SUSTAINABLE FOREST MANAGEMENT NETWORK

RÉSEAU DE GESTION DURABLE DES FORÊTS

Networks of Centres of Excellence
Réseaux de centres d'excellence

BUILDING BRIDGES TO FUTURE SFM RESEARCH

CELEBRATING 14 YEARS OF RESEARCH EXCELLENCE

2008 ANNUAL REPORT

BUILDING BRIDGES TO FUTURE SFM RESEARCH

6.56m

SFM Network revenue at $6.56 million. $4.1 million came from the NCE program, $1.36 million from Provincial, Territorial and Federal Government Departments, $0.39 million from Industries, and $0.16 million from the Host Institution, NGOs, First Nations and Aboriginal partners and other sources.

CELEBRATING 14 YEARS OF RESEARCH EXCELLENCE

9+2

30

192

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310

310 HQP worked on Network projects: 113 Masters, 84 PhDs, 27 Post Doctoral Fellows, 29 Undergraduates, 45 Technicians and 12 Research Associates.

1995

1996

41

As of March 10, 2008, the Network produced 41 peer-reviewed publications. Note: only includes projects eligible for renewal; additional publications will be reported in administrative reports that are part of the annual spring reporting to the NCE.

1997

1998

1999

9 Research Notes and 2 Synthesis Reports were published through the Network's knowledge exchange program.

2000

2001

SFM Network program expenditures. Research project support ($4.13 million), central administration ($0.95 million), research networking ($0.55 million), and knowledge exchange ($0.75 million).

6.38m

2002

2003

32

Total of 32 projects:
14 on-going projects ($2.4 million), and
18 new projects ($1.73 million).

2004

2005

30 partner organizations invested in the Network:
12 industries, 3 Federal Government Departments, **7 Provincial and Territorial Governments,**
5 Aboriginal/First Nations, 1 NGO, and the University of Alberta (host institution):

2006

2007

118 university-based researchers and collaborators • 25 researchers employed full time by provincial government research organizations • 24 researchers employed full time by the Canadian Forest Service and other federal agencies • 25 researchers employed with industry, Aboriginal organizations, or NGOs.

2008

CHAIR'S MESSAGE

As we prepare to celebrate the Network's 14 years of excellence at our final national conference *Envisioning Tomorrow's Forests*, it is becoming increasingly evident about how important it is to have a nationally networked approach to forest research. While the economic situation for Canada's forest sector continues to present major employment and financial angst, there is some optimism now that the sector's recent consolidations and capacity reductions will create stronger and more effective firms. At the same time, we believe the SFM Network's 14 years of research including its numerous knowledge exchange products, its six State of Knowledge projects, and its Forest Futures project will have a positive long-term impact for the forest sector as it slowly emerges into a new increasingly competitive and environmentally scrutinized future. We look forward to next spring when we will all gather in Gatineau, Québec to celebrate the Network's achievements at our concluding conference, *Envisioning Tomorrow's Forests* to be held at the Hotel Lac Leamy, April 21-23, 2009. I look forward to seeing you there where the concept of continuing a nationally networked approach to forest research will be a significant event highlight.

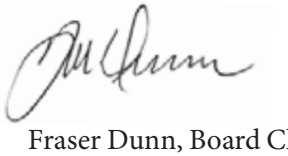
In view of the challenging times the sector is now experiencing, the Network's Strategic Planning and Executive Committees convened two national conversations. These meetings brought together members of the forest sector from across the country representing many key constituents. As a result, these meetings led to an invitation to develop a national innovation framework in conjunction with the Innovation Working Group, Canadian Council of Forest Ministers. This discussion is both promising and ongoing.

As a result of all this work, I have many people to thank. In addition to my fellow Board members for their continuing support, I must also thank the members of our Aboriginal Advisory, Research Planning and Partners Committees for their very active participation. I also wish to commend Dr. Jim Fyles for his strong scientific and organizational leadership during several transitions that occurred this past year. One of those transitions included the search for a new Network Manager. I wish to offer my personal thanks to Mr. Boyd Case for agreeing to serve as the interim Network Manager. As a result of Boyd's efforts, work continued unabated until we were able to formally welcome Dr. Bischoff as new Network Manager.

Our Knowledge Exchange and Technology Extension team continued to deliver important research workshops for partner benefit. For example, the Management of Aquatic Systems in Forested Landscapes workshop conducted in Manitoba. This workshop was jointly sponsored by Ducks Unlimited, Louisiana Pacific, the Manitoba Model Forest and the Government of Manitoba. This workshop led to a subsequent facilitated event in Manitoba to consider the most recent advances in Forest Landscape Planning and Design.

I also wish to recognize with sincere appreciation the valued and pivotal role of our committed Network staff. It is their daily efforts that make the SFM Network operate efficiently. On behalf of the Board of Directors, I wish to express our thanks to them for their efforts and dedication during a very challenging year of change and transition.

Sincerely,



Fraser Dunn, Board Chair

SCIENTIFIC DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

2007-2008 was a year of evolution for the SFM Network. The 13th year of 14 in our federal mandate as a Network of Centres of Excellence saw shifts in our research program to enhance our focus on knowledge synthesis. In addition, our administrative procedures evolved to allow increased focus on what we wanted to accomplish in our final months as an NCE.

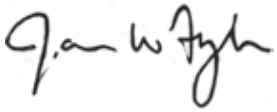
The initiation of a set of State of Knowledge synthesis projects and the Forest Future project built on the discussion of the previous year to capture the expertise, knowledge and wisdom that has built up in the Network over the years. Both of these initiatives, one aimed at looking back and the other forward, were designed to draw in what people had learned from their research that goes beyond the knowledge reflected in the published research results. Both of these programs were new to the Network. It has been exciting and challenging to watch them unfold and assist the research teams as unexpected wrinkles arose and were ironed out.

