

Great Lakes - St. Lawrence Lowlands

Landforms

Plains and rolling hills with huge fresh water lakes, sedimentary rock (limestone, dolostone, sandstone)

Climate

Cool short winters (-7°C), relatively long, mild summers (20°C), precipitation 700 to 1000mm, growing season 180 to 260 days



Vegetation

Coniferous (pine, hemlock), mixed with deciduous (sugar maple, red oak), little natural vegetation remains

Wildlife

Deer, skunk, mice, racoons

Most large predators such as wolfs, bears, coyotes have been hunted out, goose, turkey vulture, duck, hawk, various song birds

Human Activities

Very urbanized, manufacturing, high tech centres, numerous skilled workers, banking & finance centre, agriculture, food processing, recreation (boating, professional sports in main cities, theatre, major concerts)

Canadian Shield

Landforms

Low hills worn by glaciation, numerous small lakes, some patches of plains, mainly igneous rock (granite) with pockets of metamorphic rock containing minerals such as gold, iron, nickel, cobalt

Climate

Long winters (-15°C), short summers (17°C), precipitation 400 to 1000mm, growing season 130 to 190 days

Vegetation

Coniferous (spruce, pine, balsam fir) mixed with some deciduous (birch, maple, ash)

Wildlife

Black bear, moose, deer, caribou, eagle, hawk, loon, goose, duck



Human Activities

Forestry, mining, trapping, recreational activities (canoeing, fishing, hiking, camping) cottage country

Appalachians

Landforms

Hills, low mountains, coastal plains, variety of rocks (sedimentary containing coal, metamorphic)

Climate

Long, mild winters (-14°C), moderately warm summers (17°C), high amount of precipitation due to its proximity to the ocean (1000 to 1400 mm), growing season 180 to 210 days

Vegetation

Coniferous (pine, red spruce) mixed with deciduous (sugar maple, oak, birch)



Wildlife

Black bear, lynx, whitetail deer, moose, fox, skunk, fisher, coyote, chipmunk, beaver, hare, seal off the coast, hawk, owl, cormorant

Human Activities

Forestry, agriculture, fishing (off shore & in shore), tourism, high amount of urbanization

Western Cordillera

Landforms

Mountains, interior and coastal plains, plateaus, mainly sedimentary folded rock, with some metamorphic rock. Geologically active area.

Climate

Temperatures vary with latitude and elevation: along the coast - mild winters (3°C), cool summers (15°C), precipitation: 600 to 2000 mm, in the mountains – moderate winters (-12°C), moderate summers (15°C), precipitation between 500 to 1000 mm. Growing season 140 days in mountains, 260 along the southern coastal areas

Vegetation

Mountain areas dominated by coniferous (spruce, fir), coastal areas (fir, hemlock, sitka, spruce)



Wildlife

Deer, moose, caribou, grizzly bear, salmon, trout, eagles, owls, ducks

Human Activities

Forestry, agriculture, tourism, fishing, design centre, gateway to Canada for the Pacific Rim

Interior Plains

Landforms

Flat to rolling hills, mostly sedimentary rock rich in coal, oil, natural gas and potash deposits

Climate

Moderately long cold winters (-15°C), moderately warm summers (18°C), precipitation of 250 to 700 mm, growing season 170 to 190 days

Vegetation

Short and long grasses, some trees, little natural vegetation remains

Wildlife

Deer, moose, coyote, prairie dog, hawks, owls, hummingbirds, pike, carp and perch

Human Activities

Agriculture,
urbanization, oil
and natural gas
development



Hudson Bay Lowlands

Landforms

Low-lying, swampy plains, sedimentary rock

Climate

Moderately long, cold winters (-17°C), moderately short cool summers (14°C), precipitation 400 to 700 mm, growing season 90 to 150 days

Vegetation

Ground hugging tundra, dense forest in the south (spruce, tamarack, pine)

Wildlife

Caribou, deer, moose, mountain goat, grizzly and polar bear, wolf, beaver, hare, mink, otter, seals, beluga and bowhead whales

Human Activities

Hunting, trapping, recreation



Arctic Lowlands

Landforms

Plains with some upland areas, with mainly sedimentary rock, with some igneous

Climate

Long winters (-25°C), short summers (10°C), dry with precipitation of 200 to 300 mm, growing season – 50 to 80 days

Vegetation

Tundra, ground hugging plants, some shrubs

Wildlife

Caribou, deer, moose, mountain goat, grizzly and polar bear, wolf, beaver, hare, mink, otter, seals, beluga and bowhead whales

Human Activities

Hunting, mining,
mineral
development,
tourism



Innuitian Mountains

Landforms

Mountains, mostly sedimentary rock

Climate

Long winters (-40°C), short summers (0°C), precipitation less than 200 mm

Vegetation

Mostly no vegetation, some tundra

Wildlife

Muskox, caribou, wolf, lemming, hare, walrus, seals, snowy owl, snow goose

Human Activities

Hunting, some tourism

