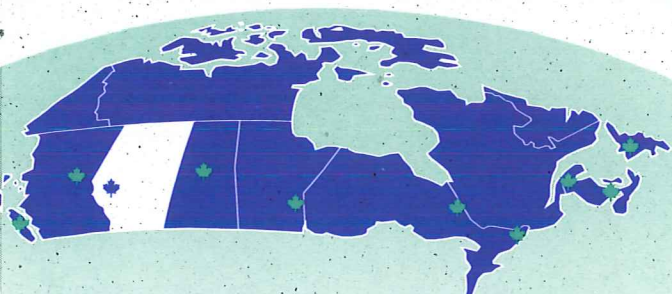


# FOOTHILLS



MODEL FOREST  
NETWORK

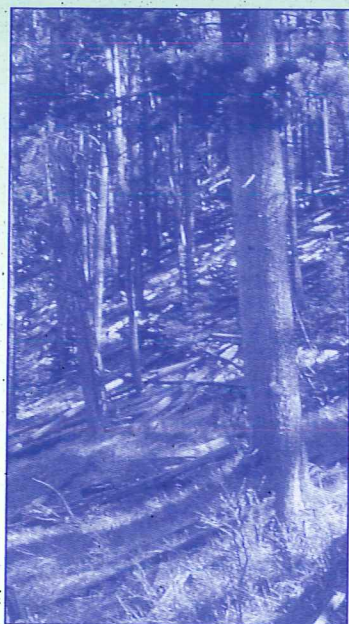
RÉSEAU DE  
FORÊTS MODÈLES



## FOOTHILLS FOREST —

**A working model of sustainable development in Canadian forest management**

Canada's Green Plan for a Healthy Environment includes an important program: Partners in Sustainable Development of



The Model Forests will be managed in ways that successfully balance resource uses.

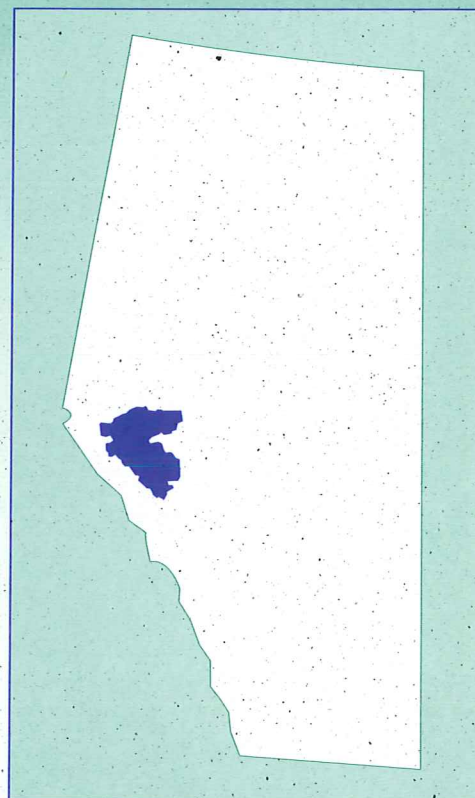
Forests. It is designed to support the efforts of Canada's provincial governments and other landowners as they shift the management of Canada's forests from sustained yield to sustainable development.

In the context of the Model Forest Network, sustainable development expands the principle of sustained timber yield to which the Canadian forest community has traditionally been committed. Other forest values including wildlife and fish habitats,

genetic diversity, and water resources are also recognized in the management of the resource: This will ensure that the use of the forest today does not compromise prospects for its use by future generations.

The Foothills Forest is one of ten large-scale working models across Canada. Together they represent the five major forest ecoregions of Canada. The Model Forest Network will demonstrate how forest ecosystems can be managed in the real world to achieve sustainable development.

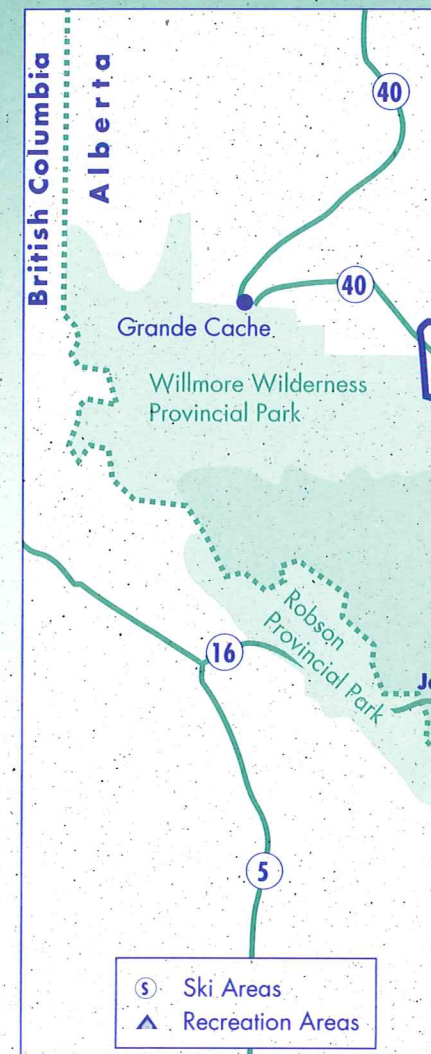
The knowledge gained from the Foothills Forest will be shared, through active technology transfer and public awareness programs, with the Model Forest Network, other Canadian forestry operations, local organizations and individuals, and the international community.