The Network also initiated its final set of research projects on a series of topics that emerged from our partner-driven priority-setting process of the previous year. The topics ranged from modeling caribou dynamics to aboriginal approaches to sustaining the forest, to evaluating the effects of forest certification and managing mixedwood forests. Overall, the program reflected priorities of a research partnership that engages the perspectives and expertise of researchers and partners from several different sectors.

This year saw a transition in management as Bill Woodward moved to apply his talents to the problem of strategic development and Dale Bischoff was recruited to care for Network operations. Boyd Case provided critical support and wisdom during the transition. I would like to express my personal thanks and the thanks of the Network to these three for providing effective management during this time of change, and to all of the staff for their contributions to the process. Special thanks also go to Fraser Dunn, Chair of the Board for his counsel and support, and as well to all the Research Area Leaders and Partner representatives. The transition was made more challenging by the decision of the Board Executive to increase the harmonization of Network financial processes with the University of Alberta system. This project has now been successfully completed and congratulations go to Dale and Shirley deVries for carrying it through.

The year also laid the foundation for the final months of the Network as a NCE. Various legacy projects are being planned that will make all of the Network's products and lessons learned available to a broad audience, including the international conference in April 2009. The Board and Management are committed to having the Network finish in celebration, and we all look forward to doing just that in the coming year.

Yours sincerely,



Dr. Jim Fyles, Scientific Director

Since its founding in 1995, Canada's SFM Network, Networks of Centres of Excellence (NCE) has amassed a huge amount of leading-edge SFM related research. As a result, forest managers today are far better informed about natural disturbance management and emulation, ecosystem-based management, aquatic ecosystem management, Aboriginal forestry issues, economics, policy analysis, non-timber forest products, and chain of custody issues. The Canadian Council of Forest Ministers (CCFM) now has significantly more peer reviewed information regarding its criteria and indicator selection. Most importantly, its various partners insist the Network continue to produce its highly regarded Research Notes and Synthesis documents.

While it is well known that the SFM Network concludes its NCE mandate on March 31, 2009, there is still the future and importance of forest sustainability to consider. What legacy could the SFM Network leave toward directing future SFM research? To address this need, six State of Knowledge projects were initiated on various critical issues including protected areas, harmonizing Aboriginal and industry interests, climate change, natural capital, water resources and mixedwoods. While the reports won't be finalized until late in 2008, Network researchers already have results they are prepared to discuss with registered professional foresters across the country. As such, a series of E-lectures, in both English and French in cooperation with the Canadian Institute of Forestry, are being planned for the third quarter 2008.

"We are committed to ensuring our partners and the Canadian public receive full value for their financial contributions. Our intention is engage our partners in as much knowledge exchange in our remaining time as an NCE as we can," says SFM Network Scientific Director Dr. Jim Fyles, McGill University. This will be achieved through various methods including audio (E-lectures) and print (synthesis reports, research notes, Tomorrow's Forests newsletters), *Net Express* e-mail notices, the Network's web based searchable document database, and through its concluding research conference in Gatineau, Québec, April 21-23, 2009.

The SFM Network is certainly sensitive to the ongoing challenges that are creating major angst for the forest sector. These factors include fluctuations in commodity prices, increasing international competition, impending decreases in timber supply in western Canada due to the mountain pine beetle, international trade disputes, corporate mergers, and pulp and sawmill closures. "Again," says Fyles, "what about tomorrow, next year, and the year 2050? What can we do now to look ahead?" When you take into consideration various other drivers such as climate change, resource conflicts, invasive species, industry profitability, geopolitics, technology change and global energy demands, what we are seeing today could be just the tip of the iceberg.

These various concerns resonated with Dr. Peter Duinker, Dalhousie University as he and his research team decided to take a longer-term look at the forest sector's future. Known as the Network's *Forest Futures Project*, the research team is creating various scenarios to consider how the forest sector might unfold to the year 2050. "We know the future is unknowable," says Duinker, "but as we track what happens on a daily basis and compare that to what we think could happen, we might have a chance to make some critical course corrections earlier than we might think possible."

As a result of consulting with forestry experts from across the country, the research team drafted four plausible, but widely differing, scenarios: *Goods from the Woods, Peace in the Woods, Turbulence in the Woods, and Restoration in the Woods*. To further refine the scenarios, workshops were held with forest professionals and other interested individuals in Thunder Bay Ontario, Truro Nova Scotia, Peace River, Alberta and Kamloops British Columbia. More workshops are planned across the country in 2008 for about 12 to 15 in all. The final scenarios will be presented at the Network's research conference to be held in Gatineau, Québec, April 21-23, 2009.

STATE OF KNOWLEDGE 6 NEW PROJECTS

Seeking new patterns of understanding by examining existing knowledge, practice and policy

ADAMOWICZ, VIC | UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA

Natural capital and ecosystem valuation as a tool for sustainable forest management

As humans turn over more and more of the natural world to development we are drawing down certain aspects of our natural capital that provide valuable services to humanity, for example, clean water, flood control, and forests. Given the many goods and services that this natural capital provides, how can we ensure these natural processes are maintained for future generations? Interviews with leading experts are providing information on emerging issues and approaches to the use of natural capital and ecosystem service valuation relevant to sustainable forest management. Over the past year, the research team developed a primer on ecosystem goods and services provision and the use of market based incentive mechanisms.

