

The report will be completed in summer 2009 and will cover:

- trees and the atmosphere;
- impacts of climate change;
- tackling climate change through mitigation and adaptation; and
- forestry, climate change and sustainable development.

You can contact the panel through Pat Snowdon, its secretary, at: pat.snowdon@forestry.gsi.gov.uk

Framework for woodland carbon management and emissions offsetting

We need auditable standards against which we can measure the benefits trees and forests can bring in terms of capturing carbon.

This will be vital to bring credibility to schemes where trees are being planted to offset carbon emissions elsewhere. The work will:

- establish standards and guidelines for forest management for carbon;
- develop protocols for carbon assessment and monitoring; and
- put in place a code of practice for woodland offsetting schemes.

This project will be completed in 2009. For further details, contact Chris Nixon, chris.nixon@forestry.gsi.gov.uk, carbon management advisor, Forestry Commission.

Centre for Forestry and Climate Change

The Forestry Commission is establishing a new Centre for Forestry and Climate Change within its research agency, Forest Research, to drive forward our knowledge, analysis and actions on forestry and climate change.

The vision is to create a centre of expertise to support actions that ensure the forestry sector plays its full part in climate change mitigation and adaptation.

Our reputation in this field, based on first-class science, is highly regarded at home and abroad. Crucially, the centre will have an important analytical role to strengthen the link between research and policy and, where necessary, to challenge current practice.

The centre will be able to call on expertise from FR's other two centres for Ecology and Human Sciences, and Forest Resource Management.

Forests and Climate Change Network

To increase awareness and secure delivery, we are working with a network of people with interests in how trees, forests, wood fuel and timber can achieve targets on climate change.

For further information

tel: 0131 314 6375 or
email: climatechange@forestry.gsi.gov.uk
or log on to: www.forestry.gov.uk/climatechange
to subscribe to our climate change bulletin

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Forests and climate change: Capturing the truth

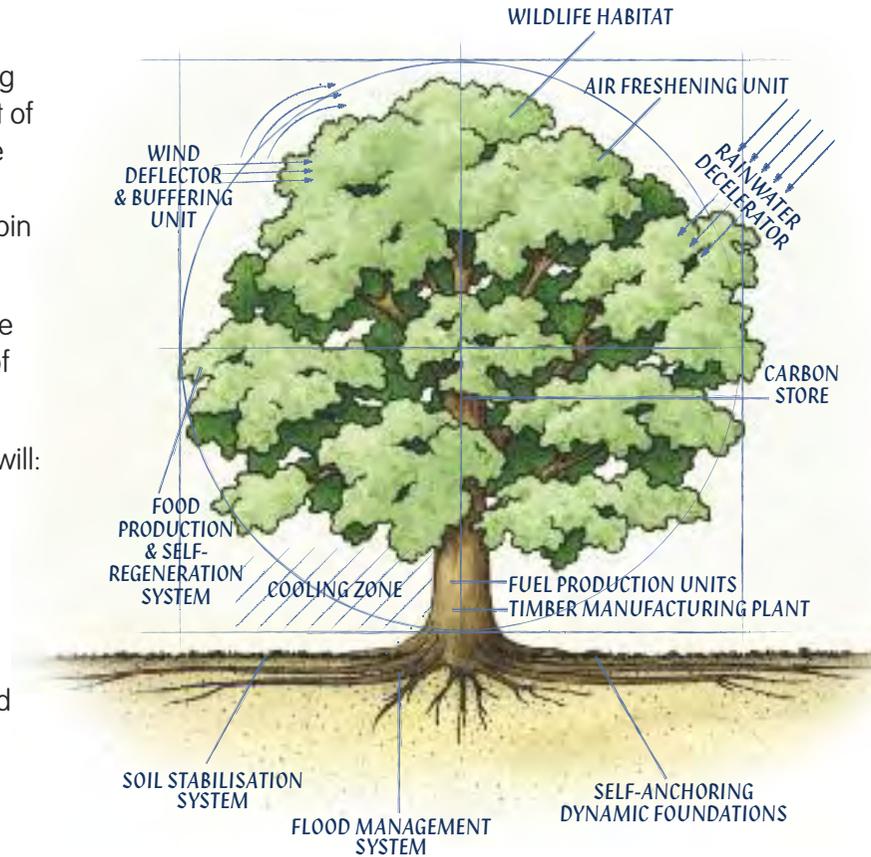
Capturing the truth

Trees and forests can play a vital role in combating climate change. If we are going to make the most of this vital resource, we need to understand and be able to explain the ways in which forests can contribute, and have standards in place to underpin that contribution.

Decisions on how we manage our forests must be based on sound science and an understanding of the evidence.

To support the process, the Forestry Commission will:

- commission an assessment of UK forestry and climate change;
- establish a framework for woodland carbon management;
- create a forestry and climate change centre; and
- lead a forests and climate change network.



Assessment of UK forestry and climate change

The Forestry Commission has commissioned an independent report into the ways trees and forests can help us tackle climate change. The report will be compiled through a panel chaired by Professor Sir David Read, Vice-President of the Royal Society.

The panel consists of forestry and climate change experts from the UK and overseas. Further details of the panel are available at www.forestry.gov.uk/climatechange

The panel's report will, essentially, be the UK's version of the IPCC's 4th Assessment Report's chapter on forestry. It aims to provide a better understanding of how UK forestry can maximise its contribution to tackling climate change. Specifically, it will:

- review and synthesise our existing knowledge;
- provide a baseline and scenarios for mitigation and adaptation actions; and
- identify gaps and weaknesses that will help determine research priorities for the next five years.

