Canada and the U.S. not only share the longest undefended border of any two nations, the countries also collectively represent the second largest forest expanse on the planet. Those forests are increasingly under attack by endemic as well as exotic pests that are impacting more than 100 million acres. Forest pests don't respect geopolitical boundaries. At the same time the scope, pace, and costs of response are outstripping already tight public resource agency budgets. After years of project-level collaboration between the two countries, the Endowment suggested the need to look at the challenges collectively and more strategically. The two federal forestry agencies — USDA Forest Service (USFS) and Canadian Forest Service (CFS) — agreed to co-sponsor and collaborate in an Endowment-convened “Forest Health Summit” to help launch a look at strategic, cross-border science and research that could yield more effective response and engagement.

**PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS**

- On June 28, 2012, the Endowment convened the first-ever Canada/U.S. Forest Health Summit on behalf of USFS and CFS. More than two dozen senior leaders from public resources and research agencies as well as private forest owners from both countries participated.
- The Endowment led the planning committee that developed the agenda, facilitated the meeting, and produced the report (*Canada/U.S. Forest Health Summit – One Continent; One Forest; One Threat: Report and Recommendations*) that recommends next steps for a strategic science/research agenda.
- The Endowment has been asked to lead the team planning the follow-up meeting of scientists that will develop a more specific plan to address one or more specific issues of mutual interest. That meeting was held in early 2013.