

Manager perspectives on reforestation practices and assisted migration

The Western Forestry and Conservation Association and USDA Forest Service PNW Research Station are conducting a survey of forestry practitioners to understand perspectives on adaptive management strategies for reforestation under climate change. Climate change is creating an urgent need for adaptation strategies to maintain forested conditions. One promising strategy is assisted migration – planting of seed sources at locations they may be adapted to under future climate. However, there is considerable uncertainty regarding operational implementation of this strategy across public and private ownerships.

We need the help of practitioners who make on the ground decisions related to reforestation to understand how strategies like assisted migration could be used across the region and the implementation barriers that exist. With this information, we will develop research and policy recommendations that support the development of effective adaptive management strategies to sustain forests into the future.

The online survey is available through June 30. We seek participation from forest managers responsible for reforestation of federal, state, tribal, or private industrial forest lands in Washington, Oregon, and/or California. The survey should take 10-15 minutes and will be open for approximately four weeks. Summarized findings will be presented at a workshop and webinar open to all survey participants in fall 2023.

Contact Michelle Agne (Michelle.Agne@usda.gov) or Nicole Jacobsen (Nicole@westernforestry.org) for more information.