

What is happening to our forests is a travesty. Clear cut forestry by Private interests should be strictly monitored. They have no regard for wildlife or neighbours. These trees are the air we breath. They are creating dry wastelands throughout our province and when the rains come be prepared to spend our tax dollars cleaning up the mess. The value of our trees is more than the cost of a piece of wood. Please step up and strickly regulate this. It's your job.

Patti George

v0p1h0

Dear Hon. Donaldson, BC Minister of Forests:

Thank you for giving the public a chance to have input into logging practices on privately managed lands in the province of BC.

I am greatly disturbed by many of the current logging practices in the province, as they are in no way sustainable, and it seems there is even less regulation around logging on privately held tracts of land.

One has the impression that the Forestry industry in BC has been allowed to behave as if it were the only game in town, with no consideration for visual impacts on BC's huge tourism industry, outdoor recreation enthusiasts, wildlife needs, and water quality in affected watersheds and tributaries.

This is simply not good enough.

I am writing as a university educator, an outdoor recreationalist, the spouse of a fisheries biologist, the parent of a UBC Masters student in Forestry Conservation, and the parent of a PhD in fluvial geomorphology, specializing in siltation impacts on rivers in BC.

The following are some of my recommendations:

-Private logging should have to adhere to exactly the same standards and concerns as harvesting on publicly held land. Currently incentives exist for private companies to log as quickly and extensively as possible, without regard for ecologically balanced replanting, habitat protection for wildlife and species at risk, water quality, or social and recreational values and impacts.

-Watershed and wildlife impacts, including mammal, bird, fish and aquatic species must all be given a much greater degree of protection under revised legislation. This should include corridor, range, and wetland protection for larger species like grizzlies, caribou, and moose.

-Self monitoring by forestry companies has been a dismal failure. Oversight seems to be very after the fact once damage has already been incurred, and only on a complaints basis, from what I understand. Even then, there do not seem to be measures in place to address or rectify destruction of habitat, view corridors, general overharvesting or clearcutting, or damage to rivers, streams, or other aquatic environments.

-Government oversight of logging on both public and private lands needs to be greatly increased to improve accountability and compliance in accordance with hopefully much improved and strengthened forestry legislation.

-Severe penalties need to be legislated and imposed on companies in violation of forest practice codes.

-The lack of accountability by private logging companies on private lands has been a source of great frustration. For example, we have a small recreational property in Sunshine Valley along Highway 3 just east of Hope. Sunshine Valley Developments has been blithely creating a hideous clearcut in view of Highway 3 against the wishes of some of the residents of this community, nor was this company straightforward with residents about their plans before harvesting.

-There should be a mandatory process by which these private companies give early information and an opportunity for feedback by affected communities long before any work begins, to take the affected

public's concerns into account. There need to be formal mechanisms legislated for both public and private logging companies to solicit early public feedback, and a requirement to take these concerns into account.

-There absolutely must be more protection for view corridors and regulations around the visual impacts of logging in BC, where nature tourism is a huge driver of the economy province-wide.

-For both public and private logging, generous treed buffers between major highways and logging activity must be established and maintained to protect Super Natural BC's pristine nature appeal worldwide. We are rapidly in danger of losing our reputation for unspoiled nature due to increasingly abundant and visually hideous logging scars.

-View corridors from important beauty spots like lakes and iconic hiking trails like the West Coast, Juan de Fuca, and Sunshine Coast trails must all be protected in new legislation. These hikes are international draws, and anything less than a large protective buffer from logging in these areas creates a travesty of the nature experience people seek here.

-Lastly, and at least as important as all of the above, please stop allowing the harvesting of old growth forests in our province on either public or privately managed lands. These forests are unique and irreplaceable, allow for excellent carbon capture, are home to many species at risk, and are a huge source of pride and identity to BC citizens.

People come from around the world to visit, photograph, and experience these primordial forests for themselves. It is an international disgrace that we are still harvesting the vestiges of these majestic forests for short-term monetary gain, when their value intact for the future is actually incalculable. Please show much better conservation and stewardship on this issue than the province has done in the past, and put a moratorium on any further harvesting of old growth forests on either public or private land in BC.

-Encourage secondary and tertiary wood products processing, or retraining to provide future employment to those currently involved in old growth harvesting.

Thank you again for requesting public input on the management of BC's cherished though struggling forests.

Sincerely,

Hilary Reid

Hilary Reid

V6T 1C8

The current B.C. regulations for Private Managed Forest Land (PMFL) are inadequate and outdated.

Landowners may essentially cut the timber at will without meaningful regulation for environmental concerns or wildlife habitat and without any meaningful long-range plan for sustainable management for long-term forest health. This Wild West mentality has helped to bring B.C. to its current desolate state of forests in crisis and must end now.

The provincial government must move to protect drinking watersheds for towns and communities by removing or meaningfully regulating private ownership of lands in these watersheds. Here in the Comox Valley our regular boil water advisories have required an investment of \$110 million in tax dollars when many experts point to the widespread and irresponsible logging of private lands in that watershed as the major source of the silt that is polluting the formerly pristine drinking water. Why should the public suffer while these logging companies get rich? This sounds like an issue for a class action lawsuit.

Current regulations do not require any local processing for private forest lands, so raw log exports continue while mills providing jobs for B.C. workers continue to shut down. B.C.'s forests are a provincial asset and should be managed to contribute to a sound B.C. economy, even on private land. The provincial government must move to ban the majority of raw log exports.

First Nations must often stand by and watch unceded territory and cultural areas stripped of trees. The current lack of regulation for PMFL means that the people of B.C., particularly First Nations and local people directly impacted by deleterious management of forest lands, have no opportunity for input into how these lands are managed. Major flooding as a result of intense logging directly impacts homeowners and taxpayers in B.C., and climate change, again exacerbated by widespread logging, particularly of old growth, is intensifying the financial and emotional consequences of flooding and drought. Private logging must be regulated to ensure it is both sustainable in terms of greenhouse gas emissions and in terms of landscape management.

The direct loss of any more of the pitiful remains of old growth in B.C., on both public and on private lands is a catastrophe when we consider how little of it is left. The Province must move urgently to implement a moratorium on the logging of any more old growth, on both private and public lands and must move to protect remaining old growth in B.C.

Who monitors logging on private land, to ensure waterways and critical wildlife habitat are being protected? Given the lack of regulation, it can be assumed that monitoring is spotty at best. Better regulations and more monitoring to ensure compliance is required.

Private logging companies should not be 'consulted' for their reaction to government regulations on major issues like critical habitat for species at risk. The government's highest duty is to implement the law of the land: scientists free from lobbying pressure, rather than the logging companies, should best decide how these issues are implemented.

In an age of climate emergency, forests, with their enormous capacity to trap greenhouse gases, can no longer be considered private domains. Logging on private lands must be rigorously regulated and monitored if we are to meet the challenge of drastic changes in the next decade, as the U.N. has warned.

Thank you.

Gillian and Frank Anderson

VOR 2M0

Mr Donaldson,

I encourage you to respect the fact that Old Growth forest take thousands of year to replace and we have cut almost all of them down, leaving just the ones that were too hard to cut or a small area that was protected. No old growth forest should be cut. If such cutting were sustainable than surely the forest industry can restrain themselves to cutting previously logged areas which have often had 100 years to regenerate. In this time of climate change and biodiversity awareness, cutting old growth forests in BC is a criminal act that will be seen as such by future generations, though our very future is in peril. I live in BC but an visiting Ontario now. Global warming and catastrophic climate change is here already with temperatures of 38c here this week, as well as forest fires in BC.

Cutting old growth forests anywhere in BC is idiocy. BC will grow in the future as people from warmer climates flock here, like the climate refugees who are now inundating Europe. Protecting forestry jobs linked to cutting old growth forests is like supporting a horse buggy whip factory in 1915 after the Model T rolled out. It is old thinking by people (like Trump supporters in the US) who do not understand the future, and more importantly the present. This is so apparent to anyone with a rational brain, though some forestry workers are not rational and only think of themselves, short term.

Act now or your legacy will be as an environmental villain for centuries to come, in a future that will be much poorer than now.

Kirk Buhne

V8V 2H5

Dear PMFL Program Review Board,
CC: Doug Donaldson, BC Minister of Forests, John Horgan, BC Premier, Adam Olsen, BC Green Party
Forests Spokesperson

Instead of following suit with the organization responsible of this petition I will actually write my own letter.

I believe old growth should be protected on crown land. However, if the forests are on private land do what thou wilt. It is owned by someone and should not be regulated.

That is all, simple.

Thank you,

Ryan Schiebout
Nelson, BC V1L 1N9
Canada

The current Private Managed Forest Land (PMFL) Program encourages landowners to cut as much timber as possible, as fast as possible while discouraging management for long-term sustainability and the protection of public values.

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In communities across BC, PMFL includes watersheds where municipalities' drinking water is sourced, meaning water quality and quantity often takes a backseat to private profits.

Communication about logging activities on PMFL is inadequate, and community members often feel left out of decision-making or are unable to contact the landowner or the government with their concerns. More transparency is required.

Old-growth forests are in crisis and remaining tracts of old-growth should be protected, especially on PMFL. These areas are often in regions with more urban development where intact forests are more scarce.

All forests grow in the territory of one or more First Nations and the province must ensure these Nations are included in decision-making/regulating forestry activities on private and public land. The BC government must explore all options to transfer private land back to First Nations

stuart phillips

v9a 2m6

During this unprecedented time in history when community well-being, the existence of civilized mankind and all life is threatened, private profit interests must be far more balanced with public interests in ecosystem and ecosystem services protection, both locally and globally.

Please modify PMFL rights to be regulated more thoroughly for public interest during this equivalent to a "war time effort" for survival, particularly over the critical next decade. Involve communities local to PMFL lands in decision-making for those lands, since they are the best-informed on concerns and beneficial ideas for their areas.

Two ideas:

Intermittent tree harvesting practices for ecosystem preservation, greenhouse gas sink tree maintenance and community watershed and flooding protection;

Value-added and local lumber mills appurtenance requirements for more good-paying local jobs and more local uses of wood to preserve carbon in long-term building and furniture construction and to provide local, low-carbon building supplies to reduce the BC carbon footprint.

Thank you for your consideration of my ideas.

Sincerely,

Dr. Catherine Slater MSc (Biology) JD

Catherine Slater

VOP 1H0

In reviewing the Private Managed Forest Lands Program please make desperately needed changes and prioritize Indigenous Rights and Title, endangered species, community well-being and climate resilience! The current Private Managed Forest Land (PMFL) Program encourages landowners to cut as much timber as possible, as fast as possible while discouraging management for long-term sustainability and the protection of public values.

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Thanks for your time,
Clare

Clare Samuel

M5S 2P3

MacBlo doesn't own 1 cm².
not one tree

Roy Trickey

P0J1M0

All forests in British Columbia need to be carefully managed - from planting to harvesting to processing. The current PMFL Program only encourages landowners to take as much as possible for the best profit. This is short term thinking and leads to a forest disaster for our future generations. This program allows/encourages raw log exports; disregards the value of leaving old growth forests intact; allows the habitat destruction of rivers and lakes; and ignores the rights of First Nations who have not been able to settle their rightful ownership of some of these lands.

A total rework of the current program is needed to bring all the above issues under government control to focus on a long term plan.

Linda Heese

V7L 4M9

It has come to my attention that the current Private Managed Forest Land (PMFL) Program encourages landowners to cut as much timber as possible, as fast as possible while discouraging management for long-term sustainability and the protection of public values.

I feel that this is so wrong. We have to slow down the harvesting of trees because we need the trees and we need to keep green places and intact eco-systems in order to mitigate climate change. We also need to preserve forests to allow future generations to enjoy the splendour. We need to have plans for long-term sustainability rather than short-term profits.

Landowners have no requirement to process forest products locally. We need to process our own timber before exporting it. This will help to create jobs for local communities and allow them to thrive. Once the forest is gone all secondary industries and jobs tied to the logging of timber are gone. Communities suffer.. The export of raw logs needs to end.

We need to protect our watersheds, especially in this day and age where water levels are dropping. We no longer get the volumes of water that we used to get from the spring melts of the snow caps and glaciers. We are seeing more and bigger forest fires. Water is life and we need to protect this precious resource.

Communities and First Nations need to be consulted before any decisions are made to cut down forests. Not only are forests needed to mitigate climate change but they are necessary to maintain Indigenous culture and also for all of our health and well-being. In this crazy technological world we live in, we need our forests more than ever. Extinction is forever as we all know. Please do what is needed to protect the forests by harvesting only in sustainable ways. We also need more transparency in the process and need to have informed and prior consent and involvement from all parties concerned.

Claudia Kobayashi

V8R 3C9

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Andrew LaFrance

V8V 2S2

I'm writing in regards to the Forest Range and Practices Act

The government must prioritize ecological values in its (our) forest planning and management. It must take a long range view which includes First Nations, other inhabitants, wildlife, old growth and all forests and plants, and water.

All plans must be detailed and publicly available in print and online and no decisions should be made till all comments have been submitted and reviewed in the legislature.

I am not an expert so can only recommend some success stories from working together with a long range ecological mindset in this TVO documentary: <https://www.tvo.org/video/documentaries/striking-balance-ep-2>

I look forward to seeing more successes in our incredible province.

Sincerely,
Hadas Levy

Hadas Levy

VOE 2S0

Our old growth forests in BC are on a path to extinction. They truly are endangered.

It has been horrifying watching the NDP still selling out our old growth "cutblocks" when they should be protected from logging by our government.

Raw log exports are still a real issue. Not only should they be banned, there should be some sort of an incentive program to have more mills in BC to deal specifically with second and third growth lumber.

Another big issue in our forests is the use of glyphosate pesticides. The toxicity of this product is shameful. The practice of using it to destroy aspen and other fire resistant trees is ridiculous considering the severity of the fires in recent years.

In dealing with climate change, the two most important things we can do is reduce pollution and have more trees. This is your jurisdiction. Stop with the pesticides, preserve all old growth, allow forests to be fire resistant by allowing aspen and other fire resistant trees to naturally grow.

Lastly, please put in place strong protection for all old growth trees and forest ecosystems. They are important for tourism and our future.

