



WHAT IS THE COUNCIL?

The Managed Forest Council is BC's independent agency responsible for administering the *Private Managed Forest Land Act* and regulations.

WHO IS THE COUNCIL?

Council consists of five members: two appointed by the provincial government; two elected by the owners of private managed forest land; and a chair elected by the other four members.

WHAT IS OUR MANDATE?

Council mandate is to encourage and regulate forest management practices on private managed forest in BC including the protection of key public environmental values.

WHAT IS PRIVATE MANAGED FOREST LAND & THE MANAGED FOREST PROGRAM?

Managed forest land is a BC Assessment property class established to encourage private landowners in BC to manage their lands for long-term forest production. Managed forest land is subject to the *Private Managed Forest Land Act* and Regulations.

The managed forest program is voluntary.

Eligible landowners must:

- File a management commitment with Council
- Provide annual information on harvesting, road construction, and reforestation
- Commit to using the land for growing and harvesting trees, and reforesting harvested or disturbed areas
- Manage the land in accordance with private managed forest land legislation

WHAT ARE KEY PUBLIC ENVIRONMENTAL VALUES?

There are five key public environmental values with associated management objectives:

Soil Productivity: to protect soil productivity

Drinking Water: to protect human drinking water both before and after harvesting

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

Critical Wildlife Habitat: to facilitate the long-term protection of that habitat

Reforestation: to promptly regenerate areas with a healthy commercially valuable stand of trees

WHAT IS THE REGULATORY MODEL?

Private managed forest land legislation is a results-based regulatory model that allows forest owners to develop and use management strategies most appropriate to the scale and geographic location of their operations while focusing on achieving measurable objectives as required under the regulation.



HOW DOES COUNCIL ENSURE COMPLIANCE WITH MANAGED FOREST REGULATIONS?

Council uses a number of mechanisms to measure performance in relation to compliance requirements:

Audits & Inspections: all managed forests are audited or inspected by qualified professionals at least once every five years. Performance is assessed relative to management commitments and regulatory requirements.

Investigations: Council follows up on all potential compliance issues revealed during inspections or audits, from third-party complaints, or reported by owners themselves. Geoscientists, fisheries biologists, and other specialists are involved as required.

Compliance Determinations: where it is alleged there have been contraventions of regulations, formal determination hearings are convened. Owners have a right for an opportunity to be heard, and affected third parties may also be granted standing at hearings. Owners are held responsible for outcomes. Hearing determinations are published on the Council website.



HOW DOES COUNCIL SUPPORT CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT?

Council carries out regular reviews of regulations and practices through audits and special studies. Past audits have resulted in numerous changes including:

- Tighter definition of and protection for fish streams
- Strengthened protection of licensed water supply intakes
- Strengthened soil protection and road deactivation requirements

In 2014 Council initiated a 2-year drinking water study that will assess current practices and effectiveness of the Council Regulation in protecting this resource.

WE'RE LISTENING AND WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU

Council is committed to delivering on its mandate to protect key environmental values on private managed forest land. We are broadening our communications efforts with local governments, provincial officials, water purveyors, and other stakeholders to identify issues and potential areas for improvement.

CONTACT US

TO LEARN MORE ABOUT COUNCIL, VISIT OUR WEBSITE OR CALL US AT 250-386-5737.