

Resources on Forests and Climate Change

With there still being much to learn regarding how climate change will affect forests and the role managed forests can play in mitigating climate change, many forest managers are in the early stages of attempting to understand what opportunities are available. SFI Inc. will seek to work with its partners to provide access to the information and data Program participants need. Several institutes and organizations are already active in the field of forest Carbon markets, these include:

- **ANSI Forest Carbon Standards Committee:** ANSI's Forest Carbon Standards Committee is focused on application rather than research, addresses both US and Canadian jurisdictions and is designing a protocol that would have the most immediate practical application for forest managers (uptake of the product is reasonably likely in those jurisdictions (such as the Canadian Federal Government) that accept completed protocols from other sources rather than requiring all protocols to be developed internally. Visit www.forestcarbonstandards.org for more information.
- **World Resources Institute;** WRI is seen by many to be a leader in the climate change debate. Not only does WRI fund research projects in the area of climate change and forest management it is an active participant at the US federal and international levels on the subject of climate change and sustainable use of the world's resources. Visit www.wri.org for more information.
- **World Wildlife Fund:** WWF has both climate change and adaptation of forested ecosystems as focus areas. Via its Green Carbon Initiative WWF is seeking to develop a credible and comprehensive standard system for forest Carbon projects. In 2008, WWF released its Green Carbon Guidebook as a primer for organizations hoping to gain more information on the issues of forest Carbon and the role it can play in climate change. Visit www.wwf.org for more information.
- **US Forest Service:** The USFS is a potentially significant resource having recently released its own framework document addressing climate change and its impacts on USFS lands. The US Forest Service also established, in early 2009, the office of Ecosystem Services. The office's mission is the development of new technical guidelines and science-based methods to assess environmental service benefits which will in turn promote markets for ecosystem services, including Carbon trading to mitigate climate change. Visit www.fs.fed.us for more information.
- **US Geological Survey:** The USGS has recently launched its National Climate Change and Wildlife Science Center. The Center is being designed with input from Federal, State, and Tribal science and management agencies; non-governmental organizations; academic institutions; and others having an interest in conserving America's fish and wildlife resources. The Center's role is to better inform policy direction for adaptation or management of fish and wildlife in the face of climate change. Visit www.usgs.gov for more information.
- **NCASI:** With program areas focused on Water Quality, Ecological Assessment, Forestry and Climate, NCASI is an organization whose mission is directly compatible to that of SFI Inc. Many SFI participants are NCASI members. NCASI offers its HABPLAN tool designed to assist forest managers incorporate wildlife and Carbon considerations into harvest planning and has developed the Carbon On-line Estimator tool designed for the USFS. Visit www.ncasi.org for more information.

- Canadian Forest Service: The Canadian Forest Service has developed a valuable operational tool, the Operational-Scale Carbon Budget Model which enables forest landowners and managers to estimate forest Carbon stocks in northern forests. Visit www.cfs.nrcan.gc.ca for more information.
- Pew Center on Global Climate Change: The Pew Center on Global Climate Change is dedicated to producing analysis on topics related to climate change; education and lobbying of policy makers and engaging leaders in the North American business community on issues related to climate change. However, forestry related topics are not prevalent in the Center's reports. Visit www.pewclimate.org for more information.