Jennifer Devries

VOR 1K0

I am writing to you to say that you MUST right away regulate sustainable forestry practices in forest lands owned privately, in order to preserve any old growth forest areas for future generations. These ancient trees are so important for B.C.'s tourist industry and for our own recreational purposes. They need to be preserved also for habitat for our province's endangered species and for the rights and privileges of our Indigenous Peoples. Please make note of my remarks. Yours sincerely Daphne M. Taylor
- 250-477-6437.

Daphne M. Taylor

V8N 4E3

Here on Salt Spring we are a community that makes its living by its looks, and all that that implies.
That is why there is a certain type of cowboy who is not welcome here.
Please help us bring these owlhoots to heel.

John Barclay

V8K 2E4

REVIEW OF LEGISLATION GOVERNING FOREST PRACTICES IN BC

My background is having worked for about 25 years in the forest industry in the Kootenays and the West Coast Vancouver Island. I am now retired and reside in the Comox Valley. Over these past decades I have seen the “Good, the Bad and the Ugly” in forest practices.

I have responded to both of your surveys related to the review of forest legislation, and found them very restrictive and prescriptive (the very same arguments that industry has used in the past to garner sympathetic changes in regulations from government). I am hopeful you will accept this letter as valid input to the review process.

Your stated PMFL review goals:

- encourage private landowners to manage their lands for long-term forest production, and
- encourage sustainable forest management practices, including the protection of key public environmental values.

You use the word “encourage” advisedly in your two guideline statements, I assume, in the hopes that voluntary action by industry will help restore some of the better forest policies that were in place prior to the former government having degraded public oversight and the entire BC Forest Service. I’m afraid it is going to take major legislation change, perhaps in concert with some “carrot” encouragement, to bring our Provincial Forests around to a healthy and sustainable future state.

The only truly sustainable forest management practices require us to transition to Ecosystem-Based Forestry where the functioning health of our forests is the primary goal rather than profit margins and shareholders returns of forest corporations which have driven forest management, and legislation, on Crown and PMF Lands, for far too long. The BC Tenure System and corporate concentration in the industry has led to a downward spiral in degrading the natural values of our forests, a concern foreseen and expressed by forester H.R. MacMillan as far back as the late 1940s.

This degradation, primarily through clearcut logging and poor road building practices, has helped exacerbate the detrimental effects of climate change our planet is now dealing with. The loss of carbon sequestration, precipitation interception, and stream and land form degradation, have led to worsening of flooding and drought conditions through loss of retention abilities across the landscape. Restoration Forestry is now needed in a huge way to put us on the road to recovering the health of our forests and as a first step in implementing a move to sustainable, Ecosystem-Based Forest Management.

A good start to achieving the dual goals mentioned above would be to implement the 123 recommendations of the independent report by Mark Haddock on “Professional Reliance” (regulatory outsourcing) legislation. That action, together with reinstating government field officers that would protect the public interests, would go a long way to restoring public confidence in provincial forest policies. Some of those would be restoring the Proper Functioning Condition of our streams, creeks, and rivers thus mitigating floods and droughts, and providing all the attendant ecosystem services that go along with healthy forests. In some areas, such as the Comox and Cowichan Valleys, Eco System Based Forestry practices coupled with adequate oversight by government foresters, would also go a long way toward protection of quality and quantity of public drinking water resources.

From a Vancouver Island perspective, one of the greatest disasters to befall our forests was the Federal Government’s ignorance of indigenous rights in the historical E&N Land Grant giveaway to Lord Dunsmuir. These lands, now owned almost entirely by large forest corporations, have been systematically clearcut in ever decreasing rotation age classes, and sold off to developers, to satisfy a mandated requirement of these companies to turn a profit, not to protect the integrity of our forests. This clearcutting of ever-younger trees, in addition to the continued need to log what little remains of our old growth forests, is a recipe for ecological disaster and adds to the severity of our current climate change emergency. All remaining old growth forests must come under some form of protected Heritage Status, sooner rather than later!

We are beyond the era where some tinkering around the edges is going to make adequate and timely

changes to bring our forest management policies and legislation to the level they need to be at to address past degradation of our forested landscape. Private ownership of these lands should not be sacrosanct to the level where they are allowed to be damaged to the detriment of the global condition. We need only to look south of the border for how regulations around forestry on private lands could be managed.

In the whole downward spiral mix of course is continued job loss in the industry. Technological change, and the loss of the “social contract” through the dropping of the appurtenancy clause, and other “sympathetic” regulatory changes by the previous government, leading to the closing of mills and resultant job loss with huge negative community impacts, increased raw log exports and lost opportunities to create value-added wood products in our province - and the list goes on, have all taken their toll! Address some of these issues and look to future restoration forestry, and all the products that can be provided by a healthy functioning forest, and these job losses can be mitigated in a sustainable way. The increased granting of Community Forest Licences should be high on the agenda for achieving positive change which could provide sustainable healthy forests for future generations, and the planet.. I look forward to your reports this fall.

william heidrick

V9N 8C7

The citizens of North Cowichan Municipality has recently demanded to have input into the management of its 6 municipal forests. Some of the areas of great interest are: 1) setting aside old growth forests for purposes of education and maintaining diversity, 2) developing plans for forest use including sustainable harvesting into perpetuity, 3) minimizing large clearcuts, and using small patch cuts or continuous cover forestry, to hold water on the land and prevent rapid runoff and extremely low water levels, which works against salmon runs and survival of fry, 4) involving Cowichan First Nations in the management planning, 5) maintain a poor quality wind-fallen logs as deadwood, 6) surveying the forests and developing strategies for low intensity harvesting which will maintain forest cover while allowing a take of good form logs, 7) employing regeneration strategies by the forest, such as small patch cutting, cutting from above, cutting from below, and 8) maintaining patches of different species from the dominant tree species, to maintain diversity of insects, lichens, mosses, birds, salamanders, etc. I believe the public and First Nations should be allowed to comment on, and participate in developing forest management plans. This would include both public and private forests.

John Jeglum

V9L 5T4

Please recognize that private forest lands are every bit as important as are Crown forest lands, for the protection of water quality values and ecosystem values, as well as the many other values that are intended for protection by the FRPA.

Privately owned forest land should be subject to all the restrictions in the FRPA, for all the same reasons. PLEASE! We have already seen too many local instances where local private logging put adjacent properties in jeopardy in a manner that already is, or now should be, forbidden to forest practices on Crown land.

Where local governments have placed their own additional restrictions on the logging of private local lands, the revised PMFLA should not allow any exemption from the local restrictions.

I do hope changes to the PMFLA will at last provide the forest protections requested above.

J. Barnard Gilmore,
Kaslo, B.C.

To whom it may concern:

The current Private Managed Forest Land (PMFL) Program encourages landowners to cut as much timber as possible, as fast as possible while discouraging management for long-term sustainability and the protection of public values.

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All forests grow in the territory of one or more First Nations and the province must ensure these Nations are included in decision-making/regulating forestry activities on private and public land. The BC government must explore all options to transfer private land back to First Nations

Paul Logan

V9B 5R2

To Whom This May Concern,

I am writing my 3 suggestions for change to the current PMFL act;

1. The Private Managed Forest Land Program should be mandatory for all private land logging.
2. The forest practice regulations for the PMLF Program should be strengthened to the level that is required on Crown land.
3. The PMFLA should not provide participants an exemption from restrictions on logging passed by local governments.

Thank you for your consideration.

Mike Christy
Fluidpower Personal Training
Certified High-performance Exercise Kinesiology (C.H.E.K.)
www.fluidpowerkelowna.com
250-870-3564

For the sake of our future please listen to the people who care about it.

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Willow Kaukanon

V8M 1R8

I'm fully in support of a more 2019 approach to logging in general. More selective. No clearcuts.
I also feel strongly that private land logging should be regulated more tightly.
Ecosystems don't recognize property lines.
Cheers!

Bruce Elkin

V8V 3W6

We need sustainable realistic management Action to Ensure the Protection of public values.
BC resources are BC jobs NO RAW LOG EXPORTS
Municipalities need water quality and quantity, stop allowing the corporations to destroy and
mismanage this PUBLIC resource; our watersheds.
More transparency Now!

S T O P
Logging our irreplaceable Old Growth Forests

End the destruction now!!

E Hubert

VOP 1X0

Require licensees to provide sufficient information for provincial decision-makers to evaluate operational plans and proposed forest operations for consistency with legal objectives and require government approval of site-level plans.

Require that decision-makers provide written reasons to the public demonstrating how proposed logging and road-building are consistent with statutory tests, legal objectives, Indigenous rights and public comment.

Require provincial decision-makers to determine whether proposed forest operations are consistent with:

a) maintaining and where necessary restoring healthy, fully functioning forest ecosystems that support ecological, social and cultural resiliency, and

b) the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.

Remove existing, lengthy bureaucratic steps required to set objectives and give government the authority to set objectives, informed by public input, for a particular area.

RENEE TITTERTON

VOR 1X1

Trees and forests are Mother Nature's lungs. Removing them will do to the Earth what it would do to your body. And once the old growth is gone, it's gone. There are much better alternatives. Let's get on with sustainability for real.

Glenda Thornton

V9Z 0S6

Is it not high time the government of British Columbia assured that our vital forest resources are handled properly, with environmental and economic sustainability being foremost in government-supervised forestry decisions? Currently, the Private Managed Forest Land Program encourages landowners to cut down as much timber as quickly as possible, actively discouraging management for ongoing sustainability and the protection of public values.

For decades now, hundreds of thousands of raw logs are shipped out of BC without the benefit of value added production being added. Indeed, landowners are not required to process forest products locally. Rather, the PMFL Program fuels raw log exports and the extremely negative impacts to communities this practice causes (on Vancouver Island, for example, the two largest private landowners operate zero mills between them). Visit Youbou if you doubt this.

In communities across BC, PMFL includes watersheds from which municipalities obtain their drinking water, so that water quality and quantity are secondary in importance to private profits. This is unacceptable. Community members also feel left out of decision-making regarding the management of their water resources or are unable to contact the landowner or the government with their concerns. Clearly, full transparency is required by PMFL title holders with the local community.

Despite the denial of government for many years, scientists assure us that old-growth forests are in crisis. Remaining stands of old-growth must be protected, especially on PMFL. These areas are often in regions with more urban development where intact forests are more scarce.

All of BC's forests are in the territory of one or more First Nations. Accordingly, and in the spirit of Truth and Reconciliation and the requirement per UNDRIP to meaningfully consult with indigenous people regarding economic and environmental matters that will impact directly on those indigenous people, British Columbia must ensure the First Nations are included in all decision-making and regulation of forestry activities on private and public land. The BC government must explore all options to transfer private land back to First Nations and do so as quickly as possible. Time and again, the First Nations have proven themselves the defenders of our lands and resources, and this valuable service in the face of relentless ruin of our forests must be respected and honoured by returning Native lands to First Nations.

Hendrik de Pagter

V8S 2A7

I am currently watching logging trucks carry large logs from a nearby property. The new owner logged to waters edge on a large bog pond. There aren't restrictions.

Make changes to the PMFLP and protect our forests. We need to increase old growth forests to 30% to protect biodiversity and prevent further climate heating.

Prioritize Indigenous Rights and Title.
Protect endangered species and enhance climate resilience.

Include communities in discussions about logging of local forests. Protect watersheds and prevent flooding in local communities. Process logs locally.
Thank you

Trudy Beaton

V9J 1N4

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In communities across BC, PMFL includes watersheds where municipalities' drinking water is sourced, meaning water quality and quantity often takes a backseat to private profits.

Communication about logging activities on PMFL is inadequate, and community members often feel left out of decision-making or are unable to contact the landowner or the government with their concerns. More transparency is required.

Old-growth forests are in crisis and remaining tracts of old-growth should be protected, especially on PMFL. These areas are often in regions with more urban development where intact forests are more scarce.

All forests grow in the territory of one or more First Nations and the province must ensure these Nations are included in decision-making/regulating forestry activities on private and public land. The BC government must explore all options to transfer private land back to First Nations

Cheryl Holden

V9C 3Z8

The impact of uncontrolled logging on private land can be not just ugly but dangerous and a detriment to legitimate public interests for safety, sustainability, soil degradation, water quality and species preservation.

These public values are essential and need to be managed for all of us.

Just owning land should not mean that you can do whatever you want, despite injuring your neighbours and the environment.

The government should, in its review, ensure that changes are made that give priority to First Nations rights, where applicable, endangered species, community well-being and climate resilience.

Thank you for undertaking this review - recent research has shown how enhancing the forest can be a significant contribution to the battle against climate chaos, in addition to the other more immediate benefits.

Lee Porteous

V8T 3C8

Dear people of influence,

Please do the right thing and put limitations on profiteering at the expense of the planet we all share. Old growth forests are more precious than the money they can generate. At the very least, change the PMFL program so that all old growth is off limits to private companies.

Sincerely,

Melissa Tolsma

Melissa Tolsma

V9S1R4

In our current crisis of climate, it is imperative that all standing forests be managed well and with the good of all in mind. It is not acceptable for private owners of forest land to do with these lands whatever they wish, without concern for carbon sequestration, protection of species, preservation of old growth forest, Indigenous land claims, and watershed management.

Please act to ensure that necessary regulations are put into place to ensure the management of all forests in the province. Please also ensure that Indigenous groups and local communities are involved in the decisions that affect them. Forests are our shared heritage and must be treated as such.

Brian Day

V8K 1X2

I see clearcutting everywhere i drive around Victoria these days, and am shocked that this still happens. The PMFL Program needs to be updated to account for climate change where drought is more common. We need all the trees we have to provide oxygen and habitat. Logging only a few trees in a large area, selective logging, is less damaging, and should be practiced. And logs should be processed locally to keep profits local. When I see a whole forest turn into a clearcut such as next to the hospital, it makes me very sad. This will likely be covered very soon in houses and buildings. Urban intensification is by far a better way to build, and protects the precious forests and all the things that depend on them for life. Drinking water is protected as well when logging is not permitted on private lands next to sources of drinking water. More restrictions on logging are needed, especially on clearcutting on private land, and also a moratorium on old growth logging is needed. The trees can never be replaced. Other sources of fiber such as hemp should be practiced. Tourism offers a more sustainable way of making a living for people in BC than logging, which has declined for years. No more clearcutting! There is a new clearcut next to Cosco in Langford. This is a precious and special place with many intact forests which have been logged so long ago they are practically old growth. This will be gone if action is not taken now by the government. Please revise the PMFL and ban old growth logging. Provide incentives for landowners to keep forests intact, and also for land return to first nations. Thank you.

