



Ministry of Forests and Range Compliance and Enforcement Program

Annual report for year ended March 31, 2010

Providing statistics of Compliance and Enforcement activities recorded by the Ministry of Forests and Range from April 1, 2009 through March 31, 2010.

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Introduction

The 2010 Compliance and Enforcement (C&E) Annual Report is the 14th annual report produced by the Ministry of Forests and Range. The C&E Annual Report contains information on [inspections](#)¹, [compliance actions](#) and [enforcement actions](#) related to legislation governing forest and range activities.

Forest and range activities in the province of British Columbia are regulated by a number of enactments. In this report, only information regarding the following Acts is provided: the [Forest Act](#), the [Range Act](#), the [Wildfire Act](#), the [Forest and Range Practices Act](#) and the [Forest Practices Code of British Columbia Act](#), plus all of the regulations associated with these acts. The *Forest Practices Code of British Columbia Act* (the Code) came into effect in 1995 and has been substantially replaced by the *Forest and Range Practices Act* (FRPA), which came into effect on Jan. 31, 2004. During this transition period, forest and range activities on Crown land may be affected by both pieces of legislation.

Key Statistics

April 1, 2009 to March 31, 2010:

11,988	Inspections were recorded
468	Enforcement Actions were taken
9	Stop Work Orders were issued
19	Seizure Orders were issued
2,134	Compliance Actions were taken

This report contains statistics gathered from the C&E Program's two information systems:

- The [Enforcement Action, Administrative Review and Appeal Tracking System \(ERA\)](#) serves as the ministry's record of enforcement activities. ERA documents cases that arise from alleged contraventions of the acts and regulations enforced by the ministry, including the issuance of tickets and cases that are appealed.
- The [Compliance Information Management System \(CIMS\)](#) serves as the ministry's record of inspection activities and compliance actions taken.

This annual report covers C&E program activities for the period of April 1, 2009 to March 31, 2010 and provides a follow-up to previous C&E annual reports. The report covers compliance and enforcement activities with respect to forest and range activities carried out by various individuals and licence holders, including [major licensees](#), [community forest agreement holders](#), [timber sales licensees](#), [woodlot licensees](#), [range licensees](#), mining, petroleum and natural gas companies holding [licences to cut](#), and others in the [regulated community](#).

Electronic copies of this report are available from the ministry's Compliance and Enforcement Branch or by accessing the government Internet page: www.for.gov.bc.ca/hen/index.htm

If there are discrepancies between the printed copy of the annual report and the copy on the website, the posted copy of the annual report on the website is considered correct.

¹ Underlined words are defined in the glossary at the end of this report.

Service Plan Report Statistics

With respect to the Service Plan Report performance measures, the annual Compliance and Enforcement performance measure was not included in the top five priorities listed for the ministry's annual service reporting for the 2010-2011 reporting period. The performance measure exceeded expectations of the 2008-2009 ministry service plan by accomplishing a 4.04% increase in compliance statutory requirements. The ongoing work to monitor and enforce compliance with Ministry of Forests and Range regulations saw several milestones in 2009-2010, including an increased presence and provincial expansion for resource management co-ordination. There has been an increase in the number of designated authorities and a provincially co-ordinated business plan methodology has also been adopted.

This year, C&E kept moving forward with our focus on speed limit enforcement on [Forest Service Roads \(FSRs\)](#) and recreational activities in environmentally sensitive areas. We have maintained a focused approach with regard to the larger regulated community, which includes both licensed operators and the public.

Goal:

Compliance with Resource Laws

Objective – Well-managed, healthy, productive forest and range resources.

Performance Measure: Compliance with Resource Laws

Percentage of the regulated community complying with statutory requirements	93.44%
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***Data Source:** Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations Compliance Information Management System. "Regulated community" includes all persons subject to statutory obligations of the compliance mandate (including licensees, contractors, public and government).

Inspections



Inspections (or site visits) are conducted to determine whether forest and range activities are in compliance with forest and range legislation.

Because it is not possible to inspect every forest and range activity, C&E staff evaluate the risks associated with various sites and activities, and then focus their inspections on

activities with a higher social, economic or environmental risk.

C&E officials conduct six primary types of inspections: General (Result or Strategy, Wildfire, Resource Management Co-



ordination Project, Fish Passage, etc.), Harvest, Road, Silviculture, Range and Recreation. They also follow up on incident reports.

What is an inspection?

An inspection is a systematic process to confirm compliance with statutory obligations. Inspections are done on a routine basis and may be either planned or spontaneous. C&E inspections cover the legal obligations of licensees, the government and the public.

