



# NAFC INSECTS, DISEASES AND INVASIVE PLANTS WORKING GROUP

## ADDRESSING CONTINENTAL FOREST HEALTH ISSUES

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# North American Forest Commission (NAFC)

- One of six regional forestry commissions of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO).
- Established in 1958.
- Policy and technical forum for Canada, Mexico and the U.S. to discuss and address forest issues on a N.A. basis.
- 7 WGs: climate, atmospheric change and forests, fire management, **insects, diseases and invasive plants**, silviculture, forest inventory and monitoring, forest genetic resources, and urban programs.



# Insects, Diseases and Invasive Plants WG

- Established in 1961.
- Promoting the protection of N.A. forests through the prevention and eradication of invasive forest insects and diseases, and the maintenance and improvement of tree and forest health.
- Members from government and academic organizations in Canada (Natural Resources Canada), Mexico (CONAFOR, CONABIO, COLPOS) and the U.S.A. (USDA Forest Service and APHIS).

# Objectives

- Advise on major forest health issues requiring special attention from a research and policy perspective.
- Facilitate technical knowledge exchanges informing proactive and effective pest risk management.
- Facilitate partnerships between key players involved in forest health management in North America and beyond.



# Priorities

- Advancing forest health monitoring and analysis.
- Fostering best management practices for invasive plants.
- Addressing climate change impacts and adaptation .
- Facilitating intergovernmental coordination to address shared forest pest issues.
- Maintaining scientific capacity to support science-based programs and policies.
- Addressing urban forest health issues and mobilizing citizens





# Some Achievements

- Development of the EXFOR information system.
- Harmonization of digital aerial sketch mapping, forest health indicators, risk mapping approaches.
- Early detection and rapid response to ambrosia beetle complex.
- Ongoing technical exchange on quarantine pests of mutual concern.
- Aerial survey safety training .



# Contact

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