



Metro Vancouver Urban Forest Climate Adaptation Workshop

SUMMARY OF RESULTS

Metro Vancouver Urban Forest Climate Adaptation Workshop

On September 16, 2019, Metro Vancouver hosted an Urban Forest Climate Adaptation workshop.

The workshop was attended by over 100 practitioners, including arborists, landscape architects, environment managers, urban foresters, nursery staff, park planners, health authorities, among others.

The purpose of the workshop was to:

1. Explore how decisions around tree selection are made across the region
2. Identify how Metro Vancouver can support these decisions through an online tool
3. Connect with and learn from other practitioners in the region

Participants completed two activities to meet the intended purpose.

ACTIVITY 1: Urban Tree Decision-Making Process

This activity explored the following question: What are the key steps and decision points that determine which tree goes in the ground?

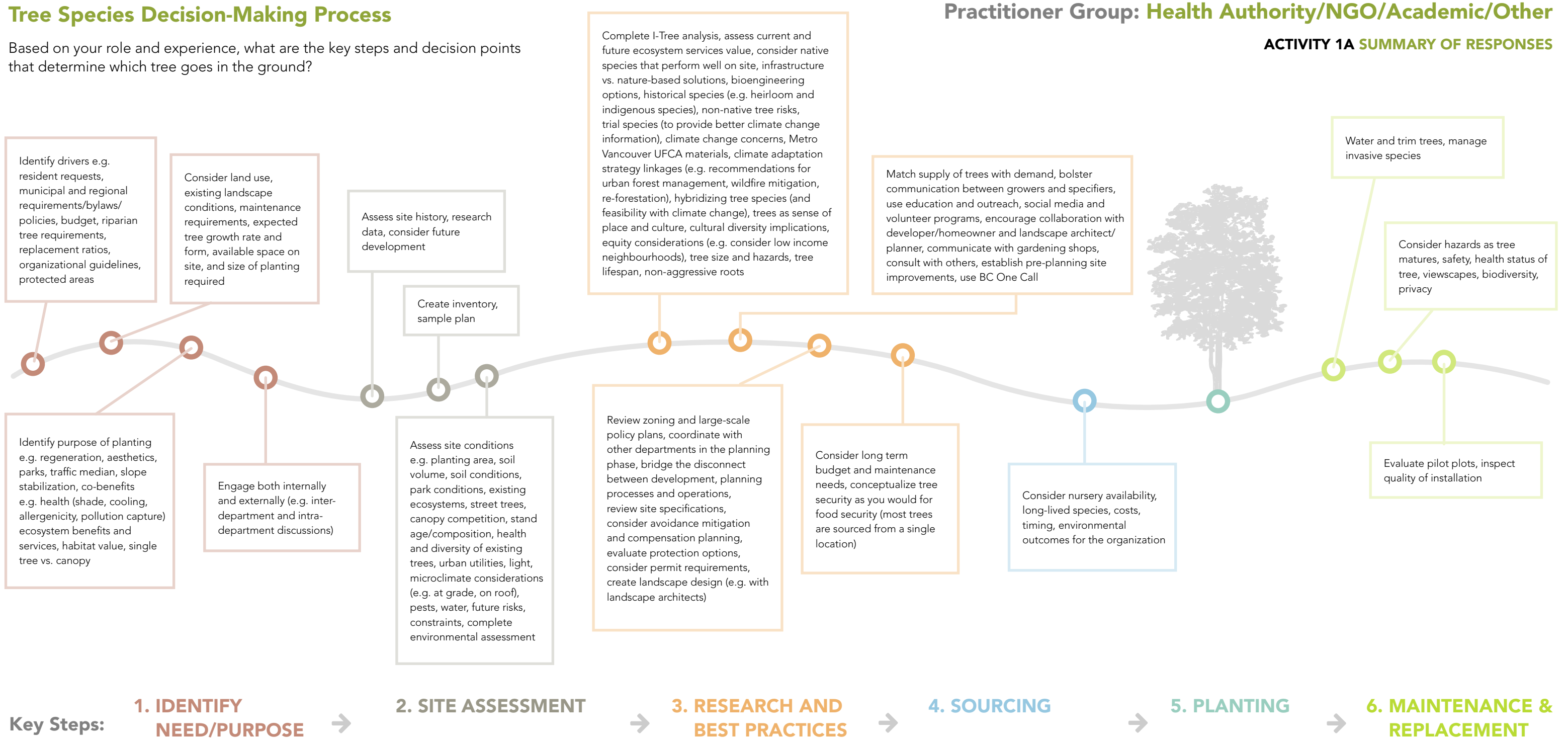
ACTIVITY 1A: Participants answered this question individually, and shared their results with the table.

