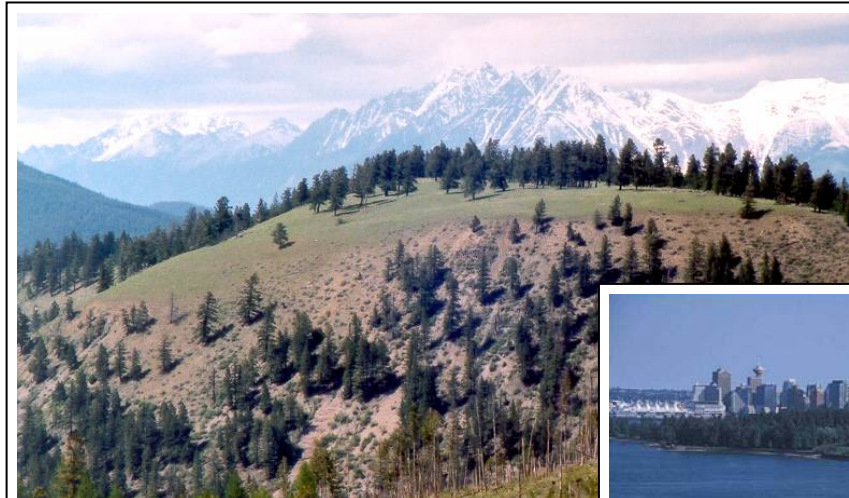

About This Report



Rocky Mountain Trench – Wayne Erickson



Vancouver – Tom Ryan

Sections:

[Purpose](#)

[Content](#)

[Changes and Updates from the 2004 Edition](#)

[How to Use This Report](#)

[Accountability](#)

[Turning Assessment into Action](#)

Purpose

Forests figure prominently in the well-being of British Columbia's environment, economy and communities.

The purpose of this report is two-fold:

- To provide information and links to enable readers to assess the province's progress in achieving sustainable forest management.
- To provide the Ministry of Forests and Range' assessment of that progress.

Content

The four parts following "About This Report" provide an overview of British Columbia's forests and society, an overview of forest management in the province, and discussions of sustainable forest management and indicators.

Indicators of sustainable forest management form the main body of this report. The selected indicators are based on those found in national-level frameworks, and on issues of particular significance to British Columbia. The indicators are grouped into three broad categories: environmental, economic and social, and governance and support.

Information and assessments are provided for 12 of 24 indicators. Overviews are provided for the remaining 12 indicators that will be fully developed in future editions of the report.

For each indicator, the report provides summary information relevant to several questions, along with links to further information, maps, data, and related international and national indicators. Each indicator ends with the Ministry of Forests and Range's assessment of the indicator.

Readers' independent assessments

The text under each indicator question includes some explanation of the information, but no assessment of implications for sustainability. This is intended to enable readers to make their own assessments of sustainability.

The Ministry of Forests and Range's assessment

For each indicator, the ministry assessed the state, trend and adequacy of information, as follows:

- the **state** – whether conditions identified by the indicator suggest good, poor, mixed or fair progress towards sustainable forest management;
- the **trend** – whether those conditions are improving, deteriorating, mixed, uncertain or showing no change; and
- the adequacy of **information** – whether information available for the indicator is adequate, inadequate or partial for assessing the state and trend at the provincial level.

The symbols used to summarize the assessment are shown in Figure 4.

This report does not describe or assess the Ministry of Forests and Range's activities, goals, targets or performance, as these are covered in the ministry's [service plans](#) and [annual reports](#). Similarly, it does not examine the activities or performance of individual forest companies. Information about these can be found elsewhere.










Assessment Symbols			
State			
	good	mixed or fair	poor
Trend			
	improving	mixed, uncertain or no change	deteriorating
Information			
	adequate	partial	inadequate

FIGURE 4. Assessment symbols used in this report.

Changes and Updates from the 2004 Edition

Reader feedback about the 2004 edition led to improvements in this 2006 edition. Endnotes provide more detailed explanations for technically inclined readers. Sources and notes about the data for each indicator are included in the back matter of the report.

Data were updated for several indicators published in the 2004 edition: Timber harvest (13-1, 13-2, 13-3, 13-4), First Nations involvement (19-1, 19-3), Law (21-2, 21-3, 21-4) and Certification (24-1, 24-2, 24-3, 24-4).

The date of data varies from the year 2000 for some indicators to 2006 for others. Readers are urged to note the years for which data are presented.

How to Use This Report

All parts of the report, individual maps and graphs, and related data tables are available in printer-friendly formats so that they can be used for overheads or illustrations for teaching and other applications. Copyright rules apply: be sure to obtain permission before using any of the material in other

publications or making large numbers of copies for distribution. To obtain copyright permission, please see the contact on the copyright page.

Maps, graphs and data tables are available online at www.for.gov.bc.ca/hfp/sof/.

Terms such as “forest” that have a technical meaning specific to this report are listed in the appendix [Glossary](#). They are underlined the first time they occur within each indicator.

All links to other internet websites worked at the time of publication. The complete URL and a description including the organization are provided to assist readers in finding related websites if the linked websites are changed.

Accountability

The information presented in this report was collected from a variety of sources, each accountable for the quality of the data it provided. Any errors in the presentation or interpretation of those data are, of course, the responsibility of the authors of this report.

Indicators of sustainable forest management cover a scope that is broader than the direct accountabilities of any individual government agency or company. While each organization is accountable for specific aspects of forest management, no one organization is necessarily wholly accountable for the states and trends shown by the indicators.

Turning Assessment into Action

An important goal of this report is to inform the ongoing development of forest policy and management.

Readers are encouraged to take action in two ways:

- provide feedback to help improve the content, presentation and overall usefulness of future editions of the report (please see contact information on the inside front cover), and
- engage in informed, constructive discussion about the future management of British Columbia’s forests.

Actions that support progress in achieving sustainable forest management will benefit all British Columbians.