

Water-based Log Handling

The forestry industry uses water-based log handling methods in and adjacent to PNCIMA due to mountainous terrain and the remote location of timber in adjacent coastal watersheds.¹

In general, logs are bundled, released into the ocean via a log dumping method and stored in booms. There are four methods of log dumping: skidways or slides, helicopter dumping, vertical hoist and direct to barge. Skidways are the most common method of log dumping, and helicopter dumping occurs 20 percent of the time. Vertical hoist and direct to barge are not commonly used within PNCIMA.¹

Tugboats ferry the bundled and boomed logs to the nearest sorting and processing centres. For long distance transport, logs are moved by barge. At dumping, sorting or processing sites, logs are stored in water and sorted on land. Processing involves dewatering the logs and preparing them for further transport via land or water. In the areas adjacent to PNCIMA, centralized dryland log sorting sites are located at Prince Rupert, Port Edward and Ridley Island.¹

Tenures

As of November 2010, there were 1007 log handling tenures in BC. Of these, 450 fell at least partly within PNCIMA or the coastal watersheds that flow into PNCIMA. The total area

of log handling tenures within PNCIMA and its adjacent watersheds is 57.4 km².

Log handling tenures are distributed throughout the interior waterways and channels of the north and central coasts, Vancouver Island and Haida Gwaii. Their densest distribution is in the southern portion of PNCIMA in the mainland inlets flowing into Johnstone Strait and Queen Charlotte Strait.

Individual log storage and handling tenures can contain multiple parcels of land which are not always adjacent. The map displays tenures and multi-part tenures as points located in the centre of individual parcels.

It should be noted that tenures are both offered and expire over time; the BC Land and Resource Data Warehouse should have the most up to date information.² Tenures which were still in the application phase as of November 2010 are not illustrated.

In 2010, 450 log handling tenures overlapped PNCIMA or its coastal watersheds

Material presented is drawn from the following literature review, which includes primary references:
 1 MacConnachie, S., Hillier, J. and Butterfield, S. 2007. Marine use analysis of the Pacific North Coast Integrated Management Area. Can. Tech. Rep. Fish. Aquat. Sci. 2677. 188pp.
 2 British Columbia Marine Conservation Analysis Project Team. 2011. Marine atlas of Pacific Canada: a product of the British Columbia Marine Conservation Analysis. Available from www.bcmca.ca (Accessed March 2011).



Photos: Steve Diggon

