Climate Adaptation Frameworks RAD vs RRT

What do RAD and RRT stand for?

- Resist: maintain current or historical conditions
- A Accept: choose to not intervene
- D Direct: steer changes towards a desired ecosystem structure and function

- Resistance: maintain current or historical conditions
- R Resilience: improve the system's ability to respond to change
- Transition: steer changes towards a desired ecosystem structure and function

What are the RAD and RRT frameworks used for?

These frameworks help landowners and managers prepare for and counter the effects of climate change. They can help prioritize actions based on the values the land provides to local communities and ecosystems. This helps managers to create plans that both conserve value and decrease damage as a result of climate change.

How are RAD and RRT different?

The main difference between RAD and RRT is that RRT includes resilience. Resilient ecosystems can better withstand climate disturbances, either naturally or with assistance. However, resilience tactics do not always work for land ownerships with more restrictive management policies (e.g., wilderness areas, National Park Service land).

What are some actions that fit into each of these categories?

Resist or Resistance

- · Fuel breaks around high value areas
- Intensive removal of invasive plants
- Novel pheromone applications to prevent insect infestations

Accept

- Allow change to occur naturally
- Allow fires to burn when they meet management goals and do not threaten infrastructure

Resilience

- Thinning
- Prescribed fire in fire-adapted forests
- Upsizing culverts to manage higher streamflows

Direct or Transition

- Assisted migration to improve forest adaptability
- Connect landscapes to allow migratory species to move in response to changing conditions

Which one should I use?

That depends on your management goals! RRT can work slightly better for land that can be more actively managed. Choosing between frameworks should not hinder you from incorporating the ideas of either or both frameworks in planning. The most important decision is the choice to use adaptation planning.