Janine Wolfe

v8s 4h1

It's critical the government makes desperately needed changes and prioritizes Indigenous Rights and Title, endangered species, community well-being and climate resilience!

Andreas Hobyen

VOR 3A0

Hello,

I would like to ask that private forest management be taken seriously in this province. Old growth forests are being mismanaged and drinking water is suffering.

Please stop mismanaged private forestry operations from destroying our provinces ecosystems.

Sincerely

Nick drake

Nick Drake

V0r2w1

a forest keeps humidity if we cut it fire become dangerous and we destroy the habitats of many animal species as well as

plants, mushroom...etc

patrick Smolski

V8X 1P3

Please stop logging, shaving our best resources to sustain Life in Canada and on our Planet. It's about time to learn sustainable, not greedy, senseless logging. If you still have to cut some trees, do it in right way, learn it from Eco-Forest Wildwood in Cedar, near Nanaimo BC. Please learn why older trees are so valuable ALIVE and growing. Time is NOW.

Helena Kreowska

V9S 1C5

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All forests grow in the territory of one or more First Nations and the province must ensure these Nations are included in decision-making/regulating forestry activities on private and public land. The BC government must explore all options to transfer private land back to First Nations

Ian Soutar

V9A 5G9

I am writing to share my viewpoint that logging on private lands should be held to the same standard as our government demands - especially in this time of climate crisis which includes wildfires and invasive pests such as the pine beetle. We must do better now in the face of these rapid and destructive changes.

Laurie de Jong

V4Z 1B4

Countless studies and reports show that forests are worth more to everyone on this planet as intact ecosystems. In this time of climate change, we need to value forests for their ability to sequester carbon and help mitigate climate change. Cutting forests benefits only a few. There is so much waste in this industry that it is time to explore the many documented successful alternatives to our antiquated forest practices. We need real climate leadership NOW!

Frances Litman

v9a 6p4

I have seen the clear cuts across Vancouver Island. I have seen private logging next to parks, right up to parks' boundaries. The current kind of clearcutting and deforestation of old growth must stop. We are in a climate crisis, and new studies show that one of the main things that can be done to counteract the loss of bio diversity and disastrous results of inaction, is to protect forests, and plant more trees. Doing so also protects that most precious of resources, water. Currently there seems to be nothing to stop private land owners from cutting trees and selling them, nor rules for the care of those forests. Let us also remember, that the Douglas treaty gave away stolen land. That land remains stolen. Indigenous people lived here for 13000 years without destroying the land. It has taken us 150 years, one and a half human lifetimes to reduce the 1000 year old trees to 1.5 percent of their number.. That is an extraordinary and horrifying thought.

Now, more than at any time in human history, it is incumbent of those of you who represent us, to stop the destruction of natural systems, and forests. Prioritize Indigenous rights and title, protect endangered species, and look after community wellbeing.

Adrian Hough

V9T 1G7

Please make progressive changes to the Private Managed Forest Lands Program: make desperately needed changes and prioritize lowering size of yield allowed and raw log exports; watershed protection; and protection of old growth forests, Indigenous Rights and Title, endangered species, community well-being and climate resilience.

I am a life long NDP member. It is time the NDP government pays more attention to environmental concerns!

Kathleen Kyle

V9A 4J5

Dear Minister of Forests, Lands, NRO and Rural Development:

Rampant timber cutting in BC has become a dire threat to our provincial economy and its natural environment. The Private Managed Forest Land (PMFL) Program has encourage landowners to cut as much timber as fast as possible while discouraging long-term planning to keep forests renewed and regenerated. The result is a degradation BC's most important natural resources in favour of short-term profits by a small number of private investment interests that disregards the public's interest in healthy ecosystems, including our forests and the fresh waters which healthy forests sustain.

As BC does not require forest land-owners to process forest products locally raw logs are exported in vast numbers, which you could verify for yourself if you check the numbers or just went down to New Westminster and looked at all the train cars carrying away millions and millions of tree logs. It's unconscionable that on Vancouver Island the two largest private landowners don't operate any logging mills; the jobs as well as the logs are exported!

BC needs to get serious about watershed protection, not just where municipal drinking water supplies are affected, but everywhere that wildlife and the ocean are damaged by the BC forestry industry's disastrous impacts on marine wildlife including salmon runs. What was the point of electing a new coalition into office if they are just carrying out the same policies as before?

Communication about logging activities on PMFL is not inadequate; local people are often unable to contact land-owners or the government to express their concerns. We need more transparency!

Old-growth forests are in crisis! ALL remaining tracts of old-growth should be protected. Why does the current government make it necessary for public citizens to spend so much time writing letters, organizing and demonstrating to fight the old battles over protecting old-growth forests?

Every forests growing in either First Nations territory or on provincial lands deserves stricter protection, by making sure First Nations and the general public are notified and invited into every Ministry activity that involves decision-making and/or regulating forestry activities on private and public land.

Further, I urge you the Ministry and the BC government to explore every avenue and option for the transfer of private lands back to the First Nations which were here "first" and from whom the land was stolen.

Dennis Lucarelli

V8K 1V4

I am pleased to hear that the Private Managed Forest Lands program is under review. I encourage you to prioritize the following in the new policy:

- Protection of old growth forests
- Protection of drinking water quality and quantity
- Measures to ensure that private owners of managed forest lands emphasize long-term sustainability, including increasing forest cover to mitigate climate change, rather than rapid liquidation of timber
- Local wood processing, rather than raw log imports
- Meaningful involvement of First Nations, to protect their rights and interests, as well as transferring First Nations' traditional and unceded territories back into their hands
- Transparent communication with communities

Brenda Fitzpatrick

V5V 1T3

In this day of rising atmospheric carbon , the evidence is in that trees are the perfect place to sequester carbon. Not only do we need to plant more trees but we need to stop some logging. Private land logging needs to be regulated.

Denise Olson

VON 1V1

Dear PMRL review staff:

Thank you for conducting this important work to review the management of forestry on privately owned lands. My dad was a logger, I put myself through university working in the forest industry, and many of my friend still make a living in the industry, in places like Terrace, Burns Lake, and Port Alberni. As a supporter of a sustainable forest industry, I am appalled at the way forest practices are managed (or not managed) on private lands. Please consider the following points in your review:

The current Private Managed Forest Land (PMFL) Program encourages landowners to cut as much timber as possible, as fast as possible while discouraging management for long-term sustainability and the protection of public values like recreation, hunting, and aesthetics.

The current way of doing business is harming local economies. Private landowners have no requirement to process forest products locally, meaning your PMFL Program fuels raw log exports and the impacts to communities this practice causes (on Vancouver Island, for example, the two largest private landowners operate zero mills between them).

The current system is failing to protect our water for people and nature. In communities across BC, PMFL includes watersheds where municipalities' drinking water is sourced, meaning water quality and quantity often takes a backseat to private profits.

Communities are being shut out. Communication about logging activities on PMFL is inadequate, and community members often feel left out of decision-making or are unable to contact the landowner or the government with their concerns. More transparency is required.

It is not sustainable. Old-growth forests are in crisis and remaining tracts of old-growth should be protected, especially on PMFL. These areas are often in regions with more urban development where intact forests are more scarce.

All forests grow in the territory of one or more First Nations and the province must ensure these Nations are included in decision-making/regulating forestry activities on private and public land. The BC government must explore all options to transfer private land back to First Nations

Thanks for considering my input,
Aaron Hill
1959 Brighton Ave

Aaron Hill

v8s 2e3

The current Private Managed Forest Land (PMFL) Program encourages landowners to cut as much timber as possible, as fast as possible while discouraging management for long-term sustainability and the protection of public values. In communities across BC, PMFL includes watersheds where municipalities' drinking water is sourced, meaning water quality and quantity often takes a backseat to private profits.

All forests grow in the territory of one or more First Nations and the province must ensure these Nations are included in decision-making/regulating forestry activities on private and public land.

Large corporations do not have the right to put their profits ahead of all the other considerations in our forests

Cheryl Marion

V7W 1Z7

Please consider changes to the PMFL Program so that it contributes to the sustainability of our forests. The current program encourages rapid destruction of forests and contains no requirement to process timber locally.

These poor forestry practices can impact water quality in communities. Community members and First Nations have been left out of decision-making.

Anne Miles

VON 1V9

Could we just stop acting as if everything was A-OK? We know better. We can do better. We must do better! What is being allowed is robbing our grandchildren of a working world.

anne cameron

VOP 1X0

Please do not allow the clear-cutting of forested private land. This land is not "managed" it is denuded of all trees. If a private land owner is lucky enough to have a mature forest there could be benefits to keep it that way from the government. Forested land protects us from climate change so it is urgent that the PMFL program be changed to reflect science.

Maureen Moore

V8K 2E4

It is well past time to put some limits on private land rape. More and more real estate owners are leveraging their investment in this speculative market by destroying nature. This must be better regulated, especially in sensitive ecosystems like the Salish Sea/Islands Trust area.

James Alexander

V8K 2C4

All logging should be reined in. Private logging affects the area negatively and there's nothing we can do about it presently. It is greed and carelessness.

Trish Chung

V0k 1 j0

Place a moratorium on all private logging now. Then review the changes necessary.

Margie Korrison

V8K 1K9

I am writing with my concerns over the management of privately owned forests. As it stands now, management of such forests does not properly take care to protect our clean water supplies or the ecosystems as a whole.

More than that, we need legislation to protect Indigenous Rights and Title as well as endangered species. Forest are our carbon sinks. Cutting them without care for the future is short term thinking and must not be allowed. As well, much of these logs are shipped raw, thus losing local jobs in value added products. We must take care of our forests if we are to preserve community well-being, watershed health, and forest management in this time of climate crisis.

Dorothy Field

V8R 1S5

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Natalie Easson

V8T 1K1

We need to remember to make decisions that promote the sustainable use of forests, including the rights of First Nations and our need of healthy forests for climate resilience. Preserving our wild life is a good policy all across the province, the country and the world, since our long term human survival depends on it.

Protection of our watersheds is also crucial. Please remember these important points while reviewing the Private Managed Forest Lands Program.

Thank you for your service!
Marielle Audet, BC résident.

Marielle Audet

V9C 1E3

The Wilderness Committee provided me with lots of points to consider, in writing to you about the current Private Managed Forest Land (PMFL). Apparently, these places are not doing so well. No doubt, you'll receive plenty of these 'points' from good authority.

I want to send in a point-of-view from a supposed non-expert: I don't need to be a trained medical person to identify that a person is sick or in severe pain.

There is so much wrong, in the way our industrialized society, can harm and destroy our environment, not only through bad logging practices, but bad practices in Everything that has to do with supposed 'bettering-our-economy'.

It really is trying to "put-the-cart-in-front-of-the-horse". Environment is EVERYTHING!! We cannot exist without Environment. Nothing can, and we are sure finding that out the hard way, aren't we!

Thank you for allowing me to express my opinion.

Fran Dietz

V6J 3T5

Dear Mr. Coste,

I'm writing in regards to the Private Managed Forest Review.

I'm from Ontario, but I work in forestry & I eventually I might make my way back to BC.

I think it's essential for the forestry industry to promote a good public image. The key to that is to ensure sustainability.

I think that loggers of Private lands must be held to the same standards, in regards to reforestation, as those that harvest crown land. Also, private land owners should be discouraged from applying to have their land rezoned. If it is rezoned, they should have to pay a tax & that money should go directly to afforestation programs, so that there isn't a net loss of forested lands. Thanks & Best Regards,
Jason Nelson

Jason Nelson

P6A 2G6

We cannot allow the continued obliteration of our forests on Crown or Private land. Our forests are our most precious resource and we need to change the way we manage them. There should be requirements in every region of the province, on crown or private land, that prohibit complete clear cutting - there needs to be many stands of trees left standing all over the block. We all know not every tree in the cutblock is valued or used by logging companies, so they should not be allowed to cut down trees that are "useless" to them. And this should apply to both crown and private lands.

Furthermore, lets stop spraying glyphosate on our aspen trees and killing a staple for moose, mule deer and beaver. Aspen also act as a natural fire suppressant to lessen the severity of wildfires. This is the most asinine aspect of forestry management in our Province. Like what the heck our we doing? How can our gov't think its acceptable to allow the spraying of a scientifically proven carcinogen on our precious Aspen trees? How can the people directly involved in approving this practice, look at themselves in the mirror? This is INSANE and it must stop immediately. Do you not see a correlation with declining moose numbers in areas where spraying glyphosate is most prevalent? Hello?

Oh ya, and can someone please tell me why we're still allowing the destruction of Old Growth Forests?? How is this still allowed in 2019? Who in your gov't believes this to be an acceptable practice?

I voted BCDNP in 2017 because I was hoping for serious change in how our most treasured resource was being managed. And words cannot express my profound disappointment in the NDP gov't for simply choosing to carry on a "business as usual" approach to how our forests on both crown and private lands are being managed. You fooled me once and you won't fool me again.

Please get your heads out of your collective asses and start to Prioritize the stewardship and common sense approaches to forestry management that are so obvious to everyone in the province!

P.S. - I apologize for digressing a little bit

Jason Stanley

V4C 4G2

RE:: PMFL review

Dear Minister,

Science tells us that now, more than ever before, we need to protect our existing forests and prioritize planting of trees to combat climate change. This call to action promises to do more to combat climate change than much more expensive technologies, and would also go a long way to restoring habitat needed for wild salmon and other at risk species. Current legislation overseeing logging on private land is totally inadequate and allows land owners to cut forests without regard to their environmental values, and without consultation with First Nations or local communities. Please enact stronger protection of forrest on private lands for the benefit of local communities and future generations.

