

Forest Carbon Resources

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"After a first rotation of harvesting, carbon stocks declined 33–50% relative to stocks in the natural, fire-dominated landscapes and payback periods ranged from 92 to 757 years."

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(see #5 in Diagrams, below)

Note: The forest carbon pool percentages were derived from three plots in the Malcolm Knapp (MK) forest, a mature second growth Douglas-fir forest in the Coastal Douglas-fir biogeoclimatic zone. It was the closest data available for a coastal temperate forest carbon pool measurement done in accord with the carbon pool methodology used in the carbon budget model (CBM), with which Canada measures forest carbon sequestration.

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Note: The carbon flux tower in the Wind River Experimental Forest in Washington state, a 500 year old Douglas Fir/Hemlock stand, provides the only consistent old growth carbon flux data for the Pacific northwest. The three Canadian coastal carbon flux towers described in Krishnan et al. are on managed Douglas-fir forests on Vancouver Island and are all less than 100 years old (see Krishnan et al. source included here).

<https://ameriflux.lbl.gov/sites/site-search/#igbp=ENF>

AmeriFlux is a network of PI-managed sites measuring ecosystem CO₂, water, and energy fluxes in North, Central and South America. It was established to connect research on field sites representing major climate and ecological biomes, including tundra, grasslands, savanna, crops, and conifer, deciduous, and tropical forests.

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Note: Data collected at the 2500 ha Oyster River area of Fluxnet-Canada's coastal BC Station second and third growth.

"Despite their high productivity, the area's forests are not likely to attain C densities of the landscape prior to industrial logging because the stands will not reach pre-logging ages."

Misinformation

Forestry for the Future: www.forestryforthefuture.ca

Forest Products Association: <https://www.fpac.ca/>

Diagrams

1. **Source:** Bormann, B. T. & Kramer, M. G. (2008). Can ecosystem-process studies contribute to new management strategies in coastal Pacific Northwest and Alaska? *Northwest Science*, 72(2), 77-83.

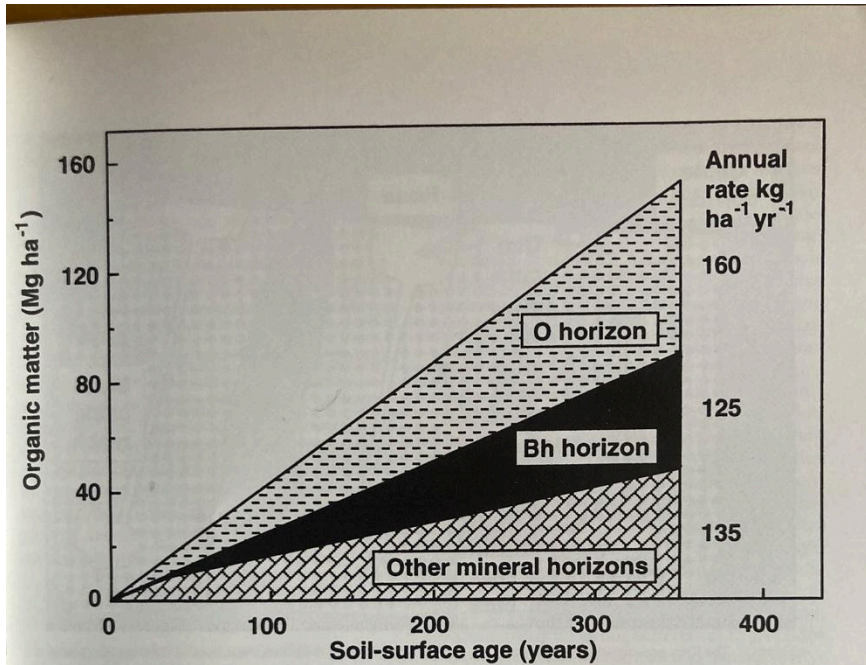


Figure 2. Rate of organic matter accumulation in podzols in southeast Alaska. Nutrients become immobilized, especially in the Bh horizon, and are freed only by soil disturbance, which is frequently provided by windthrow.

