

# Forestry in British Columbia in Comparative Context



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# Raise Ideas/argument

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- **How we measure policy?**
- **How do we explain changes in policy?**
- **How does BC forest policy compare?**

# Four measures of policy



## **GOALS**

Broad guidance  
-economic development  
-environmental protection

## **OBJECTIVES**

**-Operationalizes goals**  
Stop pollution of streams  
Increase revenues  
Reduce costs

## **INSTRUMENTS**

How objectives are carried out

## **SETTINGS**

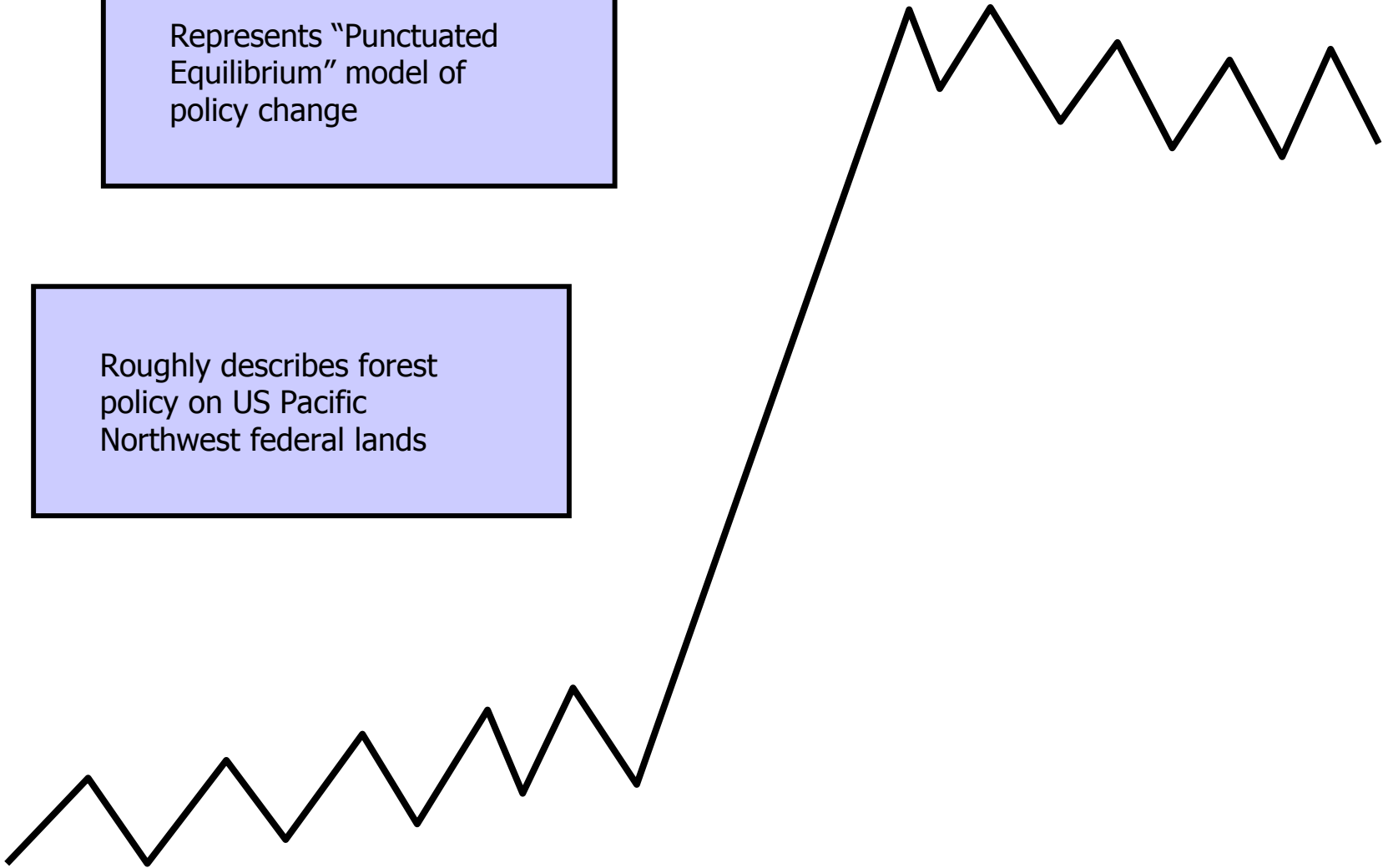
Specific level  
-size of riparian buffer zone, clearcuts  
-emissions

