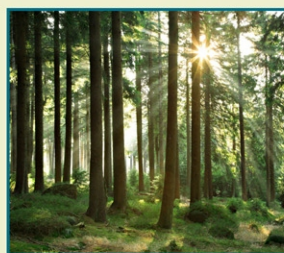


Adapting Future Forests

FUTURE FOREST ECOSYSTEMS INITIATIVE (FFEI)

The FFEI aims to adapt BC's forest and range management policies to a changing climate. **Ecological resilience** is the keystone to this initiative, and BC is taking steps to help forest and rangeland ecosystems absorb and adapt to stress and disturbance associated with climate change.

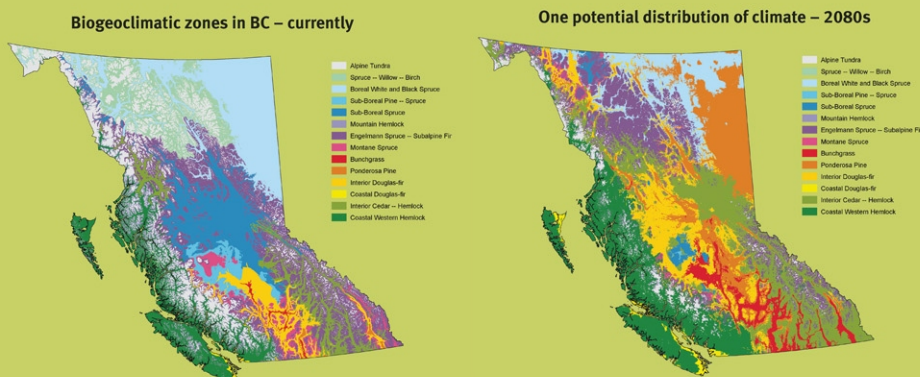
Work is beginning on a suite of tools to adapt to changing conditions. These include, for example, climate-based seed zones, and adjustments to the ecosystem classification system.



EXPECT INCREASED DISTURBANCE

Climate affects ecosystem development, tree species composition, growth, productivity, and ability of the forest to provide a variety of resource values and ecosystem services.

Hamann and Wang (2006) present one of many possible future scenarios of shifting climate envelopes for our current BEC zones. Other possibilities may be just as likely. In general, we expect the climatic suitability for various species to move north and to higher elevations, with significant implications for our forests.



PARTNERS IN ADAPTATION

The mountain pine beetle infestation is the most current and costly example of the effects of climate change on BC's forests. Work is underway to mitigate effects on long-term timber supply.

The mountain pine beetle epidemic has provided the opportunity for new relationships to develop in finding solutions. The First Nations Mountain Pine Beetle Initiative was created as First Nations communities and values are being impacted by the loss of these stands. Economic strategies and environmental stewardship plans are being designed and implemented to support the First Nations communities in the affected areas.



Climate Change and Forest Carbon
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