Figure 1: Inspections by Region

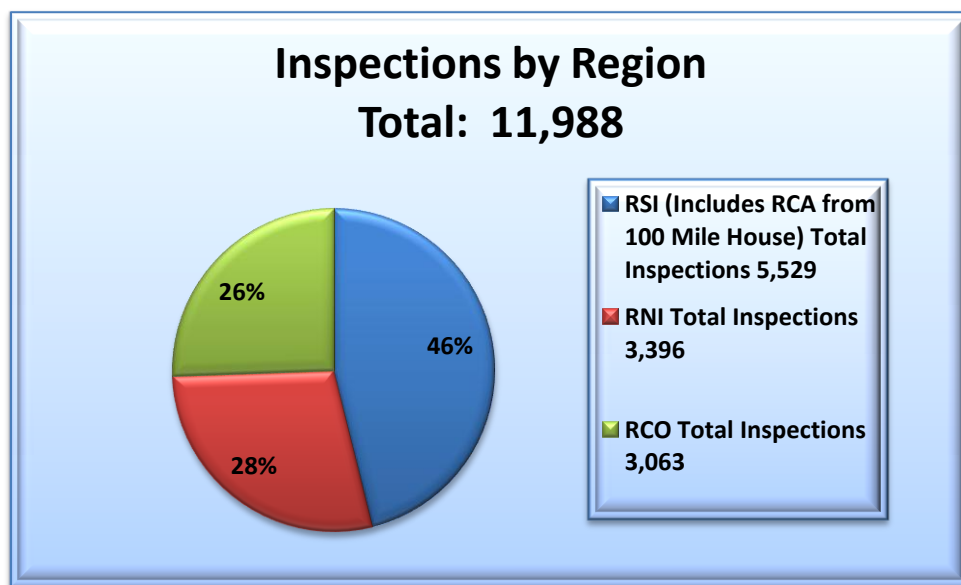


Figure 2: Inspections by Tenure Type

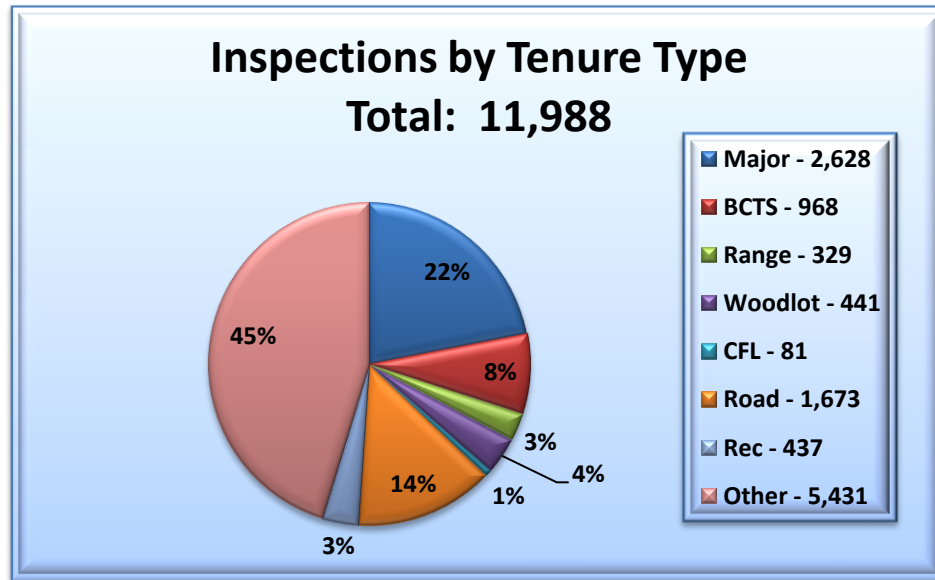
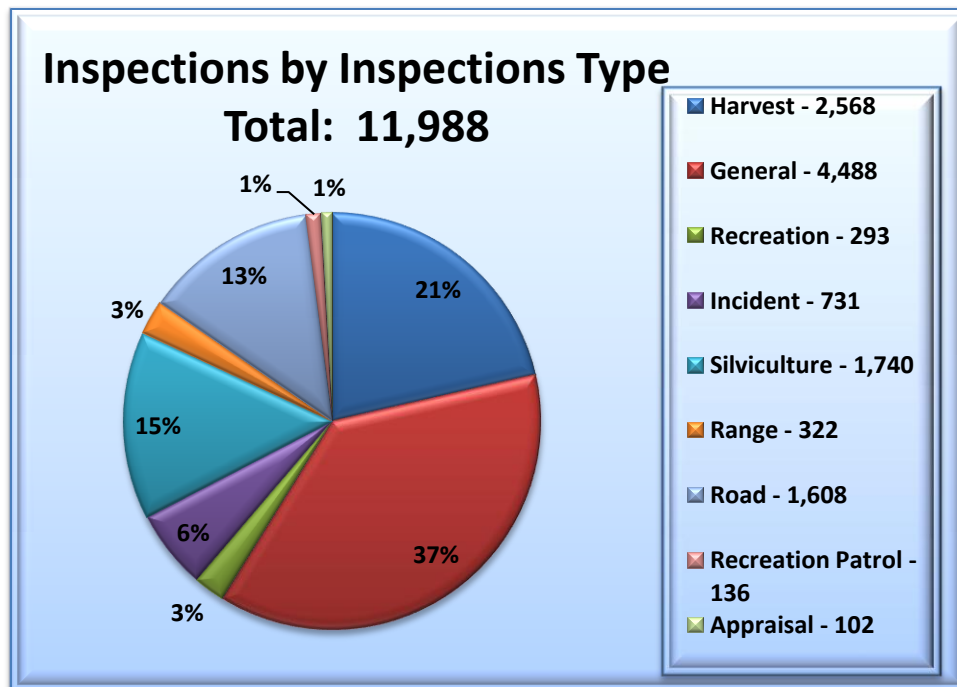


Figure 3: Inspections by Inspection Type



Profile: Resource Management Co-ordination Project

The Resource Management Co-ordination (RMC) Project was introduced in 2008 as part of the B.C. government's commitment to ensure effective and efficient natural resource management. The RMC encouraged Compliance and Enforcement staff in the natural resource ministries to work together for the benefit of the entire provincial land base.

The goals included new challenges (resulting from a greater variety of natural resource management work undertaken by staff), better management of overall government risk, co-ordinated service delivery, shared delivery of government priorities to better manage overall government risk, improved monitoring of varying tenure types on Crown lands, and co-ordinated compliance and enforcement efforts based on government and ministry needs.

The RMC project began in the northwest part of B.C. and included the North Coast, Kalum and Skeena Stikine forest districts. The program has now expanded throughout the province. Depending on the area, compliance and enforcement resources that were committed to RMC have risen over 25% of total resources available for 2008-2009 fiscal annual reporting. RMC has continued to focus on assessing risks and applying resources to high-priority activities across the Natural Resource Sector.

