



Canada's forests: Managing for the future

Forests in Canada are managed for a variety of economic, ecological, and social benefits for both current and future generations.

Treaty/settlement lands are owned and managed by a First Nation, Métis, or Inuit authority. In addition to their rights on these lands, these authorities generally also have specified non-exclusive rights in a broader area defined in the treaty, settlement, or final agreement.

Indian reserves are Crown lands that have been "set apart by Her Majesty for the use and benefit of a band" under the *Indian Act*.

Federal reserves include military bases and training areas and other lands owned by the federal government. Forestry is rarely the primary management objective on these lands.

Private forests range from small family-owned woodlots to large woodlands owned and managed by forest companies. These forests are managed for various purposes, including commercial timber supply.

Other forest lands are areas that do not fit into any of the other categories. Fire suppression often occurs in these forests and there may be local use of forest resources.

Restricted areas are managed for a wide variety of special purposes, ranging from wildlife values in some, to mining in others.

Protected areas sustain natural and cultural heritage and conserve biodiversity. Forest management activities, such as prescribed burning, may occur.

Non-forested land



Short-term tenure areas are the areas where volume- or area-based tenure arrangements of less than five years, or cutting permits, are granted. These areas are primarily managed for commercial timber harvesting.

Long-term tenure areas are the areas where volume- or area-based tenure arrangements of more than five years are in place. These areas are primarily managed for commercial timber harvesting.

What are tenure areas?

Tenure is how governments allocate harvest rights and management responsibilities for timber on Crown land. Ninety percent of forests in Canada are on provincial or territorial Crown land, and these contribute 84% of Canada's commercial timber supply. Some tenure arrangements grant access to a specified volume of timber, while others grant access to timber resources in a specified area; therefore, tenures may overlap or only apply to certain types of timber within a designated area.

The map data and metadata can be found online at <https://open.canada.ca/data/en/dataset/d8fa9a38-c4df-442a-8319-9bbcbdc29060>. A description of the mapping methodology is published in *The Forestry Chronicle*, and can be found at <https://doi.org/10.5558/tfc2019-017>.

Note: This map does not indicate the managed forest for the purposes of reporting on greenhouse gas emissions to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change. For more information, see the sustainability indicator **Carbon emissions and removals**.