Sincerely,

Tracy Lyster, Mission BC

Tracy Lyster

V4S 1K1

Our Logging practices are archaic and still managed as they were back in the early 90's. We can now harvest forests at a rapid rate and have mismanaged the forest for decades. There is no long term sustainability plans. We continue to allow companies to rip out managing, ecological forests and plant tree farms with no diversity.....they are not the same thing. One has habitat and ecological value, the other has neither and has a huge fire risk. The companies bought crown land and as such are the new managers of this public asset.....the responsibility has just been transferred. They need to bring practices up to the new age and at the very least the following should be implemented.

No more raw log exports! This is the single most harmful thing to our forests and economy. Bring back local processing

Landowners have to have a long term goal in re establishing the forests, not just a cut, grab and go policy

No more cutting in Water sheds and old growth! Both should be banned and land owners have a plan to work around.

More transparency from companies as to harvest and recovery plans

Needs to be a plan between land owners to establish wildlife corridors across jurisdictions to allow habitat retention in harmony with economic profit

Mary Mitchell

V9N 3K6

To those that are governing British Columbia's forests

All of the points below may be written by someone else, but I could not have said it better. Please pay attention and correct the legislation that is allowing this mismanagement of British Columbia forest land.

The current Private Managed Forest Land (PMFL) Program encourages landowners to cut as much timber as possible, as fast as possible while discouraging management for long-term sustainability and the protection of public values.

Landowners have no requirement to process forest products locally, meaning the PMFL Program fuels raw log exports and the impacts to communities this practice causes (on Vancouver Island, for example, the two largest private landowners operate zero mills between them).

In communities across BC, PMFL includes watersheds where municipalities' drinking water is sourced, meaning water quality and quantity often takes a backseat to private profits.

Communication about logging activities on PMFL is inadequate, and community members often feel left out of decision-making or are unable to contact the landowner or the government with their concerns. More transparency is required.

Old-growth forests are in crisis and remaining tracts of old-growth should be protected, especially on PMFL. These areas are often in regions with more urban development where intact forests are more scarce.

All forests grow in the territory of one or more First Nations and the province must ensure these Nations are included in decision-making/regulating forestry activities on private and public land. The BC government must explore all options to transfer private land back to First Nations.

Now get to work!

Laurie Embree~
V0K 2Z0

Laurie Embree

V0K 2Z0

The current PMFL is totally wrongheaded and must be replaced with a sensible and sustainable alternative that, unlike the PFML, addresses current realities and foreseeable future problems. The PFML totally fails to protect the provincial public interest. It promotes raw log exports, which kills local forestry related employment. The PMFL also includes watersheds from which municipal drinking water is derived. Under the PFLM, the quality of this water is placed secondary to the short term pursuit of private profit. A new system designed to protect and sustain our forests is urgently required. Such a system will necessitate far greater transparency in its deliberations than the current PFML provides.

Talk is cheap. But to promote genuine reconciliation, indigenous interests in unceded First Nations territories where BC's forests are all located must be recognized and their input first sought and then included in decision making on both public and private lands.

the PM

David Bouvier

VOR 1X7

We must regulate ALL of our forests , those on privately owned lands as well as on crown lands. The best way to protect all species in these times of climate change is to save the existing forests and plant more and more trees. Simple but very true...

This enables protection for diverse habitat, flood protection, , our waters and captures carbon dioxide. Nature knows best and is powerful, let us truly work with nature rather than exploiting it. Care, protect and respect our world and all that is in it 🙏🌱

Gloria Prescott

V8R 1C3

Dear Minister

I am a grandmother living in Vancouver B.C. I remember the struggle we private citizens had with the ruthless clear cutting policy that MacMillan Bloedel, the logging giant of the seventies, had on the various coasts of B.C. Particularly in old growth forests in the Carmanah Valley on Vancouver Island B.C. Then, as now, profit was the only consideration paid as to their methods of logging.

Personally, I feel that our forests in B.C. are far too valuable to our climate and house far too many threatened species to trust private companies to obey priorities set by government in the management of such. In my experience they will stoop to breaking every available law in order to protect their profits. Back in the seventies this company vandalised the buses which carried protesters, they threw rocks at the tents of the protesters (whether we were in them or not), they tried to intimidate those of us blocking the logging road (an abomination in itself) with video cameras, and claimed they had a right to do so.

I would hope that if these forests were managed by a government armed with a knowledge of Indigenous rights, the number of endangered species, and benefits that forests afford to clean air in a time of climate change, everyone on the planet, not just one greedy private company, would be better off. I strongly feel that in company with experts in the field of conservation our government should take complete responsibility for the maintenance and management of our forests.

This is a great leap of faith I realise, as I understand that presently our government seems to encourage PMFL to cut as much as possible as quickly as possible with no provisions for sustainability. However, if your department is sincere in its attempt to review management of Private Forest Lands, taking responsibility for informed and transparent management yourselves of such Lands should be an option.

Sincerely,

Yvonne Adalian
Vancouver B.C.

Yvonne Adalian

V6G 3L3

Dear Peers. Thank you for hearing my views on this issue. "Private' land is an economic concept that does not recognize what indigineous people have understood for centuries...we are all just stewards of the earth. Forest fires threaten us all so please do everything in your power together with the wisdom of indigineous communities and the best non-commercially biased scientific input to minimize the risks. Also, given we are all one, honor all species habitat by avoiding all loss of old growth forests and logging in areas that damage the flow of our precious wildlife and their movement patterns. And finally, yours is a sacred project and since your decisions affect us all, thank you for ensuring transparency by making all aspects of your decision-making available to the public. With Hugs and Gratitude, Maureen Matthew

Maureen Matthew

V8Z 3E1

I am concerned that the current Private Managed Forest Land (PMFL) Program encourages landowners to quickly cut as much timber as possible. This goes against the concept of management for long-term sustainability and the protection of public values. Also, landowners have no requirement to process forest products locally. This means that the PMFL Program fuels raw log exports which impacts communities such as Vancouver Island, for example the two largest private landowners do not operate mills which would create employment.

Communication about logging activities on PMFL is inadequate, and community members often feel left out of decision-making. or are unable to contact the landowner or the government with their concerns. More transparency is required.

Water quality and quantity often takes a backseat to private profits, since BC communities PMFL include watersheds where municipalities' drinking water is sourced. Already our old-growth forests are in crisis and remaining tracts of old-growth should be protected, especially on PMFL. These areas are often in regions with more urban development where intact forests are more scarce. In regard to all forests that grow in the territory of one or more First Nations, the province must ensure these Nations are included in decision-making. The BC government must explore all options to transfer private land back to First Nations

Thank you for reading my letter.

Terry Hale

VOP 1N0

It is deplorable what forest destruction is doing to our province and the environment and the world. I am totally fed up with this blatant raping of our hope to save the forests and the climate.

Siglind Tinsley

V9G 1H7

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Jean Lawrence

V9A 2J5

dear mr. torrance coste can you please change the pmfl laws so that all logging on private lands follow the same laws as is done on crown lands. logging on private lands must take into consideration;1-long term sustainability and the protection of public values.2-logged private timber be processed in local mills,3-watersheds must be protected at all costs,4-private landowners-loggers must answer to the government and local citizens who will be directly affected.5-old growth forests must be especially protected because of their scarcity and vulnerability.6-tribal forests must be given consideration so that tribal land values are respected with the total enviroment is protected.

Richard Switzer

V1N 2H5

BC should have an environmentally sustainable forest management programme, with serious supervision, with meaningful consequences where rules and regulations are not followed.

Herman Bakker

V8Z 2M1

First action of a climate change emergency is to stop cutting trees and and start planting. I am opposed to old growth and clear cut logging, and devastated to learn 3 soccer stadiums are leaving VI daily.

Ecosystems are our common piggybank and must learn to live on the interest not the capital so we can leave legacy to future generations.
Wildlife/FN/Rights of Future Generations.

We retain

Nat Chambers

V8x 2c3

In recent days, a Swiss study has suggested that trees are the best antidote to the Climate Emergency. Their carbon dioxide sequestration properties are critical. There is a need to preserve and protect our existing trees, and plant millions of trees as quickly as possible. All forest practices on private or public lands must be informed by this reality.

Patricia Willis

VOR 1T0

Hello,

Please put an immediate moratorium on old growth and private interest logging . At this critical moment in human and planetary history, we need all of our tools for environmental recovery. Citizens of BC, indeed of Canada, will always choose the health of community air and water, wildlife, and functioning ecosystems over corporate or foreign interests.

Please listen to the people before it's too late.

Leigh Buchanan

V9P 1T2

The current PMFL program is wholly inadequate. It encourages landowners to log as much as possible, instead of stewarding the land in a meaningful, sustainable way.

Privately owned forests are still important to the public community and indigenous territories, who are left out of the decision making process on these lands. These communities need to be respected and heard, instead of private loggers destroying watersheds and precious old-growth forests.

The plan needs to be revised in order to properly address these problems, and hand over as much private land as possible to first Nations. Trees are more than just a resource. Anyone in this agency who doesn't understand this should be fired.

Let's protect BC's beautiful wilderness while we have the chance.

Finn Kreischer

V8R 1B3

Please ensure sustainable practices protecting watersheds and the very last of our remaining old-growth forests are legislated for PMFLs. Stop raw log exports and protect the carbon-storing ecosystems our forests sustain. Retool mills to process any timber harvested in BC, creating more jobs when extracting our limited natural resources.

Thank you,
Bridget Meagher
250-667-0984
2138 Tull Ave
Courtenay, BC V9N 7P6

Bridget Meagher

V9N 7P6

Dear PMLF review panel,
Please prioritize local processing of forest products. Stop raw log exports which take jobs off shore.
BC needs more transparency around PMFL decisions. Please reflect on the true value of protecting
community water sheds and the wildlife that rely on forested land.
Hoping to hear from you,
Mary

Mary Vane-Hunt

VOR 2W0

The current program benefits the private corporations with disastrous public interest results. Landowners are encouraged to cut as much timber as possible as fast possible without regard for long term sustainability and the public interest.

Why are we giving so much benefit to private corporations who export raw logs. They are not creating processing employment in the province. On Vancouver Island the two largest private landowners operate zero processing mills.

PMFL includes many watersheds and municipalities' drinking water with the effect that, again, private profits of land owners trump the public interest of water quality.

Old growth forests are facing crisis. A new report issued today states the best way to mitigate climate change is to plant trees. Other research reports older trees are much more efficient carbon sinks than newly planted trees. BC's old growth forest are a virtual treasure and army mitigating climate change. Yet this province, under the current PMFL Program, encourages landowners to cut as much as possible as fast as possible. Current policy defies common sense and logic.

It's 2019 and the clock is ticking on the 12 years the IPCC says we have to avoid disastrous consequences if we can't lower emissions.

Indigenous peoples have been excluded from effective decision making and regulations despite the fact almost all forests grow in the territory of one or more First Nations. This effective colonial practice should be remedied in the current review.

It is wonderful the PMFL is being reviewed; it is an opportunity to correct the egregiously outdated failings of the current regulation.

Elizabeth Borek

V8N 1M1

Forests should be seen as our great ally in climate chaos. We can not allow the current forestry practices to continue, PRIVATE OR PUBLIC! Tree plantations that are replanted are not reforestation. Forests hold soil, Forests hold water, Forest cool the earth, Forest provide oxygen, Forests are homes to wild life, Forests bring tourism, Forests must be protected and returned to natural states. Logging can be done sustainably and provide jobs and profits. Forestry industry should not have to be asked to make these changes, they should want to make these changes for the future of the industry and for the next generations of people on this planet. BC is not the only place having it's forest ravaged. Some more information I find disturbing:

The current Private Managed Forest Land (PMFL) Program encourages landowners to cut as much timber as possible, as fast as possible while discouraging management for long-term sustainability and the protection of public values.

Landowners have no requirement to process forest products locally, meaning the PMFL Program fuels raw log exports and the impacts to communities this practice causes (on Vancouver Island, for example, the two largest private landowners operate zero mills between them).

In communities across BC, PMFL includes watersheds where municipalities' drinking water is sourced, meaning water quality and quantity often takes a backseat to private profits.

Communication about logging activities on PMFL is inadequate, and community members often feel left out of decision-making or are unable to contact the landowner or the government with their concerns. More transparency is required.

Old-growth forests are in crisis and remaining tracts of old-growth should be protected, especially on PMFL. These areas are often in regions with more urban development where intact forests are more scarce.

All forests grow in the territory of one or more First Nations and the province must ensure these Nations are included in decision-making/regulating forestry activities on private and public land.

Evelyn Hunter

v0r 3e1

To whom it may concern,

It is integral that our natural resources are protected and harvested in a sustainable manner which are to the best interests of the general public, as well as Indigenous nations who's lands we are visitors on. The PMFLP has the potential for various improvements, notably in the areas of sustainability, transparency, and community development. I am urging you to consider the importance of the protection of our old growth forests, local logging processing and production, and the inclusion of First Nations people in the decision making processes of foresting activities on their lands. You have the power to contribute to a future that is best for all Canadians, not just private land owners and mass corporations.

Thank you,

Caroline Crossley

Caroline Crossley

V8P 5A7

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All forests grow in the territory of one or more First Nations and the province must ensure these Nations are included in decision-making/regulating forestry activities on private and public land. The BC government must explore all options to transfer private land back to First Nations

John Hamilton

V3M 3L1

We need to be planting trees, not denuding the forests.

Marilyn Suddaby

V3K 3A4

Community watersheds are being put at risk for private profit. This is unacceptable. Please regulate a more sustainable practice!

Thank you,
Sincerely,
Amanda Papailhau

Amanda Papailhau

V1l 2m2

Dear sirs,. Private forestry practices are degrading our air, water and soul terribly. Our valley has seen too much taking of younger and younger trees, with poor replanting and toxic herbicides. Now our Koksilah river is nearly DRY and people and wildlife thirsty.

The province must regulate practices that restore old forests, especially on private lands, for all their values including carbon capture.

Foresters from other countries are appalled that clear cutting is the norm when selection and small patch cutting works fine and supplies wood for use and sale. This was brought in years ago but stopped by big companies.

We need wood for our Mills, it's crazy to continue to export it when BC jobs are lost. This used to be policy ,but it was undermined for more profits.

