

Provincial Old Growth Strategy Update



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Overview



Timeline

Governance

Work Underway

Deferrals

Engagement

Timeline



- November 2021
 - Intent to defer harvesting activities announced in partnership with Indigenous Nations
 - Work underway to develop mitigations supports for impacted forestry workers, contractors, businesses and communities
- December 2021
 - Nearly \$19 million in funding announced to support impacted workers, contractors, and communities in the 2021/22 fiscal year
- February 2022
 - Budget 2022 included \$185 million in funding over 3-years to provide target longer term supports to mitigate the impact of deferrals across the province April 2022
 - 1.7 million ha of old growth have been deferred in partnership with Indigenous Nations

Governance



Ministry of Forests *Minister Conroy:*

- Overall public-facing lead on the OGSR.
- Lead for First Nation consultation and engagement and industry and stakeholder engagement.
- Lead for operational recommendations (inventory, silvicultural systems, etc.).

Ministry of Land, Water, and Resource Stewardship, *Minister Osborne:*

- Lead for foundational recommendations that set the required conditions for change (prioritizing ecosystem health, more inclusive governance, etc.).
- Lead for objective setting.





Work Underway

Focusing on all 14 recommendations

Old Growth Strategic Review – The Path Forward





Deferrals

- Have been identified for implementation on 1.7 million ha of Old Growth
 - Including 1.05 million ha of B.C.'s forests most at risk of irreversible loss
- As of April 1, the Province has received responses from 188 of 204 First Nations in B.C.
 - 75 First Nations have agreed to defer harvest of at-risk Old Growth



Implications of Recommendation 6



- The Technical Advisory Panel (TAP) report included proposed areas for deferrals that overlapped with CFAs and would restrict harvest of old growth.
- Recognition that deferrals covering smaller tenure areas such as CFAs can result in an inability to meet cut control requirements.
- Province is providing CFAs an opportunity to manage harvesting operations through developing a local solution to protect old-growth.
- The old growth strategies developed by CFAs must be approved by the Ministry of Forests and increase current old growth retention and work towards the recommendations of the Old Growth Strategic Review.



Linkages – Guiding Principles



Modernizing Forest Policy In B.C.	Community Forest Association
Increasing Forest Sector Participation	Culturally, ecologically, and economically sustainable community forest initiatives...which respects Indigenous rights and cultural values, and which fosters understanding and cooperation between Indigenous and non-Indigenous communities
	Meaningful representation of community members in community forest initiatives.
	Informed public participation in community forest decision-making.
	Local forest-based employment.
Enhancing Stewardship and Sustainability	Resilient ecosystems as a basis for social, ecological and economic health
	Community responsibility for land stewardship.
Strengthening the Social Contract	Leading edge forest practices.
	Safe work practices.

Engagement

OGSR provides guiding principles for the development of a new Old Growth Strategy that can form the foundation for engagement

- Focus on ecosystem health
- Use scientific methods
- Involve public
- Maintain local flexibility
- Foster a paradigm shift
- Manage for multiple benefits

Thank You

