

These plans are subject to public review and comment and approval by the forest district manager and others. Once the plans are approved, the forest practices regulations, standards, and guidebooks provide specific provisions for carrying out the approved activities. Timber harvesting practices regulations, for example, require that companies delineate the boundaries of cuts. The Boundary Marking Guidebook specifies that the markings should be "clearly marketed with blazes or blue paint, enhanced with fluorescent orange flagging tape at five-metre intervals. The boundary line should be visible from at least five metres."²⁹

An interagency committee oversees the implementation of the code and its interaction with the ministries of Environment, Lands and Parks and Energy, and Mines and Petroleum Resources. A number of independent bodies are created in the code. The Forest Practices Code Appeals Commission hears appeals of enforcement actions and penalties. The Forest Practices Code Board investigates complaints raised by third parties. The Forest Practices Advisory Council brings together environmentalists, industry representatives, leaders of First Nations, and the general public to review the code's implementation and make recommendations. The Forest Practices Code Enforcement Office reviews enforcement policy and efforts. Enforcement of the code, the Forest Act, and regulations is a responsibility of the Ministry of Forests, and is enforced through inspections and audits.³⁰

The most common violations that occurred during the first year of the code's operation included:³¹

Damage to crown timber	85
Practices not in specifications	65
Regeneration shortfall	19
Environmental damage	19
Avoidable damage	18
Building trail not in plan	8
Logging out of specifications	7
Damage to log/leave tree	6
Unauthorized road construction	6
No new operation plan	6

The Protected Areas Strategy

In May 1992, B.C. announced its Protected Areas Strategy, a commitment to double its parklands and protected areas by the year 2000 to 12 percent of the province. The 12 percent goal came in response to a United Nations' recommendation to all nations to preserve at least that amount of their territory as wild lands.³² By 1996, 9.2 percent had been designated as protected areas. As of April, 1996, the following "Protected Areas" had been established in British Columbia:³³