We can't pretend the last old growth and last healthy bottomland forests are mere dollars for corporations. Our environment is our health, especially with climate emergency.

Many foresters now advocate ecological practices, the time is right. Life asks us to value whole forest communities while we still have them.

You can and must do better.

Laurel Circle

V9L 6G6

I hope you will consider ways to encourage maximizing the well-being of the land and long-term sustainability. Including, non-timber resources. Considerations should include long-term viability of health.

Daniel Tourigny

v9e 2g6

When the forests are gone and the erosion and and fires have finished. The oceans silted and fresh water turbid. We will be gone our kids..gone or climate refugees. Your guess is as good as mine. You have been given power over a sacred gift and it has been a bitter feast. Does the forest industry have any good ideas for recovery..... No. Just waste and more efficient mechanized destruction of our habitat. Which is directly connected to our oxygen, water, aquatic life. It is not anyone's right to destroy the earth.

Gaye Gardiner

V8K 1L6

- The current Private Managed Forest Land (PMFL) Program encourages landowners to maximize speedy timber extraction. It discourages long-term sustainability and protection of wildlife habitat and other public values. This is backwards and should be reversed.
- Landowners are not required to process forest products locally. In other words, the PMFL Program supports the export of raw logs and the loss of related local jobs. That makes no sense. Landowners should be required to support local economies to the greatest possible extent, including through operating mills.
- In many locations in BC, PMFL includes sources of municipal drinking water. Water resources must not be jeopardized by logging operations.
- Communication about logging activities on PMFL is inadequate. Much more transparency is required.
- Remaining tracts of old-growth must be protected, including and especially on PMFL which is often in more where intact forests are particularly scarce.
- The province must ensure First Nations are included in decision-making regarding and regulation of forestry activities on private and public land.

Roberta Olenick

V6R 2S6

It's very welcome that the provincial government is reviewing the Private Managed Forest Lands Program. A few comments for your consideration:

For large private holdings on Vancouver Island, particularly those on the former E&N lands, it is essential that rates of cut become more sustainable per watershed, not over the entire corporate holding. This is especially crucial for those watersheds providing community drinking water, but is also central to the health of the forest habitat.

A form of appurtenancy is required on PFMLs, particularly for large holdings. If the forestry companies are unwilling or unable to operate processing facilities, then their product must be offered to other processors before export is permitted.

Meaningful communication with local communities, both First Nations and other residents, is essential -- not only during the planning phase but also while active logging is occurring.

Thomas G Pater

V9N 1B6

I am writing to ask that the following points be carefully considered with reference to the review of the Private Managed Forest Lands Program:

- * The current Private Managed Forest Land (PMFL) Program encourages landowners to cut as much timber as possible, as fast as possible while discouraging management for long-term sustainability and the protection of public values. This should change.
- * Landowners have no requirement to process forest products locally, meaning the PMFL Program fuels raw log exports and the impacts to communities this practice causes (on Vancouver Island, for example, the two largest private landowners operate zero mills between them). This should change.
- * In communities across BC, PMFL includes watersheds where municipalities' drinking water is sourced, meaning water quality and quantity often takes a backseat to private profits. This should change.
- * Communication about logging activities on PMFL is inadequate, and community members often feel left out of decision-making or are unable to contact the landowner or the government with their concerns. More transparency is required.
- * Old-growth forests are in crisis and remaining tracts of old-growth should be protected, especially on PMFL. These areas are often in regions with more urban development where intact forests are more scarce.
- * All forests grow in the territory of one or more First Nations and the province must ensure these Nations are included in decision-making/regulating forestry activities on private and public land. The BC government must explore all options to transfer private land back to First Nations

Forests are more than timber.

Forests sequester CO₂, produce oxygen, filter rainwater, shelter salmon, support ecotourism, and provide habitat for numerous species of plants and animals threatened with extinction. Destroying forests for short-term profit is a waste of an extremely precious resource.

Thank you.

Bill Appledorf

V8V 1R8

The same rules for forestry should apply no matter who owns the land. Our forests need protection for the sake of the climate, habitat for endangered species, indigenous rights, and our collective heritage.

Hilary Jones

V5L 1X2

Dear Minister,

It is discouraging to know that so much of our forestry resource decisions are done on private lands. On Vancouver Island in particular, many forests are owned by the timber companies themselves, so often the profit motive overtakes other considerations.

It is especially galling to see old-growth timber being cut from steep slopes subject to erosion. These mighty trees are taken by helicopter and dumped into the ocean for export to Asia and other markets with little or no value added to local workers.

I would like to see a moratorium on logging old-growth forests in favour of second-growth harvesting and replanting required for any harvests on private land.

Let's do what is right for ourselves and the British Columbia our children and grandchildren will cherish.

Frank Young.

Frank Young

V9M 1B2

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Thea Honeyman

V5v2g5

This current log till it's all gone practice - Must Stop before BC is raped clean.

Our Watersheds can not sustain this atrocity any longer. Please make good with a mandate to do something - NOW.

I live in the Cowichan Valley, where Dec 2018 windstorm is blamed for reasons to cut hundreds of trees, to clear up blow down. What a crock of lies ...Been to meeting after meeting, with hundreds of concerned citizens. And no, this helps cause more fires, not control them, such as was recently broadcast about North Cowichan. Even Mayors can be very ill informed ...

It is no different in the rest of the province, in fact worse, in many places. WFP is on strike as I type. Why, greedy company, sending profits out of Canada, jobs and much more ...

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This is only a snippet of what I wish to say. For now, this will be sent and my hope is the government is listening.

Sheila Paul

VOR 1L6

Please stop clear cut logging and especially logging in old growth areas. Prioritize Indigenous rights, endangered species, and the biodiversity of intact forests. Thank you

Lin Marcotte

V8K 1V3

Forests are not private lands! Forests are not tree farms!

All forests grow in the territory of one or more First Nations. The colonial government must transfer so-called private land back to First Nations - this is reconcili-action!

No more industrial logging! Stop the massacres!

J Ocean Dennie

V9A 4W9

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First Name *

tony

Last Name *

brumell

Email Address *

tonybrumell@gmail.com

tony brumell

V2E 1V5

I understand that the provincial government is reviewing the Private Managed Forest Lands Program right now. I'm very glad to hear it.

Across British Columbia, swathes of forest owned and mismanaged by private interests are detrimentally affecting crucial public values : clean water, functioning ecosystems and jobs in communities.

Please see to it that these private logging companies are reined in, for the good of all.

Thank you for your time and work!

clare kenny

v5l 3x8

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Michael Coon

V8S 2M5

Points to consider in your letter:

The current Private Managed Forest Land (PMFL) Program encourages landowners to cut as much timber as possible, as fast as possible while discouraging management for long-term sustainability and the protection of public values.

Landowners have no requirement to process forest products locally, meaning the PMFL Program fuels raw log exports and the impacts to communities this practice causes (on Vancouver Island, for example, the two largest private landowners operate zero mills between them).

In communities across BC, PMFL includes watersheds where municipalities' drinking water is sourced, meaning water quality and quantity often takes a backseat to private profits.

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All forests grow in the territory of one or more First Nations and the province must ensure these Nations are included in decision-making/regulating forestry activities on private and public land. The BC government must explore all options to transfer private land back to First Nations

toni stanick

V6G 2H9

The IPCC report has made it crystal clear: we are doomed to extinction unless DRASTIC, IMMEDIATE measures are taken to dramatically reduce greenhouse emissions. Harvesting old-growth forests is not one of them (I am beyond apologizing for my use of irony). In fact the exact opposite is required: we need to conserve and protect the scarce remaining old-growth forest and only harvest sustainable forests.

Secondly, federal and provincial governments are supposed to abide by UNDRIP. All forests grow in the territory of one or more First Nations and the province must ensure these Nations are included in decision-making/regulating forestry activities on private and public land. The BC government must also urgently explore all options to transfer private land back to First Nations.

The current Private Managed Forest Land (PMFL) Program encourages landowners to cut as much timber as possible, as fast as possible while discouraging management for long-term sustainability and the protection of public values.

Landowners have no requirement to process forest products locally, meaning the PMFL Program fuels raw log exports and this impacts communities - on Vancouver Island, for example, the two largest private landowners operate zero mills between them. In communities across BC, PMFL includes watersheds where municipalities' drinking water is sourced, meaning water quality and quantity often take a backseat to private profits.

Communication about logging activities on PMFL is inadequate and must be transparent and shared widely across the province - we all have a stake in getting this right.

Thank you for your consideration.
Yours sincerely

Roz Isaac

V7L1C8

To the PMFL Review Board for Ministry of Forests, Natural Resource Operations, Rural Development and Natural Campaign Director, Torrance

There is not enough legal requirement and Government oversight to enforce PMFL to cut and manage their forests in an environmentally sustainable manner.

Landowners are able to export lumber with no requirement to process it locally, thus no jobs are being created in BC, under these conditions. This must change.

In BC communities, PMFL Frequently takes place where municipalities drinking water is sourced. This activity often puts drinking water in those communities at risk of contamination and drying up.

More transparency must be required so that communities can know what kind of logging is being done and where. Also information about who is doing logging and how community members can contact companies to advocate on behalf of sustainable logging practices.

Logging must cease in old growth forests.

The Government and Logging companies must consider and be in dialogue with First Nations. They must be included in decision making. The Government must explore all options to transfer private land back to First Nations.

Jenniffer-Beth Fulton

V7G 1W9

There has to be better management of private owned land in British Columbia. The spraying of glyphosate and other dangerous chemicals needs to stop. Logging in watersheds which pollutes water and destroys the ecosystem needs to stop. Old growth logging needs to stop.

Sincerely,

Levi Nelitz

V9n 9m9

I understand that the BC government is reviewing this program, and I hope it is being done with a sternly critical eye and a demanding set of standards in mind. The current system is simply not working for the protection of BC's very special, much loved and very valuable forests

Their "value" includes their capacity to sequester carbon, at a time when governments (including yours) have declared a climate emergency but are NOT acting in accordance with any definition of emergency that I am aware of. In addition, our forests provide the habitat needed by many endangered species -- and that list is surely going to grow -- as well as being part of the traditional territory of many Indigenous people since time immemorial in a time when we as a society are finally working to recognize and uphold their rights.

The current Private Managed Forest Land (PMFL) Program encourages landowners to cut as much timber as possible, as fast as possible, while discouraging management for long-term sustainability and the protection of public values which I have named above.

The current PMFL program is not working for the protection of our watersheds, and it is not giving adequate opportunity for input and shared decision-making with people at the community level, including local governments, either for overall planning or to deal with objections to logging practices on smaller lots in our neighbourhoods.

Please act with some alacrity to change the direction of the PMFL before the forestry companies and private land owners scalp more acreage as they have done on Salt Spring Island.

Judi Stevenson

V8K 2J3

Dear Hon. MOF Donaldson,

I am appalled at the deteriorated state of Forests in B.C.! (as evidenced in flights anywhere over "Supernatural B.C.!")

... and if legislation and practices aren't changed IMMEDIATELY...there may be no economically viable and accessible, nor environmentally sustainable forests LEFT IN B.C.!

An IMMEDIATE OLD GROWTH FORESTS MORATORIUM, pending an INVENTORY(aerial GPS and on ground site surveys)...to see the environmental health and sustainability of forests, and economic viability/accessibility of remaining wood fibre:

1. Our global commitment to CLIMATE CHANGE EMERGENCY...

is to PRESERVE OLD GROWTH FORESTS! They Carbon sequester @ 1000 tonnes/hectare; equivalent to Amazon Rainforests! It is a "Crime against Humanity"...to clear cut O.G.F.'s...when trees are the only viable "Carbon sucking reduction 'technology' " we have...to SAVE EARTH!

2. If the NDP/Green Government is serious about saving SAR Mt. Caribou, endangered grizzlies and other species...their Old Growth Forests habitat/HOMES... must be PRESERVED!

3. CLEAR-CUT LOGGING

...especially by fellerbunchers that cut equivalent of 34 soccer fields/day of O.G.F.s...must be BANNED in a wood fibre shortage era...where 50 y.o. trees are "slashed and trashed!" Small machine, selective logging or small partial cuts...to protect the last "REAL forests ecosystems we have left!

4. Analysis of failing Second Growth tree plantations strategies! The single species/same aged Conifer plantations, are not "natural, REAL forests...which we should attempt to imitate that healing, after abusive clear cutting!" Devoid of flora and fauna, microorganisms, Cancer-causing for ungulates with Glyphosate sprayed GMO tree seedlings...to kill supposedly competing high Carbon sequestering, fire retardant, soil anchoring, wildlife forage, shade and snowload protecting: Alder, Birch, berry bushes! NO MORE SPRAYS!

5. In a Climate Emergency/ Global Heating era: more wildfires are caused by fossil fuel burning, (some claim sprays intensify wildfires?!); Pine Beetle, Spruce Budworm, Douglas Fir beetles; disease,(i.e. White Pine rust), drought...single species plantations are devastated!

6. Private land logging should have permits, regulations, stipulations for riparian zone creeks/springs buffer zones, and RPF planning!

7. Community watershed logging should be banned, as water licences/ property taxpayers' rights and needs, should take precedence over industry profits/risks! Re-instate the former water reserves: NO LOGGING!

8. LIABILITY insurance for site planners, (MOF; Industry RPFs); logging contractors; mill owners... to share costs for any damages to water systems, homes/properties, loss of life; avalanche, landslide issues, etc.

9. The ONLY reason they are logging in high risk watersheds; visual and recreational local and tourism areas, and highway corridors...is there is NO COMMERCIALY AVAILABLE WOOD FIBRE LEFT IN THE BACKCOUNTRY! FORESTRY CRISIS!

10. Trees...are B.C.'s wealth, health and future for Earth's survival! It's time we treat our forests with the respect, thought, planning, and caretaking they deserve...

so that we HAVE oxygen-producing, home building materials, gorgeous wood products, warmth, natural beauty...for the future!

Thank you for your time and evaluation of B.C. residents suggestions to improve Forestry.

Sincerely,

Marion Bergevin

(Nelson, B.C.)

