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SFI-00001

NCASI, Canada: Managing Caribou Habitats Using New Science

Project Overview

NCASI Canada will receive \$95,000 over three years from the SFI Conservation and Community Partnerships Grant program to utilize new methods to assess the impacts of forest operations on caribou. Over 50% of caribou calves do not survive past the first 50 days of their lives, but the cause of this loss remains unknown. The NCASI team is working with top caribou researchers in Canada to investigate maternal nutrition as a possible mechanism in calf decline, and building on past work funded by SFI. This project will focus on maintaining diverse, sustainable habitat for caribou by evaluating importance of the summer nutritional forage base, and identifying attributes of habitats which influence nutrition of caribou. The project will also identify the influence of forest operations on nutritional value of plant communities, and develop methods to inventory nutritional resources. NCASI will distribute their findings throughout the forest industry to help managers conserve Caribou habitat on working lands. The project has relevance to a number of elements of the SFI Forest Management standard, including those related to wildlife habitat and maintaining biological diversity.

Project Partners

NCASI Canada will partner with University of Northern British Columbia and Canfor. This project will also receive additional support from The American Forest and Paper Association (AFPA), Forests Products Association of Canada (FPAC), Domtar Paper, LP Building Products, Resolute Forest Products, Tolko Industries, and Weyerhaeuser.