The 1 218 014 hectare Foothills Forest is located in west central Alberta, in the foothills east of the Rocky Mountains, adjoining the spectacular Jasper National Park. Jasper has been designated as a World Heritage Site by UNESCO.

Lying within the boreal, subalpine and montane forest regions, the Foothills Forest area has had a highly acclaimed forest management program for over 37 years.

Sustainable development will benefit Canadians today and for generations to come.



Within the area there are a series of glacial lakes, the only known herd of canyon-dwelling mountain goats in Alberta, caves providing an important winter roosting and hibernation site for bats, and a unique area of active sand dunes that are home to various specialized wildlife communities.

Vertebrate species diversity is rich because the forest covers the transitional area from the Rocky Mountains to the boreal forest. In fact, 284 vertebrate species, representing 96 percent of the forest-dwelling species of Alberta, can be found within the Model Forest.





## Foothills Forest

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CANADA'S GREEN PLAN  
LE PLAN VERT DU CANADA

Canada

Activities will include research to understand our forests, develop effective forest management strategies and achieve a balance between our economic, cultural and biological values.

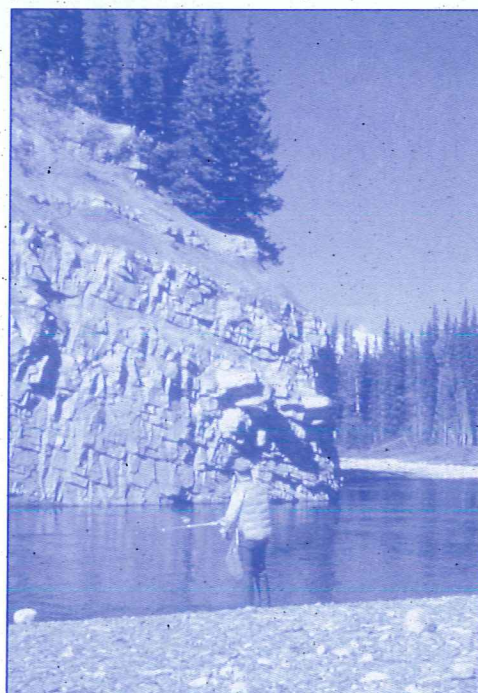


The Foothills Forest will also collect information about timber and other forest resources including logging, fisheries and ecotourism. Research will include studying and documenting the dynamics of ecosystems and wildlife habitat.

Experiments will be developed in areas such as advanced harvesting and reforestation techniques and

the development of tangible values for landscape aesthetics.

The Model Forest provides significant economic benefits to the region's residents.



Management of the forest resource will also recognize the importance of fish habitats and water resources.

Better methods for regenerating the forest and maintaining a healthy timber supply will be tested.



The Model Forest Network will help protect ecological diversity in Canada.

A key project will be the investigation of modified harvesting and reforestation techniques in important wildlife habitat areas. This investigation will include looking at ways to enhance certain forest values for wildlife habitat while harvesting and reforesting in the area.

The Forest Technology School at Hinton will play a lead role in sharing new information with professional and technical resource managers through a technology transfer and training program.

## CANADA'S FORESTS — They are yours to care for

More than 90 percent of the forest land in Canada is publicly owned.

Approximately 80 percent of Canada's forest land is provincially owned, 9 percent is held by private woodlot owners and 11 percent is federally owned.

Through cost-sharing agreements, programs with the provinces and participation in joint councils, Forestry Canada conducts forestry research and encourages the sustainable development and multiple use of Canada's forests.

The Foothills Forest is being developed and managed with input into the decision-making process from partners within the forest community of this area and throughout Canada.

The Model Forest is sponsored by Weldwood of Canada Limited, the Alberta Forest Technology School and the Alberta Department of Environmental Protection. The Alberta Forest Service and includes the participation of the following partners.

The Foothills Forest supports a wide variety of winter and summer recreational activities.