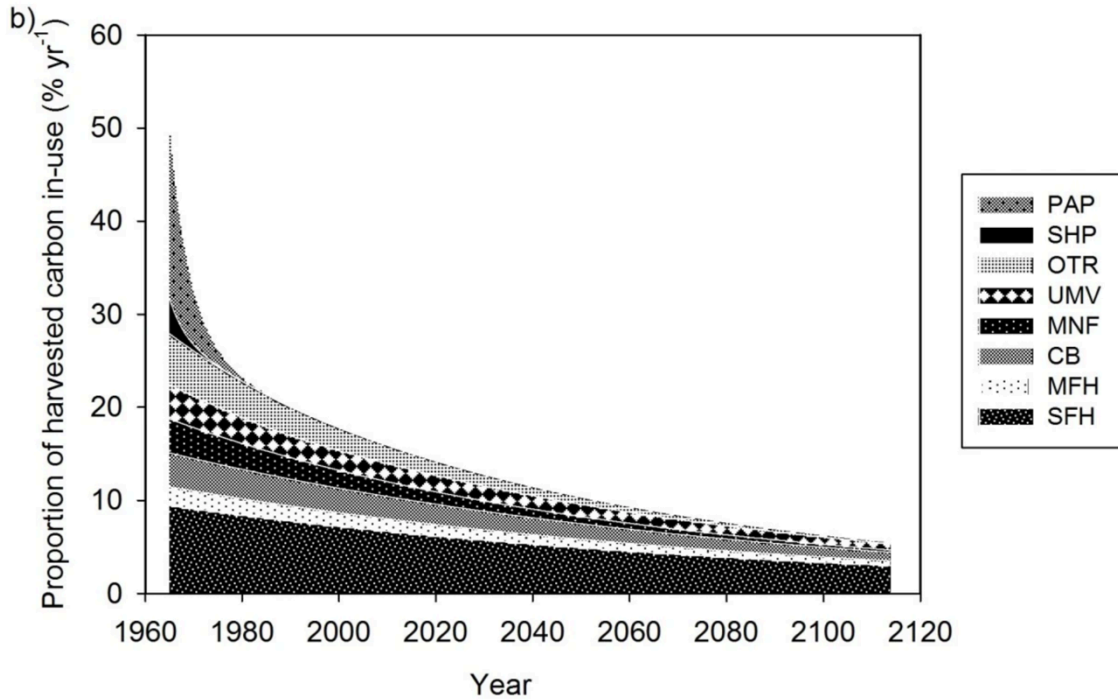
deeper rooting and early successional plants. If roots become confined to organic horizons, soils are hypothesized to become increasingly organic and infertile because trees can no longer mix mineral and organic horizons when windthrown. Harvesting trees before they can be windthrown and minimizing soil mixing during yarding almost eliminate soil mixing, which historically was a common natural disturbance. Concerns arising from the exclusion of soil disturbance from these sites include: loss of soil fertility—which is perhaps irreversible without drastic measures; loss of area in productive forest; and reduced viability of associated species (such as bears and badgers that den in rootwads). Maintaining the soil-mixing process appears to reverse nutrient immobilization, maintain or increase rooting depth, and increase weathering to supply base-element nutrients. A recent study has noted a marked 6-

Management Strategies Based on Knowledge of Windthrow and Podzolization

On Kuiu island, a management strategy is being proposed to better maintain natural disturbance processes in the harvest units (Crane and Rowan Mountain timber sales, draft EIS 1997, on file, Petersburg Ranger District, Petersburg, Alaska). A diameter-limit (41 to 97 cm dbh) and small gap harvest (Figure 3) is proposed to create a frequency distribution of gap sizes that more closely approximates natural disturbance patterns (Figure 4). Perhaps more important, some standing trees will uproot and not be salvaged; thus the possibilities of some root throw and downed logs are maintained. Because this strategy is new, an intensive monitoring program will assess, for example, the effect of wind exposure and sheltering on root

2. Source: Dymond, C. C. (2012). Forest carbon in North America: Annual storage and emissions from British Columbia's harvest, 1965–2065. *Carbon balance and management*, 7(1), 1-20.