CREED, IRENA | UNIVERSITY OF WESTERN ONTARIO

Implications for water resources of activities on the forested land-base

Dr. Creed and her research team are synthesizing where the SFM Network community of researchers and practitioners stands on the role of forest management. In particular, the research team is looking at the generation and protection of water resources in forested landscapes under current and future climate change scenarios. Specific project components include a national review of best management forestry practices for the conservation of water resources, and creating "blue ribbon" standards for water resource management in forests. This will include a critical analysis of provincial forestry policy versus forest certification standards for the conservation of water resources. Over the past year, the team has developed a catalogue of provincial and territorial government policy guidelines and best management practices, and created a national-scale database of hydro-ecological information.

JOHNSTON, MARK | SASKATCHEWAN RESEARCH COUNCIL, UNIVERSITY OF SASKATCHEWAN

Climate change vulnerability and adaptation for forest management in Canada

Dr. Johnston and his team are working to synthesize certain tangible climate change aspects that forest managers can deal with in their region. Through interviews with 40 forest managers, the project team is addressing biophysical impacts, regional vulnerability, adaptation options, ability to implement options, and barriers that may prevent adaptation from being successful. While interviews with forest managers to date show they are aware of climate change and its potential impacts, the survey results also illustrate some possible barriers to adaptation, such as the lack of information on site-specific impacts, and the need to deal with other pressing economic concerns.

MACDONALD, ELLEN | UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA

Ecological implications of altering the composition of mixedwood forests

Dr. MacDonald and her team are determining the implications of simplifying mixedwood forests into predominantly coniferous and deciduous stands. The researchers are assessing biodiversity impacts as well as functional aspects of carbon and nutrient budgets. The project has highlighted important results such as mixedwood stands that may be more productive than pure stands of coniferous or deciduous trees. Interviews with forest professionals will lead to a comparative analysis of regeneration standards across the country.

WIERSMA, YOLANDA | MEMORIAL UNIVERSITY OF NEWFOUNDLAND

Protected areas in sustainable forest management: f *nding innovation across knowledge systems*

Dr. Wiersma and her research team are examining innovative approaches of integrating protected areas and sustainable forest management within different knowledge systems. Specifically, "Is there a way that protected areas and working forests could compliment each other rather than continuing to be seen as having competing interests?" To date, the team has created a database of relevant peer-reviewed and non-peer reviewed literature relevant to the project currently containing more than 200 entries. A survey is being designed to solicit information on protected areas as a concept and how the areas could be integrated with sustainable forest management.

WYATT, STEPHEN | UNIVERSITÉ DE MONCTON, EDMUNDSTON, NEW BRUNSWICK

Reviewing Canadian experience of harmonization between First Nations and forest industries

Dr. Wyatt and his team are preparing two reports reviewing research and experience concerning collaboration between Aboriginal groups and the forest industry in Canada. These reports will synthesize knowledge about the harmonization of Aboriginal and industry interests and about the use of traditional knowledge and land-use information in forest management. Thus far, the team has created a database of over 250 documented studies and projects related to collaboration, harmonization and mapping of Aboriginal knowledge and occupation. The team has prepared listings of Aboriginal communities and the types of forestry and mapping initiatives in which they are involved. The team is also intending to use a new meta-study approach that is an important result in itself.

2007 | 2008 RESEARCH PROGRAM 12 NEW PROJECTS

In addition to the Forest Futures project and State of Knowledge projects, the Network approved 12 new research projects to move the SFM research agenda as far forward as possible. These projects collectively conclude the Network's research program as a Networks of Centres of Excellence.

ADAMOWICZ, VIC | UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA

Natural capital and ecosystem valuation as a tool for sustainable forest management is identifying the ecological and economic tradeoffs and evaluating the cost effectiveness of alternative caribou management actions. This research team is cataloguing forestry and energy sector activities and other natural disturbances. For example, work in the first year included incorporating caribou herd areas and initial caribou population growth models into a computer modelling framework as well as relevant forestry data. Incorporating energy sector activities is now underway.

COMEAU, PHIL | UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA

Influence of relative density and composition on growth and understory in boreal mixedwoods is exploring relationships between stand composition, component densities, structure and growth of aspen-spruce stands in Alberta, B.C., Manitoba and Ontario. The objective is to develop and test methods for estimating future mixedwood stand characteristics based on measurements collected in young stands. Permanent sample plot data has been obtained from the project's Alberta, Manitoba and Ontario sites. The researchers are exploring the use of size-density relationships for predicting patterns of stand development and for linking young stand conditions to future conditions and habitat values.

CUMMING, STEVE | UNIVERSITÉ LAVAL

Applying regional dynamic models to Québec will apply a unique suite of modelling tools for regional spatial analysis of forest management and ecosystem processes. These computer modeling tools were developed through the Network's Boreal Ecology and Economics Synthesis Team (BEEST). The goal is to facilitate spatially explicit analysis of tradeoffs and interactions between economic activity, disturbances

and biodiversity at provincial and larger extents. Various component models are now incorporated into the global modeling framework. This includes developing a preliminary atlas of waterfowl abundance over the study region and the development of initial predictive models of songbird abundance.

DAVIDSON-HUNT, IAIN | UNIVERSITY OF MANITOBA

Toward adaptive ecosystem management: dialogue with Pikangikum and Moose Cree for keeping the land is developing a multi-scale adaptive ecosystem management (AEM) framework rooted in Aboriginal concepts of the land. Research programs held in collaboration with Pikangikum First Nation and Moose Cree First Nation are exploring customary stewardship systems and how these




communities have negotiated with previous state management regimes (e.g. the trapline system) while maintaining continuity with customary stewardship approaches. An August workshop in Winnipeg identified the potential conflict between volume-based tenure based on scientific calculations as compared to wood volumes that are sensitive to customary stewardship. A November workshop had participants consider the issue of dedicated protected areas in the Whitefeather Forest area and highlighted the need for dialogue and new partnership approaches for protected areas that can enable customary stewardship systems.

