

Genetic Resource Management

Ensuring sound stewardship of the genetic resources of British Columbia's tree species to sustain well-adapted, healthy, productive forests.

Operational Forestry

- Chief Forester's Standards for Seed Use prescribe how far seed can be moved from its origin for reforestation, based on long-term field test results.
- Proactive changes in reforestation standards are being implemented to mitigate expected climate-change impacts on species while maintaining forest productivity.
- Seed used for reforestation meets legislated genetic diversity standards.
- Select seed use lowers risk of maladaptation, reduces silviculture costs, and improves reforestation success.



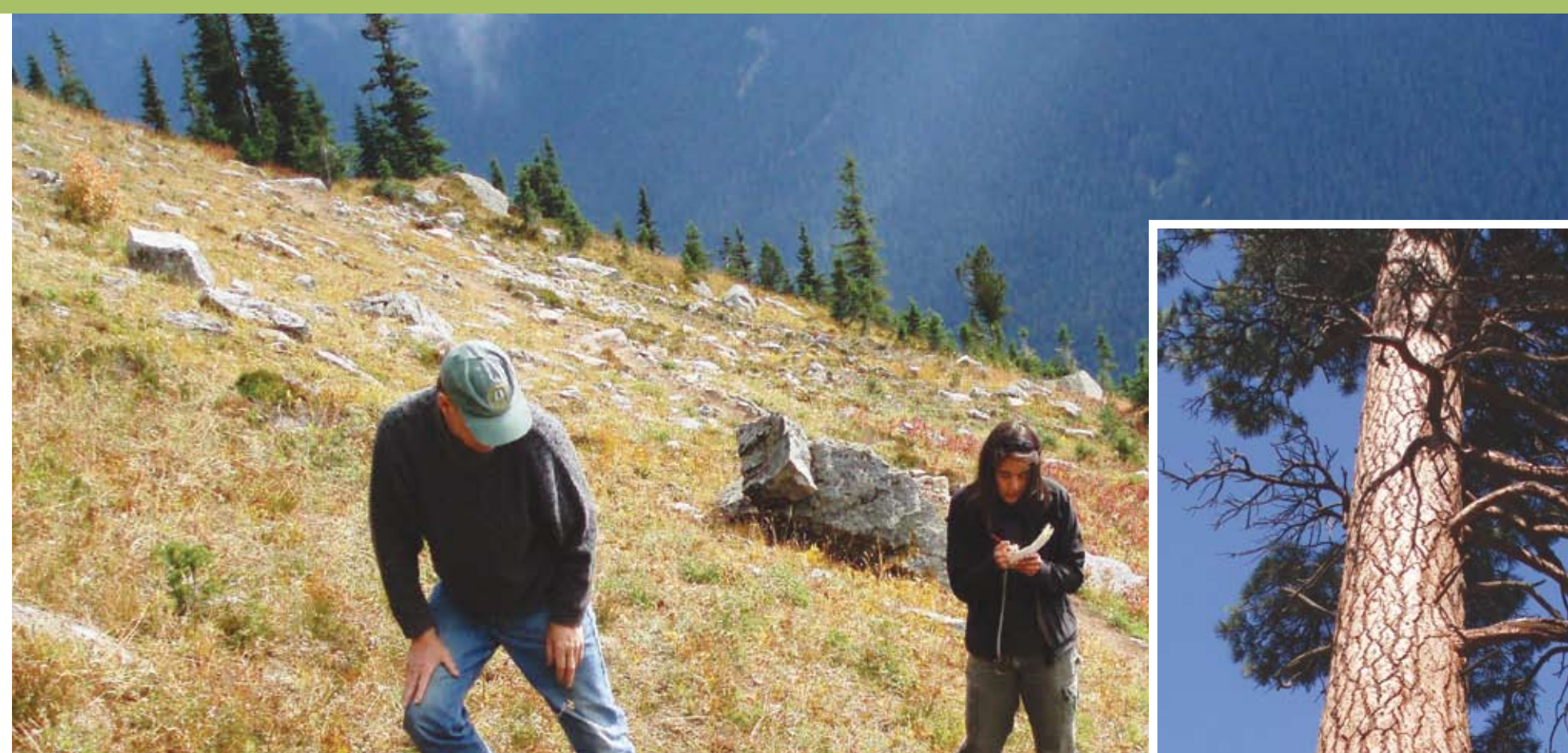
Research and Innovation

- Forest genetics programs in BC have been established for diverse traits in 16 species since the 1950s, using innovative research and analytical methods.
- Tree breeding program successes include: 20–30% improvement in growth rate and form for many species, weevil-resistant spruce seed, and advances in development of deer browse-resistant western redcedar.
- An extensive network of research trials around BC yields valuable results.
- Successful partnerships with international, federal, provincial, and academic agencies enhance capacity to meet client needs.



Genetic Conservation

- Partnering with the University of British Columbia, 50 tree species were assessed for *in situ*, *ex situ*, and *inter situ* conservation status and recommendations were made to address gaps.
- Supporting assessments of climate-change impacts on forest genetic resources in protected areas.
- Conserving germplasm of representative populations in seed and clone banks.
- Identifying genetically unique populations for conservation and management.



Ministry of
Forests, Lands and
Natural Resource Operations