Sources: Hall; Howlett and Ramesh

# Policy (settings) Development Pattern #1

Represents "Punctuated Equilibrium" model of policy change

Roughly describes forest policy on US Pacific Northwest federal lands

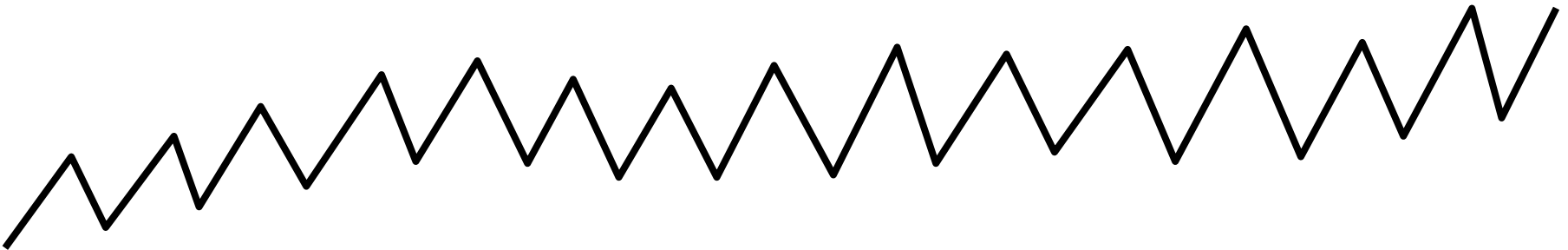


# Policy (settings) Development Pattern #2

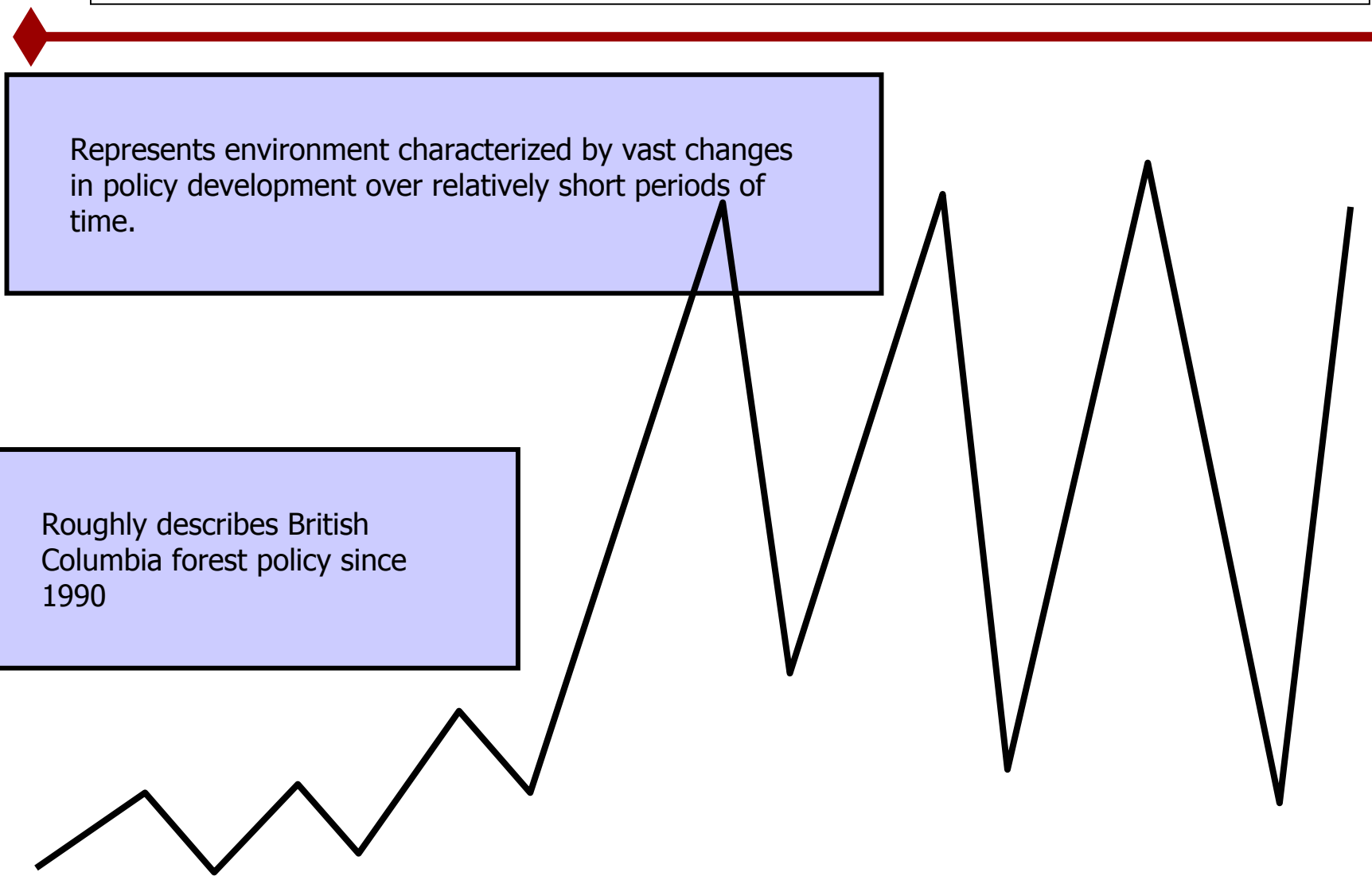


Represents "Incrementalism" model of policy change

Roughly describes forest policy regulation on private forest lands in US Pacific Northwest



# Policy (settings) Development Pattern #3



Represents environment characterized by vast changes in policy development over relatively short periods of time.

