Lodgepole pine population adaptation to extremes

Implications for assisted migration

Interior Technical Advisory Meeting Miriam Isaac-Renton

> January 31, 2018 Vernon



Maladaptation of forests to climate change

Increased warming and probability of extremes





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Implications for forests





- Seeds collected from across a species range grown at multiple planting sites
- Climate change laboratory:
 - Moving seed south \approx climate warming
 - Moving seed north \approx test assisted migration



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 - Tree-ring analysis:
 - Observe responses in an experimental structure
 - Design:
 - 23 provenances grouped into 4 populations
 - 9 sites, 3 with drought



Questions

Q1) How do populations respond to drought?

Q2) How do populations respond to cold?

Q3) How can seed transfer help under climate warming?





Montwé & Isaac-Renton et al. 2016. Global Change Biology. 22: 806-815.













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Normal ring









29000 Provenance (Seed Source)



















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- North: Assisted migration is low-risk
 - North: most at-risk due to extremes
 - Central: no undue cold damage in north
 - South: Cold may limit long-distance transfers
 - Central forests have some drought tolerance
 - Far south: can increase drought tolerance...
 - ... but risk damage and growth loss from cold

Questions?

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BC Ministry of Forests, Lands & Natural Resources (FLNRO)

Acknowledgements:

Ionut Aaron Michael Abley Wendy Abdi Felix Baab Joshua Braun-Wimmer Vicky Berger Andrea Bueno Alex Drummond Simona Giese Sarah Gooding Nash Goonewardena Andrea Gougeon Ursula Graf Josef Grossman Kathi Hänsel Michael Harrhy Sabine Hirt Trisha Hook Isabella Katz Clemens Koch Elena Körtels Paul Middlestead Christie Nohos Jessica Rabenschlag Kim Schaerer Loïc Schneider Marianne Stadler Nick Ukrainetz Anne Verstege Anna Vorländer Patricia Wickham Anna Wiegelmann Zaya Yansanjav

Funding:

