FOREWORD

This historical outline of events related to the creation and evolution of the Forest Service was compiled as an aid to further research. It serves as an introduction to Forest Service history and as a general guide to such sources of information as had been identified as of January 1982. The outline brings together information from the Forest Service Annual Reports and such research as has been published to date. While further research will not change the chronology, it will clarify the roles played by individuals and the reasons for decisions which have influenced the direction of the development of the Forest Service and its place in the general history of the province.

Your comments, suggestions and additions are welcome. Please contact Doug Adderley, Project Co-ordinator, in Information Services Branch (387-5905).
I PRE-HISTORY 1842-1911

1842 - Hudson's Bay Company established Camosun --- Fort Victoria.

1848 - First lumber sawn in B.C. at mill built by H.B.C. at head of Esquimalt Harbour (date difficult to confirm).

1849 - The Colony of Vancouver Island came into legal existence.

- (October). First recorded export of V.I. lumber. 42270 feet shipped from Victoria to San Francisco.

1850 - Vancouver Island lumber sells at $80/M on California market.

1851 - Vancouver Island Steam Sawmill Co. Ltd. builds mill at Cordova Bay. Mill moved to Albert Head in 1853, destroyed by fire in 1859.

1854 - Sawmill built at Nanaimo to supply local market.

1855 - John Muir and Sons build steam sawmill at Sooke. Mill operated until 1892.

1856 - First sitting of House of Assembly of Vancouver Island. The V.I. Parliament passed no legislation in respect to timber during its ten-year existence. Rights to harvest timber were incidental to leases to occupy Crown Land; land-rent rather than stumpage and royalty formed the basis of government revenue from unalienated Crown land.

1858 - Earliest recorded disposal of land by British Crown in V.I.
- Fraser River Gold Rush. (B.C.)

- Creation of British Columbia (mainland) as Crown Colony. Note: Vancouver Island was a colony with a "West Indian" type of constitution, typical of the settler colonies in the West Indies, British North America and Australasia. In this type of colony there was a Governor appointed by the Colonial Office in London, an Executive Council composed of Department heads, an appointed Legislative Council (Upper House) and an elected General Assembly (Lower House). British Columbia was a "Crown Colony." The Crown Colony type of constitution was typical of British possessions in Africa and Asia, obtained by conquest, where the majority of the population had a non-Western language and culture. In these colonies there is a Governor appointed by the Colonial Office in London and an advisory Council, appointed by the Governor.

1859 - Land Proclamation (trees included in the conveyance of land). (B.C.)

1861 - Government of Vancouver Island issues Timber Lease on 134 acres @ 3s 9d/acre per year, signed by J.D. Pemberton, Surveyor General of Vancouver Island.

1862 - City of Victoria chartered.

1865 - (November 3, 1865) First recorded British Columbia timber lease issued to the British Columbia and Vancouver Island Spar Lumber and Sawmill Company, Limited.

- Provision established for timber leases in Land Ordinance of 1865. Note: An elected legislature passes "Acts" (Vancouver Island). An appointed council provides "Ordinances" (British Columbia).
- Timber Lease (T.L.) tenure continued to be used until 1905.

1866 - Vancouver Island and mainland B.C. amalgamated by the Act of Union (previously two governments, two legal systems, etc.). Mainland colony's legal system extended to Vancouver Island, no legislative assembly until Confederation.

1870 - Land Ordinance of 1870 made provision for leasing an area of unoccupied Crown Land to any authorized person for the purpose of cutting timber.

1871 - British Columbia joins Confederation. Responsible government (elected legislature with Premier and Cabinet).

- Department of Lands and Works has the responsibility for forests.

1874 - First Bush Fire Act (amended 1877 and 1878) - further amended 1887 and given province-wide application; redrafted and re-enacted in 1896.

1875 - Leasing provision of 1870 re-enacted in Land Act of 1875.

1883-1884

- Grants of forest land for railway construction. Note: Timber Berths were a parallel system of tenure on lands transferred to the Dominion in exchange for the construction of the CPR.

- In 1930 when the railway belt reverted to the province, they agreed to honour the Timber Berths (T.B.) This form of tenure applied also to the Peace River Block.
- Timber Lease (T.L.) tenure continued to be used until 1905.

1866 - Vancouver Island and mainland B.C. amalgamated by the Act of Union (previously two governments, two legal systems, etc.). Mainland colony's legal system extended to Vancouver Island, no legislative assembly until Confederation.