Following the workshop, we categorized each worksheet based on the participant's practitioner group, and created a single summary of responses for each group:



Tree Species Decision-Making Process

Based on your role and experience, what are the key steps and decision points that determine which tree goes in the ground?

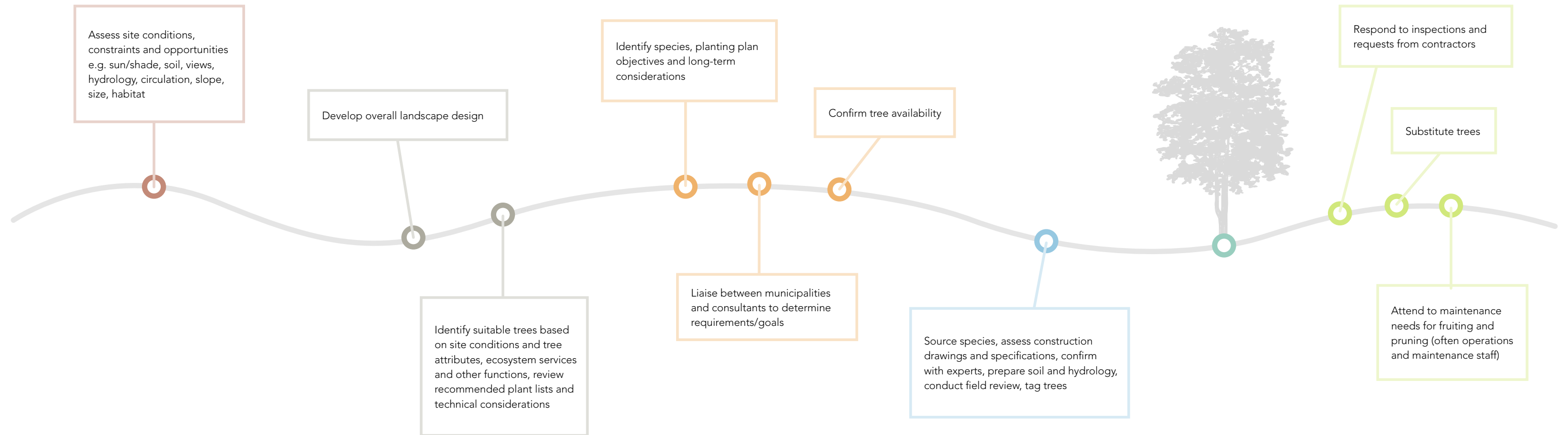


Tree Species Decision-Making Process

Based on your role and experience, what are the key steps and decision points that determine which tree goes in the ground?