Roughly describes British Columbia forest policy since 1990

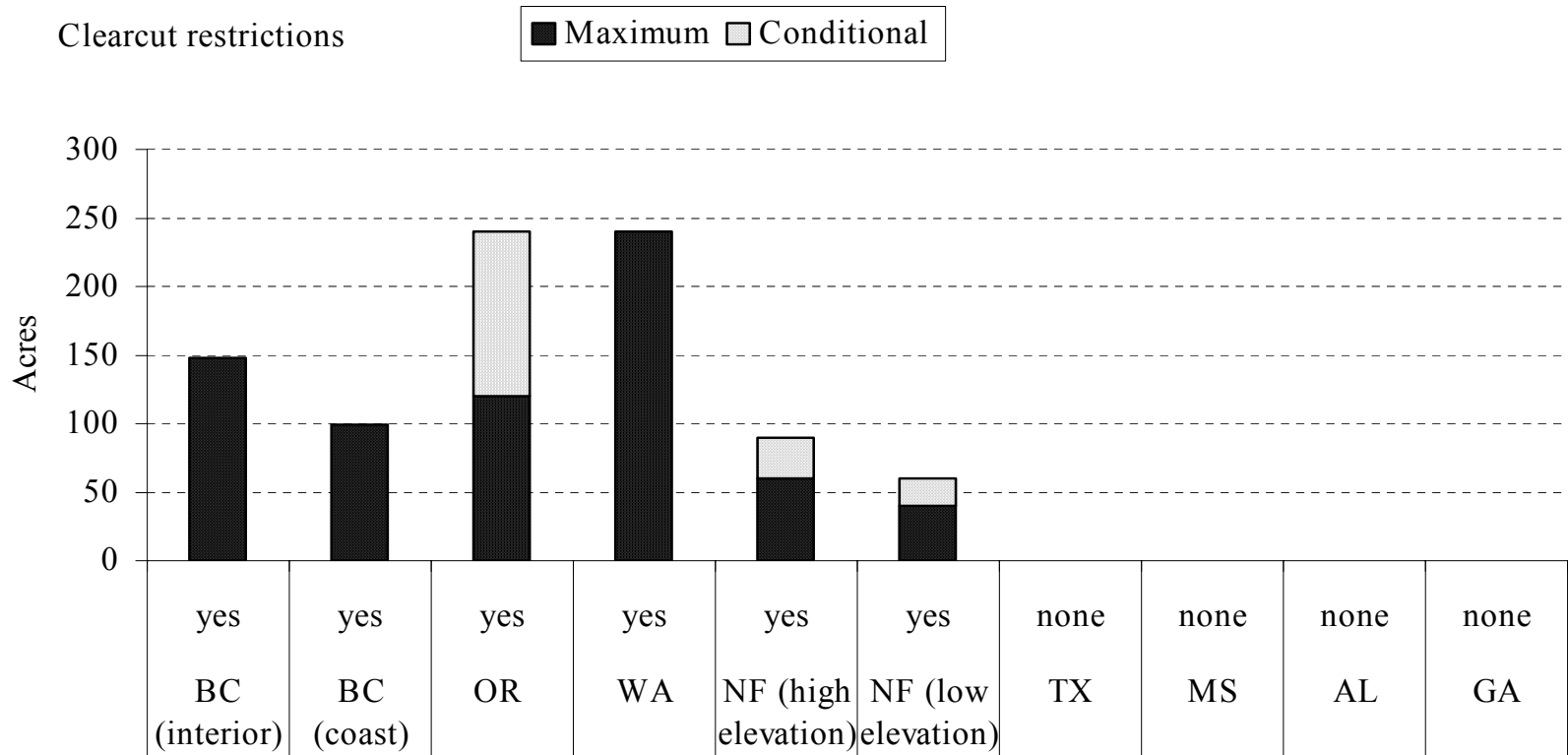
# Potential Explanation

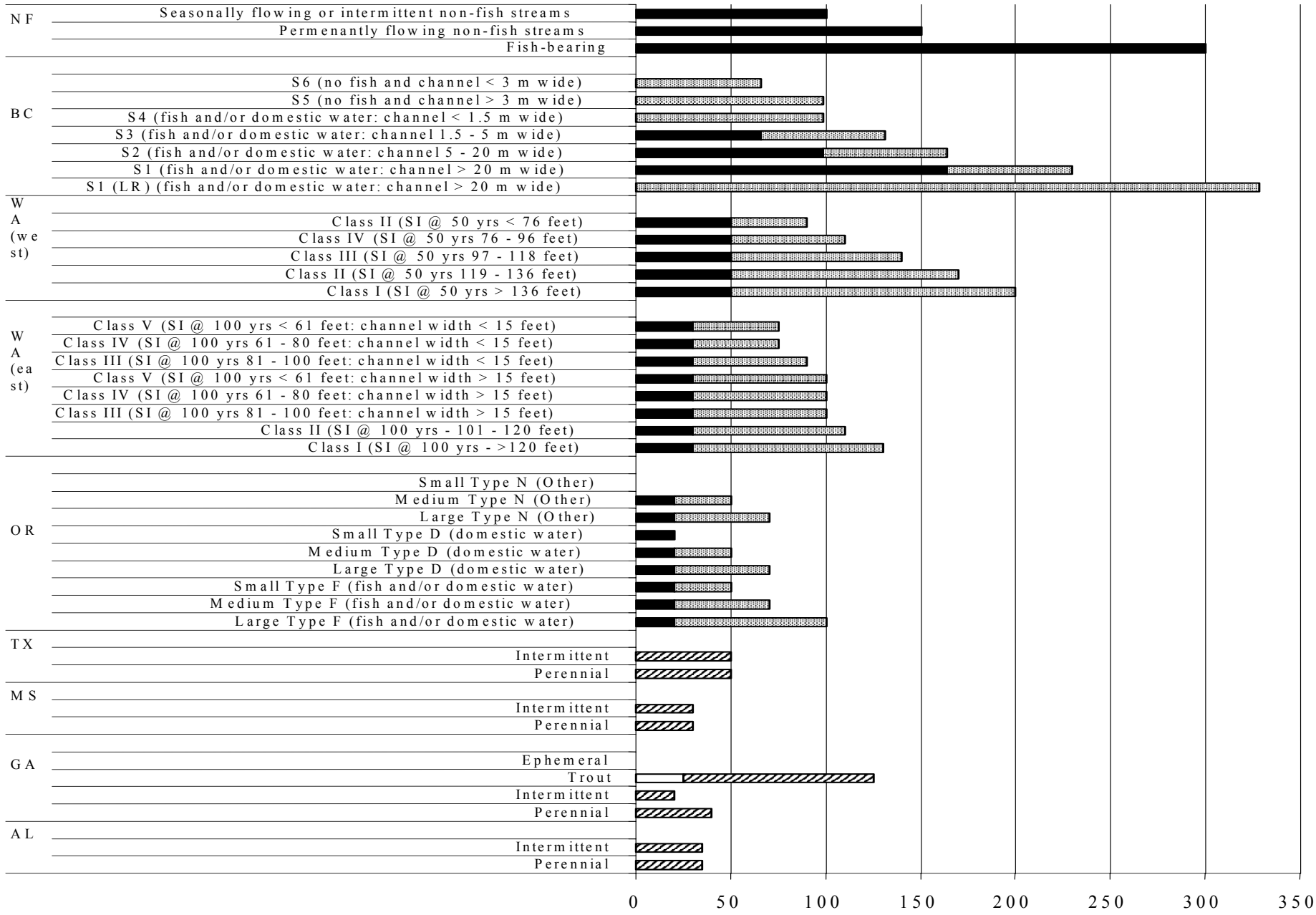
- **Institutions mediate societal pressures in different ways**
- **Washington and Oregon**
  - Environmental goals cannot trump economic ones
  - Policy Instruments durable and generally permit incremental responses
- **US federal lands**
  - Environmental goals can trump economic ones
  - Policy Instruments can change (or new ones can join existing approaches to reflect emphasis on environmental goals)

# Potential Explanation

- **British Columbia**
- Emphasis on environmental and economic development goals *can* fluctuate considerable
- Choices of policy instruments can also fluctuate considerable
- Instrument design may change to better deliver on settings (what supporters of a results based code claim)
- Instrument design may change to better balance economic and environmental goals (what supporters and critics of results based code claim).