1870 - Land Ordinance of 1870 made provision for leasing an area of unoccupied Crown Land to any authorized person for the purpose of cutting timber.

1871 - British Columbia joins Confederation. Responsible government (elected legislature with Premier and Cabinet).
- Department of Lands and Works has the responsibility for forests.

1874 - First Bush Fire Act (amended 1877 and 1878) - further amended 1887 and given province-wide application; redrafted and re-enacted in 1896.

1875 - Leasing provision of 1870 re-enacted in Land Act of 1875.

1883-1884
- Grants of forest land for railway construction. **Note:** Timber Berths were a parallel system of tenure on lands transferred to the Dominion in exchange for the construction of the CPR.
- In 1930 when the railway belt reverted to the province, they agreed to honour the Timber Berths (T.B.) This form of tenure applied also to the Peace River Block.
1884 - Leasing provision of 1870 re-enacted again in Land Act of 1884. Legislation forbade the sale of timbered lands but lack of administrative staff and public indifference resulted in limited application.
- Timber Act passed: - gave new status to timber business.
  - power granted for issuing licences.
  - the reservation of royalty on timber was established.

1887 - Leases required a declaration of timber values. From this date, Crown retained a financial interest in the timber alienated by it.

1888 - Amendments to the Land Act of 1884. Consolidated timber authority, further strengthening three major precepts governing the B.C. timber industry:
  1. public ownership of forest land.
  2. the timber resources shall be used to build up a home industry.
  3. the major revenue shall be collected when the timber is cut.
- Royalties were charged on all timber cut from leases.
- All licences were called Special Timber Licences (S.T.L.). Some S.T.L.s later converted to Pulp Licences.

1891 - Abortive start to pulp industry (for details see L.B. Dixon).
- Legislative amendment introduced cash bonus bidding for Timber Leases.

1896 - Amendment to the Land Act further defined "Timberlands".
- Government policy to retain title to timbered land firmly established.
1899 - Amendment to the Land Act established condition of building a sawmill attached to each Timber Lease.

1901 - Amendments to the Land Act
- all timber cut under lease or licence to be manufactured in the province.
- leases made renewable for consecutive and successive periods of 21 years.

1901-1903
- Government granted large numbers of Pulp Leases.

1903-1905
- Additional tenure principles established.

1905 - Law opened up Crown forests to anyone wishing a cutting licence.

1907 - Government halted licence boom and placed remaining lands under reserve.
- Last of old temporary tenures granted.

1908 - Department responsible for forests became Department of Lands (previously Lands and Works).

1909 - Pulp industry permanently established.

1909-1910
- Royal Commission (F.J. Fulton - chairman) recommended establishment of a Department of Forests.
  Note: M.A. Grainger, Secretary to the Commission, was instrumental in drafting the report of the Commission and the 1912 Forest Act.

1911 - Early account of high-lead logging recorded in newspaper.
Legislation:

Land Ordinance of 1865    Statutes of B.C. 1874, 1884, 1887, 1906 etc.
Act of Union 1866
Land Act 1875    Statutes of V.I.
Land Act 1884 Amendments - 1888, 1896, 1899, 1901 etc.
Timber Act 1884
Timber Manufacturing Act 1906

Photographs:

PABC
City of Vancouver Archives, City of Victoria Archives
Ministry of Forests Audio/Visual Section files
Ministry of Forests photo collection turned over to PABC
(not catalogued yet)
Vancouver Public Library Historical Photographs Collection.

Identified Record in PABC (pre-Project 87)

GR 179 British Columbia, Department of Lands and Works - registers of applications to cut and carry away timber 1905-1908.

GR 271 Commission on Timber and Forestry, 1909 - transcripts of evidence, written submissions, abstract of evidence and correspondence.


GR 654 Commission on Dominion Crown Timber in British Columbia, 1897 - interim and final reports of Commissioner Archer Martin and notes of evidence.
Add.MSS 331/960 Smith, Eustace (1876-1964) transcript of interview, business and personal records.

Add.MSS 588 Grainger, Martin A. (1873-1941) personal papers.

see also: Sessional Papers and Gazettes

Records transferred to PABC since the start of Project 87:

GR 949 British Columbia. Forest Branch - Timber Inspector's reports 1911-1913.

GR 965 British Columbia. Department of Lands and Works - Supervisor of Scalers' letterbook 1906.

GR 968 British Columbia. Forest Branch - bank books for the Forest Trust Account and Forest Branch General Account 1911-1917.