Practitioner Group: **Landscape Architect**

ACTIVITY 1A SUMMARY OF RESPONSES

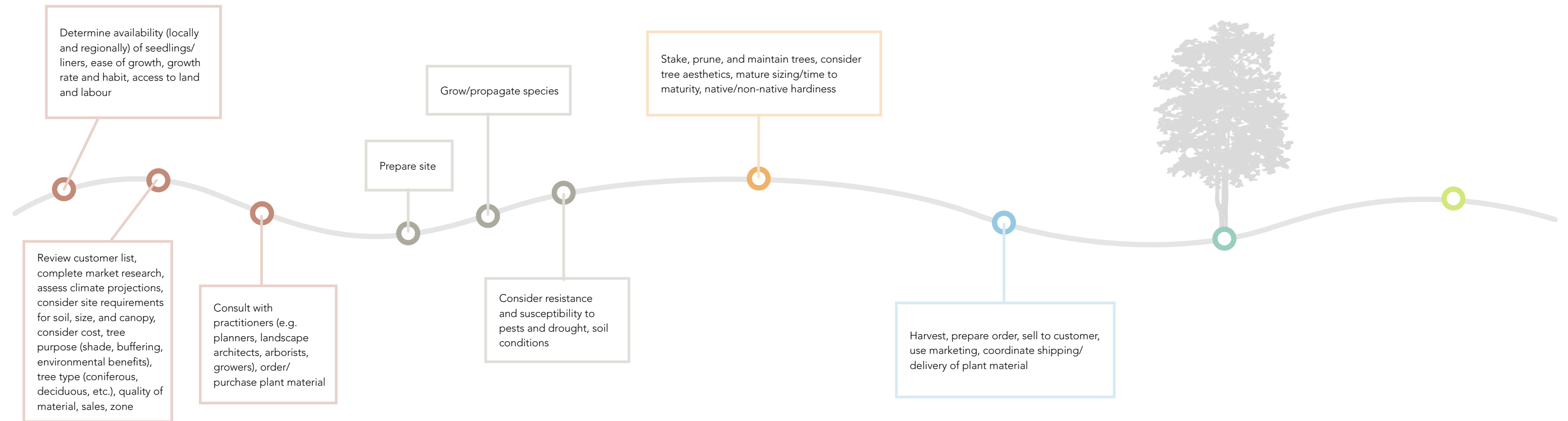


Tree Species Decision-Making Process

Based on your role and experience, what are the key steps and decision points that determine which tree goes in the ground?

Practitioner Group: **Nursery/Grower**

ACTIVITY 1A SUMMARY OF RESPONSES

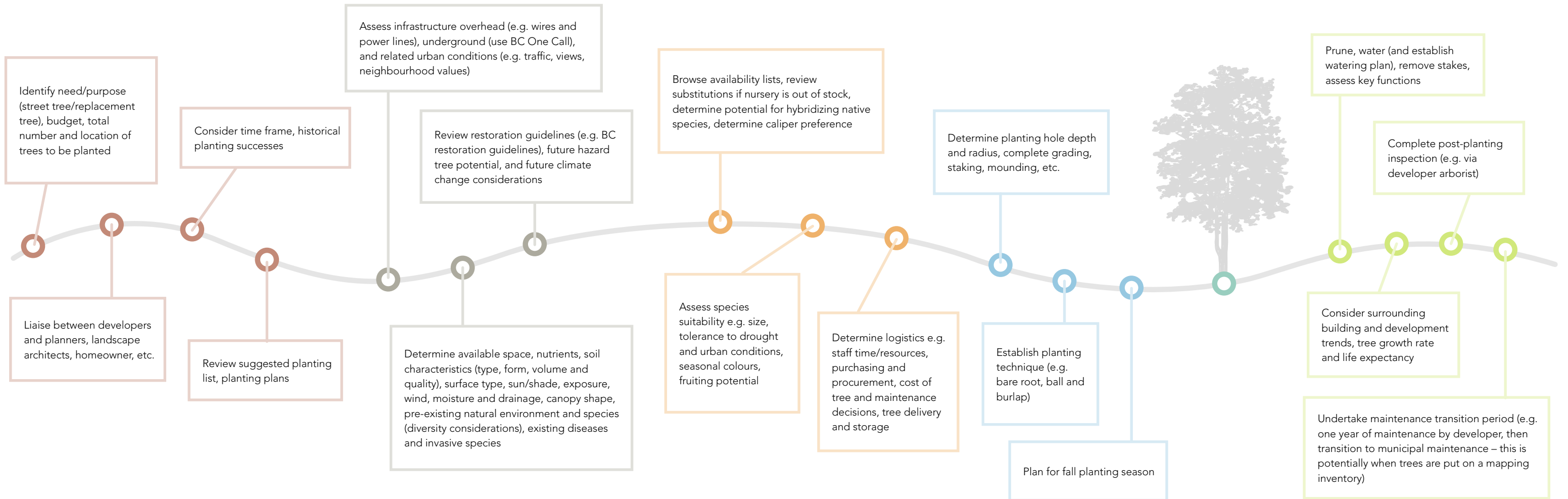


Tree Species Decision-Making Process

Based on your role and experience, what are the key steps and decision points that determine which tree goes in the ground?