Marion Bergevin

V1L 2N9

I will make a few points because I feel the Provincial Gov't has betrayed us in their election platform & Horgan is just getting donations from timber companies who are cutting more forests faster Plus reducing jobs in the community. So there are NO benefits to citizens of BC. (The bribers are off shore entities)

1. Stop Old growth logging & second growth logging on sharp grades & near waterways is against standards but is ignored.
2. Stop all logging in water sheds of all communities no matter how small, no matter what mitigation efforts proposed.
3. Stop spraying glysohate on crown land & private land (the health report of effects did not study spraying formulation of glysohate & adheasives & perservatives) Spraying has reduced wildlife counts in effected areas by 3/4 of population ! true.
- 4.The replanting of logged areas are not following the guidlines set out by ministry, all poor soil areas are not replanted by choice which creates errosion permanently exposes bare rock. (this is against standards.)
5. The percentage of mature forest left standing legislated 20 years ago was 30% but has been encroached to 20% illegally.
6. The forestry dept is granting permits while prohibiting observations or inspections or updating facts about timber industry also firing many public servants who do their job & report this widespread disastrous destruction in BC . This is criminal..

I am sickened by this blantant political theft of the ecosystem thus reducing the survival rate of plants, animals & humans !

Do not dismiss my opinion, I am a mature adult who has lived in BC for 30 years & have been factually aware of degression.

jennifer dyck

v9A 7G6

By not controlling the BC Natural Resource Export, we are Selling the resources below value and Mismanaging the Resources. WHOLE LOG EXPORT must Stop Immediately. John Horgan must be REPLACED by Nathan Cullen or somebody of equal qualities, who will have the Respect of BC Citizens.

Fred Hall

V8N 2M8

I feel that it is important that the logging on these privately managed lands be held to the same standards as logging in the rest of the province. Long term sustainability must be a key value. In addition, there should be some requirement to process the timber locally. Exporting raw logs is of minimal benefit to our economy, and it should be discouraged if not prohibited. Also, given that old growth forests are increasing rare, I believe that there should be no more logging of old growth forests, period! Land owners could be compensated for keeping these valuable and rare forests in their pristine state.

Judith Harper

V6K 1L8

- The PMFL is DEPREDATING our Forests..
- The PMFL Program fuels raw log exports, which means the 2 biggest private landowners do NOT OPERATE ANY MILLS, because they are NOT required to do so.
- The PMFL DO NOT CARE about water quality and quantity as they do NOT LIMIT the watersheds which are the municipality's drinking water's source for the communities
- it's NEEDED MORE TRANSPARENCY on PMFL logging activities so community members are not left out of the decision making AND they should be able to express their concerns and reach landowners or government.
- What is left of old-growth Forests should be PROTECTED because its critical condition now of becoming scarce
- First Nations should be INCLUDED in decision making and on regulations of forestry activities of private and public land. The fovernment of BC should find options to return or transfer private land to Firts Nations.

I'D THANK YOU FOR LISTENING

Margarita Pinillos

V5z 1c9

For the sake of the planet's health, our air quality, the many environmental costs of processing, our First Nations communities and rights, and for the trees themselves, please reconsider the big picture of logging before it's too late.

Sincerely,
Sandra Tonn

Sandra Tonn

V8A 4E4

I am shocked to note that the current Private Managed Forest Land (PMFL) Program encourages landowners to cut as much timber as possible, as fast as possible while discouraging management for long-term sustainability and the protection of public values.

If landowners have no requirement to process forest products locally, meaning the PMFL Program fuels raw log exports and the impacts to communities this practice causes. I understand that on Vancouver Island, for example, the two largest private landowners operate zero mills between them; then they are wild cards!

What about concern for watersheds in the province where municipalities' drinking water is sourced. Is water quality and quantity often taking a backseat to private profits?

Shockingly, communication about logging activities on PMFL is non-existent. How can community members feel involved in decision-making? Are they even able to contact the landowner or the government with their concerns? I say more transparency is required.

Old-growth forests are in crisis and remaining tracts of old-growth should be protected, especially on PMFL. These areas are often in regions with more urban development where intact forests are more scarce.

All forests grow in the territory of one or more First Nations and the province must ensure these Nations are included in decision-making/regulating forestry activities on private and public land. The BC government must explore all options to transfer private land back to First Nations

Dorothy Nelson

V6V 2S7

It's time to take a closer look at the imminent threat to our ecosystem that is poor logging practices. It's critical the government makes the needed changes and prioritizes Indigenous Rights and Title, endangered species, community well-being and climate resilience. Water quality and quantity often takes a backseat to private profits.

There are practically endless reasons we shouldn't be exploiting our forests and only one that we should; short term profit for a small percentage of the population....

Give your head a shake. Look your children, nieces and nephews in the eyes and and tell them you are protecting their future and their land. Because if you cannot do that honestly, you are a failure to your family and to your country.

Ryan Moase

V8A 0L8

The current Private Managed Forest Land (PMFL) Program encourages landowners to cut as much timber as possible, as fast as possible while discouraging management for long-term sustainability and the protection of public values.

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Old-growth forests are in crisis and remaining tracts of old-growth should be protected, especially on PMFL. These areas are often in regions with more urban development where intact forests are more scarce.

All forests grow in the territory of one or more First Nations and the province must ensure these Nations are included in decision-making/regulating forestry activities on private and public land. The BC government must explore all options to transfer private land back to First Nations

Cheryl Newton

v9m 3p2

Dear Ministry,
Please address the issue of over logging on private property.
It currently lacks long term sustainability.
Thank you for your consideration.

Michael Heavyside

V7W 2K4

The current Private Managed Forest Land (PMFL) Program encourages landowners to cut as much timber as possible, as fast as possible while discouraging management for long-term sustainability and the protection of public values.

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bob boase

v7h 2z2

This Act is ridiculous! It does nothing to protect our watersheds, drinking or otherwise!
The current Private Managed Forest Land (PMFL) Program encourages landowners to cut as much timber as possible, as fast as possible while discouraging management for long-term sustainability and the protection of public values. The clear-cutting must be stopped...period!! This is so destructive. The road building within our watersheds is creating slides during heavy rains and muddy drinking water.

In communities across BC, PMFL includes watersheds where municipalities' drinking water is sourced, meaning water quality and quantity always takes a backseat to private profits. This must be stopped....not now but yesterday!

Communication about logging activities on PMFL is inadequate, and community members are continually left out of decision-making or are unable to contact the landowner or the government with their concerns. More consultation and transparency is required.

Old-growth forests are in crisis and remaining tracts of old-growth must be protected, especially on PMFL. These areas are often in regions with more urban development where intact forests are more scarce. Cutting of Old Growth Forests is NOT sustainable!! Leave them alone!

All forests grow in the territory of one or more First Nations and the province must ensure these Nations are included in decision-making/regulating forestry activities on private and public land. The BC government must explore all options to transfer private land back to First Nations.

In addition to all of these points is the absolute need to have on the ground staff that can monitor and help to control all that goes on in our forestry sector. This includes the Private Managed Forest Lands!

With thanks for your attention to this letter,
Sincerely,
June Ross

June Ross

V9T 6E4

To Whom This May Concern,

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Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,
Sarein Basi-Primeau

Sarein Basi-Primeau

V8X 3W7

There are many reasons why the PMFL does not work in today's climate crisis. One of the basic concerns is the scope of activities permitted within it. There is no environmental assessment required, any surface product can be removed (eg. gravel) with no consideration to groundwater flow and in so many areas with limited resources and increasing population, it is totally in conflict with the local community plan. It gives the large tract land owners almost carte blanche with their activities.

The planet is our only home; there is now 'plan et B' We have enjoyed a good run with our extraction mentality chasing profits over environment in our very ignorance. But this is over now. We absolutely can't continue doing what we 'always' did and expect different results

Jobs?? Yes, there could be changes but life IS change . I imagine there were lots of blacksmiths out of work as cars became the norm. . .

Our watersheds, wildlife, and structure are at risk and we all know this. Our kids and grandchildren are watching with hope. The PMFL has ALWAYS been a bad plan serving only a small group of self interest owners.

Jan Fenby

VON 1P0

I am mainly concerned that clearcutting and monoculture silviculture are not providing the biodiversity needed to enable forests to transition through the rapid temperature rise and winter/summer rain/drought conditions predicted.

Damion Dooley

V5N 3V8

The Private Managed Forest Land Program does nothing to encourage the practice of selective logging. I live at the north end of Kootenay Lake where, two decades ago, the Argenta face was logged by a man who only harvested mature trees and left the rest to become mature trees in a decade or two. He worked mostly on his own or with a very small crew and he made a good living doing the right thing. When he retired that cut block was taken over by a local logging company that moved in with feller bunchers and denuded the forest that was part of an important watershed and made no attempt to mitigate the damage. Slash was left strewn across the face of the mountain and that's how it remains today. Rape is not too strong a word!

Author Dr. Ursula Franklin nailed the current situation thirty years ago in her book "The Real World of Technology: "For some in Canada, however, life means profits, and profits mean pitting people against one another. They suffer from what I can only call moral dyslexia. Unfortunately, unlike children with learning disabilities, those afflicted with moral dyslexia don't come to us for help, don't seek a clearer vision. They are morally disabled by their own choice."

"It seems... fair to say that the convincing and urgent case for not proceeding with global technological expansion... was made at least fifteen years ago (and continues to be made with stronger and stronger arguments). Nevertheless there has been no change in direction over the last fifteen years, but rather an acceleration of technological devolvement along the lines known to lead to greater and more irreversible problems."

And that's where we find ourselves to-day. Mountainsides being stripped of marketable timber with little or no effort to process the raw materials locally. The profiteers seem to be winning for now. Where is the wisdom in the PMFL Program? It's time for a change.

David Stewart

VOG 1M0

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Katy Thompson

V7R 2K7

Dear Premier and Ministers,

BC's and Canada's forest practices are outdated, ineffective, unfair and serve to help only a small number of people. Clearcut logging is outdated, lazy, greed driven and total and complete destruction. Forests are NOT growing back the way they once would have. WE MUST change the way we think and the way act. WE MUST consider our environment and climate above all else!! We need large trees and large tracts of forest MORE THAN any of us even realize. At some point in time we will have no choice when climate change strangles our economy and destroys our way of life. ACT NOW WHILE WE STILL HAVE SOME CHOICES. WE NEED west coast temperate forests as a basis for our very survival and, as you well know, I am not exaggerating: this is based on science from all over the earth. WE NEED YOU TO MAKE THE TOUGH AND WISE DECISIONS. History will be on your side if you work hard to protect our invaluable ecosystems now. Some people will resist as they worry about their wallets but this is the time to deny the greedy few and stand up for our forests, stand up for our Coastal Douglas Fir Forests, stand up for watersheds, stand up for what is right for our children and STAND UP FOR CLEAN AIR, CLEAN WATER, INCREASINGLY RARE ECOSYSTEMS AND WILDLIFE: TO STAND UP FOR WHAT IS PRICELESS and WHAT IS ACTUALLY VALUABLE: OUR FUTURE.

I urge you and beg you to BE BRAVE, BE STRONG, BE HONEST and protect our public AND privately owned forested lands more than ever before as you consider the laws and regulations that govern all life in this province. PLEASE STOP CLEAR CUTTING NOW. PLEASE PRESERVE AND PROTECT.

Charley Miller

V8K 2E6

Dear Mr. Coste,

I am a mother of two beautiful young adults. I am someone who cares about the future of our lands and waters. I am a white woman dripping in white privilege.

I wonder if you have read the peer reviewed science of the challenges we are facing in the very near future and how important it is for all of us to work together to ensure our planet is livable 50 years from now. Do you have children Mr. Coste?

We need carbon sequestering more than ever before in our industrialized history. We need our watersheds protected, especially our apex watersheds. Working in forestry I imagine you know this already. We need to protect species biodiversity. We must protect and respect Indigenous Rights and Title.

We have mills closing all over our region. This is not okay. We need value -added jobs now ! No more raw timber exports!

It is shocking how the Private Managed Forest Lands Program has been mismanaged over the years with short-sightedness and a vision distorted by the bottom line. For all of our sake, please find some clarity and big picture vision.

With hope that the Private Logging Industry will pull their heads out of the slash pile and wake up to what their children and their children's children need right now.

With hope and faith that you and yours will do the right thing,
Sincerely,
Lisa Hanning

Lisa Hanning

V1L 6Y2

All our resources need to be sustainably managed but more importantly our forests. The fact that the province allows private management is a shock and disappointment to me.

Provincial oversight is required to ensure our watersheds on these lands are protected in addition to the proper sustainable management of the forests through good logging practices. Private companies are out for profit and overlog. No wonder we have so many slides and forest fires! I understand that private companies don't sell their logs to local BC companies and as a result many many jobs are lost in this province. Sending raw logs overseas is a travesty. It's time to put British Columbia a snd their resources first. Ignoring indigenous communities and local communities in decision making is wrong. Our old growth forests are our treasures not only for our wildlife but our waterways and fish habitats. Please stop private companies from destroying our resources for profits. Please put British Columbia's and our resources first and bring some jobs back to bc while protecting our resources through effective provincial oversight. It's time that private logging end.

Anne MacLean

V7E 3P6

Every day I drive to work and see one logging truck after another piled high with thick logs and wonder, where is this endless supply of huge trees coming from, and why are they allowed to cut down these massive trees!? Is anyone aware the size of logs these are, that they seem close to being old-growth trees, that cannot ever be sustainably replaced?!? There is no way to replace the biodiversity, deep leaf litter, complex ecosystem structures of these old growth forests.

There are too many lax and loose laws that govern private landowners in the current PMFL and this needs to STOP NOW.

Water sources and watersheds, wildlife habitat, connective wildlife corridors, First Nations... these are all affected by the rampant logging and it needs to be restricted and communication needs to improve; more transparency is required.

We are watching and we are not happy about this lack of government control on protecting the remaining rare temperate rainforest BC is lucky to be blessed with.

More needs to be done.

Sarah Valentine

VON 2L3

Old-growth forests are in crisis and remaining tracts of old-growth should be protected, especially on PMFL. These areas are often in regions with more urban development where intact forests are more scarce.

