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Habitat: the place where an organism lives and/or the conditions of that environment including the soil, vegetation, water, and food.

Habitat enhancement: any manipulation of habitat that improves its value and ability to meet specified requirements of one or more species.

Habitat management: management of the forest to create environments which provide habitats (food, shelter) to meet the needs of particular organisms.

Hack and squirt: a method of conifer release and juvenile spacing where the bark of a tree is cut (hack) and herbicides are injected (squirt) to kill the tree.

Hardwoods: trees which are generally deciduous, broad leafed species such as oak, alder or maple.

Harvest cut: the felling of the mature crop of trees either as a single clearcut or a series of regeneration cuttings.

Harvest forecast: the flow of potential timber harvests over time. A harvest forecast is usually a measure of the maximum timber supply that can be realized, over time, for a specified land base and set of management assumptions.

Harvest pattern: the spatial distribution of cutblocks and reserve areas across the forested landscape.

Harvest rate: the rate at which timber is harvested, commonly expressed as an allowable annual cut (AAC).

Harvest schedule: a document listing the stands to be harvested year or period, usually showing types and intensities of harvests for each stand, as well as a timetable for regenerating currently non-productive areas.

Harvesting: the practice of felling and removing trees or the removal of dead or damaged trees from an area.

Harvesting method: the mix of felling, bucking, and yarding (skidding) systems used in logging a stand of timber.

Harvesting prescription: detailed plan on how, when, and where timber will be harvested from an area.

Harvesting system: the mix of felling, bucking and yarding systems used in logging a stand of timber.

Hauling: a general term for the transportation of logs from one point to another, usually from a landing to the mill or shipping point.

Hazard: a state that may result in an undesired event, the cause of risk. Hazard can apply to the probability of tree mortality or damage by an insect or disease and also represents material or fuel that will ignite and burn.

Hazardous or danger tree: a tree or any component of a tree that has sufficient structural infirmity to be identified as having a high risk of falling and causing personal or property damage.

Hazards, potential: a component of risk rating. Potential hazards are the detrimental events that could result from inappropriate harvesting practices.

Healthy ecosystem: an ecosystem in which structure and functions allow the maintenance of biodiversity, biotic integrity and ecological processes over time.

Heartwood: the inner core of a woody stem composed of nonliving cells and usually differentiated from the outer wood layer (sapwood) by its darker colour. See Cambium.

Height class: any interval into which the range of tree heights is divided for classification and use, commonly 3 m, 5 m, or 10 m classes.

Height/diameter curve: a graphic representation of the relationship between individual tree heights and diameters used to determine tree volumes in localized areas.

Helitack: initial attack on wildfires involving the use of helicopters and trained crews, deployed as a complete unit.

Helitanker: a helicopter equipped with a helitank - a specially designed tank used for transporting and dropping suppressants or retardants.

Helitorch: a specialized drip torch, using a gelled fuel, slung and activated from a helicopter.

Herbicide: chemical substances or living organisms (called bioherbicides) used to kill or control vegetation such as brush, weeds, and competing or undesirable trees.

Heritage areas: sites of historical, architectural, archaeological, paleontological, or scenic significance to the province.

Heritage trail: a trail having cultural significance by reason of established aboriginal use or use by early immigrants.

Highgrading: the removal of only the best trees from a stand, often resulting in a residual stand of poor quality trees.

High hazard (forest health): physical characteristics (including tree species, composition, age, and size) and biogeoclimatic factors that make a forest highly susceptible to attack by damaging agents.

High sensitivity areas: areas having special concerns, issues, or the potential for negative impacts on resource values, including any soils with high hazard or very high hazard for compaction, erosion, mass wasting, or displacement.

High value stream: as defined in the Forest Practices Code of British Columbia Cutblock and Road Review Regulation a high value fish-bearing stream and a stream in a community watershed.

Higher level plan: Defined in the Forest Practices Code of British Columbia Act as:

- a) a plan formulated pursuant to Section 4(c) of the Ministry of Forests Act and designated as a higher level plan by the district manager in accordance with direction from the chief forester;
- b) a management plan designated as a higher level plan by the chief forester for tree farm licences and by the regional manager for other agreements under the Forest Act,
- c) an objective for a resource management zone;
- d) an objective for a landscape unit or sensitive area;
- e) an objective for a recreation site, recreation trail or interpretive forest site, and;
- f) a plan or agreement declared to be a higher level plan by:
 - i) the ministers or;
 - ii) the Lieutenant Governor in Council under this or any other act.

Highlead system: logging system that uses cables rigged to a spar high above the ground so that one end of the logs can be lifted during yarding.

Hip chain: a device used to measure distance by means of an anchored filament wrapped around a wheel that revolves as you walk (handy for measuring distances on your own).

Historical variation: the range of the spatial, structural, compositional and temporal characteristics of ecosystem elements during a period specified to represent "natural" conditions.

Hoe-chucking: a logging system that uses an excavator or hoe to yard logs to the roadside and/or landing.

Human dimension: an integral component of ecosystem management that recognizes people are part of ecosystems, that people's pursuits of past, present, and future desires, needs and values (including perceptions, beliefs, attitudes and behaviours) have and will continue to influence ecosystems and that ecosystem management must include consideration of the physical, emotional, mental, spiritual, social, cultural and economic well-being of people and communities.

Human impact or influence: a disturbance or change in ecosystem composition, structure or function caused by humans.

Humus: a general term for the more or less decomposed plant and animal residues in the lower organic soil layer.

Hydrology: the science that describes and analyzes the occurrence of water in nature, and its circulation near the surface of the earth.

Hydroseeding: the application of seed in a water slurry that contains fertilizer, a soil binder and/or mulch.

Hypsometer: a simple instrument, often a stick or other straight edge, used to measure the heights of trees on the basis of similar angles.