



Natural Resources
Canada

Ressources naturelles
Canada

From Model to Policy in the Land Sector: A Canadian Perspective

Forestry and Agriculture Modeling Forum
April 14, 2026

Anne-Hélène Mathey, Executive Director
Canadian Forest Service – Natural Resources Canada



Evolving policy landscape on Canada's land sector

A **Force of Nature** strategy to better protect nature

Wildfire and forest resilience to encourage more proactive protection

Forest sector transformation to realign climate action with economic growth

A **climate competitiveness strategy** to strengthen industrial carbon markets

BUDGET 2025

CLIMATE COMPETITIVENESS STRATEGY

Attracting **massive**
investment in Canada's
clean future

© His Majesty the King in Right of Canada, as represented by the Minister of Natural Resources, 2026



Natural Resources
Canada

Ressources naturelles
Canada

Canada

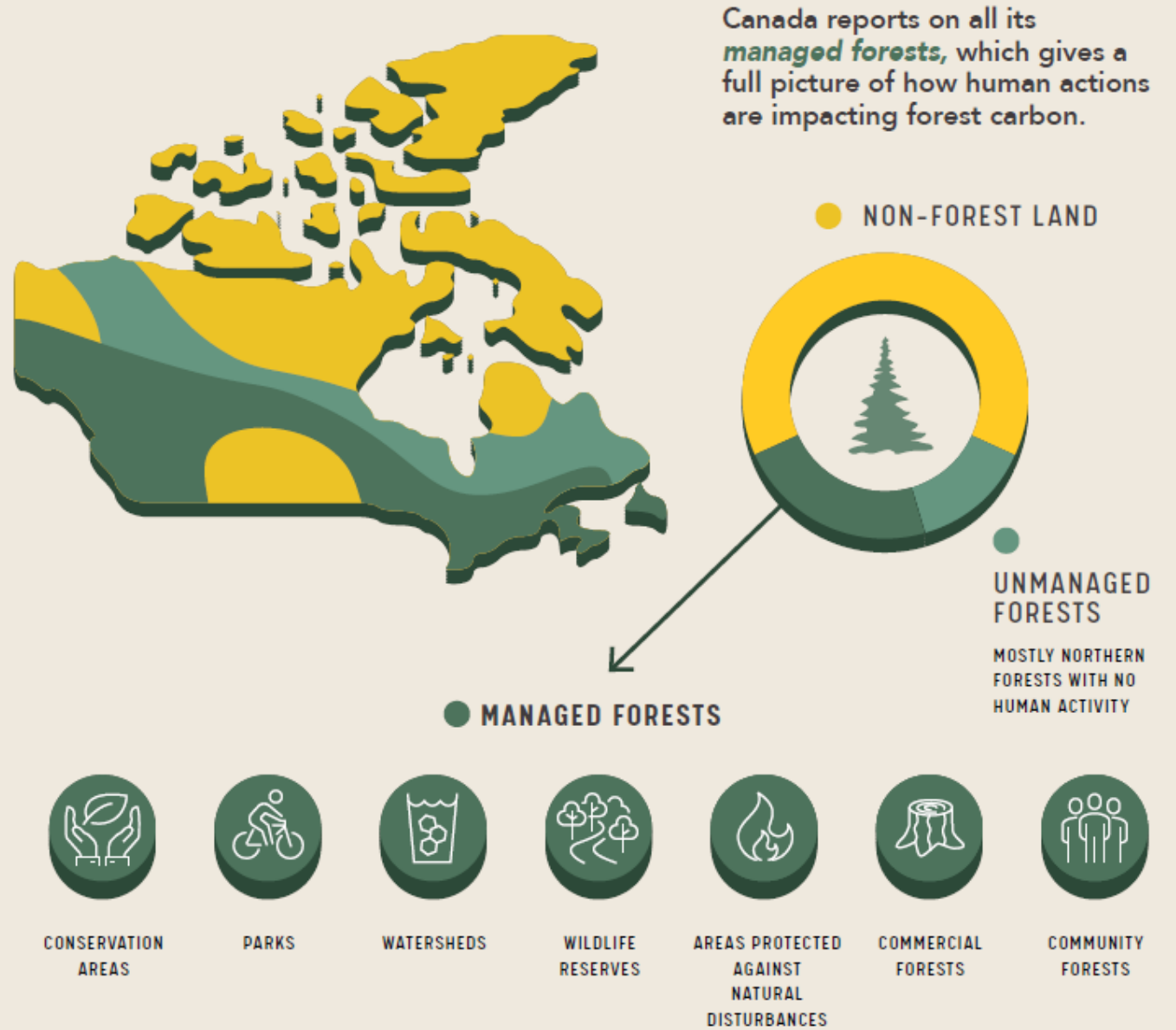
Modeling Canada's land sector is complex

Canada has one of the **largest terrestrial carbon stocks** in the world

Canada currently reports on **all its managed forests**

Managing forest is **more than just managing carbon**

Canada needs **both GHG reduction and carbon sequestration** to achieve its committed targets