# What did policy settings look like in 2000?



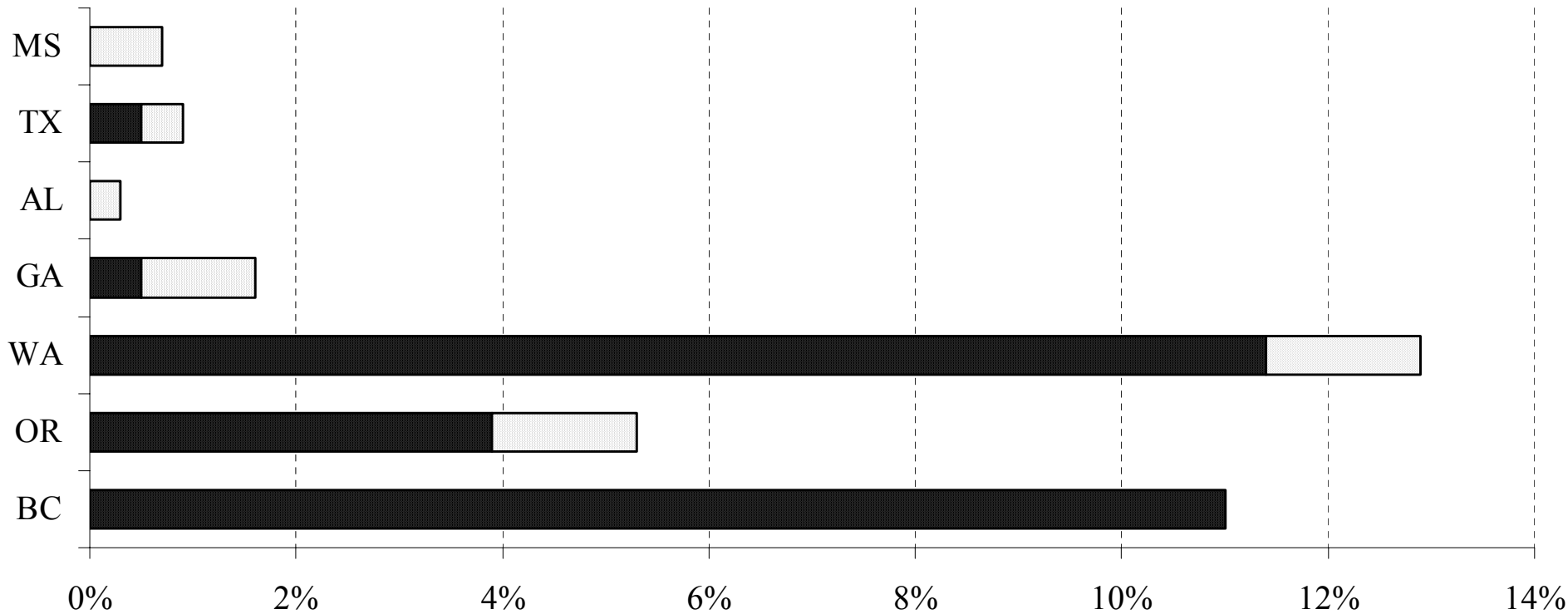


# What did policy settings look like in 2000?



Protected areas

■ "Strictest" protection □ "Relaxed" protection



# Policy analysis challenges



- Settings constantly changing. Need to understand process through which change occurs
- Instrument change may require looking at different types of settings
- Results based code moves to setting targets (measuring stream quality and temperature instead of requiring set amounts of established buffer area)
- Need compare settings across time and across space (comparisons of forest practices in BC to US forest lands does not address rules on lands where vast majority of harvesting occurs)

## Problem analysis challenges cont.

- Government no longer only arena of authority
- Firms acting on their own (often after direct targeting campaigns).
- Forest certification new “non-state market driven” arena in which standards are developed separately from governmental authority
- Government settings could be going in one direction while certification standards going in another direction
- British Columbia FSC standards more stringent than government
- Need to understand better incentives for compliance
- Whether these systems can address environmental policy problems in ways that governments have been unable.
- Relationship between public and private authority