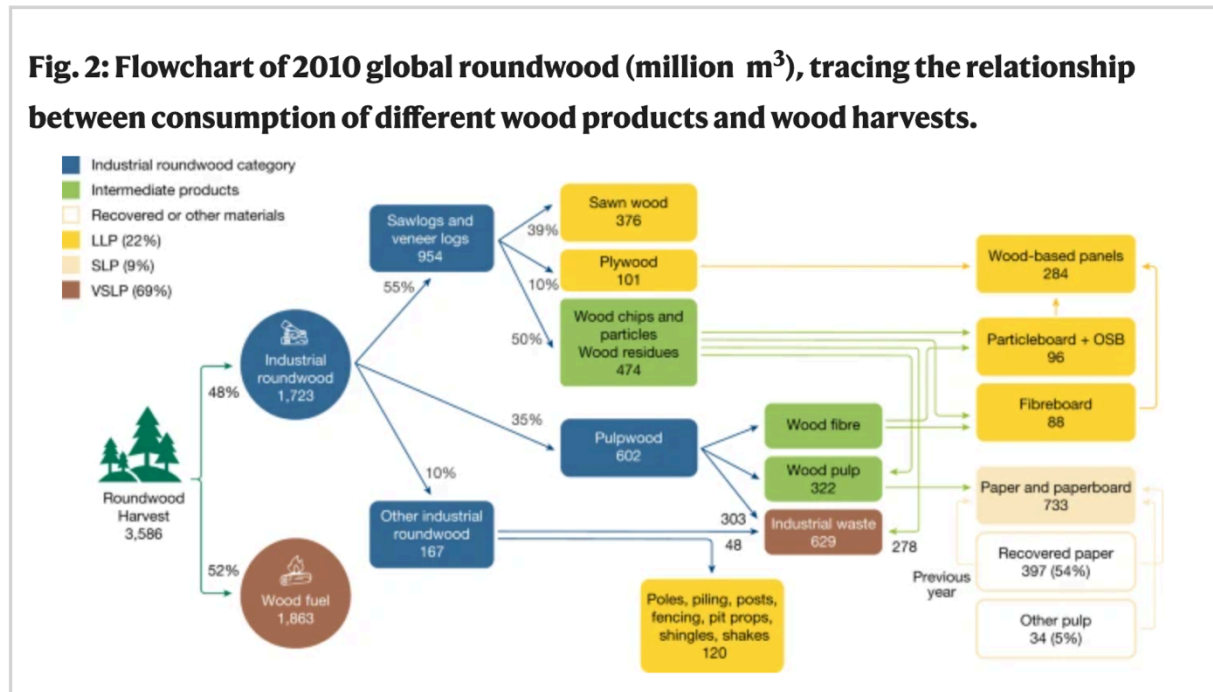
The carbon costs of global wood harvests.



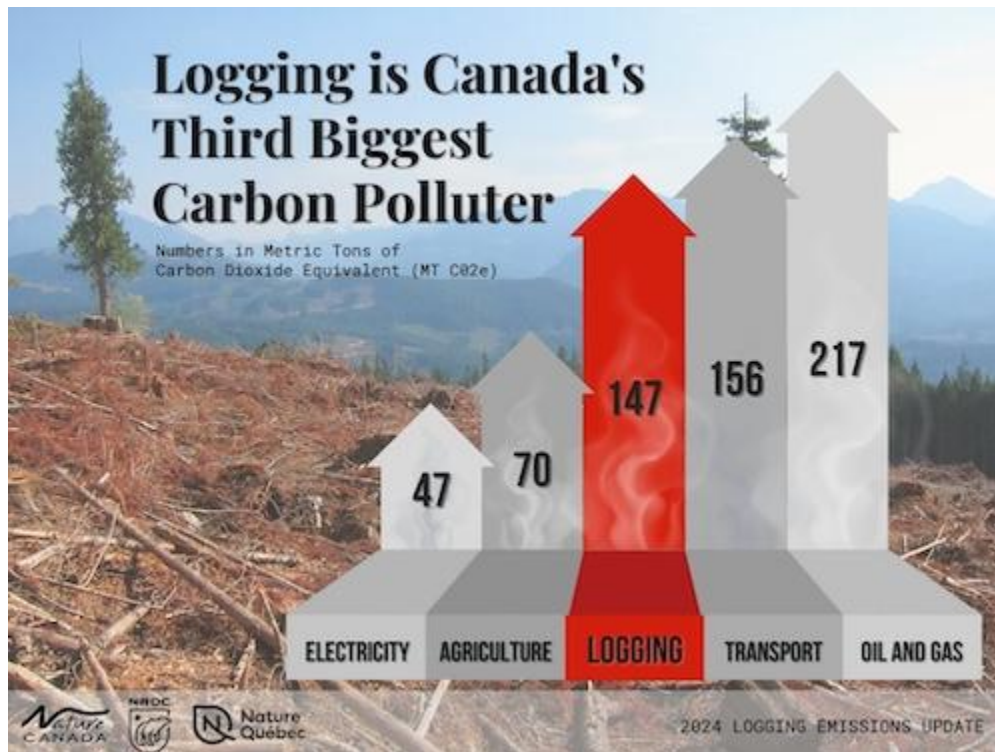
Estimates of C stored in in-use pools over one of the 150 year simulations: single family homes (SFH), multi-family homes (MFH), commercial buildings (CB), furniture and manufactured products (MNF), residential upkeep and moveable homes (UMV), shipping (SHP), other wood products (OTR), and paper (PAP). a) Annual C stocks in all in-use pools. Note that harvest and therefore input to these pools occurred from 1965 to 2065 only to demonstrate the different rates of loss after 2065. b) The decline of C stored in-use that originated from the 1965 harvest only.

