

# ECOLOGICAL CONNECTIVITY

## *BREAK OUT SESSION:*

**What would be the best way to produce region-wide (see map) ecological connectivity and corridor mapping, which addresses climate shifts and is of value to local government and First Nations planning?**

### **INSTRUCTIONS:**

- Have your group brainstorm thoughts and ideas on this topic,
  - Briefly consider **some or all** of the prompts below (depending on group members' knowledge/ experience/ interest).
  - For each, consider **opportunities for collaborating and pooling resources** between projects and organizations, and **who could be involved** (e.g. as part of a working group)?
  - *Please capture the breadth of ideas in the group – **consensus is not required**.*
  - For consideration:
    - **Challenges** raised in interviews, (see attached)
    - **Recommendations & comments made** in questionnaire (see attached).
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### **PROMPTS:**

1. Different **approaches** for mapping ecological connectivity (e.g. landscape connectivity vs. animal habitat models,)
2. What **data layers** should/could be used?
3. How to **account for climate shifts** of ecosystems and species (e.g. identifying climate refugia, key linkages, lost linkages, pinch points, etc.)
4. What would be **most useful to local government and/or First Nations** in meeting their objectives around important ecosystems, biodiversity and climate change? (e.g. in referrals, climate change adaptation planning, carbon targets, OCPs, EDPAs, Green Infrastructure Networks, Biodiversity Strategies, etc.)
5. Opportunities for using **new technologies** (e.g. lidar and high resolution satellite imagery)
6. **Opportunities for collaborating** and pooling skills and resources between projects and organizations?
7. Who could be **involved** (e.g. as part of a working group)?

# **ECOLOGICAL CONNECTIVITY CHALLENGES**

**(Summarized from interviews)**

1. Lack of region-wide connectivity mapping.
2. Connectivity and corridor mapping impaired by lack of coordination between regional governments
3. Lack of mapping and models showing how ecological communities and corridors are likely to shift with climate change.