

Climate Change Focus Group Resolutions 2008 FHM Workgroup Meeting

February 14, 2008

1. The FHM program reaffirms the importance of lichens and other FIA Phase 3 (P3) indicators to monitor the effects of forest stressors, including climate change. FHM and FIA as partners re-emphasize the need to continue collecting data associated with P3 indicators.
2. The FHM Management Team (MT) should commission report(s) that demonstrate the statistical power of FIA P3 indicators to detect change (and to the extent possible, the effects of climate change). Protocols for organizing such analyses might be similar to the process used to produce the Quality Assurance analyses of P3 indicators.
3. The FHM MT should commission an assessment of the risk of climate change and related susceptibility to genetic degradation, extirpation, or extinction of North American tree species. This should include recommendations about which trees to monitor and how to monitor them.
4. The FHM Program should identify information gaps and locate historical data sets and metadata relevant to climate change and forest health in order to develop a strategy to preserve these data and make them accessible.
5. The FHM MT should actively solicit climate change Evaluation Monitoring (EM) proposals to help fill in gaps identified in EM synthesis (e.g., zero growth isoclines).
6. The FHM Program should review and modify the 2004 FHM Analysis and Reporting Plan to add a Communication Plan that:
 - a) conveys the results of FHM analyses, emphasizing how they relate to socially relevant issues such as climate change;
 - b) promotes FHM as a major player regarding the effects of climate change on forests; and
 - c) encourages international cooperation with our partners in Canada and Mexico to expand climate-related risk assessments and forest health analyses to include the entire North American continent.