

As a result of the code, industry estimates conclude that logging costs in B.C. are now among the highest in the world; B.C. pulp is the most expensive to manufacture in the world. The cost of compliance to industry in 1995 was \$10/cubic meter of wood sold on the coast and \$8/cubic meter sold in the interior, for a total cost of \$600 million or one-half of the industry's \$1.28 billion in earnings that year. One industry economist argued that the total cost to the provincial economy was \$2.1 billion in 1995. The costs come not from compliance activities but from lost revenues as trees are left behind for wildlife reserves, buffer zones, and other ecological purposes. No comparable study of the benefits of the code has apparently been completed.⁴⁶ Despite the massive size of the Forest Practices Code, it still gives lots of discretion to district managers.

There has been some opposition to logging, and a few modest restrictions have resulted. The International Coalition to Save British Columbia's Forest, part of the Rainforest Action Network, charged in 1995 that only 15 of the 92 unlogged temperate rainforest watersheds of 12,000 acres or more that once existed in the province remain. Of the 15 remaining, six are unprotected, including three in Clayoquot Sound, another slice of the Pacific coastal temperate rainforest along Vancouver Island's western coast that was once part of the temperate rain forest that stretched from Northern California to Alaska. Clayoquot is a particularly critical ecosystem, 670,000 acres of wilderness forests and beaches that is home to more than 4,500 known species of sea and land creatures, five species of Pacific salmon, two species of whales, the bald eagle, the endangered marbled murrelet, and many other sea mammals, migrating waterfowl and shorebirds, wolves, cougars, and bears. Some 415,000 acres of the sound were temperate rainforests, but 20 percent of the forest has already been clearcut, and an additional 54 percent is slated for logging. The provincial government has protected about 13 percent of Vancouver Island, preserving only six percent of the ancient forests. The coalition argues that at least 40 percent of the island will need to be set aside in reserves in order to preserve most of its wildlife. Current provincial plans will result in loss of half of the island's wildlife. Logging also threatens the salmon industry and ecotourism.⁴⁷

In 1993, the provincial government opened nearly 75 percent of the forests to clearcutting to MacMillan Bloedel and other timber companies, the last stretch of Vancouver's old-growth forests, including trees that were 1,200 years old. Protestors blockaded logging roads for several months during the summer and fall of 1993 in the largest act of civil disobedience in Canadian history; more than 900 of the thousands of protestors were arrested. The Nuu-chah-nulth people joined with environmental groups to protest the logging. Public opposition led to an Interim Measures Agreement issued by the B.C. government that gave First Nations shared management power over the Sound and created a panel of scientists to study logging in the area. In the U.S., environmental groups formed the Clayoquot Rainforest Coalition to raise awareness of the issue and encourage consumers to pressure the B.C. government and logging companies. More than 50 percent of the province's forest products are exported to the U.S. In 1995, the provincial government accepted the recommendation's of the scientific report, agreeing to conduct analyses of the biological and cultural values of undisturbed watersheds before logging decisions are made,