FRIDERES, JAMES | UNIVERSITY OF CALGARY

Implications for water resources of activities on the forested land-base focuses on how to best manage the cumulative impacts of development on Treaty 8 First Nations' communities. The project takes into account the diverse nature of resource developments and policy environments that exist in the different provincial/territorial jurisdictions throughout the Treaty 8 settlement area. Researchers are developing modules for implementing a cumulative effects computer tool that includes both social and ecological impacts. Through its use, researchers will be able to examine the policy environments that are leading to differing interpretations of the Treaty.

KANT, SHASHI | UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO

The economics of Aboriginal land use will help decision-makers assess the value of Aboriginal land use activities. Computer decision-support tools will assess the economic impacts of forest resource development projects on Aboriginal communities. Consultations have been conducted with representatives of the Kamloops Indian Band, Adams Lake First Nation and Neskonlith Indian Band to develop a survey on the value of Aboriginal land use activities such as hunting, trapping, fishing and gathering.

KNEESHAW, DAN | UNIVERSITÉ DU QUÉBEC À MONTRÉAL

Evaluating the potential effect of insect outbreaks on sustainable forest management is investigating how insect outbreaks of major forest pests across the country (mountain pine beetle, forest tent caterpillar, spruce budworm) interact with processes at different spatiotemporal scales (i.e., stand composition, landscape pattern, and regional climate change) to affect how forests change over time across the nation. Researchers want to reduce the uncertainty associated with monitoring, wood supply planning, successional and stand dynamics responses and the effects of forest management on insect outbreak dynamics. The project is shedding light on the similarities and differences in insect outbreaks from different forest management practices.




LARSON, BRUCE | UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

Assessing the effectiveness of forest certification as a means to achieve SFM in Canada is a project that is analyzing the amount of change induced by forest certification on social, economic and environmental aspects of forest management. Researchers are also investigating perceptions of various stakeholders (forest industry, governments, consumers, wholesalers) regarding the effectiveness of forest certification. Current analysis of audit conditions across three certifications systems (CSA, FSC and SFI) has highlighted areas where forest certification can have greater impacts on forest management.

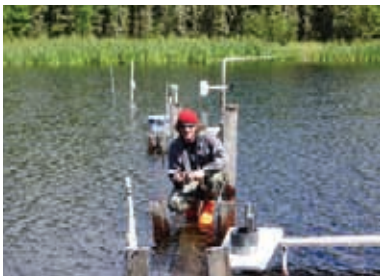
MCFARLANE, PAUL | UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

Impacts of technological innovations in the forest products value chain on SFM is investigating the solid wood/panels and pulp and paper value chains to determine the impact of technological developments on sustainable forest management, such as the influence of technological innovations on round wood use. The team is also investigating the social, economic and ecological consequences of a shift to a few large technologically advanced mills. Various scenarios are being created to explore the likely impacts of technological innovations on sustainable forest management in the future. Analysis for the 15 year period from 1990 and 2005 shows evidence of a substitution of capital and technology for labour in the B.C. lumber industry.

MESSIER, CHRISTIAN | UNIVERSITÉ DU QUÉBEC À MONTRÉAL

Implementing and testing decision support tools to evaluate forest management scenarios for SFM is applying the SFM modelling toolkit developed in a previous project to both District 19A in Labrador and a special area in central Québec. This is where the TRIAD concept is being tested on a large scale. Caribou habitat indicators are being used to explore the potential responses of caribou to a wide range of forest management strategies. So far, researchers have completed the development of a new Real Option model to characterize the economic, social and ecological tradeoffs between caribou protection and timber harvesting. This new model already has shown that it offers a significant improvement over traditional approaches to managing forestry-wildlife conflicts.






MOORE, DAN | UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

New modelling approaches for predicting hydrologic effects of intense forest disturbance is developing new modelling approaches to assess mountain pine beetle damage. Drawing heavily on stand-level field studies researchers are seeking to understand the impact of mountain pine beetle caused disturbance on surface runoff. Over the past year, the study team has refined a weather interpolation model so that it can become a web-based application. The precipitation modules have also been tested, and the research team has made significant progress in the predictive capability of a hydrologic computer model.

VALERIA, OSVALDO | UNIVERSITÉ DU QUÉBEC EN ABITIBI-TEMISCAMINGUE

Development and experimentation of sustainable forest management strategies: biological and Aboriginal feasibility is developing and adapting modelling tools for forest managers to use to compare different strategic, tactical and operational management scenarios for the boreal forest of western Québec. These simulations will be used to assess long-, and, short-term economic, social and environmental impacts for an ecosystem-based management (EBM) strategy. The simulations will include the development and the monitoring of ecological, social (Aboriginal) and economic criteria and indicators. To date the research team has developed a reliable and objective statistical method for the Algonquin community of Kitcisakik. The research team is building a cartographic decision support tool for land use planning for forest stands located near the community of Pikogan, where Tembec's experimental Exploration Agreement worksite is located.

Year 11, 12 and year 13 projects are listed in the "Principal Investigators and Projects" section on page 20.