Add.MSS 1214 Mallandaine, Edward - correspondence re Fulton Commission 1909-1910. (contains map showing original proposed Forest Districts.)

Other References:


British Columbia Centennial of Logging (1866-1966). Published by The Truck Logger and Gordon Black Publications Ltd.

M.A. Grainger, Woodsmen of the West - 1908 (semi-autobiographical novel).
D. MacKay, Lumberjacks

100 Years of Federal Forestry - published 1976 by the United States Department of Agriculture (Forest Service).

Map: E. Mallandaine - proposed forest regions of B.C. (1909).

Robert Bell, "Forest Fires in Northern Canada", American Forestry Congress, Atlanta meeting, 1888.


Periodicals: British Columbia Lumberman, Lumberman and Contractor, Western Lumberman.


R.E. Gosnell, British Columbia: Sixty Years of Progress, 1913.
II FOUNDING THE FOREST SERVICE
1912-1915 (H.R. MACMILLAN)

1912 - "Forest Act" (1912 Statutes of British Columbia, Chapter 17) established a Forest Branch in the Department of Lands.
- Position of Chief Forester identified (First C/F H.R. MacMillan), February 1912-April 1915.
- Act brought all government activities pertaining to forest land and forestry under a single authority; inventory began; Provincial Forest reserves were created; fire fighting forces and efforts increased; a lookout (L/O) system developed.
- Timber Sale Licence introduced after Fulton Commission.

1914 - (Dec. 31, 1914) Elk River Valley Provincial Forest Reserve established (first one).
- Timber Royalty Act passed; defined the stumpage price of Crown timber, attempted to set royalty rates 1914-1954. Act proved unworkable, repealed in 1924.

Legislation:

Forest Act 1912 (Statutes of British Columbia 1912)
Timber Royalty Act 1914

Photographs:

Personal collections/Project 87
P.A.B.C. (still photos)
Ministry of Forests Audio-Visual Section & collection turned over to P.A.B.C.
Vancouver Public Library Historical Photographs Collection
Vancouver City Archives.
PABC Holdings:

Identified Records in PABC (pre-Project 87):

GR 180 British Columbia. Department of Lands, Forest Branch - timber cruise reports by W.J. Kelly 1912-1914.


See also: Sessional Papers, Gazettes

Records transferred to PABC since start of Project 87


GR 943 British Columbia. Forest Branch - timber reconnaissance and survey files 1912-1943.

GR 945 British Columbia. Forest Branch - statements of royalty and timber royalty correspondence 1914-1918.

GR 946 British Columbia. Forest Branch - timber investigations and inspections, logging railways 1913-1915.

GR 947 British Columbia. Forest Branch - timber photograph correspondence 1913-1918.
GR 949 British Columbia. Forest Branch - timber inspector reports 1911-1913.

GR 956 British Columbia. Vernon Forest District - correspondence, reports, diaries, financial records 1913-1924.

GR 968 British Columbia. Forest Branch - bank books for Forest Trust Account and Forest Branch General Account 1911-1917.


GR 990 British Columbia. Forest Service - Chief Forester's correspondence and reports 1912-1921.

Other References:


Wm. R. Ross, British Columbia's Forest Policy, Speech by the Minister of Lands on the Second Reading of the Forest Bill (Victoria, B.C.: Special Publications of the Legislative Assembly, 1912).

J.H. White, "Forestry on Dominion Lands"
Clyde Leavitt, "The Railway Fire Situation"
R.E. Benedict, "Disposal of Logging Slash in British Columbia"
In Clyde Leavitt, compiler, Forest Protection in Canada, 1913-1914. Committee on Forests, Commission on Conservation, Canada (Toronto, Ont.: William Briggs, 1915).
A.C. Flumerfelt, "Forest Resources" in Adam Shortt and A.G. Doughty eds., Canada and its Provinces, (Toronto, Ont.: Glasgow, Brook and Co., 1914).

Clyde Leavitt, Forest Protection in Canada, 1912, Committee on Forestry, Commission of Conservation, Canada (Toronto, Ont.: The Bryant Press, 1912).

F.Z. Caverhill, General Instructions to Forest Guards, 1914 (n.p. B.C. Forest Branch).

1915 - H.R. MacMillan appointed Special Trade Commissioner by Department of Trade and Commerce (federal) to go overseas and investigate world lumber markets.

1916 - Impact of W.W.I causes drastic retrenchment of F.S. programmes. Staff shortages continually worsen as the War goes on. By the Armistice the F.S. is making do with approximately 40% the staff complement it had at the outbreak of War.


