

A photograph of a forest with tall, thin trees and a dense undergrowth of green plants. A semi-transparent grey box is overlaid on the right side of the image, containing the title and presenter information.

# Thinning in BC: A brief overview

Presented by:

Derek Lefler, RPF, Co-chair of Provincial Thinning Steering Committee

May 27, 2025



# Provincial Thinning Steering Committee

Purpose:

*To promote sustainable forestry using a full rotation management approach, by utilizing thinning as an innovative harvest approach to increase the **health and resilience** of forest ecosystems while **enhancing the economic value** generated from our forests.*

# Thinning SC Subgroups

- Core Thinning Steering Committee
  - Research
  - Policy Barriers
  - Volume to Value
  - Guidance



# Thinning Guidance for BC

*To support forest professionals and delegated decision-makers in the development and implementation of thinning prescriptions and the approval of associated stocking standards.*

## Thinning Guidance for British Columbia

Effective April 1, 2025



Office of the Chief Forester

February 1, 2025



Ministry of  
Forests



# What is thinning?

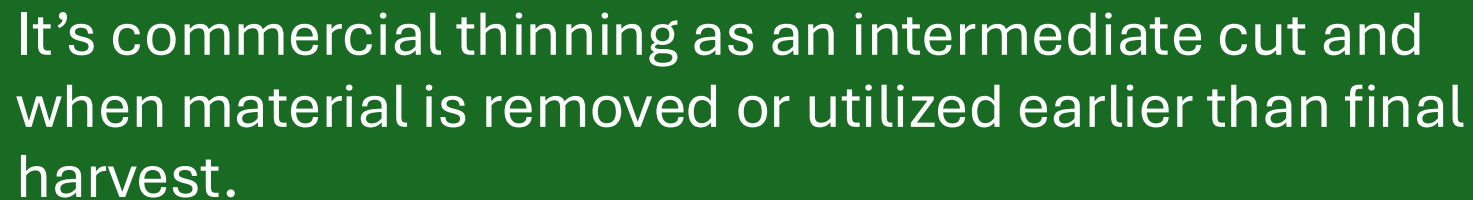
A type of partial harvest or stand tending, but not all partial cutting is thinning.



The removal of individual trees from a stand to maintain or improve the health of remaining trees.

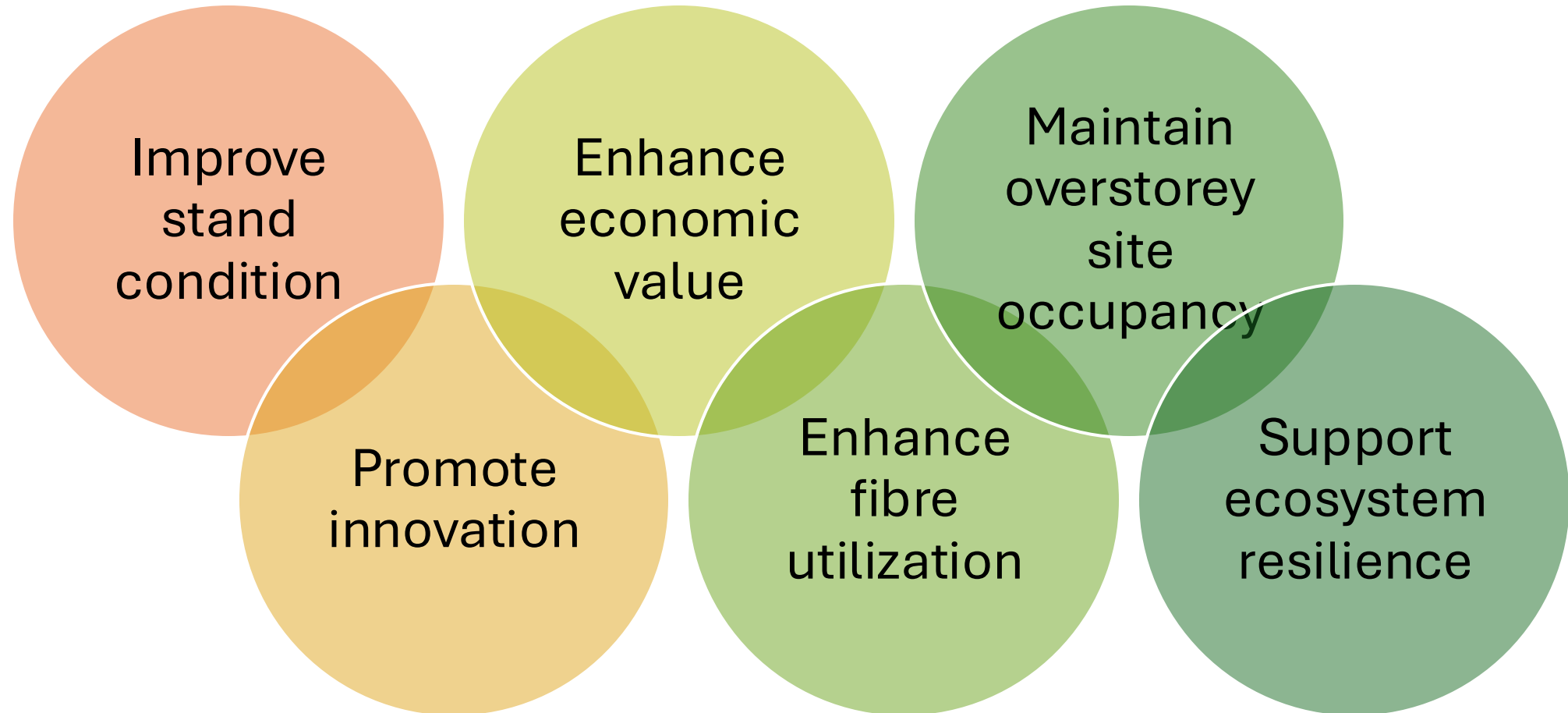


It's commercial thinning as an intermediate cut and when material is removed or utilized earlier than final harvest.





# Thinning goals



# What is next?

## Pilot Projects

- BC Timber Sales
  - Thinning for volume and WRR
- Answering questions on policy, administrative, cost barriers
- Incorporate learnings from research trials

## Operational Projects

- Support for licensees and districts
- Info sharing on challenges and opportunities





# Questions/ comments



[ThinningSupport@gov.bc.ca](mailto:ThinningSupport@gov.bc.ca)

