



INDIGENOUS LEADERSHIP.
NATURAL SOLUTIONS.
SHARED PROSPERITY.

NATURE SMART CLIMATE SOLUTIONS FUND

INVESTING IN
NATURE TODAY
FOR A STRONGER,
MORE RESILIENT
TOMORROW.

Conserving, restoring and managing nature
to reduce emissions and protect biodiversity.



NATURE-BASED SOLUTIONS

Protecting and
restoring forests,
wetlands, peatlands
and grasslands.



CLIMATE IMPACT

Reducing emissions
and increasing carbon
storage through
healthy ecosystems.



INDIGENOUS LED

Supporting Indigenous
leadership, knowledge
and community-driven
solutions.



STRONGER FUTURE

Building resilience,
creating opportunities
and benefiting people
and communities.

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BIRCH CARBON PROGRAM

INDIGENOUS LEADERSHIP. NATURAL SOLUTIONS.
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BIRCH CARBON PROGRAM SUMMARY

KEY INSIGHTS. REAL IMPACT. STRONGER COMMUNITIES.

Birch Carbon Program Summaries provide Indigenous Nations with quick, easy-to-understand insights from important resources — highlighting what matters most and how it can support environmental stewardship, community priorities, and long-term prosperity.

WHAT YOU'LL FIND INSIDE



KEY TAKEAWAYS

The most important points from the original resource.



INDIGENOUS FOCUS

Why it matters to your Nation, your lands, and your future.



BIRCH CARBON PERSPECTIVE

Our insights on opportunities, benefits, and real-world impact.



COMMUNITY OPPORTUNITIES

How this information can create value for your people and territory.



ORIGINAL SOURCE

Direct links to the full document and official resources.



OUR COMMITMENT

We are committed to making complex information accessible and relevant for Indigenous Nations so you can make informed decisions, protect your lands, and build prosperity for future generations.



PROTECT
OUR LANDS



SUPPORT
OUR PEOPLE



BUILD
PROSPERITY



SECURE OUR
FUTURE

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BIRCH CARBON PROGRAM SUMMARY

About This Summary

The Nature Smart Climate Solutions Fund uses the power of nature to address climate change while protecting biodiversity and supporting human wellbeing.

Administered by Environment and Climate Change Canada, it is a **\$1.4 billion, ten-year fund** supporting projects that conserve, restore and improve the management of carbon-rich ecosystems.

Original Publication

Nature Smart Climate Solutions Fund

Environment and
Climate Change Canada

This Edition

An educational
companion prepared by
the Birch Carbon
Program for Indigenous
Nations.

THE STARTING POINT

Why This Matters

Healthy ecosystems are being recognized as climate infrastructure, not just environmental assets.

Canada is placing measurable value on the same natural systems Nations have protected for generations: forests, wetlands, peatlands and grasslands.

WHY IT MATTERS TO INDIGENOUS NATIONS

Within this fund, up to \$76.9 million is set aside specifically for Indigenous-led Natural Climate Solutions.

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KEY CONCEPTS EXPLAINED



AT A GLANCE

At a Glance

\$1.4 Billion

Invested through the fund.

Ten Years

Supporting natural climate solutions through 2030 to 2031.

5 to 7 Mt

Targeted annual greenhouse gas reductions by 2030.

Nature at the Centre

Forests, wetlands, peatlands and grasslands.

KEY CONCEPT 01

Conservation & Restoration

Conservation

Protecting carbon-rich ecosystems from conversion or degradation prevents the release of carbon already stored in the landscape.

Restoration

Restoring degraded ecosystems rebuilds their ability to capture carbon while improving biodiversity.

KEY CONCEPT 02

Improved Land Management

Changing how forests and other landscapes are managed can reduce emissions while keeping ecosystems healthier.

WHERE THIS CONNECTS TO CARBON MARKETS

Improved Forest Management is one of the recognized routes to generating credits in several carbon systems. The same activity can serve a grant-funded project and a future carbon project.

KEY CONCEPT 03

Measurable Outcomes

The program places real weight on measuring and reporting the greenhouse gas reductions that result. It tracks:

- Hectares conserved, managed or restored
- Greenhouse gas reductions
- Jobs created
- Improvements in land-sector methodologies
- The number of Indigenous-led projects supported

KEY CONCEPT 04

What the Fund Aims At

The objectives run wider than protecting land:

- Reduce net greenhouse gas emissions and increase carbon storage
- Restore biodiversity and protect wildlife habitat
- Strengthen climate resilience
- Advance scientific knowledge
- Contribute to reconciliation with Indigenous Peoples



Birch Carbon INSIGHTS



A DEDICATED PATHWAY

The Indigenous-Led Stream

Up to **\$76.9 million** within the fund supports First Nations, Inuit and Métis Nations, communities and organizations leading projects themselves.