1918 - First attempted use of aircraft for patrol by Forest Branch. Hoffer Brothers flying boat purchased (only aircraft ever owned by F.S.), crashed on first flight.

- Dominion Commission of Conservation published "Forests in British Columbia" (based on initial inventory).

1918-1919
- First use of portable gasoline pumps in fighting forest fires.

1919 - Dominion Air Board established, followed by base at Jericho Beach, Vancouver. Forest Branch used D.A.B. planes for patrol and transportation.
- Forest Branch made responsible for grazing administration on Crown ranges.
- System of selection by competitive examination instituted for Rangers.
1919-1921
- Some Special Timber Licences converted to Pulp Licences.


1924 - Aleza Lake Experiment Station established.
- Timber Royalty Act, 1914 repealed and replaced by Royalty Act, 1924, which provided a more flexible system for setting Crown charges.

1925 - Introduction of photo-topographic survey in inventory work.
- Forest Reserve Fund established, first legislative recognition that forests are a crop, the Fund provided money for "the development and protection of forest reserves and the planting of denuded areas and maintaining the growth of continuous crops of timber in forest reserves."

1927 - First nursery started, Experimental Forest Nursery (Shelbourne Street, Saanich), on land leased from the municipality.

1929 - Cowichan Lake Experiment Station established after two years observation.
- Green Timbers area set aside as a Provincial Forest Reserve for future nursery purposes.

1930 - Green Timbers Forestry Station (nursery) established at Whalley.

1932 - Forest Branch reference library established.
- Modest beginning of reforestation programme.
1935 - Establishment of Young Men's Forestry Training Plan (provincial) (CYMFTP); financed by the Department of Labour and administered by the Forest Branch.

1936 - Forest Development Projects (provincial) established (independent of YMFTP) for single homeless men on relief.
- Aerial surveys inaugurated in Forest Service by Forest Surveys Division (some photographs taken) but majority obtained from RCAF.

1937 - Legislation requiring slash burning and snagfalling (amendment to Forest Act).
- Forest Resources of B.C. published (Mulholland). First comprehensive provincial publication on inventory.
- Aerial surveys established as cost-effective.

1939 - Forest Branch took over the administration of Parks.
- National Forestry Programme for young men established (linked with YMFTP).

1940 - H.R. MacMillan appointed Timber Controller for the Dominion; Assistant to the Controller on the Pacific Coast was E.C. Manning.

1941 - E.C. Manning killed in T.C.A. air crash (February 1941).

Photographs:
P.A.B.C.
Project 87
Ministry of Forests Audio Visual Section
Vancouver Public Library Historical Photograph Collection
Artifacts:
B.C. Forest Service Museum collection (B.C.F.M.) (see classification card catalogue).

P.A.B.C. Holdings:

Identified Records in PABC (pre-Project 87)


GR 315 British Columbia. Department of Lands. Forest Branch - annual reports of forest fires 1916-1930.


Add. MSS 666 Flavelle Family - correspondence RESTRICTED.


Add. MSS 862 Canadian Institute of Forestry - minutes 1932-1977.


Records Transferred to PABC since start of Project 87

GR 939 British Columbia. Forest Branch - spruce permit files 1918-1919.

GR 943 British Columbia. Forest Branch - timber reconnaissance and survey files 1912-1943.

GR 945 British Columbia. Forest Branch - statements of royalties and timber royalty correspondence 1914-1918.

GR 947 British Columbia. Forest Branch - timber photograph correspondence 1913-1918.

GR 948 British Columbia. Forest Branch - Chief Forester's correspondence 1915-1920.


GR 956 British Columbia. Vernon Forest District - correspondence reports, diaries, financial records 1913-1924.


GR 958 Aleza Lake Experiment Station - scientific and general correspondence, reports, YMFTP and HSSEP records 1924-1968.

GR 959 British Columbia. Cariboo Forest District - District Forester's correspondence files 1917-1933.

GR 963 British Columbia. Forest Service - field organization and staff register 1920-1964.


GR 968 British Columbia. Forest Branch - bank books for the Forest Trust Account and Forest Branch General Account 1911-1917.

GR 969 Canada. Dominion Lands Branch - permit to cut timber 1930.

GR 970 British Columbia. Forest Branch - patrol diaries of Eric Bergenham, North Vancouver 1929-1930.


GR 990 British Columbia. Forest Service - correspondence and reports Chief Forester 1912-1921.