Heinz N. W. Nussbaumer

V8N 2H7

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Christine Turner

V5N 2E8

Dear Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development

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Thank-you very much for protecting our provinces forests

Sincerely
Ian Dewar McPherson
Richmond BC

ian mcpherson

V7A 2L4

Good Day>>Please protect our wonderful first growth forests for future generations to enjoy>>I know you will do your best. Respectfully Bob Johnson

robert johnson

VOR 2M0

Dear Mr. Coste

All forests, private or public, are parts of ecosystems that affect us all. Forests affect the wider environment and the public, whether public or privately owned. Threatened watersheds, erosion, cutting as much timber as possible, and lack of consultation with First Nations are some of the issues that need to be addressed.

Private forests must be subject to regulations which promote the greater good and protect the environment. Please recommend legislation to make this happen soon!

Susan Angel

V5Z 4L7

We are living at the most critical period in the history of mankind.....we are teetering on the brink of irreversible disaster.

The world's scientists agree that the climate crisis has been caused by the actions of man.

I have 2 grandchildren that live in Cowichan Valley on Vancouver Island. They are 10 and 7 years old and are happily oblivious to the problems that are rapidly approaching. I feel sick when I think about the kind of world they will have to try to survive in.

Each of you have been elected at this most crucial point in time.

Your decisions will impact the quality of life of my grandkids.....and I trust that you take that very seriously.

Business as usual is no longer acceptable.

Please take bold action and be willing to learn from the communities like Lubeck, Germany whose municipal forest is thriving using sustainable logging practices. Legislate private land owners to adopt these practices. (The matter of 'owning' land on unceded territory is another issue altogether)

Jytte Ebbesen
Cowichan Bay

Jytte Ebbesen

VOR1N0

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shanon roy

v9t 1e5

Regarding the Private Managed Forest Lands Program --it's critical your government makes desperately needed changes and prioritizes Indigenous Rights and Title, endangered species, community well-being and climate resilience!

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All forests grow in the territory of one or more First Nations and the province must ensure these Nations are included in decision-making/regulating forestry activities on private and public land. The BC government must explore all options to transfer private land back to First Nations. These are some desperately needed changes to the program. I urge you to follow through with these important changes. Thank you.

Steve Coffin

V7N 4G8

Cutting trees without regulation is causing many environmental problems and threatening the First Nation people, animals, and vegetation. There should be government control on these private properties also.

Hisao Ichikawa

V5z 1y8

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David and Dorothy Torontow

V8S 3G6

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Shauna Johnson

V9K1S2

Dear Sir or Madam,

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Please, in your review of the Private Managed Forest Lands Program, make desperately needed changes and prioritize Indigenous Rights and Title, endangered species, community well-being and climate resilience.

Thank you,

Jennifer I Sullivan

V3N 1J9

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Terry Sevoid

V8M 1H3

are disappearing fast. What once made British Columbia a rain forest, a place where mighty trees breathed in carbon and breathed out life giving oxygen, a place where clear streams ran in shady places, where bears and salmon and deer thrived, is almost gone. Loggers have cut the trees down, every one in huge tracts, leaving rubble that cannot sustain life.

Extinction is on the horizon. Great nations have fallen by doing this very thing, cutting down the trees, denuding the ground, exposing and silting the watersheds, creating deserts.

Think Egypt, Easter Islands, the Sahara, the lands of the Mayans.

Once they were fertile, blessed by rain, but when the trees were all cut the rain stopped falling.

Rain needs rainforests as rainforests need rain.

It is the circle of life. When it's gone it's gone.

And we will have desert too.

Marianna Vanderklift

V9s 2h2

Stop spraying poison on BC lands to encourage mono crops. It's insane.

Mill wood in BC. No raw log exports.

Jennifer Nichol

V8w3y3

I am writing to you as a citizen of British Columbia to let you know I want our forests to be managed for the best purpose rather than having logging companies cut without any regard for what is the best use of the trees.

Before any trees are cut, there should be a process that takes in to account:

- Indigenous Rights and Title
- endangered species
- community well-being which includes access to good quality drinking water
- climate resilience

Therefore, I ask that all decisions being made include those most affected. Companies should not be allowed to just do as they please. There needs to be some hope of protecting and having sustainable forests that will continue.

Thank you in advance for your serious consideration on this important matter.

Ruth Ann Darnall

V1J 4H6

Review our actual softwood needs, private interests are not a part of your donations to campaigning so why are they a part of forestry? Same ethical and moral issue. Getting a clean government in power and in action.

Stephen Archibald

VON 1V1

Hello!

Thank you for engaging the public in this review of the PMFL.

Here are my thoughts:

Landowners should be required to process the timber locally. This would provide jobs and boost the economy.

Old growth must be preserved and protected. We are in the midst of a climate emergency and the old growth trees store so much carbon.

Watersheds must also be protected. Logging where drinking water sources can be negatively impacted should be absolutely restricted.

Spraying with glyphosate should also be illegal as per science.

First Nations must be consulted when private land is in fact on their unceded territory.

Thanks for the consideration,

Zoe Oppenheim

Zoe Oppenheim

V1L 4L5

The current PFML program does not work in favor of sustainability and respect for our lands and our species. It is time government made immediate changes to enforce, (yes enforce!) a law that protects the

people and the land we live on. We must value our resources before it is too late.

What has happened to respect and value over monetary gains?

What has happened to the conscience of our leaders?

History will remember the ones that lead with integrity and admire the ones who stood up for and fought for the values of this country.

Brenda Brisson

V6S 1E7

I am so disappointed that the NDP government has been so slow in acting on changing what are truly horrific forestry practices in our province...even the loggers say it is abysmal!! But I have hope. I am sure that you know that these practices have destroyed entire eco systems which include not only endangered species but also our salmon...the very lifeblood of the west coast. I trust you will do something.

Please, please act now!

Joanne Acampora

V9S 2G6

Mill closures, raging wildfires, species on the brink of extinction.

All these point to one thing – it's clear forests across British Columbia have been mismanaged for decades.

Nowhere in the province is this more obvious than on Private Managed Forest Lands – tracts of forests owned by logging companies and managed under a different regime than the rest of the province.

The current Private Managed Forest Land (PMFL) Program encourages landowners to cut as much timber as possible, as fast as possible while discouraging management for long-term sustainability and the protection of public values.

This has to change as part of a wider policy to protect our forests from wildfires and habitat destruction.

Tim Readman

V5Z 1K7

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Dr. Derrick Grimmer

VOR 1V0

To whom it does concern,

I am writing to let you know that, as has been proven many times, private oversight of public environment, services, etc. NEVER WORKS for the benefit of any entity EXCEPT the overseers!!

So, you MUST make vital changes to ensure that ALL forest areas are properly managed with the future and with best practises as the governing criteria.

Thank you.

Penny Oyama

V3N 0E6

All forests must be consistently and responsibly managed to the same standard, regardless of public or private ownership. BC's old growth forests must be protected as a provincial, federal and global heritage/legacy. Consistent regulation must consider indigenous rights and title, endangered species, community well-being and climate resilience! The future is now. We HAVE run out of time. Sustainable, responsible, consistent action is required NOW.

Sincerely,
Robert Hornsey

Robert Hornsey

V4R 1W4

The current Private Managed Forest Land Program encourages landowners to cut as much timber as possible, as fast as possible while discouraging management for long-term sustainability and the protection of public values. The export of raw logs does nothing for sustainability, nor for local jobs. And where these lands include watersheds where municipalities' drinking water is sourced, water quality and quantity often takes a backseat to private profits.

Destroying old growth forests means the loss of clean air.

First Nations must be included in decision-making/regulating forestry activities on private and public land. The BC government must explore all options to transfer private land back to First Nations

Susan Stout

V7G 1V2

The PMFL program badly needs improvement, most importantly because:

- it currently encourages landowners to cut as much timber as possible, as fast as possible, and discourages management for long-term sustainability and the protection of public values
- all of our BC forests grow in the territory of one or more First Nations, and the Province must ensure these Nations are included in decision-making/regulating forestry activities on private and public land. It is essential that the BC government explore all options to transfer private land back to First Nations.

Please do the right thing for your constituents and the Province!

With sincere thanks,

Anneliese Schultz

V6Y 3T9

I'm so tired of having to write these letters. We need government that will stand up for biodiversity and the health of the planet. I realize it is extremely difficult not to consider economics over the environment but we have to start somewhere. We need sustainable practices, local processing of forest products, consultation with First Nations, respect for the other beings living on this planet with us humans.

Let's do the right thing and protect what remains of our natural resources for generations to come.

I

Theresa Hood

V9R 2B3

All forests in BC should be managed to prioritize Indigenous rights, healthy ecosystems, community well-being and climate resiliency. But this won't happen unless we demand it!

So we're demanding it, NOW!

Brian Turner

V9A 0G8

The current Private Managed Forest Land (PMFL) Program encourages landowners to cut as much timber as possible, as fast as possible while discouraging management for long-term sustainability and the protection of public values.

Landowners have no requirement to process forest products locally, meaning the PMFL Program fuels raw log exports and the impacts to communities this practice causes (on Vancouver Island, for example, the two largest private landowners operate zero mills between them).

In communities across BC, PMFL includes watersheds where municipalities' drinking water is sourced, meaning water quality and quantity often takes a backseat to private profits.

Communication about logging activities on PMFL is inadequate, and community members often feel left out of decision-making or are unable to contact the landowner or the government with their concerns. More transparency is required.

Old-growth forests are in crisis and remaining tracts of old-growth should be protected, especially on PMFL. These areas are often in regions with more urban development where intact forests are more scarce.

All forests grow in the territory of one or more First Nations and the province must ensure these Nations are included in decision-making/regulating forestry activities on private and public land. The BC government must explore all options to transfer private land back to First Nations

Tom Rooney

V8V 1T3

We are in a Climate Emergency...we need our forests intact, to sequester carbon, to hold water in the soil, ensure important ecosystems are maintained for wildlife, and keep our streams and rivers clean. Forests keep our climate cooler and protect our planet from further out-of-control Global Warming. We don't have time to lose, we **MUST PROTECT OUR FORESTS**, whether they are private or public.

BC and other provinces that are clearcutting like there is no tomorrow, are creating that very real possibility of a tomorrow that is burning out of control, leaving panicked animals to die in forest fires. We lose our forests, we lose diversity, we lose millions of species forever. We get polluted rivers, lakes, ponds, streams....and lose our fresh and safe drinking water. Forests are a **KEY PART IN MITIGATING CLIMATE CHANGE**. We can live with out paper bags, we can build with other materials, we can live without paper. But we can't live with unabated clearcutting. There **MUST** be **STRICT** Governmental oversight on clearcutting on private lands.

Furthermore, there are no processing plants on private lands, and land owners aren't required to process logs locally, so raw log exports are shipping jobs off shore.

The impacts of clearcutting can be devastating to local wells, ponds, rivers, lakes and streams, leaving polluted water for wildlife and humans. We have to stop putting profits over people, ecosystems and wildlife. Local communities that are near the forested areas slated for clearcutting must have a say in what happens to their water supplies, stability of their land, especially if they live on hills or mountain terrain.

All forests grow in the territory of one or more First Nations and the province must ensure these Nations are included in decision-making/regulating forestry activities on private and public land. The BC government must explore all options to transfer private land back to First Nations first.

There needs to be consultation and communication about logging activities on PMFL. Right now the communication is completely inadequate. There must be stronger oversight and proper procedures for permitting, and ALL landowners, including all first Nations' unceded territories, should be participants in the discussions about where and when to log, how much and be completely cognizant of the consequences. There must be clear guidelines as to how much, where and when to cut if, at all.

Old Growth forests are our greatest treasure; we must safeguard them in perpetuity. We cannot regrow ancient forests in 10-20 years. We can only grow saplings. We **MUST PROTECT OUR FORESTS**, it is truly a matter of life and death. **NO forests, MORE HEAT WAVES, BIGGER STORMS, MORE FLOODING, LESS CLEAN DRINKING WATER...MORE DEATH of WILDLIFE AND HUMANS. We MUST PROTECT OUR OLD GROWTH FORESTS NOW.** Cut back on the use of trees and wood for building. We have to reduce, reuse and repurpose before we destroy our ancient trees.

Leslie Stanick

V3T 4L8

We need legislation that encourages landowners to manage their forests sustainably, mill the wood locally and not log where it will contaminate drinking water.

The current Private Managed Forest Land (PMFL) Program discourages all these things.

In this time of climate chaos, we need to encourage healthy forests.

Please let me know how you will address my concern.

Regards,

Diana van Eyk

V1L 3Z5

Abrupt climate change is upon us, even if the changes are not felt as heavily in Canada as in other parts of the world, YET. The world is poised to undergo accelerating changes to climate, and one way to slow down this disastrous change is to leave trees in the ground, sequestering carbon, within healthy ecosystems. In order to heal the carbon cycle, we need to stop cutting trees altogether. Carbon cycling limits have been passed, and we need to try everything we can to stop destroying the future. We need to stop cutting trees, and promote hemp fibre production as a replacement industry.

Shannon LeBlanc

V9A 1Z5

In the NDP PLATFORM OF THE LAST ELECTION THE NDP DID NOT SPECIFICALLY MENTION THE NECESSITY OF VALUE ADDED FOREST PRODUCTS BUT THEY GAVE A POWERFUL COMMITMENT TO VALUE ADDED POLICY IN FORESTRY THOUGH A POWERFUL CARTOON OF A FOREST WORKER LOOKING AT A TRUCK FULL OF RAW LOG EXPORTS ; THE COMMENT BY THE LOGGER WAS "THERE GO OUR JOBS." UNFORTUNATELY THE PMFL PROGRAM DOES OT PROTECT JOBS IN VALUE ADDED VALUE- ADDED FOREST PRODUCTS MUST BECOME A PRIORITY A REQUIREMENT FOR OF THE GRANTING OF ALL LOGGING PERMITS
SINCERELY JOAN RUSSOW

Joan Russow

V8S4 Y4

Considerations of importance in review

1. Dialogue with First Nations rights & title.
2. Protection of watersheds
3. Long-term sustainability and protection of remaining old growth
4. increased transparency re: logging activities
5. Awareness of functioning ecosystems & impact of climate change

carole Nash

V5X 0C6

This is obviously a loop-hole that needs closing. Where are the safeguards for the environment? Where are the safeguards for communities? Where are the safeguards for habitat for animals, birds, insects, etc. etc. As much could be said of so called public lands. This is NOT sustainable. PRIVATE LAND does not mean outside the law - although presently it seems to be. Please act responsibly to set regulations that make sense.

