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## *Mandate and History*

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The Forest Appeals Commission was established under the *Forest Practices Code of British Columbia Act* and is continued under the *Forest and Range Practices Act*. It is an independent agency, which hears appeals from administrative decisions made under a variety of statutes. Some of the statutes allowing for appeals to the Commission have changed over the years. The Commission currently hears appeals under the:

*Forest Practices Code of British Columbia Act*  
*Forest and Range Practices Act*  
*Private Managed Forest Land Act*  
*Wildfire Act*  
*Forest Act*  
*Range Act*

### *Origins and evolution of the Commission's mandate*

The Commission was established in 1996 to hear appeals under the *Forest Practices Code of British Columbia Act*.

In 1998 the Commission took over the responsibilities of the Forest Appeal Board, which historically heard appeals under the *Forest Act* and the *Range Act*.

On January 31, 2004 the *Forest and Range Practices Act* was brought into force by regulation, as a part of a two-year transition period during which the administration of forest practices in the province were transferred from the *Forest Practices Code of British Columbia Act* to the *Forest and Range Practices Act*.

Section 33 of the *Private Managed Forest Land Act* creates a right of appeal to the Commission for persons who are subject to certain orders, decisions or determinations under the *Private Managed Forest Land Act* which came into force, by regulation on August 24, 2004.

Amendments were made to various sections of the *Forest Act* and the *Range Act* in 2004 to accommodate the coming into force of the *Forest and Range Practices Act*.

The *Wildfire Act* creates a right of appeal to the Commission from certain orders and decisions under that Act. The *Wildfire Act* and the *Wildfire Regulation* came into force on March 31, 2005.