

CONFORGEN

Objectives and Accomplishments for 2008–2010:

1. Obtain a commitment from the Information and Knowledge Working Group of the Canadian Council of Forest Ministers (CCFM) to support the role for genetic conservation in their mandate, and coordinate with the Climate Change Task Force.

A letter was received from the Chair of the Information and Knowledge Working Group (IKWG) recognizing the intent and direction of CONFORGEN activities and acknowledging that the information compiled supports part of the activities of the CCFM. A progress report was sent to the IKWG July 2009. Input was provided to the Climate Change Task Force report "Vulnerability of Canada's Tree Species to Climate Change and Management Options for Adaptation: An Overview for Policy Makers and Practitioners".

2. Organize and deliver a Forum on the Conservation of Forest Genetic Resources at the 2008 Canadian Forest Genetics Association (CFGAs) meeting.

The second Forum, "Applied Forest Genetic Conservation", was attended by about 40 people. Dr. Tom Ledig was the keynote speaker and six other presentations were made. There was consensus that a subcommittee be formed to address various aspects of assisted migration.

3. Complete an initial draft of genetic conservation guidelines.

A draft was completed and circulated to the Guidelines Subcommittee for approval. A guideline was written for Butternut and circulated to the Guidelines Subcommittee. Draft guidelines for western white pine, whitebark pine and grand fir were developed.

4. Complete a conceptual plan identifying requirements to extend a forest-tree genetic resources gap analysis across Canada.

CFS provided funding to assist Andreas Hamann, University of Alberta, in hiring a post doctorate fellow to work on a gap analysis project for the province of Alberta.

5. Conduct a pan-Canadian survey on the status of native tree species.

The capability to have the survey conducted online was included in the expansion of CAFGRIS. The survey was delayed due to time and technical constraints for completing the expansion of CAFGRIS.

6. Expand and incrementally populate CAFGRIS.

Funding was procured from GeoConnections and the work was conducted by the Information Technology Group at CFS-Pacific Forestry Centre. Enhancements include: access to *ex situ* and inter *situ* data from several provinces, access to NaturServe data, mapping interface, and the ability to conduct the forest genetic resources survey online.

Others:

7. Development of a CONFORGEN website

A website was created and populated with a number of items.

8. Promotional bookmark

A bookmark was printed and distributed to members for their use at events.