Climate Change and Acadian Forests: Effects, Mitigation, Adaptation

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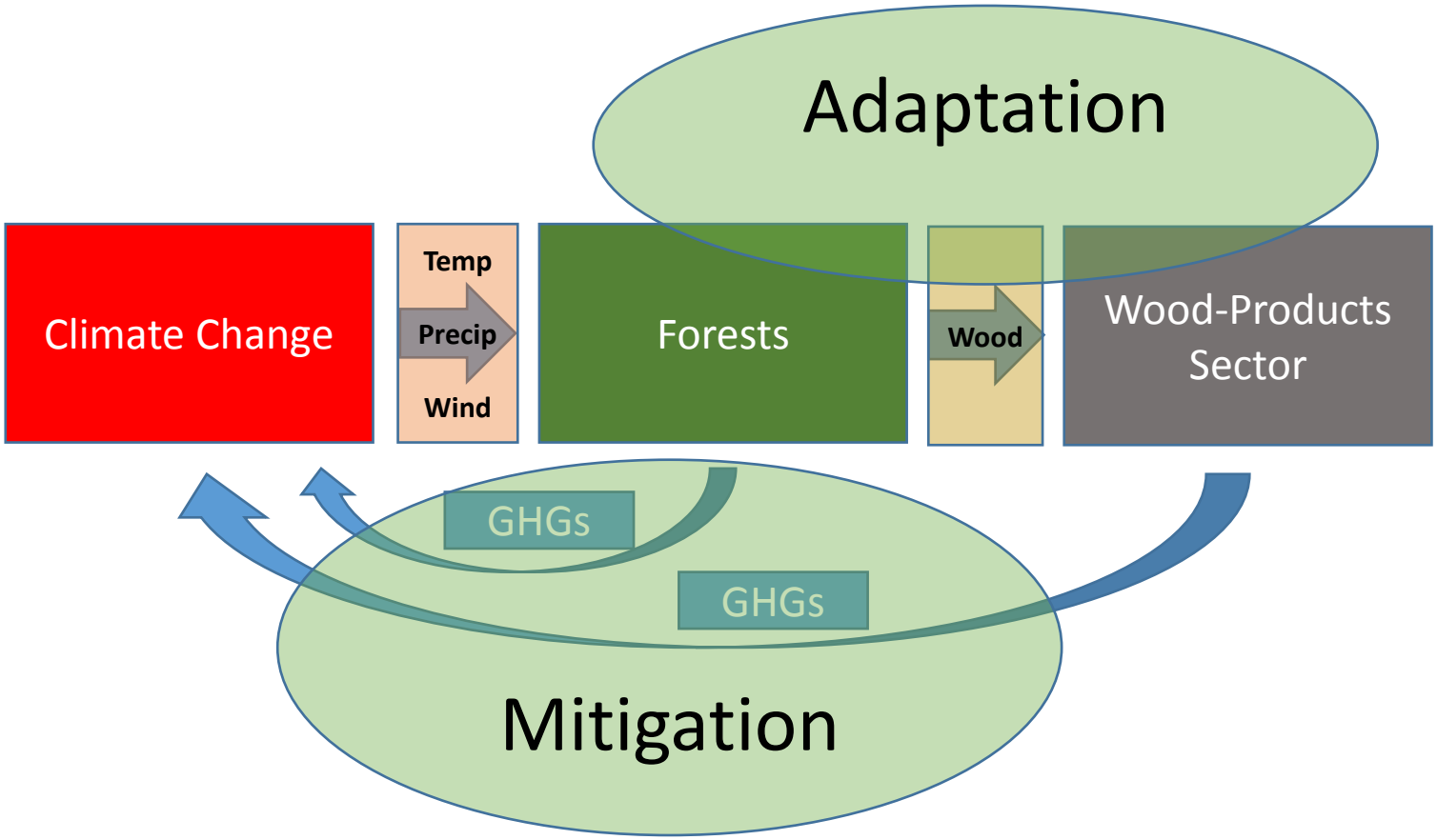
Duinker and Steenberg – Conceptual Framework



Talking Points

1. **CC is happening already, and much more will come.**
    1. **We are not optimistic about mitigating GHG emissions sufficient to arrest CC**
2. **CC is already influencing forests, and will much more in the future.**
    1. **The forests we have today are in some sync with the climate of the last millennium**
    2. **Greater heat, disrupted precip patterns, and more wind will, on balance, stress current forests (more fires, changed insect and disease patterns, more windthrow)**
3. **This will, in turn, deeply affect the wood-products sector of the economy.**
    1. **Mountain pine beetle in BC is a great example; hurricane Juan in NS**
4. **Can Canadian forests and the wood-products sector sequester and store enough carbon to affect CC? NO! But . . . we must do our share.**
5. **Can forest management and policy enhance forest and wood-sector resilience through adaptation? YES!**
6. **How?**
    1. **Careful soil management (don't mine nutrients, keep organic matter abundant)**
    2. **Promote diversity, especially all facets of biodiversity (esp. tree species and ages)**
    3. **Establish C-credit systems (the more carbon in the woods, the better)**
    4. **Support community forests and woodland owners (it's not just about wood fibre!)**
    5. **Encourage a culture shift around CC-adaptive forest management (resilience!)**
    6. **Diversity of wood products – sophistication in processing and manufacturing (AND "build with wood"!) (can't we do better than pulp and 2x4s?)**