The RMC initiative resulted in ministry staff receiving additional designations and authorities to enable them to conduct a broader scope of inspections and investigations across the sector. These included problem wildlife, water management, hazardous waste, unauthorized structures and open burning.

Provincial growth of RMC resulted in expanded and more consistent business processes. Functions and activities across ministries suited to collaboration with other agencies are being

finalized. A provincial "line of site" organization was established within the ministry and the business plan and priorities were adopted by all of the natural resource agencies.



Collaborative projects continued and were expanded provincially. One example was C&E Officers strengthening working relationships with Conservation Officers and their mandates by reducing the risk of wildfires and protecting sensitive ecosystems from irresponsible use of off-road vehicles. C&E has continued to lead or collaborate on new projects with Conservation Officers, such as wildlife attractants projects (e.g. "Bear Aware"), water management, dam reconnaissance and multi-agency resource road safety checks.

The Compliance and Enforcement Branch continues to utilize staff efficiently and effectively. C&E is increasing inter-agency training and is receiving authorizations from natural resource ministries to complete multi-disciplinary inspections on the land base in just a single trip to the site. This effectively eliminates many hours of travel time to complete inspections, especially in remote areas.

The Compliance and Enforcement Branch will continue to enhance resource management co-ordination to implement a collaborative working model between all provincial agencies across the Natural Resource Sector.

Compliance

During the course of an inspection, a C&E official may find incidents of possible non-compliance with forest and range legislation. Incidents of alleged non-compliance or contraventions involve an individual or a company that may have acted in a manner that violated the law. Alleged non-compliance may be found during an inspection or may be identified as a result of other sources (such as tips from the public or ministry staff, or self-reporting by licensees).

Based on the significance and impact of the non-compliance, and other considerations, [compliance actions](#) are used to encourage the individual or company to bring their activities into compliance with the applicable legislation.

Compliance actions include:

[Compliance No Action](#)

[Compliance Notice](#)

[Warning Ticket](#)

What are compliance actions?

Compliance actions include No Action, Compliance Notices and Warning Tickets. Compliance actions are only appropriate if all elements of a contravention could be proven through the formal enforcement process, but the severity of the alleged contravention does not warrant a formal enforcement action.



Figure 4: Compliance Actions by Region

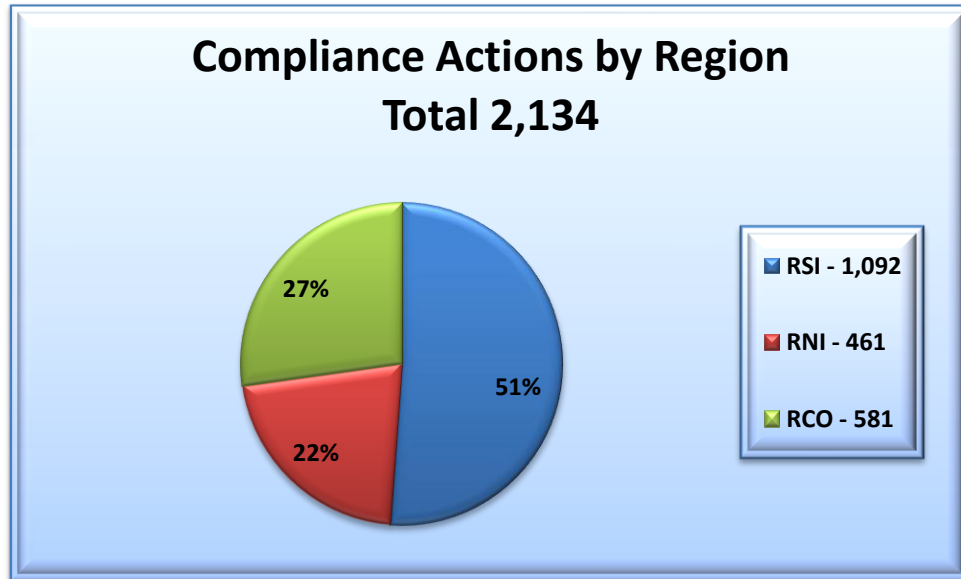


Table 1. Compliance Actions By Tenure Type

	Major	BCTS	Range	Woodlot	CFL	Road	Recreation	Other	Total
Compliance Notice	216	110	79	122	26	236	9	358	1,156
Compliance No Action	75	23	19	29	1	40	14	353	554
Warning Ticket	11	15	9	6	2	9	5	367	424
Total	302	148	107	157	29	285	28	1,078	2,134

