ministries are appropriately monitoring and enforcing forest and range practices legislation.

The Board audits tenure holders and government ministries for compliance with forest and range practices legislation, carries out special investigations and issues reports as appropriate, investigates



concerns and complaints from the public, and participates in appeals to the Forest Appeals Commission. The Board’s mandate is provided by the *Forest and Range Practices Act* and the *Wildfire Act*.

While the Board operates independently from the Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations, its budget vote is the responsibility of the Minister. The Board independently reports its accomplishments and priorities through an annual report found at: [www.fpb.gov.bc.ca](http://www.fpb.gov.bc.ca).

## Forest Practices Board Resource Summary Table

Forest Practices Board	Estimated	Other Authorizations	Total Estimated	Actual	Variance
<b>Operating Expenses (\$000)</b>					
<b>Total</b>	3,815	0,000	3,815	3,775	(40)
<b>Ministry Capital Expenditures (Consolidated Revenue Fund) (\$000)</b>					
<b>Total</b>	0,000	0,000	0,000	0,000	0,000



# Annual Service Plan Report Appendices

## Appendix A: Ministry Contact Information

### Headquarters

P.O. Box 9361 STN PROV GOVT,  
Victoria, B.C., V8W 9M2  
Phone: 250 387-1772  
Fax: 250 387-3291  
[www.gov.bc.ca/for/contacts.html](http://www.gov.bc.ca/for/contacts.html)

### BC Timber Sales – Headquarters

Website: [www.for.gov.bc.ca/bcts/](http://www.for.gov.bc.ca/bcts/)  
Contacts: [www.for.gov.bc.ca/bcts/contact/](http://www.for.gov.bc.ca/bcts/contact/)

### Media

Government Communications and Public  
Engagement  
Phone: 250 356-5261  
E-mail: [FLNRO.MediaRequests@gov.bc.ca](mailto:FLNRO.MediaRequests@gov.bc.ca)

### FrontCounter BC:

Call toll free: 1-877-855-3222  
Call from outside North America at:  
++1-604-586-4400  
E-mail: [FrontCounterBC@gov.bc.ca](mailto:FrontCounterBC@gov.bc.ca)  
To contact specific offices, please visit:  
[www.frontcounterbc.gov.bc.ca/](http://www.frontcounterbc.gov.bc.ca/)



### Regional Operations Offices:

#### Surrey

Suite 200 - 10428 153rd Street, V3R 1E1  
Phone: 604 586-4400

#### Nanaimo

Suite 142, 2080 Labieux Road, V9T 6J9  
Phone: 250 751-7220

#### Smithers

3726 Alfred Avenue, V0J 2N0  
Phone: 250 847-7260

#### Prince George

5<sup>th</sup> Floor, 1011 4th Avenue, V2L 3H9  
Phone: 250 565-6779

#### Williams Lake

200-640 Borland Street, V2G 4T1  
Phone: 250 398-4327

#### Kamloops

441 Columbia Street, V2C 2T3  
Phone: 250 828-4131

#### Cranbrook

1902 Theatre Road, V1C 7G1  
Phone: 250 426-1766

#### Fort St. John

400 -10003 110 Avenue, V1J 6M7  
Phone: 250 787-3411

## **Appendix B: Hyperlinks to Additional Information**

**Ministry website:** [www.gov.bc.ca/for/](http://www.gov.bc.ca/for/)

**BC Timber Sales:** [www.for.gov.bc.ca/bcts/](http://www.for.gov.bc.ca/bcts/)

*Canada Starts Here: The BC Jobs Plan:* [www.bcjobsplan.ca/](http://www.bcjobsplan.ca/)

*Canada Starts Here: The BC Jobs Plan One Year Progress Report:*  
[www.bcjobsplan.ca/wp-content/uploads/BCjobsplan-1-year-Progress-Report.pdf](http://www.bcjobsplan.ca/wp-content/uploads/BCjobsplan-1-year-Progress-Report.pdf)

**Climate Adaptation Strategy:** [www.env.gov.bc.ca/cas/adaptation/index.html](http://www.env.gov.bc.ca/cas/adaptation/index.html)

**EmergencyManagementBC:** [www.embc.gov.bc.ca/index.htm](http://www.embc.gov.bc.ca/index.htm)

**FPInnovations:** [www.fpinnovations.ca/](http://www.fpinnovations.ca/)

**GeoBC:** [geobc.gov.bc.ca/](http://geobc.gov.bc.ca/)

**Integrated Land Resource Registry:** [archive.ilmb.gov.bc.ca/ilrr/index.htm](http://archive.ilmb.gov.bc.ca/ilrr/index.htm)

**Land Based Investment Strategy:** [www.for.gov.bc.ca/hcp/fia/landbase/](http://www.for.gov.bc.ca/hcp/fia/landbase/)

**Major Projects BC:** [www.for.gov.bc.ca/major\\_projects/](http://www.for.gov.bc.ca/major_projects/)

*Our Natural Advantage: Forest Sector Strategy for British Columbia:*  
[www.for.gov.bc.ca/mof/forestsectorstrategy/](http://www.for.gov.bc.ca/mof/forestsectorstrategy/)

**Wildfire Information:** [www.bcwildfire.ca](http://www.bcwildfire.ca) [www.facebook.com/BCForestFireInfo](https://www.facebook.com/BCForestFireInfo)  
[twitter.com/BCGovFireInfo](https://twitter.com/BCGovFireInfo)

**Working Roundtable on Forestry:** [www.for.gov.bc.ca/mof/Forestry\\_Roundtable/](http://www.for.gov.bc.ca/mof/Forestry_Roundtable/)

### **Crowns, Agencies, Boards and Commissions associated with the Ministry:**

Creston Valley Wildlife Management Authority

Forest Practices Board [www.fpb.gov.bc.ca](http://www.fpb.gov.bc.ca)

Timber Export Advisory Committee

Muskwa-Kechika Advisory Board

Mediation and Arbitration Board

Assayers Certification Board of Examiners