



University of Saskatchewan: Caribou and grizzly bear response to landscape change in managed forests of West Central Alberta

Project Overview

The University of Saskatchewan will receive \$100,000 over three years to develop critical scientific data and management tools that support sustainable forest management and ecological restoration efforts in the boreal forest that ensure habitat abundance and function for caribou and grizzly bear. Specifically this project seeks to increase knowledge of functional habitat for caribou and grizzly bear in relation to areas of seismic activity and timber harvest. The University will also create, via fecal sampling, a DNA based inventory of population dynamics to complement habitat data and increase knowledge of how timber management activities affect physiological stress and movement in caribou and grizzly bear. These efforts will form a more complete view of habitat requirements and species range now and into the future.

Supporting the SFI Standard

This project will support a number of indicators in the SFI 2010-2014 Standard, related to critically imperiled and imperiled species, Forests with Exceptional Conservation Value. They include Objective 4: Conservation of Biological Diversity including Forests with Exceptional Conservation Value; Objective 15: Forestry Research, Science, and Technology; and Objective 20: Management Review and Continual Improvement.

Project Partners

For this project the University of Saskatchewan will partner with the Foothills Research Institute, Weyerhaeuser Ltd. and West Fraser Ltd.