Figure 5: Compliance Actions by Compliance Action Type

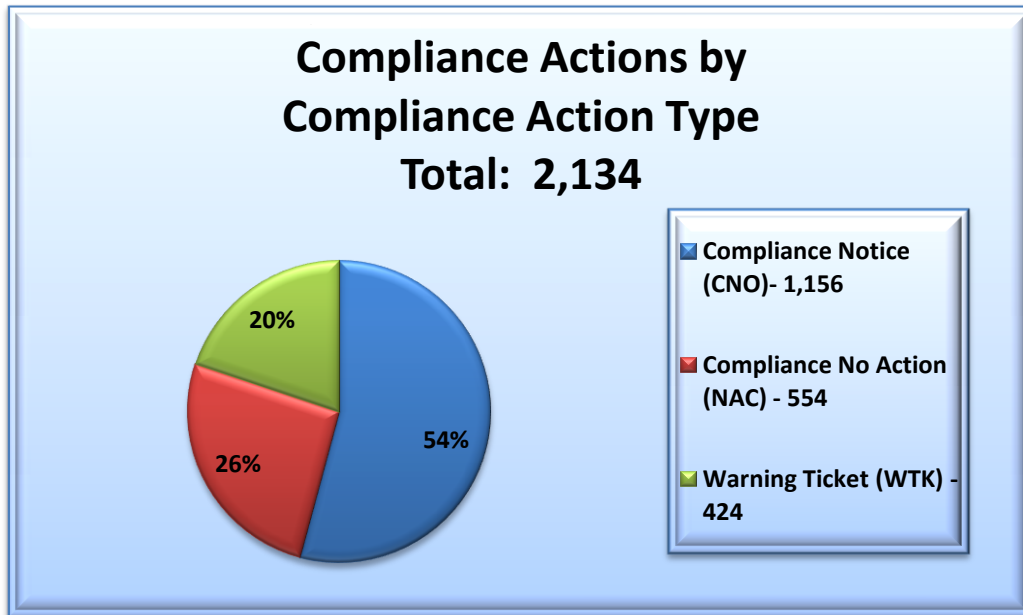
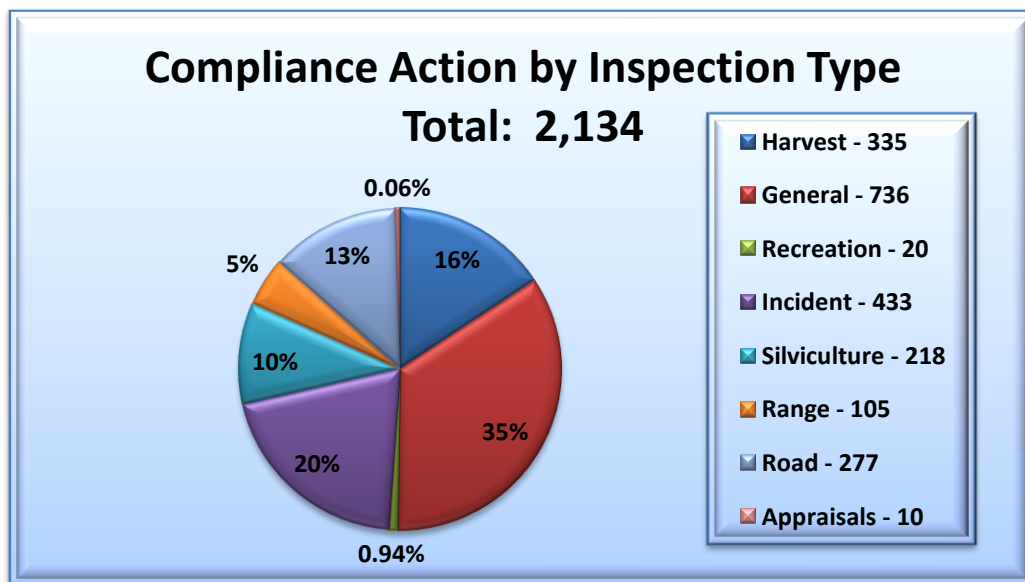


Figure 6: Compliance Action by Inspection Type



Enforcement

Enforcement actions are used when an official determines that legislation has been contravened and a formal sanction is warranted. For example, an enforcement action may address contraventions that have resulted in loss of or damage to the environmental, social or economic values of a site. Individuals and companies subject to enforcement actions have an avenue to appeal these actions.

Enforcement actions include:

[Violation Tickets](#)

[Monetary Penalties](#)

[Remediation Orders](#)

[Licence Suspension](#)

[Licence Cancellation](#)

[Orders to Vacate](#)

[No Action](#) (although a contravention has been determined, it is not in the public interest to take further action)

There were 468 enforcement actions taken in 2009-2010.

A [Stop Work Order](#) is used by an official to stop a forest and/or range practice that the official believes is in contravention of the law. This halts any potential loss or damage to environmental, social or economic values on the site, and allows more time for the official to determine if a contravention has actually occurred. Stop Work Orders are not considered to be a finding of contravention.

There were nine Stop Work Orders issued in 2009-2010.

[Seizures](#) (forfeitures) may occur when an official has reasonable grounds to believe that a person has contravened a section of the *Forest Act*, *Range Act* or *Forest and Range Practices Act*. This halts any potential loss of or damage to environmental, social or economic values, and allows more time for the official to determine if a contravention has actually occurred. Seizures are not considered to be a finding of contravention.

There were 19 seizure orders issued in 2009-2010.

Violation Tickets and Administrative Penalties

Guilty by Expiry	176
Guilty by Judgement	20
Guilty by Payment	123
Violation tickets issued	319
Monetary amount of tickets	\$77,000
Administrative penalties levied	86
Monetary amount of penalties	\$239,041



