Montréal Process for the Sustainable Management of Temperate and Boreal Forests

30th meeting of the Working Group

Guy Robertson
US Forest Service, Research & Development

UNECE/FAO Team of Specialists on Boreal Forests

November 13, 2021
Geneva (Virtual)
About the Montréal Process (1)

- MP established in 1994
- Dedicated to the promotion of sustainable forest management through the application of Criteria and Indicators (MP C&I)
- 12 member countries:
  - Argentina
  - Chile
  - Republic of Korea
  - Russian Federation
  - Australia
  - China
  - Mexico
  - USA
  - Canada
  - Japan
  - New Zealand
  - Uruguay
About the Montréal Process (2)

- MP countries span 5 continents
- Are not contiguous
- Possess 90% of the world’s temperate and boreal forests
- 94.3% of boreal forests (as reported by FAO)

Diversity of:
- Geography and ecology
- History and forest management practice
- Governance and institutional capacity
About the Montréal Process Criteria and Indicators

MP C&I are:

• Designed to be comprehensive
• Cover ecological, social and economic dimensions of SFM
• Hierarchical structure: 7 criteria and 54 indicators
• Are flexibly applied across MP countries
Main points of discussion at the 30th MPWG meeting

- Country presentations of SFM measures and/or inventory activities
- Discussion of forest definitions (e.g. “primary”) and Other Effective area-based Conservation Measures (OECMs)
- Progress in producing the next Montreal Process Synthesis Report
- Review of Global C&I and Related Reporting Activities (Stephanie Linser, IUFRO)
- Montreal Process business matters
Relevance for Boreal Forests

• Boreal forests are rarely mentioned explicitly in MP discussions and reporting, and the distinction between boreal and temperate forests is seldom made.

• In MP countries with boreal forests, the MP C&I is evenly applied to temperate and boreal forests, though challenges in inventorying boreal forests are noted.

• Discussions around “primary” forests and related definitions mirror concerns about application of these definitions to boreal forests.
Thank you...

Lake Kathleen, Yukon Territory, Canada (up the road from Haines Alaska)