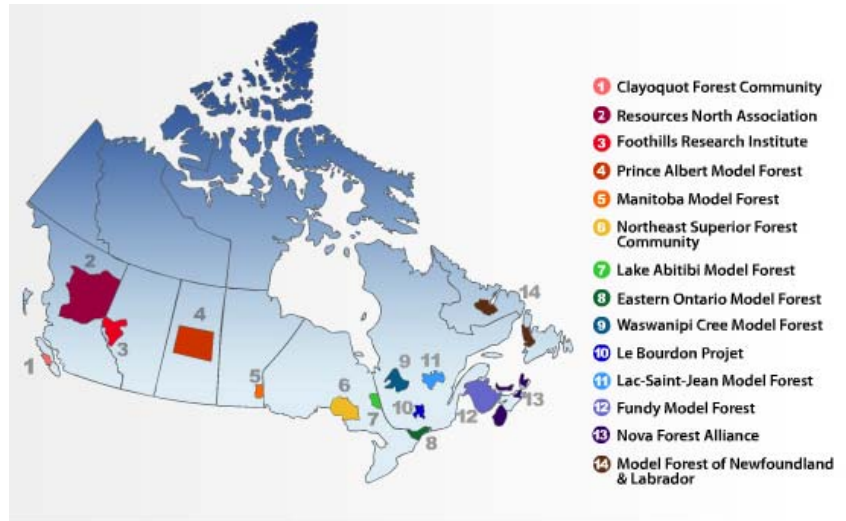


Sustainable Forest Management (SFM) involves meeting society's need for forest products and other benefits, while respecting the values people attach to forests and preserving forest health and diversity. In 1995, the Canadian Council of Forest Ministers published a list of six science-based criteria and indicators that can be used to define and measure Canada's progress in the sustainable management of forests:

1. Conservation of Biological Diversity
2. Maintenance and enhancement of forest ecosystem condition and productivity
3. Conservation of soil and water resources
4. Forest Ecosystem contributions to global ecological cycles
5. Multiple benefits to society
6. Accepting society's responsibility for sustainable development

What is a Model Forest?

A Model Forest is a partnership which brings together diverse groups and individuals such as forest companies, Aboriginal communities, woodlot owners, parks, environmentalists, government agencies, universities, tourist operators, value added manufacturers', community associations, hunters, and trappers, into working partnerships which do not sacrifice one interest for another. Model Forests research, develop, test and share practices which lead to sustainable landscape management. There are 14 Model Forest sites across Canada. The Canadian Model Forest Network is a dynamic network which facilitates the sustainable management of forest-based communities and stewardship of forest landscapes for all Canadians. Although the Model Forest organization does not **own** the land it uses as a testing ground, those who do have jurisdiction are participants. By being involved from the outset in developing new, on-the-ground approaches and solutions to sustainable forest management, those with land management responsibilities are increasingly adopting many model forest innovations.



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The **Model Forest of Newfoundland and Labrador (MFNL)** is a partnership of communities, industries, organizations and governments working together to help build our province's forest based communities. The geographic range of MFNL under the Forest Communities program is illustrated in the map (left). Within these areas, the Model Forest's mandate is to work with forest based communities and the people who use forest resources through pulp and paper production, sawmilling, lumber, value added manufacturing, tourism and recreational ventures. This is particularly important as the forest sector in Newfoundland and Labrador deals with changes due to rising energy costs, a strong dollar, global competition and declining demand for newsprint and lumber.

A **Pine Marten Conflict Resolution Group** was formed by the Model Forest of Newfoundland and Labrador in 1995. This group was responsible for coming up with a solution to the dwindling population of marten in the province. Through the use of a consensus-based conflict resolution framework, the group agreed that a reserve should be set up in the Little Grand Lake area, home to the island's largest breeding population of marten. After many discussion and conflicts over the size, boundary locations and permitted activities within the proposed reserve, consensus was reached. In 1999, a 1,496 km² reserve was created by the government of Newfoundland and Labrador. Located 20km east of Corner Brook, the reserve limits cabin development, road construction, logging, and mining in an attempt to protect the habitat of the Newfoundland marten.



The **Copper Lake Buffer Zone Study**, undertaken by the Model Forest of Newfoundland and Labrador and its partners, sought to determine the potential effects of timber harvesting on aquatic ecosystems. Brook trout movement, habitat use and spawning were studied in areas with the following conditions: no harvest or road construction, no stream buffer, 20 metre stream buffer, and 100 metre stream buffer. It was determined that buffer zones are necessary to maintain healthy aquatic and terrestrial ecosystems. Without buffers, water temperatures may rise, excess sedimentation may occur and wildlife populations may experience a loss in habitat. However, there was not a significant difference between leaving a 20 metre buffer and a 100 metre buffer, except in unique situations. The Copper Lake Buffer Zone study provided information that is used by forest managers and harvesters when making decisions about how and where to harvest timber.

The Model Forest of Newfoundland and Labrador worked with the Forestry Services Branch of the Department of Natural Resources and the Innu Nation to develop a **forest management plan in district 19 in central Labrador**. As the facilitator in this process, the Model Forest brought the Forestry Services Branch and the Innu Nation together to allow co-writing and co-management of the forest resources in central Labrador. This involvement of an Aboriginal group in the management of forest resources has attracted much national and international



In 2003, Corner Brook Pulp and Paper Ltd. (CBPP) partnered with the Model Forest of Newfoundland and Labrador to assess the requirements of gaining **International Organization for Standardization (ISO) certification**. Six meetings were conducted with the Public Advisory Committee of CBPP to allow citizens to gain understanding of the values, objectives, indicators and targets of certification, and to agree upon indicators under six criteria. Advice was also provided to the CBPP Public Advisory Committee on how to better improve their Sustainable Forest Management manual so it would link to the ISO certification. As a result of certification, CBPP is able to provide a certified product to the international newsprint market.

Questions:

1. What is Sustainable Forest Management (SFM)?
2. What roles do Model Forests play in promoting Sustainable Forest Management in Canada?
3. On this page are four examples of the promotion of SFM by the Model Forest of Newfoundland and Labrador.
 - a. Identify at least one of the SFM criteria and indicators (listed on page 1) being addressed in each example.
 - b. Identify how each example benefits the forest, forest industry and/or the people of the province.