Figure 7: Enforcement Action by Region

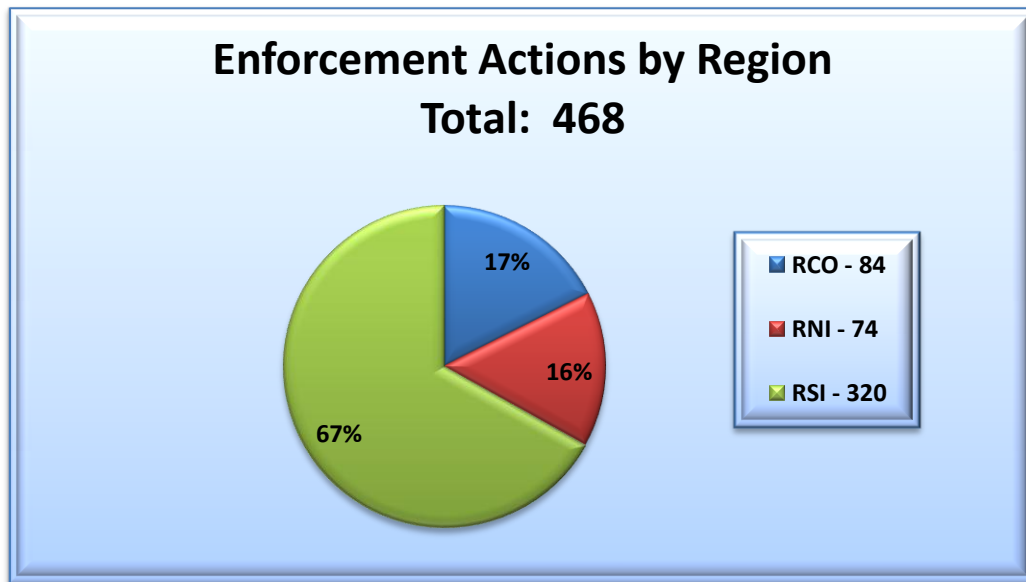
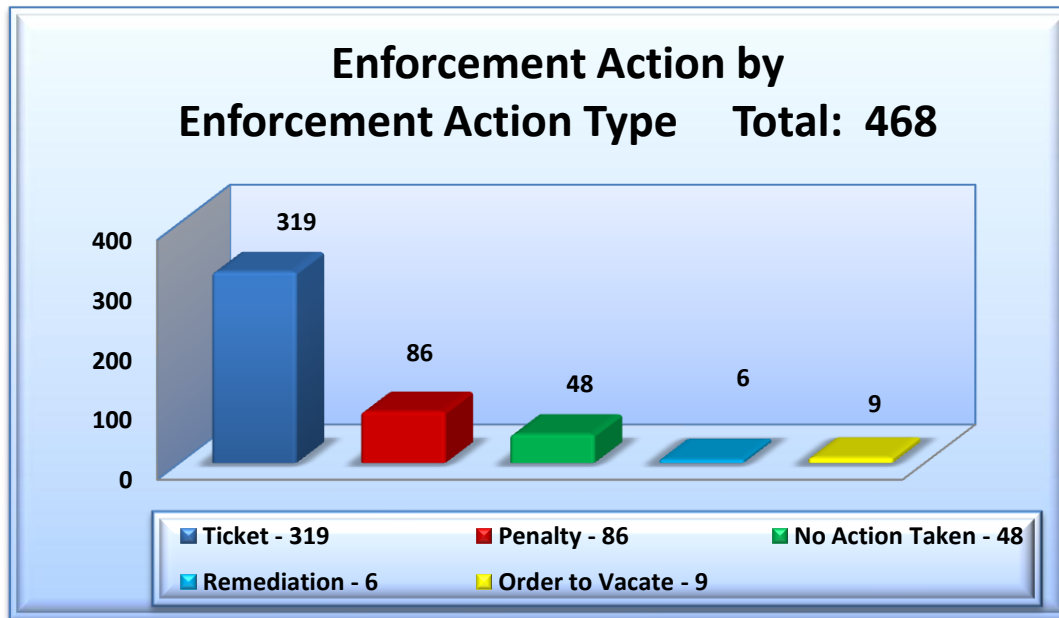


Table 2. Enforcement Actions By Tenure Type

	Major	BCTS	Range	Woodlot	Road	Recreation	Other	Total
Violation Ticket	15	17	1	5	7	6	269	319
Penalties	38	3	4	5	6		31	86
No Action	8	18	1	4	6		6	48
Remediation				1		8	7	6
Order to Vacate							2	9
Total	61	38	6	15	19	14	315	468

Figure 8: Enforcement Actions by Enforcement Action Type**Figure 9: Top 5 Sections Most Often Contravened**

Legislation	Description
<i>Wildfire Act</i> 10 (3)	Fail to follow order restricting or prohibiting lighting, fuelling or use of open fire
* FRPA 52 (1)	Cut, damage or destroy Crown timber without authority
<i>Wildfire Act</i> 5 (1)	Light, fuel or use of open fire in or within 1 km of forest or grass land by a person
<i>Wildfire Act</i> 3 (1)	Start or risk starting an open fire by dropping, releasing or mishandling a burning substance
<i>Forests Practices Code of BC Act</i> 70 (4) (d)	Regeneration shortfall. Silviculture Prescriptions. By the regeneration date specified in the prescription meet, and after that date maintain, the stocking requirements as defined in the regulations and specified in the prescription for that date.

* FRPA *Forest and Range Practices Act*

Reviews and Appeals

What is an appeal?

If the person against whom a determination is made is dissatisfied with that determination, the person may ask for the determination to be reviewed by a government official when there is new evidence to consider. Alternatively, the person may challenge the determination by submitting a Notice of Appeal to the Forest Appeals Commission (FAC). The FAC is an independent administrative tribunal that hears appeals of certain decisions made by government officials under the *Code*, the *Forest Act*, the *Forest Range and Practices Act*, the *Private Managed Forest Land Act*, the *Range Act* and the *Wildfire Act*.