3. Source: Peng, L., Searchinger, T. D., Zions, J., & Waite, R. (2023). The carbon costs of global wood harvests. *Nature*, 620(7972), 110-115.

Because some wood products use ‘wastes’ of other wood products, we trace these consumed products back to required wood harvest levels. Figure 2 shows our estimate of annual global flows of wood from harvest to ultimate use for 2010.

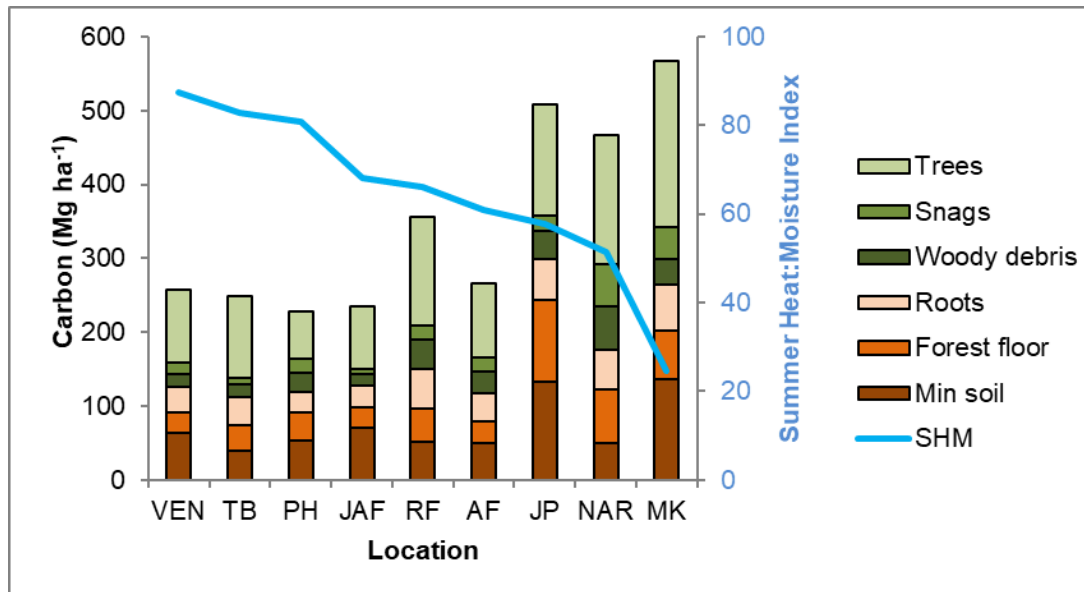


4. Source: Polanyi, M., Skene, J. and Simard, A. (2024). 2024 Logging Emissions Update: Reported greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions from logging in Canada double after revision to government data. Nature Canada, Natural Resources Defense Council, Nature Quebec. <https://naturecanada.ca/wp-content/uploads/2024/09/2024-Logging-Emissions-Update-Report.pdf>



5. Source: Roach, W. J., Simard S. W., Defrenne, C. E., Pickles, B. J., Lavkulich, L.M. & Ryan, T. L. (2021). Tree diversity, site index and carbon storage decrease with aridity in Douglas-fir forests in western Canada. *Frontiers in Forests and Global Change*, 4, 682076.

