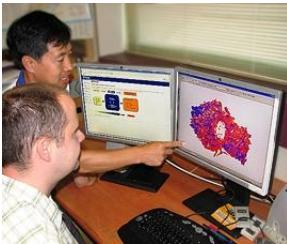


FIRE MANAGEMENT

A. Fire Management in Canada

- Most of the forest land in Canada is under provincial or territorial jurisdiction and therefore, fire management is the responsibility of their forest agencies.
- Canadian Interagency Forest Fire Centre provides daily information, keeps statistics, and co-ordinates the exchange of fire-control forces and equipment between agencies.
- The federal government's Atmosphere Environment Services collects and provides daily weather data and provides fire danger ratings to the control agencies.
- The Canadian Forest Service along with several universities carries out most forest fire research in Canada including the development of systems for danger-rating and management of fires.



B. Fire Detection

- is usually by aerial patrols along planned flight patterns
- fire lookout towers were first introduced in 1920s and are still used in high-risk zones
- also used are a system of lightning detectors that pinpoint probable locations and expected number of lightning strikes
- federal government's Canada Centre for Remote Sensing can detect location of fires across the country using satellites
- the use of historical fire-data analysis and topographical forest land maps are also important tools
- these programs guide the amount and kind of resources needed, design aerial patrol layouts, predict fire occurrences, model forest growth and back up fire-control strategies
- Using the Canadian Forest Fire Danger Rating System, fire managers can
 - determine the moisture levels in the forest which will determine how fast the trees will burn
 - how much of the forest will be consumed by the fire
 - in which direction the blaze will spread
 - once the fire has been brought under control then infrared scanners can be used to detect remaining heat sources

