



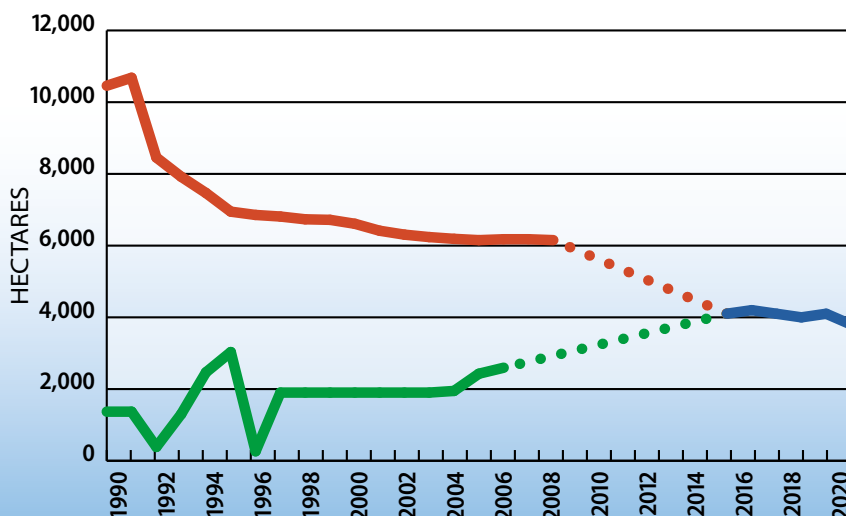
"Each year, new developments, urbanization, agricultural conversions, new power lines and other utility corridors contribute to deforestation.

That releases greenhouse gases into the atmosphere and removes millions of trees that are absorbing and storing carbon.

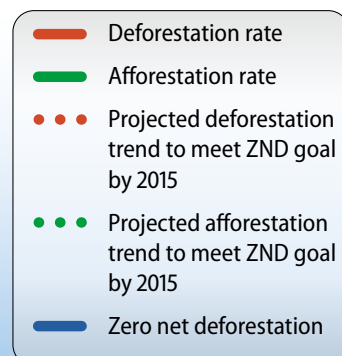
To reverse this problem, your government will pursue a goal of zero net deforestation. It will work with First Nations, industry and communities to put that goal into law by 2010 and establish a viable strategy for realizing that vision by 2015."

– 2008 Speech from the Throne

- One of the goals of the zero net deforestation policy is to support B.C.'s greenhouse gas reduction targets by **avoiding** and **minimizing** deforestation. Where this isn't possible, **mitigating** impacts with afforestation of non-forest land is encouraged.
- Zero net deforestation means that when trees from forest land are removed to permanently convert the forest land to a different use, new trees will be planted elsewhere. This will ensure no net reduction in forest land.
- B.C.'s Climate Action Plan highlights the importance of zero net deforestation as part of taking climate action.
- British Columbia is one of the first jurisdictions in the world to introduce a zero net deforestation goal in legislation.
- Approximately 6,200 hectares were deforested in British Columbia in 2007. This amounts to about 0.01 per cent of the 60 million hectares of forested area in the province.
- Approximately 2,000 hectares – an area about the same size as 2,500 Canadian football fields (including the end zones) – were afforested in British Columbia in 2007. B.C.'s goal is to close the gap between the area deforested and the area afforested by 2015 and beyond.



Afforestation and deforestation in B.C.

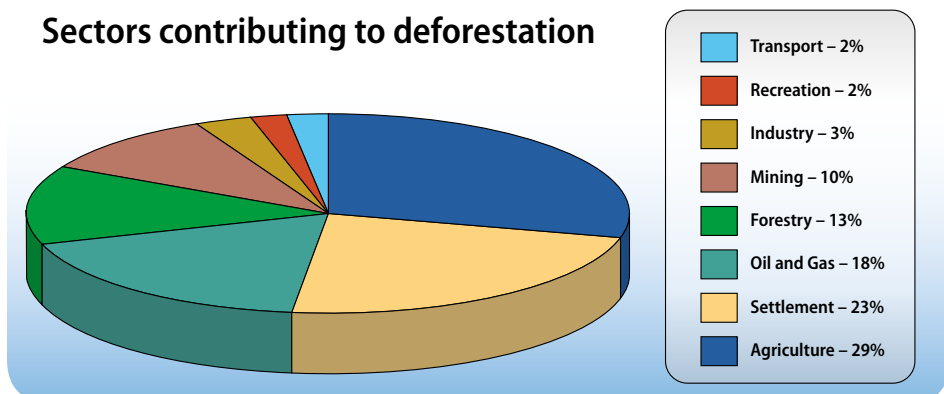




Afforestation project at Shawnigan Lake School on Vancouver Island – March 2010

- Roughly 40 per cent of deforestation in B.C. occurred on private land in 2007.
- Many sectors contribute to deforestation and have an important role to play in helping B.C. reach its zero net deforestation goal.
- Timber harvesting in British Columbia is sustainably managed. Sustainable forest management is not considered deforestation because, by law, harvested areas must be reforested after harvesting.
- Deforestation accounts for approximately four per cent of B.C.'s annual greenhouse gas emissions.

Sectors contributing to deforestation



- The British Columbia Provincial Greenhouse Gas Inventory Report estimates emissions from deforestation were about 3.2 million tonnes of CO₂-equivalent in 2007.
- A single large, mature tree can absorb more than 20 kilograms of

carbon dioxide from the atmosphere every year.

- An average hectare of afforestation creates three days of silviculture employment.