© His Majesty the King in Right of Canada, as represented by the Minister of Natural Resources, 2026



Natural Resources
Canada

Ressources naturelles
Canada

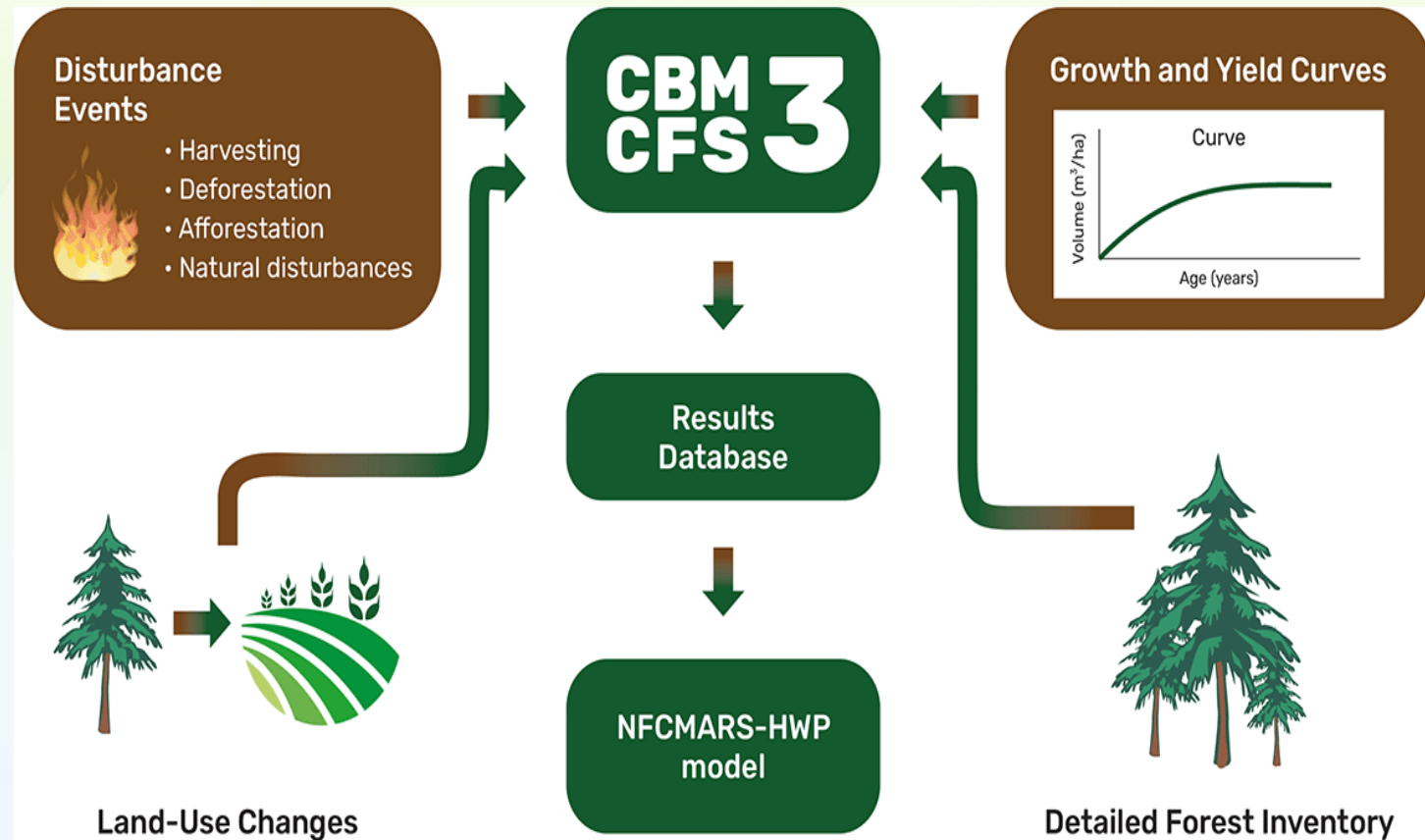
Canada

Land sector models can do much more

New technologies can enable higher modeling capacity

Data availability and quality is key for the effectiveness of models

Impact of climate change becomes more integrated and reflected



The Challenges



Exploded knowledge/data and improved understanding/modeling of forest systems do not necessarily lead to better decision-making tools

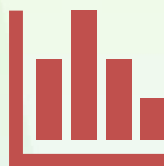


The constant change and dynamisms of the land sector translates into the increase obsolescence of statistics-based models as opposed to mechanistic or learning-based models

Opportunities: Improving Canada's Forest Information systems



A focus on forest carbon dynamics and forest conditions



More and better data to inform decisions



More effective and efficient reporting systems



Information and tools serving multiple objectives and supporting holistic planning



Opportunities: Science and Policy Integration and Collaboration



Strategic planning for science and policy integration



Budget allocated to science in government funding programs



Jurisdictional collaboration at ministerial level and via joint research

© His Majesty the King in Right of Canada, as represented by the Minister of Natural Resources, 2026



Natural Resources
Canada

Ressources naturelles
Canada

Canada