

the areas regenerate to spruce (usually white), larch, pine, and pioneer hardwoods poplar and white birch. When these regenerated sites are harvested or collapse, they regenerate to stands of poplar, white birch, elderberry, pin cherry with small amounts of spruce and fir.



#### Future cover types

The human impact on the forest and the natural succession are favouring the increase of species like red maple, poplar, and white birch. The future of the softwood cover types is to decrease in area. Even without the current increase in harvesting, it has been estimated that the softwood cover types would drop from 24% in 1980 to 8% in the year 2010. The industry, plants, and animals that depend on the softwood cover types would decrease dramatically. The forestry plantation establishment program continued at near current levels could slow the decrease in the softwood cover type to 15% in 2010.

*Editors Note: A forest stand, shown on a map as a cover type, is simply a group of trees with the same visual appearance (usually from the air), i.e. relatively the same species or species groups, height, and density. Foresters model forest growth based on these groupings and the age of a representative sample. Animal and plant populations can be compared to these groupings to determine how they might be impacted by changes in the forest.*

#### BRUCE SMITH HONOURED:

Congratulations go out to Bruce Smith of Stratford, one of the Society's unsung heroes. Canada's largest conservation organization recently recognized his life-long work and dedication. On June 2, the Canadian Wildlife Federation presented Bruce with the prestigious Roland Michener Conservation Award at a ceremony in Regina, Saskatchewan.

The Roland Michener Conservation Award was established in 1978 by the Canadian Wildlife Federation as a tribute to the former Governor General of Canada. Each year, this award is presented to a Canadian who has demonstrated a life long commitment to conservation.