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Caption: "Distribution of carbon amongst the major pools, for the nine study locations. The locations are arranged in order of decreasing summer heat: moisture index (SHM), shown by the blue line. VEN, Venables; TB, Two-bit Creek, PH, Peterhope Lake; JAF, Jaffray; RF, Redfish Creek; AF, Alex Fraser; JP, John Prince; NAR, Narrows Creek, MK, Malcolm Knapp."

Notes:

1. The figure above is for unlogged mature (not old-growth) Douglas-fir forests. They are all interior sites except Malcolm Knapp. The most arid site (VEN) is near Cache Creek/ Spences Bridge. NAR is in the Interior Wet Belt. JP is up north near Ft St James. Malcolm Knapp on the coast is what the percentages of carbon in the different carbon pools were derived from.

2. Aridity (SHM) decreases along the x-axis from left to right (MK is the most humid, VEN is the most arid). Aridity values are based on 2001-2010 averages from ClimateBC.

3. This graph illustrates Summer Heat: Moisture Index.

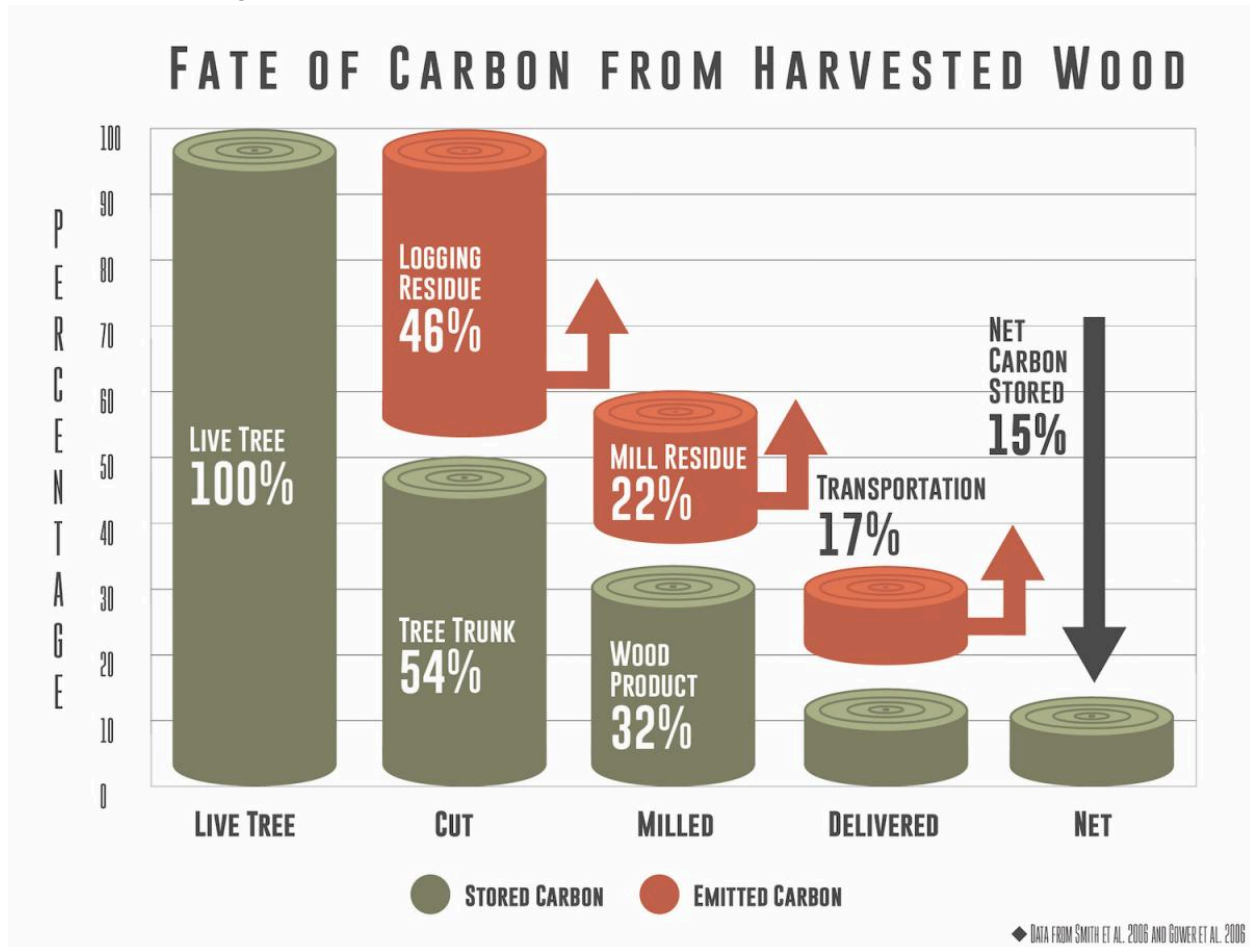
4. Understory plants were an insignificant carbon pool so aren't included.