For more information about the Forest Appeals Commission, visit <http://www.fac.gov.bc.ca/>

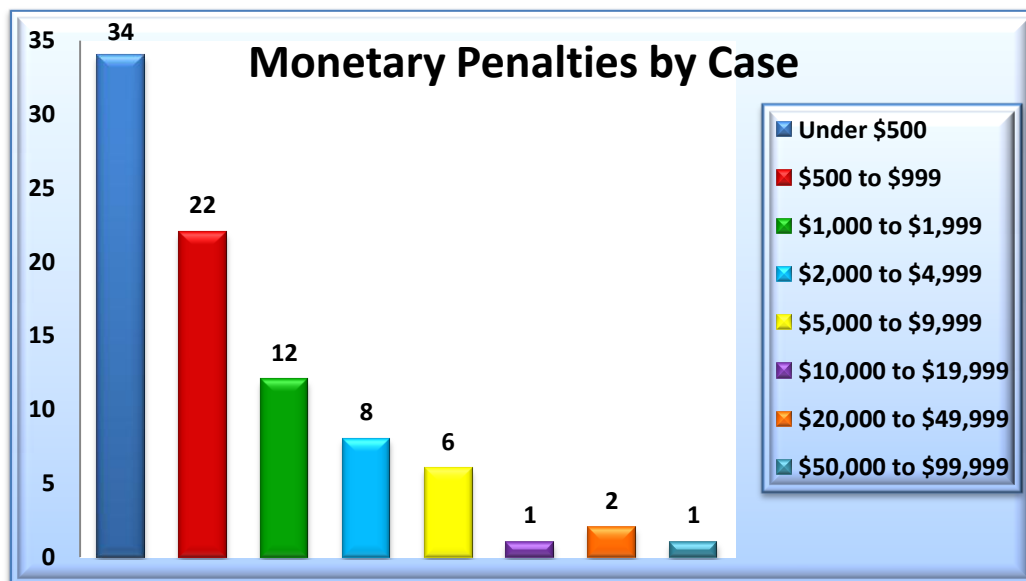


Monetary Penalties

Monetary penalties may be applied by a [Statutory Decision-Maker](#) if he/she has determined that an individual or licensee has contravened the legislation. Monetary penalties should not be confused with fines that may be imposed by the courts if a licensee is convicted of an offence.

The *Forest and Range Practices Act* (FRPA) also provides the authority whereby government officials may pursue the recovery of any economic gain resulting from a person's act or omission that would have been a contravention or an offence if it were not for the successful application of one of the defences of due diligence, mistake of fact or officially induced error. It is worth noting that this is not considered to be a monetary penalty.

Figure 10: Summary of Monetary Penalties by Case



Statistics

Major Licensees

For the purposes of this annual report, [Major Licensees](#) are defined as companies that are holders of tenures and considered to be major licensees by the ministry.

Statistics	Number	% of Total
Number of Inspections	2,628	21.92%
Number of Compliance Actions	302	14.15%
Number of Enforcement Actions	61	13.03%

Major Licensees involve the following: Tree Farm Licences, Timber Licences, Forest Licences, Pulpwood Agreements and other agreements specified as Major.

Timber Sales Licensees

Statistics	Number	% of Total
Number of Inspections	968	8.07%
Number of Compliance Actions	148	6.94%
Number of Enforcement Actions	38	8.12%

Timber Sales Licensees involve the following: Competitive Timber Sale Licences, Value-added Timber Sale Licences and roads associated with Timber Sales Licences.

Range Licensees

Statistics	Number	% of Total
Number of Inspections	329	2.74%
Number of Compliance Actions	107	5.01%
Number of Enforcement Actions	6	1.28%

Range Licensees involve the following: Range Licences, Grazing Permits/Licences and Hay Cutting Permits/Licences.

Woodlot Licensees

Statistics	Number	% of Total
Number of Inspections	441	3.68%
Number of Compliance Actions	157	7.35%
Number of Enforcement Actions	15	3.21%

Woodlot Licensees include an individual or a company that holds a licence to manage and harvest timber from a woodlot. A woodlot may be made up of both Crown land and private land.

Community Forest Agreement Holders

Statistics	Number	% of Total
Number of Inspections	81	0.68%
Number of Compliance Actions	29	1.36%
Number of Enforcement Actions	0	0.0%

Community Forest Agreement Holder statistics include activities related to Community Forest Agreements and roads associated with Community Forest Agreements.

Road Licensees

Statistics	Number	% of Total
Number of Inspections	1,673	13.96%
Number of Compliance Actions	285	13.36%
Number of Enforcement Actions	19	4.06%

Road Licensees involve the following: Road Permits, Forest Service Road, Road Use Permits, Non-Status Use of Provincial Roads.

Other Licensees/Non-Tenure Holders

Statistics	Number	% of Total
Number of Inspections	5,431	45.3%
Number of Compliance Actions	1,078	50.52%
Number of Enforcement Actions	315	67.31%

Other licensees and non-tenure holder statistics involve: Licences to Cut, Special Use Permits, Free Use Permits, Christmas Tree Permits, Private Lands, Log Salvage, Small Scale Salvage and Non-Tenure Holders.

Recreation

Statistics	Number	% of Total
Number of Inspections	437	3.65%
Number of Compliance Actions	28	1.31%
Number of Enforcement Actions	14	2.99%

Recreation involves: Use of Recreation Sites, Recreation Trails and [Interpretive Forest Sites](#).

Government Non-Compliance Statistics

In keeping with ministry policy, this section reports on the number of incidents of [significant government non-compliance](#) (as determined by a senior official during the reporting period) and the nature of any contraventions. Significant government non-compliance is defined as not being trivial or inconsequential in nature.

One incident of significant government non-compliance was identified during the 2009-2010 reporting period.



Glossary

BCTS (British Columbia Timber Sales)

BCTS licensees are individuals or companies that have been issued licences by BC Timber Sales via competitive auctions. BC Timber Sales is an independent organization within the B.C. Ministry of Forests and Range that was created to market Crown timber through competitive auctions to establish a market price and capture the value of the asset for the public. The vision of BC Timber Sales is to be “an effective timber marketer generating wealth through sustainable resource management.”

C&E Program

The Compliance and Enforcement (C&E) program is the law enforcement arm of the Ministry of Forests and Range.