GR 992 British Columbia. Kamloops Forest District - forest protection plan 1929.

GR 1004 British Columbia. Forest Branch - log of BCFS launch Cherry 1922-1930.

Add. MSS 1231 Empire Forestry Association - correspondence of
British Columbia Chapter 1930-1945.

Other References:
Richard E.M. Yerburgh, An Economic History of Forestry in

F.A. MacDonald, "A Historical Review of Forest Protection
in B.C.," The Forestry Chronicle Vol. 5, No. 4, December
1929.


Western Lumberman:
Vol. 17, No. 8, August 1920
C.O. Marston, "Reforestation
in B.C." Vol. 16, No. 4, April
1919
P.Z. Caverhill, "Forest
Research in the West", Vol.
18, No. 12, December 1921
M.A. Grainger, "This Year's
Forestry Progress Ably
Reviewed", Vol. 17, No. 11,
Nov. 1920.
R.V. Stuart, "Mechanical
Improvements in Firefighting",
Vol. 18, No. 10, October 1921.
P.Z. Caverhill, "Forest
Protection Insures Future
Forests", Vol. 18, No. 8,
August 1921.
J. White, "Forest Conservation
Affects Interest of Every
Man", Vol 17, No. 9, September
1920.
IV INDUSTRIAL GROWTH 1941-1973
(DEF. MIN. ORCHARD, MCKEE, MCKINNON, STOKES)
(C/F ORCHARD, MCKEE, MCKINNON, SWANNELL AND CAMERON)

1941-1944
- Many activities curtailed or suspended because of W.W.II.

1943-1945
- Second Royal Commission (Sloan)
  - resulted in inauguration of sustained yield policy
  - legislation brought into effect Forest Management Licences (now known as Tree Farm Licences) (first attempts to get forests onto a sustained yield basis)
  - annual allowable cut established
  - new policies eliminated competition for rights to Crown Timber

1945
- Dept. of Lands changed to Dept. of Lands and Forests (still under Minister of Lands and Forests but effectively a department (service) with establishment of Deputy Minister of Forests position).
  - Officially recognized as B.C. Forest Service.

1946
- Establishment of Forest Service Training School.
  - Koksilah Nursery in Duncan established.

1947
- Sale prohibited of land that would find its best economic use under a forest crop.
  - Amendment to Forest Act providing for creation of Forest Management Licence Areas (part of sustained yield management policy).
1948 - Parks Section of Economics Division of Forest Service (Dep. of Lands and Forests) became new Parks and Recreation Division.

- Enabling legislation for Tree Farm Licences (related to Sloan Commission recommendations); initially granted in perpetuity.
- Farm Wood-lot Licences initiated (small tracts of land for farmers).

1951 - Establish new Forest Surveys and Inventory Division (for more specialized work) (used to be called Forest Economics Division).

Mid

1950s - Crown began setting up Public Sustained Yield Units in lieu of Tree Farm Licences.

1955 - Use of helicopters in surveying for inventory and mapping.

1955-1957

- Third Royal Commission (Sloan).

1957 - Legislation governing Tree Farm Licences provided term of 21 years, renewable subject to negotiation of terms (granted until 1966).
- April 1st - Parks and Recreation Division of Forest Service became Parks Branch in newly created Dept. of Recreation and Conservation.

1958 - Deputy Minister/Chief Forester position separated
- Deputy Minister (McKee)
- Chief Forester (McKinnon)

- First use of air tankers in fire fighting.
1961 - Pulpwood Harvesting legislation.

Early

1960s - Pulpwood Harvesting Area Agreements devised.

1960s - Nurseries expanded to include Red Rock, Chilliwack, Campbell River, etc.
- Expanded use of computers in inventory.

1962 - Dept. of Lands, Forest and Water Resources.

1965 - Changes in legislation re: leases/licences. Renewals were to be in a form authorized by the Minister.
- Rentals were raised and consent of the Minister was required for transfer.

1966 - (January 1) Implementation of close utilization policy in co-operation with industry (technology to utilize previously unmerchantable timber).

1967 - Slash disposal provisions of Forest Act extended to whole province (previously had only applied to coast districts).

1968 - Timber Sale Harvest Licence introduced to encourage total adoption of close utilization.


1970 - Land Use Committee established with representation from all departments concerned with land use.
- Committee established for uniform methods of forest land classification and to coordinate government and private-sector research on increasing forest production.
1971 - Recreation Forester appointed to co-ordinate forest recreational uses within the multiple use concept.