4. "Trees " is aboveground stem, branches and bark.

6. "Roots" are tree roots, based on a default conversion factor from aboveground tree biomass.

7. Mineral soil carbon is only to a depth of 55 cm. Note that considerable carbon is also stored in mineral soil below 55 cm.

6. Source: Smith, J. E., Heath, L. S.; Skog, K. E. & Birdsey, R. A. (2006). Methods for calculating forest ecosystem and harvested carbon with standard estimates for forest types of the United States. Gen. Tech. Rep. NE-343. Newtown Square, PA: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Forest Service, Northeastern Research Station. 216 pp.



7. Source: Trofymow, J. A. & Bruce A. Blackwell. (1998). Changes in ecosystem mass and carbon distributions in coastal forest chronosequences. *Northwest Science*, 72(2), 40-42. <https://cfs.nrcan.gc.ca/pubwarehouse/pdfs/5091.pdf>

Note: The old growth total carbon max for over 1000 tonnes per hectare comes from this diagram below, from the forest on the far right of the old growth plots. "Living" includes living trees and roots. Detrital is dead living matter.

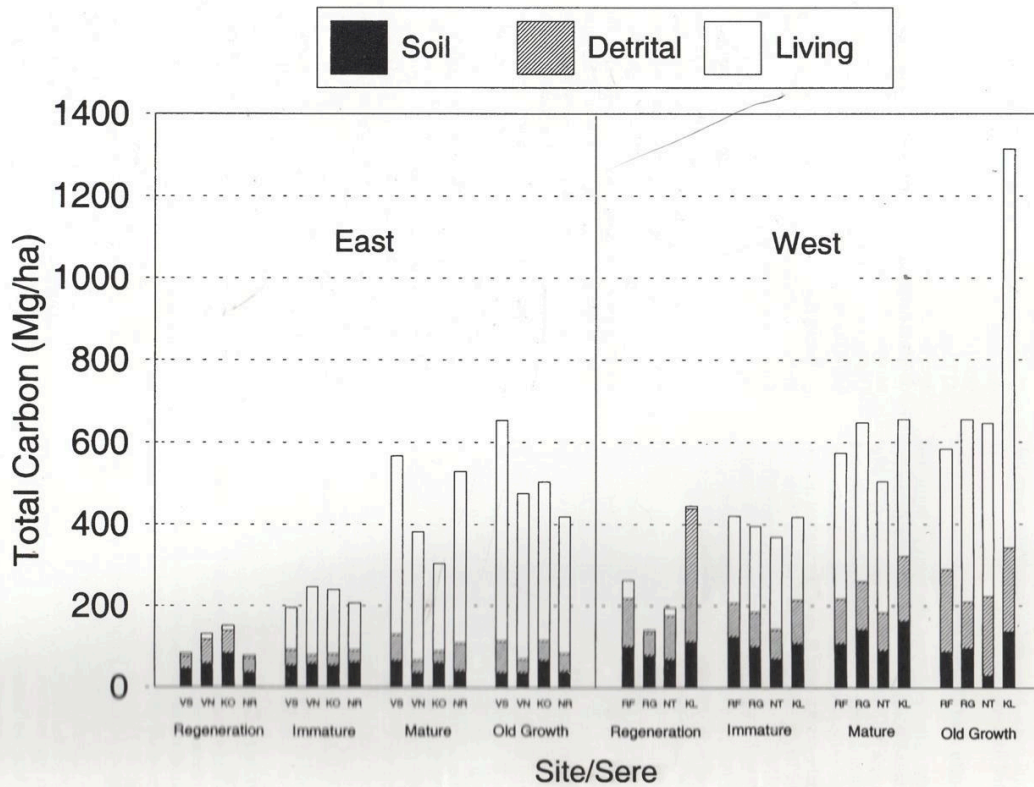


Figure 1. Living, detrital, and soil carbon for each plot, grouped by site and seral stage within the CWHxm (east) and CWHvm (west) biogeoclimatic subzones.