The purpose of the C&E program is to ensure that forest and range laws are being followed in B.C.'s public forests and to take action where there is non-compliance.

Community Forest Agreement Holder

A First Nation, municipality, regional district or other organization that has met prescribed requirements and has entered into an agreement with the Crown to manage an allowable annual cut (AAC) in a specific area.

Compliance Action

Compliance actions include No Action, Compliance Notice and Warning Ticket.

A compliance action is only appropriate if all of the elements of a contravention could be proven (if necessary, through the formal enforcement process), but the severity of the alleged contravention does not warrant a formal enforcement action.

Compliance Information Management System (CIMS)

CIMS is a web-based database application that serves as the ministry's record of inspection activities and compliance actions. Staff use CIMS to document risk evaluations, inspection plans and inspections.

Compliance, No Action

A Compliance No Action is given when an official finds that a contravention has occurred, but no action is required to bring the party or parties responsible back into compliance with the legislation. Of the three compliance actions (No Action, Compliance Notice and Warning Ticket), this is the least formal.

Compliance Notice

A Compliance Notice is given when an official finds that a contravention has occurred and the official believes that the party or parties responsible should be given a written notice of the contravention for their records, but no formal action needs to be taken.

Contravention

A contravention occurs when an individual or company has not complied with the law (i.e. they have contravened a legal requirement). Alleged contraventions are investigated and may result in a formal determination of contravention.

Crown Land

Crown Land is land that is owned by the people of British Columbia, also known as public land. Approximately 92 per cent of the province is Crown land and is managed by the B.C. government.

Delegated Decision-Maker

A delegated decision-maker (DDM) is the most common type of statutory decision-maker in our ministry. A person is a delegated decision-maker if he or she has been properly delegated powers and/or duties under an Act to make a statutory decision that the legislature gave to someone else, usually the minister.

Due Diligence

Due diligence refers to the amount of care that a person is required to take in any given situation. For the defence of due diligence to apply, an alleged contravener must have taken all reasonable care to avoid committing the prohibited act. The degree of care required increases with the potential seriousness of the foreseeable harm.

Enforcement Action

When a determination is made that legislative requirements have been contravened and a formal sanction is warranted, an enforcement action is taken against the party or parties involved. Enforcement actions may include violation tickets, monetary penalties and remediation penalties, as well as other steps as deemed appropriate by the decision-maker. Parties subject to enforcement actions have an avenue to appeal those actions.

Enforcement Action, Administrative Review and Appeal Tracking System (ERA)

ERA is a web-based database application that serves as the ministry's record of enforcement activities. ERA documents the cases that arise from alleged contraventions of the acts and regulations enforced by the ministry, including the investigation details, determinations, enforcement actions and all appeals on cases.

Forest Act (FA)

The *Forest Act* provides authority for the cutting and removal of timber.

Forest and Range Practices Act (FRPA)

The *Forest and Range Practices Act* and its regulations govern the activities of forest and range licensees in B.C. The statute sets out the requirements for planning, road building, logging, reforestation and grazing.

Forest Crime

Forest crime is the violation of provincial or federal law (Criminal Code) and includes fraud, theft, arson and mischief.

Forest Practices Code of British Columbia Act (FPC, or the Code)

Much of the *Forest Practices Code of British Columbia Act* has been repealed as a result of the implementation of the *Forest and Range Practices Act* and the *Wildfire Act*. The remaining provisions of the Code primarily relate to the issuance of special use permits to permit the use and occupation of Crown land, as well as the continuation of the Forest Appeals Commission.

Forest Licensee

A holder of a forest tenure licence or agreement that is engaged in activities related to harvesting Crown timber.

Forest Service Road (FSR)

A road on Crown land that: is declared an FSR; is constructed or maintained by the ministry; is historically an FSR; or meets prescribed requirements for an FSR.

Government Non-Compliance

A contravention where the provincial government is the obligation holder.

Harvest Volume

The volume (in cubic metres) of timber harvested from forestry activities on Crown land and on which stumpage was paid.

In Compliance

Compliance is defined as “conforming to a specification, standard or law that has been clearly defined.” “To be in compliance” means that the activity is meeting all statutory requirements of relevant standards, regulations and acts.

Inspection

An inspection is a systematic process to confirm compliance with statutory obligations. Inspections are done on a routine basis and may be either planned or spontaneous.

Interpretive Forest Site

An interpretive forest site is established under Section 56 of the *Forest and Range Practices Act* or Section 6 of the *Forest Practices Code of British Columbia Act*, or is designated under the *Forest Act*.

Investigation

The process of Compliance and Enforcement staff collecting evidence to determine if a contravention of forestry legislation has occurred.

Land Act

The *Land Act* covers the disposition and management of Crown Land.

Licence Cancellation

One of the available enforcement actions for a contravention of forestry legislation is licence cancellation. If, after suspension, the party has not made changes to operate in compliance with the statutes, then the offending party’s forest tenure licence may be cancelled.

Licence Holders

Individuals or companies that hold one (or more) of the many types of forest tenure licences or forms of agreements under the *Forest Act* or the *Range Act*. The C&E Branch divides these licence holders into the following categories: Major Licensees; BCTS Licensees; Community Forest Agreement Holders; Woodlot Licensees; Range Licensees; and Other Licensees/Non-Tenure Holders.

Licence Suspension

One of the available enforcement actions for a contravention of legislation is to suspend all or part of the offending party’s tenure licence.

Licence to Cut

A licence allowing a party or parties to harvest timber on Crown land or on private land when the timber has been reserved to the Crown.

