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Essays on the economics of British Columbian timber policy

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Stellingen behorende bij het proefschrift

Essays on the economics of British Columbian timber policy

Kurt Niquidet

1. Institutions governing forest use in British Columbia have been shaped by changing economic demands, however policy maker's response to these changing demands have been constrained by past institutions.
2. The most recent reforms to forest tenure, termed the Forestry Revitalization Plan, created both winners and losers in the British Columbian forest sector. The forest owner (the provincial government) largely benefiting at the expense of labour and capital employed in forestry.
3. Administered timber pricing formula based on transaction evidence models coming from timber auction results are biased if they do not include no-bid information.
4. Property rights to forest resources in British Columbia have been endogenously determined; becoming weaker as the rental value of the timberland decreases.
5. Rent dissipation attributed to maximum sustained yield policies is highest on the most productive land close to processing facilities. As a consequence the pressure for policy change will be greatest on these lands.
6. Restricting large integrated firms from timber auctions has little impact on revenue, provided re-sale opportunities are made. However, awarding timber based on a combination of revenue, manufacturing and employment criteria significantly lowers revenue.
7. Timber sale competition can be enhanced for most of the province by allowing log exports.
8. Writing a PhD thesis is much like a baseball game; "it ain't over till it's over."
– Inspired by Yogi Berra
9. Genetic Drift is deterministic.