CONFERENCES AND KNOWLEDGE EXCHANGE WORKSHOPS

The SFM Network collaborates with partner organizations to organize knowledge exchange workshops for forest practitioners. These events create opportunities to integrate research findings into management policy and practice. Over 2007/08, the SFM Network contributed to the following events:

Co-sponsored the *Sustainable Management of Recent Burns: Issues and Perspectives*, Matagami, QC. May 1-3, 2007. This was the 9th annual conference organized by the NSERC-UQAT-UQAM Industrial Chair in Sustainable Forest Management. Seventy people attended representing industry, government and universities to discuss recent research and proposed revisions to Quebec's salvage harvesting guidelines. Our thanks to SFM Network partner, Jim McGrath, Kamloops Indian Band, who was a keynote speaker.

Organized a one-day workshop on *Implementing Ecosystem Management* as part of its contribution to the Carrefour 2007 conference held in Québec City on September 18-20, 2007. The event provided an overview of ecosystem management theory, the current Quebec policy, and examples from Network industry partners, including LP Manitoba, Tembec Quebec and Weyerhaeuser Coastal British Columbia. More than 250 people attended this event.

Co-sponsored the *Overcoming Obstacles to Implementing Variable Retention* workshop in Prince George B.C., September 25-27, 2007 together with FORREX, the BC-based Forest Research Extension Partnership and the B.C. Forest Investment Account–Forest Science Program. Several SFM Network partners and researchers from British Columbia, Alberta and Ontario shared their experiences including Wendy Crosina (Weyerhaeuser Alberta), Jason Edwards (EMEND research project), Kevin Bladon (University of Alberta) and Jim McGrath (Kamloops Indian Band).

Co-sponsored the *Hydrological Implications of Mountain Pine Beetle* workshop together with Alberta Sustainable Resource Development, Foothills Model Forest, and the Colleges of Alberta Professional Foresters and Professional Forest Technologists on October 10, 2007 in Edmonton, Alberta. Presenters provided an overview of ongoing studies in Alberta, BC and Colorado on hydrological implications of forest management pre- and post-mountain pine beetle infestation. In addition, they shared examples of alternative management strategies and pilot projects implemented by industry and government. More than 150 people attended.

Co-sponsored of the *Scientific Foundation for Sustainable Forest Biomass Harvesting Guidelines and Policy* workshop in Toronto, Ontario, February 18-21, 2008. Presentations included national and international experts, summaries of current scientific knowledge and policy contexts in the different provinces in Canada. Approximately 140 students, scientists, government regulators, industry and environmental non-government organizations came together to share what is known about the impacts of biomass removals on forest ecosystems, to identify research priorities for the scientific knowledge required for guidelines and policies; and to create synergies and reduce duplication among different agencies across Canada as they conduct work relevant to their own ecosystems and circumstances.

KNOWLEDGE EXCHANGE PROGRAM: SYNTHESIS DOCUMENTS AND RESEARCH NOTES

The Network's Knowledge Exchange Program works with researchers and practitioners to transfer research results into improved forestry policies and management practices. Eleven bilingual Research Notes and two Synthesis Documents were produced.

Synthesis Documents

- Fire Cycles and Forest Management (Lauzon et al.)
- Capacity for What and for Whom? Aboriginal and Non-Aboriginal Capacity Needs for Sustainable Forest Management by P. Perreault (University of British Columbia) and M. Stevenson (SFM Network).

Research Notes

24. Ecosystem management (D'Eon)
25. Variable retention: maintaining biodiversity through planning and operational practices (D'Eon)
26. Benefits of Aboriginal land use studies (Stevenson and Kopra)
27. Keeping woodland caribou (ahtik) in the Whitefeather forest (O'Flaherty, Davidson-Hunt and Manseau)
28. Aboriginal community-based criteria and indicators: a localized approach (Stevenson and Kopra)
29. Adaptive management: learning from doing in the face of uncertainty (D'Eon)
30. Public perception of forest management (Welke)
31. Conditions for economic success of First Nations forest enterprises (Trosper, Nelson and Smith)
32. Managing for rare species (D'Eon)
33. Ecosystem representation (D'Eon)
34. Non-timber forest products and tenure in British Columbia (Tedder)

In addition, two regional liaison staff members were hired to work with eastern and western partners to assist them with the integration of Network research into their management planning. Sophie Dallaire served as the Network's extension specialist in eastern Canada for approximately a year. Catherine Rostron is serving as the western liaison specialist based in Edmonton, Alberta.

The knowledge exchange team met several times with a Board-mandated sub-committee to develop priorities through March 2009 and beyond. Collectively, they considered the range of options available for the coming year in terms of the production of documents, electronic lectures, and potential workshops.

The Network sponsored a Treaty 8 First Nations workshop in Edmonton on October 10-11, 2007. A total of 27 people attended including Network researchers, representatives from six First Nations within Treaty 8, and the Treaty 8 Tribal Association. This was an opportunity for everyone to learn more about Network research projects and State of Knowledge projects. The meeting provided an opportunity for Treaty 8 First Nations to assess where Network research may prove insightful in helping them understand pressing issues. Many of these projects touch on various issues that are presently under negotiation or the subject of consultations between Treaty First Nations, Crown governments, and industry.

More than 50 participants took part in the Strengthening Aboriginal Capacity in the Forest Sector held in Vancouver, BC on February 27-28, 2008. A large component of the workshop was directed at discussing many of the issues identified in a Network synthesis report written by Pam Perreault (UBC) and Marc Stevenson (SFM Network) entitled: *Capacity for What and for Whom? Aboriginal and Non-Aboriginal Capacity Needs for Sustainable Forest Management*. The workshop focused on the development of capacity within First Nation and Aboriginal communities to help them take advantage of their unique strengths as well as existing and emerging opportunities.

