

# Alberta Forest Growth Organization



## Creating the Link Between Growth & Yield and Carbon Credits

Forest growth and yield research in Alberta is currently undertaken and supported by a number of agencies including forest companies, growth and yield co-ops, SRD and U of A.

In the face of climate change and carbon emissions regulations, all of Alberta's resource-based industries will begin to rely on the estimation of forest growth and yield to demonstrate sustainability and to derive/trade for carbon credits.

### Mandate:

To expedite and co-ordinate the development well-funded forest G&Y sector in Alberta that operates effectively and efficiently to address emerging issues in all of Alberta's natural resource management sectors that require G&Y knowledge and expertise for solutions.

### Goal:

To further establish a credible foundation for understanding and forecasting the growth of Alberta's forests.

### Objectives:

1. Emerging Issues
  - Be recognized, and act as, the Alberta authority to address the technical forest growth and yield aspects of emerging issues (sustainability, climate change, carbon emissions, water quality, genetic diversity, population growth, etc.).
2. Communications
  - Ensure that senior government officials and corporate executives (in all resource management sectors) are aware of the expertise that exists.
  - Initiate and maintain dialogue with senior executives in Alberta's resource management sectors (agriculture, oil and gas, electricity, water, mining).
  - Communicate the high priority issues facing Alberta's resource management sectors.
3. Research
  - Co-ordinate research efforts among existing G&Y agencies, programs and initiatives to focus efforts on high priority issues identified in (2) above.
  - Solicit and secure funding to initiate or continue required research and development programs.
4. Provincial Policy Recommendations
  - Provide recommendations for additions or changes to provincial policy.
5. Forecasting Systems
  - Support the development, enhancement and validation of existing and new forest growth models.



## Carbon Credits

To improve the knowledge base within the sector AFGO has commenced with a number of initiatives. Credits from forest operations will provide part of the solution towards Alberta meeting its targets.

### Workshop #1 Forest Carbon 101 - Forest Offsets

Partnered with Climate Change Central and FRI

- Setting the stage
- Fundamentals of Offset Trading
- Regulatory Framework
- Quantification
- Markets
- Challenges

### Workshop #2 Forest Carbon 201 - Getting Your Offsets to Market

- Value Chain
- Development of Protocol to Verification
- Regulatory Context
- 8 types of Forestry Protocol

### Future work

Development of Enhanced Forest Management Protocol with Canfor, Manning Diversified and Alberta Newsprint Company

### October 19-21 2010 Conference "Forests & Energy - Growing Towards a Carbon Neutral Alberta"

- Speakers from
  - o Carbon Fix (Europe),
  - o Climate Action Resource (California),
  - o Canadian regulatory,
  - o Alberta regulatory,
  - o Forest & Energy Sector Experiences and Challenges
  - o Opportunities & Options going forward within Alberta

Further information can be found at our website located at <http://foothillsresearchinstitute.ca/pages/ProgramsAlbertaForestGrowthOrganization/default.aspx>



Foothills Research Institute is a leader in developing innovative science and knowledge for integrated resource management on the forest landscape through diverse and actively engaged partnerships.

The Foothills Research Institute is located in west-central Alberta, and is based in the resource community of Hinton, approximately three hours west of Edmonton. It covers nearly 200,000 sq. ft. across three buildings and includes an on-site parking lot. The Institute is a Division of Forest Management Area of British Wood Products, a Division of West Fraser Mills Ltd. It also includes a state-of-the-art "Forest Management Centre" and the Hinton Training Centre. The Institute is located within the boundaries of three forest areas—forest, mountain, and sub-alpine—and many forest uses including timber, petreol, and coal extraction, tourism, and recreation.

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