- Conservation and ecological restoration
- Ecosystem monitoring and inventories
- Indigenous Traditional Knowledge
- Conservation planning and carbon-mitigation assessments
- Capacity development

BIRCH CARBON PROGRAM PERSPECTIVE

Groundwork for a Carbon Project

Much of what this fund pays for is exactly what a credible carbon project needs before it can exist: inventories, monitoring, planning, methodology work and technical capacity.

WHY IT MATTERS TO INDIGENOUS NATIONS

Protecting natural landscapes can produce climate, biodiversity, cultural, community and economic benefits at the same time. This fund is Canada saying so with money.

THE KEY TAKEAWAY

Healthy ecosystems are increasingly treated as critical climate infrastructure.

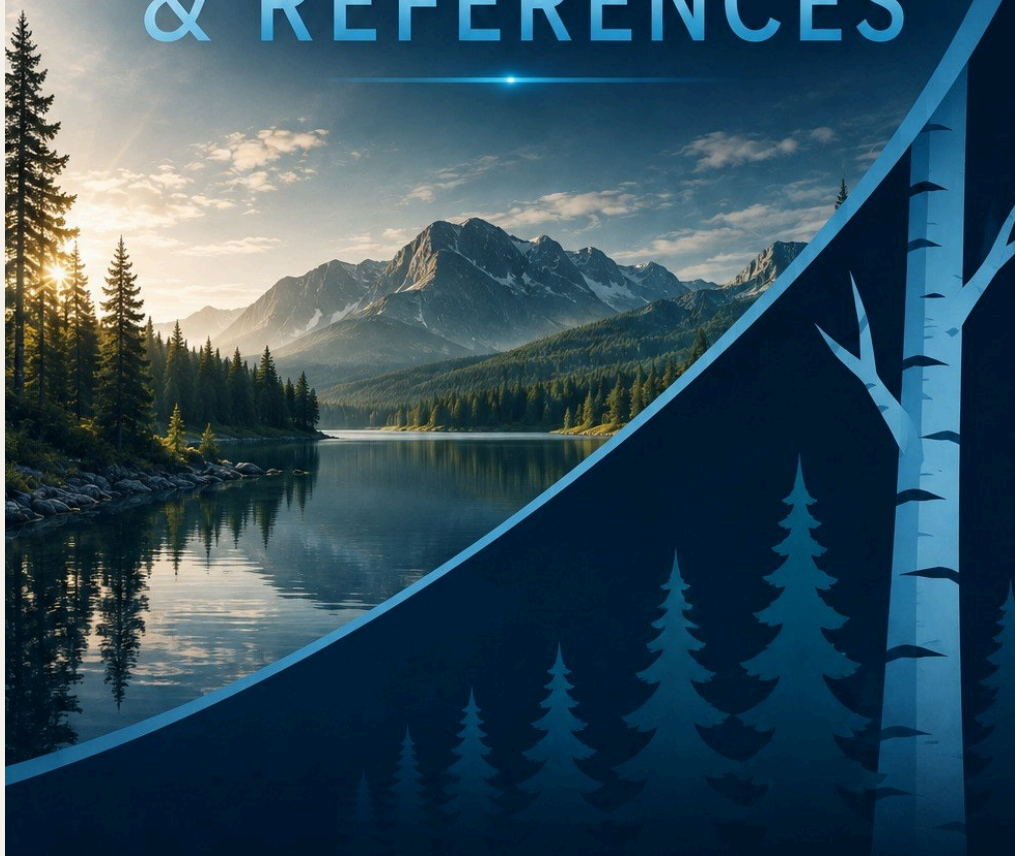
That shift is what makes stewardship fundable. Canada is measuring hectares, tonnes, jobs and methodologies, which means the work Nations already do is being counted.

READ ALONGSIDE

Our summary of Indigenous-led Natural Climate Solutions, the dedicated stream inside this fund.



RESOURCES & REFERENCES



ORIGINAL SOURCE

Resources & References



ENVIRONMENT AND CLIMATE CHANGE
CANADA

Nature Smart Climate Solutions Fund

[Read the original publication ↗](#)



GOVERNMENT OF CANADA · DEDICATED
STREAM

**Indigenous-led Natural Climate
Solutions**

[Open the Indigenous-led stream ↗](#)

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Part of the Indigenous Carbon Knowledge
Centre. Plain-language summaries of the
publications that matter most to Nations.

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