On March 18-19, 2008, the Network organized a workshop in Thunder Bay to bring the Aboriginal perspective to the new Caribou policy framework being proposed by the Ontario Government. The workshop, *Woodland Caribou-Human Relationships in Balance: Aboriginal Perspectives and Insights from Ontario*, included discussions that revolved around impacts of forestry, and other developments, and the relationship of caribou with respect to habitat and food supply. Aboriginal peoples took the opportunity to explain the importance of caribou to their communities and toward maintaining their social, cultural, and nutritional well being. Overall, participants wanted to find a way for First Nations and the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources to work together in developing management plans and legislation.

STUDENT RESEARCHERS AND PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATORS

The most recent numbers (2007 / 2008) had 310 HQP working on SFM Network projects: 123 Masters, 80 PhDs, 25 Post Doctoral Fellows, 35 Undergraduates, 27 Technicians and 20 Research Associates. As always, the accomplishments of the SFM Network in the training of HQP went far beyond the numbers involved. To follow are a few highlights. Work by students and Network staff resulted in the creation of a SFM Student Network. Henrik Hartmann (UQAM) is Acting President. Executive members include Hilary Thorpe (UofT), Jean-Francois Carle (ULaval), Angeline Gough (UBC), and Inae Kim (UBC). Discussions between the student executive and Network staff identified several initiatives for the coming year, including the development of an independent student website, electing a non-voting member to sit on the Network Board of Directors, as well potential workshops and other events for 2008/09.

A special event led by Angeline Gough (UBC), Hilary Thorpe (UofT) and Jeffrey Ross (Yale) resulted in students being asked to collectively create a vision of forestry in the 21st century as part of the University of Toronto's Centennial Conference entitled: A Global Vision of Forestry in the 21st Century. Over 60 students from universities across Canada participated. A survey of 182 students from 32 institutions, conducted prior to the conference, formed the basis for the event which included an ideas market that allowed participants to discuss in a round table setting the three themes of the conference.

Network students participated in an HQP Poster Competition prior to the Network's annual meeting on November 14, 2007. Over 50 Students presented brief overviews of their research. The posters were judged by a team that included the Network's Scientific Director, Jim Fyles, and its Scientists-at-Large Dr. George Stankey and Dr. Paul Barten. A prize in the form of a travel award to attend an international, national or regional research conference was awarded (in order) to Sara Weber (UBC), Ian Curran (UofA) and Jeanne Moore (UNB).

The SFM Network once again sponsored the student-organized CONFOR 2008 Conference, this year held at Mount Orford, Québec, January 31-February 2, 2008. Over 70 students took part to present their research findings. The event also served to promote and extend the activities and organization of the fledgling student network.

The SFM Network had a successful year guided by the Board of Directors, Partners Committee, Research Planning Committee, Executive Committee, Strategic Planning Committee and the Network's Research Area Leaders. The Board met six times to focus their attention on planning to ensure the Network's success through conclusion of NCE funding in March 2009. The Board also continued to examine a series of options to continue its research initiatives post NCE. The Board also appointed Mr. Bill Woodward (past Network Manager) in June 2007 to the new position of Executive Director, Strategic Development. The Board asked Mr. Woodward to concentrate his efforts on strategic planning to extend the work of the Network beyond March 2009.

Dr. Dale Bischoff was appointed Network Manager October 2007. During this interim period between Mr. Woodward's appointment in June and the hiring of Dr. Dale Bischoff in October, Dr. Boyd Case served as acting Network Manager. Upon completing his term, Dr. Case formally received the Board's thanks for his contributions.

In addition to these activities, the Board's Executive Committee met seven times in 2007/08. This committee deals with the Network's day-to-day business, particularly as it relates to human resources and financial planning. The Board's Strategic Planning Committee met three times to consider options for Network activities beyond the conclusion of NCE funding in March 2009.

The Research Planning Committee (RPC) met four times. At its June meeting in Halifax, committee members reviewed progress regarding the Network's *Forest Futures Project*. Over a period of two-days, RPC members worked to refine the key drivers of change, and helped draft four scenarios for use in group discussions at various upcoming regional workshops. As well, the Research Planning Committee is responsible for evaluating project renewal applications and advising the board on research planning, knowledge exchange and other Network business.

The Partners Committee met twice during the year. At its June meeting in Kananaskis, Alberta, they discussed issues ranging from Knowledge Exchange to the Forest Futures project. At its second meeting held in Vancouver, March 25-26, the partners invited various Network researchers to present their research findings on certain selected projects. It is at this time, that Dr. Samantha Song from Environment Canada stepped down as Chair of the Partners Committee. She received partner thanks for her many years of service as chairperson. Dr. Eric Butterworth, Ducks Unlimited, agreed to become the new chairperson.

PRINT | BROADCAST MEDIA | WEB

The Network continued to profile Network research results through print and broadcast media. On April 25, 2007, the Network, through the NCE Program, issued nine (9) news releases announcing the new funding awards for 2007/08. These included two overview and seven project specific news releases. Media coverage included features in 24 hours (Toronto), Canoe.ca, CBC.ca, *Edmonton Journal, Montréal Gazette, Regina Leader Post, The Sault Star,* and *Vancouver Sun*. On September 18, 2007, while at the Québec Carrefour Conference, the Network reviewed media coverage for the introduction of Sylvie Gauthier's new book on natural disturbance management including CBC-TV, CHRC Radio, *Le Soleil, Montreal Gazette,* CFCF-TV, Global TV, CTV (interviewing Jim Fyles), *Journal de Montréal*, and *Le Citoyen Rouyn-Noranda/ La Frontière*. In addition, Canadian Silviculture asked that Dr. Gauthier write a 1200 word article which appeared in the publication a few months later. As part of its annual meeting on December 12, 2007, the Network obtained media coverage for the winners of its poster competition including *24 Hours*, Edmonton; *Business in Vancouver*; CBC-TV Fredericton; CFRN-CTV, Edmonton; CHMB, Radio, Vancouver; *Edmonton Journal*; *Fredericton Daily Gleaner*; *New Brunswick Telegraph-Journal; Vancouver Province; Vancouver Sun*; CITY-TV, Edmonton; Shaw Cable; *Canadian Trees; The Edge Forest Business Magazine*; and *Pulp and Paper Canada*.