Gwen Curry

V8M 1A6

If you can regulate how people must drive and use their cars there is no reason why you cannot regulate the use of private land to prevent t clearcuts and over use which degrades the soil and streams which sustain us. It's time to put collective, public good ahead of private profits. In the fight to sustain our species we need everyone to play a part. That means government, business and individuals, especially those who own a disproportionate amount of earth's resources, like land. You need to govern for all.

Pat Gibbs

E1a2m7

The PLFL Program appears to encourage lease holders to cut as many trees as possible to enhance their profits at the expense of valuable ecosystems. Government needs to establish clear limit on logging to sustain these ecosystems long into the future.

Dan Blake

v5w 1w1

We need significant setbacks from waterways that ensure sensitive ecosystems and riparian zones are protected from clear cutting. Why are setbacks smaller on private land as compared to public lands? Science should determine the size setbacks need to be to ensure the health of all waterways.

We need more environmental protections for working forests. The time to make changes is now! Please make enhancements to the legislation necessary to more appropriately balance the economic interest of logging companies against the environmental needs of the planet and ecosystems.

Stop loving old growth forests too! These ecosystems cannot be replaced.

Marquis Diment

V0r1s0

The current Private Managed Forest Land (PMFL) Program encourages landowners to cut as much timber as possible, as fast as possible while discouraging management for long-term sustainability and the protection of public values.

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I Sarama

VON 1V0

Come on NDP! Change your policy to reflect the current environmental conditions. Protect the forests! We need them to survive. Indigenous rights and title must be foremost in any policy. Make it so. Leave a legacy of forest management that the NDP can be proud of. You know the right thing to do and it's not cut down the trees as fast as possible but wise land management for future generations.

All the ecosystem is connected and we are part of that. Communities depend on water and take precedence where land is privately owned. Watersheds must be protected, left intact and undisturbed.

JoAnne Jarvis

V9A 0H1

I am very concerned about the current Private Managed Forest Land (PMFL) Program as it contains no safeguards with respect to watersheds where municipalities' drinking water is sourced. As a result water quality and quantity often takes a backseat to private profits. Community members who are so directly affected do not have any say!

The solution is to pass ownership or stewardship of these lands from the logging companies with their short term thinking to First Nations who successfully managed these lands for thousands of years. This will benefit the local economy in all sorts of ways: tourism, jobs, health, etc. Old growth forests are need to be preserved.

Sincerely,

Mairy Beam

V5N 1L7

Dear PMFL decision-makers,

At this time of reviewing the PMFL program, please take into consideration the following points:

1. Currently the private versus public land management strategies are at odds with one another in that private landowners have short-term, cut-as-much-as-possible directives that are in opposition to the public priorities of long-term goals of climate resilience and species (flora and fauna) support and protection via limiting development in environmentally important/delicate areas and maximizing habitat stability.
2. From an economic perspective, private landowners are not obliged to process forest products locally, which means no value-added opportunities for jobs or for keeping additional monies in our provincial economy; this must change, why would we give away a logical and do-able developments to keep our dollars in this province?
3. Privately managed forest lands are often at odds with the maintenance and/or improvement of watershed quality and quantity; this must also change. We NEED to have standardized, non-negotiable regulations to protect this resource across public and private ownership to ensure the safety and availability of clean water as a birthright for generations to come.
4. Right now, our province has a powerful opportunity to lock in place legal 'teeth' to ensure that old-growth and unique forests are protected with strong legislation across the private/public spectrum, which needs to include more transparency, more relevant-community participation in decision-making around all forest management. I am strongly adding my voice to encourage that decision-makers take the necessary steps to make the above happen.

Thank you for reading and for considering this letter in your decision-making on the above matters.

Sincerely,

Dr Michelle Gibson, PhD

Michelle Gibson

V6V 2B3

As you know, British Columbia is losing its forests. The reckless issuing of timber permits by the provincial government and logging at will on private lands is destroying the natural carbon sink, wildlife habitat, and beauty of this province. As you are reviewing the Private Managed Forest Lands Program, perhaps you could give some thought to what is being destroyed. Do you want to leave nothing for your children except barren, eroded land, devoid of wildlife and plagued by drought?

The PMFL Program actually encourages landowners to cut as much timber as possible and discourages management for long-term sustainability. Why doesn't your government have any interest in the future? This damaging program encourages the export of raw logs. For instance, the two largest landowners operate no mills; I thought the NDP cared about employment. In fact, employment seems to be the only thing your party cares about, so why would you keep a provision that operates against your own interests?

Furthermore, the PMFL includes watersheds, the source of communities' drinking water, and that means human health and water quality are not important enough to the provincial government to conserve or protect. The disdain for the welfare of ordinary people that is inherent in this program is shocking. That becomes even clearer when communities are left out of decision-making or are not able to contact landowners or government with their concerns. You need far more transparency, as well as accessibility to those affected by reckless policies. In environmental matters, the NDP has shown absolutely zero concern; your neglect is just as flagrant and contemptible as your Liberal predecessors. The remaining old-growth forest--the few trees that have so far escaped the scourge of your government--should be protected, whether on Crown land or on private managed forest land. Once the old growth is gone, we won't live to see it again. your children will never see it because you were so involved in exercising your briefly held power and making money to preserve the gifts of nature, including biodiversity.

Since your government has treated Indigenous peoples like dirt, it is necessary to remind you that all forests grow in the territory of one or more First Nations. The Supreme Court of Canada states that First Nations must be included in decision-making in actions affecting their territories. That obligation should include regulating activities such as razing forests on private and public land.

Ruth Campbell

V5P 4A8

It has come to my attention that B.C.'s Private Managed Forest Land (PMFL) program encourages landowners to cut as much timber as possible as fast as possible. This is not good. We need these trees. The world needs these trees.

A recent study published in the journal Science found that "The restoration of trees remains among the most effective strategies for climate change mitigation." And, the study suggests the planting of billions of trees around the world to help mitigate the worse effects of global warming. So, in that case, one wonders why we continue to allow commercial logging in British Columbia including in old-growth forests which is an outrage. Do we not believe the science that tells us that we are facing irreversible climate disruption if we do not make broad and drastic changes within the next decade?

A decade goes by very quickly and it is past time to act drastically. I am aware that logging is a big, iconic industry in this province; but, as leaders, you must decide if you will rise to this existential challenge or continue sleep-walking to oblivion. Honestly, it is time to phase the out the logging industry in B.C. (and everywhere else) and it has to be done quickly. Some courageous, forward-thinking leader somewhere has to make a start.

Please make that start here in B.C.

Kate Vincent

V5L 3G2

The current Private Managed Forest Land (PMFL) Program encourages landowners to cut as much timber as possible, as fast as possible while discouraging management for long-term sustainability and the protection of public values.

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In communities across BC, PMFL includes watersheds where municipalities' drinking water is sourced, meaning water quality and quantity often takes a backseat to private profits.

Communication about logging activities on PMFL is inadequate, and community members often feel left out of decision-making or are unable to contact the landowner or the government with their concerns. More transparency is required.

Old-growth forests are in crisis and remaining tracts of old-growth should be protected, especially on PMFL. These areas are often in regions with more urban development where intact forests are more scarce.

All forests grow in the territory of one or more First Nations and the province must ensure these Nations are included in decision-making/regulating forestry activities on private and public land. The BC government must explore all options to transfer private land back to First Nations

stuart phillips

v9a 2m6

Clear Cut is got to go!!! In Ancient Times when greed was the rule, how matters got done was ignored because the PEOPLE didn't KNOW about it. The OLD-SAME-o -SAME-o days are long gone!!!

Norman Gillies

V4B 3V4

I agree that:

The current Private Managed Forest Land (PMFL) Program encourages landowners to cut as much timber as possible, as fast as possible while discouraging management for long-term sustainability and the protection of public values.

Landowners have no requirement to process forest products locally, meaning the PMFL Program fuels raw log exports and the impacts to communities this practice causes (on Vancouver Island, for example, the two largest private landowners operate zero mills between them).

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Jonathan Boyne

V8K 2M1

Am very concerned about the lack of enforcement of the province's own logging guidelines on private AND i think on public land too.

In some of the clearcuts west of Sooke i saw plenty of places where logging totally thrashed major creek bedsthis is extremely destructive and is likely a major factor in the decline of salmon in the Strait of Juan De Fuca

Furthermore,the decimation of our local lumber industries in favour of raw log exports is an unconscionable giveaway of our resources to multinational corporate interests,as is allowing the liquidation of the last of our old growth forests.

It's time to get a back bone and stand up for BC communities and our environment instead of the profiteers!

Bernie Dobovicnik

VOG 1Y0

Corporations haven't quite worked out how to have a conscience... it's rape and pillage, sell the blood, ichor, sap, whichever.

The conscientious part--that's your job. I don't quite know how you can go about it; mistakes were made prior to your tenure. But please, try to save some of the most visible forest!

I've lived on Vancouver Island for three years. In that period I have seen beautiful wood that lined the highway that high value tourists use turned into a clear-cut travesty of what might actually attract said tourists.

If you climb up on the Kludak trail you can see clear-cuts all the way to the Strait of Georgia.

How is this not a breach of the public trust? Thousands of people depend on tourism here, make their livings from same, pay taxes out of it, only to be cut off at the knees.

Thanks a lot.

Allen Szafer

V9Z 0N2

I am writing in dismay as large parts private lands are being cut as fast as possible without management for long-term sustainability. The PMFL Program fuels raw log exports with no commitment to local communities. Watersheds that supply drinking water are impacted in both quality and quantity with private profits the only consideration.

All forests grow in the territory of one or more First Nations and the province must ensure that they are considered in regulatory activities on private and public lands with the goal of returning these lands to their rightful control.

Lynn Taylor

v8v 2s6

We are in a climate crisis! Please stop this damaging assault on the forests, air and watersheds of this once great and healthy land.

Sincerely,
Sharon Hughes
Victoria BC

sharon hughes

v9e 2g5

Dear Ministry of Forests, etc,

I'm writing re: the urgent need to change the Private Managed Forest Land (PMFL) Program, Which encourages landowners to cut as much timber as possible, as fast as possible.

This discourages management for long-term sustainability and the protection of public values.

Since landowners have no requirement to process forest products locally, the PMFL Program fuels raw log exports and the impacts to communities this practice causes (on Vancouver Island, for example, the two largest private landowners operate zero mills between them).

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Thanks for your attention to this urgent matter.

Fenn Stewart
Vancouver, BC
V6t0c2

Fenn Stewart

V6T 0C2

Hi,

I understand that the Province is reviewing the Private Managed Forest Lands Program. My understanding is that forest harvest on private lands is not held to the same standard as logging on Crown Land.

This does not sound right to me. Our forest lands, whether public- or privately-owned, are valuable to everyone and should be managed accordingly with high levels of protection and keen consideration of sustainability, ecosystem function, and local employment.

Thank you for considering my input.

Gerry Naito

V1T 8K5

Stop cutting down trees and start planting millions of new trees. Time to save the land and ourselves from destruction.

Toby Dent

V5V 1R8

Give the state of the Earth, clearcutting needs to be eliminated. Selective logging will increase resource and flora and fauna diversity, and maintain the forest indefinitely.

Clearcutting has always been a short-sighted endeavour. The devastating effects are piling up.

Please incorporate an end to clearcutting into any changes to the forest law structure.

Thank you

Steven

Steven Rowat

VON 2W0

Landowners have no requirement to process forest products locally, meaning the PMFL Program fuels raw log exports and the impacts to communities this practice causes (on Vancouver Island, for example, the two largest private landowners operate zero mills between them).

Cher Clarke

N6C 1B1

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Animae Chi

V8L 1J8

It's critical the government makes desperately needed changes and prioritizes Indigenous Rights and Title, endangered species, community well-being and climate resilience!

S Jitreun

V5T 1J4

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Please be kind to all the Animals and the Environment, this is their planet too.

Michael Friedmann

M1R OE9

NO MORE LOGGING ON PRIVATE LAND!

Raleigh koritz

A9A 9A9

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Hal Trufan

a1a 1a1

Dear Sir/Madam,

I am a Vancouver resident and am writing to express concern regarding current logging practices in BC.

I strongly believe that:

- The Private Managed Forest Land Program should be mandatory for all private land logging.
- The forest practice regulations for the PMLF Program should be strengthened to the level that is required on Crown land.
- The PMFLA should not provide participants an exemption from restrictions on logging passed by local governments.

I also think it's important that:

- We end the logging of old-growth forests 250 years or older. This is critical to address the dual crises of climate change and species loss.
- Five-Year Plans with public access to maps showing the location and size of clearcuts to this information should be restored.
- Provisions for protecting slope stability and watersheds, such as those in the old *Forest Practices Code*, should be restored. It used to be illegal for companies to cause landslides, but under the FRPA, the Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations and the Ministry of Environment don't even investigate landslides.
- Consumptive-use watersheds should be a distinct category, identified in the FRPA and in logging plans, and protected *under law*, not under *guidelines*. This category should have increased protective measures.

I hope you will take these concerns and considerations seriously and look forward to hearing your thoughts.

Best wishes,
Sally

Dear PMFL review,

I am writing to urge that the government work to rein in logging on private land in BC to protect our old-growth forests. BC's old growth forests are in crisis and the world is in a climate crisis. The science is clear - we must slow down deforestation, keep our old growth forests and rainforests intact as much as possible and we must plant billions of new trees worldwide.

Private landowners are have no requirement to process forest products locally and they are not encouraged to follow long-term sustainability goals. As a result, watersheds are negatively affected, communication with the community is inadequate and the overall health of our forests and ecosystems are damaged. Once an old growth forest is gone, it can never come back to the way it was.

I urge you to do the right thing and do all in your power to protect our old growth forests. Our future depends on it.

Thank you

Karla Mundy

Karla Mundy

V5N 1J7