Major Licensee

A licence holder of one of the following types of licences: Forest Licence; Tree Farm Licence; Timber Sale Harvesting Licence; Timber Licence; Pulp Licence; Wood Pulp Lease; Timber Berth; Watershed Agreement; Forestry Licence to Cut with Cutting Permits; Consolidated Timber Licence; Forest Licence, Sec 47.3 F.A.; Forestry Licence To Cut, Sec 47.3 F.A.; and Pulpwood Agreement.

Mistake of Fact

Mistake of Fact is a defence based on the notion that a person should not be penalized if his or her alleged wrongdoing was the result of honestly relying on information that, if it had been correct, would not have led to a contravention. This defence is not available where persons are wilfully blind, deliberately ignorant or not competent to carry out the activities.

Monetary Penalty

One of the administrative remedies available under forestry legislation. A licensee may be assessed a monetary penalty when a delegated decision-maker has determined that the licensee has contravened the law and the defences available (due diligence, officially induced error and mistake of fact) do not apply. Monetary penalties should not be confused with fines that can be imposed by a court if a licensee is prosecuted and convicted of an offence.

Objectives

The government may set objectives in relation to one or more of the following subjects: (a) soils; (b) visual quality; (c) timber; (d) forage and associated plant communities; (e) water; (f) fish; (g) wildlife; (h) biodiversity; (i) recreation resources; (j) resource features; or (k) cultural heritage resources. This may be done to protect or manage those values on behalf of the public. Forest Stewardship Plans must be consistent with the objectives set by government.

Official

An employee of the Ministry of Forests and Range who is designated by name or title to be an official by the Minister of Forests and Range for the purpose of upholding the provisions of forestry legislation.

Officially Induced Error

A defence where an accused may have committed a contravention or offence as a result of relying on an erroneous legal opinion or advice from an official who is responsible for the administration of that particular law.

Opportunity to be Heard (OTBH)

An administrative hearing where a person has the right to present facts in his or her defence regarding an alleged contravention of the legislation. An OTBH is heard by a delegated decision-maker prior to making a determination.

Orders to Vacate

This form of enforcement action is specific to a recreation site, trail or forest interpretive site, and requires the person receiving the order to leave the area by a specified time and for a specified period of time.

Prosecution

Prosecutions are undertaken as a provincial judicial process when an individual or company that allegedly contravened the law is prosecuted in the courts. Prosecutions can only be carried out on sections of legislation that designate offences.

Range Act

The *Range Act* authorizes the ministry to allocate and administer the use of range resources by the livestock industry through grazing and hay-cutting agreements that provide revenue to the government.

Range Licensees

Individuals or companies that hold one or more range tenure licences or agreements.

RCO

RCO is the code for the Coast Forest Region.

Regulated Community

All persons whose activities on Crown land are regulated by forestry and range legislation.

Remediation Order

One of the administrative remedies available under legislation is a remediation order. It is used when work is needed to remedy the contravention and/or repair environmental damage caused by the contravention. A licensee may be assessed a remediation order when a delegated decision-maker has determined that the licensee has failed to meet a statutory requirement and the defences available (due diligence, officially induced error and mistake of fact) do not apply.

RMC (previously RMCP)

Resource Management Co-ordination project.

Vision: The co-ordination of people and resources for excellence in service delivery. Long-term solutions through increased co-ordination and collaboration in the natural resource sector of government.

RNI

RNI is the code for the Northern Interior Forest Region.

RSI

RSI is the code for the Southern Interior Forest Region.

Risk Evaluation

A formal process that C&E undertakes to evaluate forest or range practice risks. The evaluation looks at social, economic and environmental values, as well as the objectives of the Crown.

Statutory Obligation

An obligation that is required by legislation. A duty, task or responsibility that must be completed or carried out as specified through legislation.

Statutory Decision-Maker

A statutory decision-maker is a person who makes a decision that is authorized by statute. The person may be named by position or title in the Act or regulation, or might be delegated by someone else who was named by position or title in the Act or regulation, or might have been designated by someone who was named by position or title in the Act or regulation.

Seizure

Seizures (forfeitures) may occur when an official has reasonable grounds to believe that a person has contravened a section of an Act (*Forest Act*, *Range Act* or *Forest and Range Practices Act*). This halts any potential loss or damage to environmental, social or economic values, and allows time for the official to determine if a contravention has actually occurred. Generally, seizures may involve timber, lumber, special forest products, tree seeds, hay, chattels or livestock. Seized items may be returned, released, sold, destroyed or disposed of in another manner. A seizure is not considered to be a finding of contravention.

Stop Work Order (SWO)

Stop Work Orders are used by officials to order a licensee or person to stop a forest or range practice or other activity that the official believes is in contravention of forest legislation. An SWO is not considered to be a finding of contravention.

Unauthorized Harvest

A situation where Crown timber is being (or has been) cut, damaged, destroyed or transported without appropriate authorization.

Violation Ticket

A violation ticket may be issued for contravening specified sections of provincial legislation, and it carries a specific monetary fine. A violation ticket is a form of prosecution under the *Offence Act*.

Warning Ticket

A warning ticket is issued when an official finds that a contravention has occurred and the party or parties responsible should be given a warning. A warning ticket can be given for any contravention for which a violation ticket could be given. However, a warning ticket is not a formal finding of contravention and there is no monetary fine.

Water Act

The *Water Act* governs the allocation and management of water resources.

Wildfire Act

In March 31, 2005, the *Wildfire Act* replaced the forest fire prevention and suppression provisions of the *Forest Practices Code of British Columbia Act* by moving those provisions into a standalone act and more clearly defining the specific responsibilities of all users of the forest with respect to fire.

Wildlife Act

The *Wildlife Act* governs the management of wildlife, hunting and angling.

Woodlot Licensee

An individual or company that holds a licence to manage and harvest timber from a woodlot. A woodlot may be made up of both Crown and private land.