In addition to producing its 2007 annual report entitled *Future Directions and Pathways to Sustainability,* the Network produced two issues of *Tomorrow's Forests,* updated its e-mail notice delivery system, and updated the corporate communications sections of the Network's website. The Network also made significant advances in its overall website development and in the refinement of Network databases. This included an on-line conference registration system. In addition, refinements to the Content Management System (CMS) allowed for the development of a user-friendly system for updating website content and database information. The annual administrative reports used to generate NCE statistical tables were updated to include a web application to permit entry by Network researchers and processing by staff. Website tracking statistics were also enhanced.

financial statement

AUDITOR'S REPORT

To the Directors of the Sustainable Forest Management Network

I have audited the balance sheet of the Sustainable Forest Management Network as at March 31, 2008, and the statements of revenues and expenditures and changes in net assets and cash flows for the year then ended. These financial statements are the responsibility of the Network's management. My responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on my audit.

I conducted my audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards. Those standards require that I plan and perform an audit to obtain reasonable assurance whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation.

In my opinion, these financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Sustainable Forest Management Network as at March 31, 2008, and the results of it's operations and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with Canadian generally accepted accounting principles.

J. A. Pawluik Professional Corporation
Chartered Accountant

Edmonton, Alberta
June 20, 2008

BALANCE SHEET

March 31, 2008

	2008	2007
ASSETS		
Current Assets		
Cash	$ 1,475,611	$ 1,767,584
Accounts receivable	109,000	168,333
Prepaid expenses	25,836	10,236
	$ 1,610,447	$ 1,946,153
LIABILITIES		
Current Liabilities		
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	$ 192,132	$ 113,591
Deposit	23,016	51,619
Deferred revenue	375,000	510,000
	590,148	675,210
NET ASSETS		
Unrestricted	1,020,299	1,270,943
	$ 1,610,447	$ 1,946,153

STATEMENT OF REVENUES AND EXPENDITURES AND CHANGES IN NET ASSETS

Year Ended March 31, 2008

	2008	2007
Revenues		
NSERC/SSHRC	$ 4,100,000	$ 4,100,000
Provinces, Territories, Federal Agencies	1,380,000	1,475,000
Industries and other	736,884	884,391
Conference	—	129,698
Flow-through contract	64,836	20,608
	6,281,720	6,609,697
Expenditures		
Research	5,001,980	4,612,565
Knowledge exchange and tech transfer	436,227	525,679
AGM/conference	71,191	222,274
Central administration	958,130	861,998
Flow-through contract	64,836	20,608
	6,532,364	6,243,124
(Deficiency) Excess of Revenues over Expenditures	(250,644)	366,573
Unrestricted Net Assets, Beginning of Year	1,270,943	904,370
Unrestricted Net Assets, End of Year	$ 1,020,299	$ 1,270,943

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

Year Ended March 31, 2008

	2008	2007
CASH PROVIDED BY (USED FOR)		
Operating Activities		
(Deficiency) Excess of revenues over expenditures	$ (250,644)	$ 366,573
Net change in other non-cash working capital		
Accounts receivable	59,333	98,295
Prepaid expenses	(15,600)	9,921
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	78,541	20,130
Deposit	(28,603)	38,803
Deferred revenue	(135,000)	217,312
(Decrease) Increase in Cash	(291,973)	751,034
Cash, Beginning of Year	1,767,584	1,016,550
Cash, End of Year	$ 1,475,611	$ 1,767,584

HONOURS AND AWARDS

Shashi Kant, Ph.D.
Canadian Institute of Forestry Scientific Achievement Award

Van Lantz, Ph.D.
Harrison McCain Foundation Young Scholar Award

Chris Hennigar
UNB Fraser Best Paper Award

Robert Kozak (co-winner)
Sheth Foundation Best Paper Award

Nicolas Lecompte, Ph.D.
Young Entrepreneur of the Year 2007
Chamber of Commerce, Abitibi-Ouest Quebec

PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATORS AND PROJECTS

Carbon credit trading: the law, firm behaviour, economics, and landscape impacts
Glen Armstrong
University of Alberta

Ecological and economic trade-off analysis of conservation strategies for woodland caribou
Vic Adamowicz
University of Alberta

Tools for generating maps of hydrologically sensitive areas for use in forest operations planning
Paul Arp
University of New Brunswick

Hydroecological landscapes of Canada's forests
Jim Buttle
Trent University

Forest successional dynamics in the eastern-central Canadian boreal forests: modeling compositional and structural pathways and their diversity characteristics
Han Chen
Lakehead University

Influence of relative density and composition on growth and understory in boreal mixedwoods
Phil Comeau
University of Alberta

Applying regional dynamic models to Québec
Steve Cumming
Université Laval

Shared land-use: management of cumulative resource development in the Treaty 8 region of Canada
James S. Frideres
University of Calgary

Developing biodiversity patterns for predicting the effect of management on the boreal mixedwood forests of Alberta
Fangliang He
University of Alberta

Toward adaptive ecosystem management: dialogue with Pikangikum and Moose Cree for keeping the land
Iain Davidson-Hunt
University of Manitoba