1972 - (January 1st) Cubic scale becomes uniform unit of measure throughout the Province.

1973 - Special Studies Division created.

Identified Records in PABC (pre-Project 87)


GR 181 British Columbia. Royal Commission on Forestry 1945 - statement by the Bureau of Economic Statistics showing amount of timber held under all types of tenure 1938-1944.


Add. MSS 666 Flavelle Family - correspondence RESTRICTED.


Add. MSS 862 Canadian Institute of Forestry - minutes 1932-1977.


Records transferred to PABC since start of Project 87

B-1396(1) British Columbia. Prince George Forest Region - newsletters of the Prince George Forest District 1965-1978.


Aleza Lake Experiment Station - scientific and general correspondence, reports, YMFTP and HSSEP records 1924-1968.


Empire Forestry Association - correspondence of British Columbia Chapter 1930-1945.
V PREPARATION FOR CHANGE: 1974-1981
(DEPUTY MINISTER: STOKES, YOUNG AND APSEY)
(C/F YOUNG, ROBBINS AND YOUNG)

1974 - Task Force on Crown Timber Disposal appointed "to investigate policies, legislation, procedures and practices governing the disposal of timber in the province, and to suggest changes to protect the public interest in Crown forest resources."

1975 - Royal Commission on Forest Resources (Dr. P. Pearse)
- resulted in new Forest Act, Ministry of Forests Act and Range Act
- reorganization of the Ministry
- decentralization
- long range planning

1976 - Forest Service Advisory Committee appointed to study the Pearse Commission report, submit recommendation for implementing the Pearse report and rewriting the Forest and Grazing Acts.
- Government Reorganization Act (22 Jul. 1976) separates the Department of Forests from the Department of Lands.

1977 - Timber inventory converted to multiple use concept (3 year programme).
- Range Branch took over responsibility for all grazing leases in the province and became the sole agency responsible for the forage resource.
- Ministerial Titles Act (21 Oct. 1977) changes Department of Forests to the Ministry of Forests,
- Reorganization Working Committee appointed
- Resource Analysis Task Force appointed
- Timber Supply Areas (T.S.A.) replace P.S.Y.U.
- Metric conversion completed
- Computerized mapping
- First large-scale operational forest fertilization

1978-
1981 - Implementation of reorganization

Identified Records in PABC (Pre-Project 87)

Add. MSS 862 Canadian Institute of Forestry - minutes 1932-1977

Records Transferred to PABC since start of Project 87:

B-1396 (1) British Columbia. Prince George Forest Region - newsletters of the Prince George Forest District 1965-1978.


GR 973 British Columbia. Vancouver Forest District - operational records Timber Sales 1912-1979

GR 994 British Columbia. Prince George Forest Region - mill lists 1948-1980


1888 - Office of the Provincial Timber Inspector established at Vancouver. R.J. Skinner appointed Provincial Timber Inspector (May 25th). This was the first specifically forest-related position in the British Columbia government, and the Office reported directly to the Deputy Commissioner of Lands and Works.

1890 - Mathew L. Foley begins development of B.C. Log Scale.

1892 - Completed formulae and tables for Foley's Log Scale forwarded to Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works. Industry objections to the standard for kerf prevented immediate adoption.

1894 - Royal Commission consisting of A. Haslam, R.H. Alexander appointed to investigate the scaling problem and recommend.

1895 - Foley's scale officially adopted as B.C. Log Scale by Order-in-Council dated March 9th.

1897 - J.R. Martin appointed Assistant Timber Inspector with offices at Nelson. This was the beginning of the expansion of the provincial timber administration into the Interior. Subsequently additional Assistant Timber Inspector's offices were established at Kaslo, Kamloops and Vancouver, all of whom reported to the Provincial Timber Inspector.
1905 - First Fire Wardens appointed to enforce the Bush Fire Act during the Fire Season.

1906 - A. Haslam appointed Supervisor of Scalers with offices at Vancouver. The Supervisor of Scalers reported directly to the Deputy Commissioner of Lands and Works.

1907 - W.C. Gladwin appointed Chief Provincial Fire Warden. The Chief Provincial Fire Warden had his office in Vancouver and reported directly to the Deputy Commissioner of Lands and Works. The Forest Protection Service, unlike the other forest-related offices, was seasonal with no permanent staff.

1910 - T.A. Mouat appointed Assistant Supervisor of Scalers with his office at Nelson. This marked the beginning of the regulation of scaling in the Interior.

1927 - Research Division established.