Barriers to the management of cumulative effects of development in the Treaty 8 region of Canada
John Innes
University of British Columbia

The economics of Aboriginal land-use
Shashi Kant
University of Toronto

Market and institutional structures, economic welfare and global competitiveness of the Canadian forest industry
Shashi Kant
University of Toronto

Evaluating the potential effect of insect outbreaks on sustainable forest management
Dan Kneeshaw
Université du Québec à Montréal

Assessing the effectiveness of forest certification as a means to achieve SFM in Canada
Bruce Larson
University of British Columbia

Natural regeneration of white spruce following logging in mixedwoods
Vic Lieffers
University of Alberta

Management implications of forest dynamics, succession, and habitat relationships under differing levels of silviculture in New Brunswick forests
Dave Maclean
University of New Brunswick

Impacts of technological innovations in the forest products value chain on SFM
Paul Mcfarlane
University of British Columbia

Dynamics of woody debris in eastern boreal forests: implications for carbon and wildlife management
Jay Malcolm
University of Toronto

Using interactive forest planning models and visualization to assess public preferences for trade-offs among possible SFM futures
Thomas Maness
University of British Columbia

Spatial forest management planning under uncertainty due to natural disturbance
Dave Martell
University of Toronto

Implementing and testing decision support tools to evaluate forest management scenarios for SFM: a multiple scale and perspective approach
Christian Messier
Université du Québec à Montréal

New modeling approaches for predicting hydrologic effects of intense forest disturbance
Dan Moore
University of British Columbia

A participatory approach to aboriginal tenure reform in Canada
David Natcher
University of Saskatchewan

Designing and implementing integrated strategies: risks and opportunities of an integrated landscape management strategy in western Canada
Jeremy Rayner
University of Regina

STATE OF KNOWLEDGE PROJECTS

Developing a science-based decision support framework for shoreline forest management

Paul Sibley
University of Guelph

The first remeasurement of the EMEND experiment and associated work

John Spence
University of Alberta

Tree mortality following partial stand harvests: a cross-Canada study

Sean Thomas
University of Toronto

Development and experimentation of sustainable forest management strategies: biological and Aboriginal feasibility

Osvaldo Valeria
Université du Québec en Abitibi-Témiscamingue

Incentive policies for sustainable forest management

Marian Weber
Alberta Research Council

Natural capital and ecosystem valuation as a tool for sustainable forest management

Vic Adamowicz
University of Alberta

Implications for water resources of activities on the forested land base

Irena Creed
University of Western Ontario

Climate change vulnerability and adaptation for forest management in Canada

Mark Johnston
Saskatchewan Research Council

Ecological implications of altering the composition of mixedwood forests

Ellen Macdonald
University of Alberta

Protected areas in sustainable forest management: finding innovation across knowledge systems

Yolanda Wiersma
Memorial University of Newfoundland

Reviewing Canadian experience of harmonization between First Nations and forest industries

Stephen Wyatt
Université de Moncton

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- Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada (SSHRC)

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  (Natural Resources Canada–Canadian Forest Service)
  (Parks Canada, Ecological Integrity Branch)
- Government of Alberta (Advanced Education and Technology/Alberta Forestry Research Institute)
  (Sustainable Resource Development)
- Government of British Columbia (Ministry of Forests and Range)
- Government of Manitoba (Manitoba Conservation)
- Government of Newfoundland and Labrador (Department of Natural Resources)
- Government of Ontario (Ministry of Natural Resources)
- Gouvernement du Québec (Ministère des Ressources naturelles et Faune)
- Government of Yukon (Department of Energy, Mines and Resources)

Industries

- Abitibi Bowater Inc.
- Ainsworth Lumber Co. Ltd.
- Alberta-Pacific Forest Industries Inc.
- Canadian Forest Products Ltd.
- Daishowa-Marubeni International Ltd.
- J.D. Irving, Limited
- Louisiana-Pacific Canada Ltd.
- Manning Diversified Forest Products Ltd.
- Tembec Inc.
- Tolko Industries Ltd.
- Weyerhaeuser Company Ltd.

NGO

- Ducks Unlimited Canada

Aboriginal

- Heart Lake First Nation
- Kamloops Indian Band
- Metis National Council
- Moose Cree First Nation
- Treaty 8 First Nations of Alberta

Institutions

- University of Alberta (host institution)
- British Columbia Institute of Technology
- Concordia University
- Dalhousie University
- Lakehead University
- McGill University
- Memorial University of Newfoundland
- Mount Royal College
- Royal Roads University
- Ryerson University
- Simon Fraser University
- Thompson Rivers University
- Trent University
- Université de Moncton
- Université de Montréal
- Université de Sherbrooke
- Université du Québec à Chicoutimi
- Université du Québec à Montréal
- Université du Québec à Rimouski
- Université du Québec à Trois-Rivières
- Université du Québec en Abitibi-Témiscamingue
- Université Laval
- University of British Columbia
- University of Calgary
- University of Guelph
- University of Lethbridge
- University of Manitoba
- University of New Brunswick
- University of Northern British Columbia
- University of Ottawa
- University of Regina
- University of Saskatchewan
- University of Toronto
- University of Victoria
- University of Waterloo
- University of Western Ontario
- University of Winnipeg
- Wilfrid Laurier University

Affiliated Members

- Canadian Institute of Forestry
- Forest Ecosystem Science Cooperative, Inc.
- Forest Engineering Research Institute of Canada (FERIC)
- Fundy Model Forest
- Lake Abitibi Model Forest
- Manitoba Model Forest
- National Aboriginal Forestry Association

(April 2008)

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