Practitioner Group: Arborist

ACTIVITY 1A SUMMARY OF RESPONSES

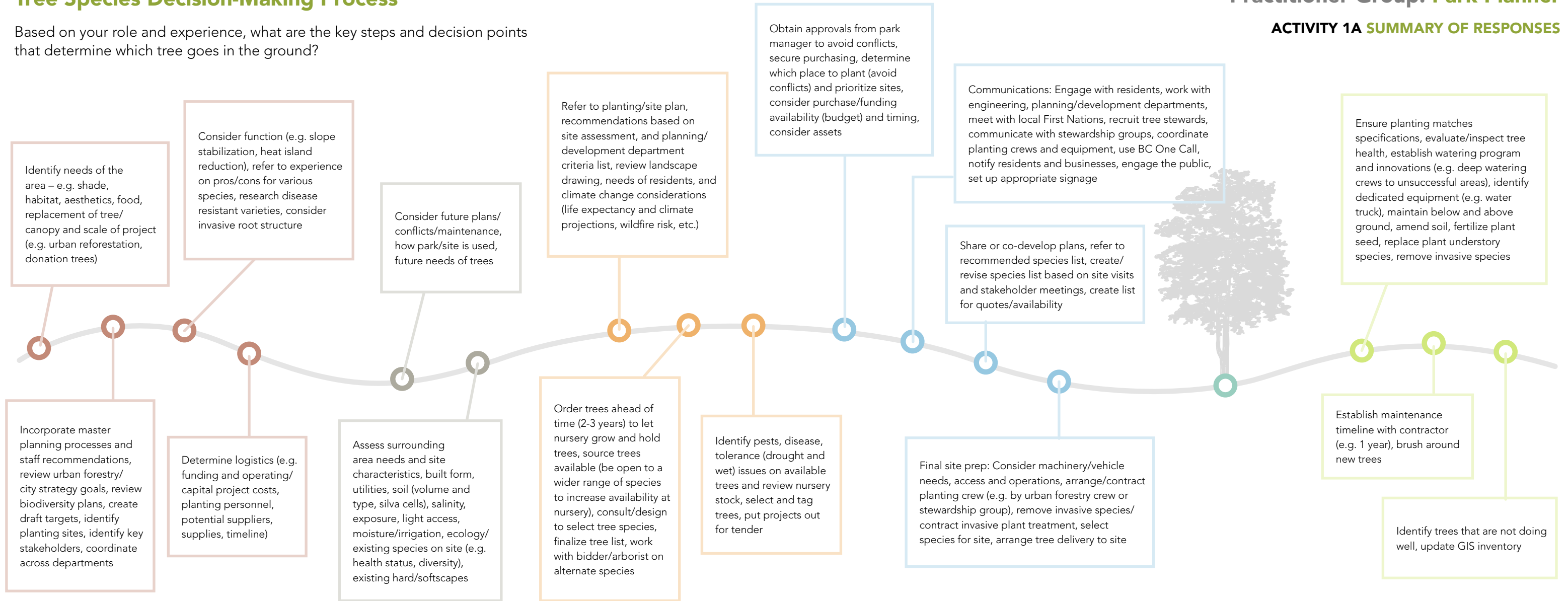


Tree Species Decision-Making Process

Based on your role and experience, what are the key steps and decision points that determine which tree goes in the ground?

Practitioner Group: Park Planner

ACTIVITY 1A SUMMARY OF RESPONSES

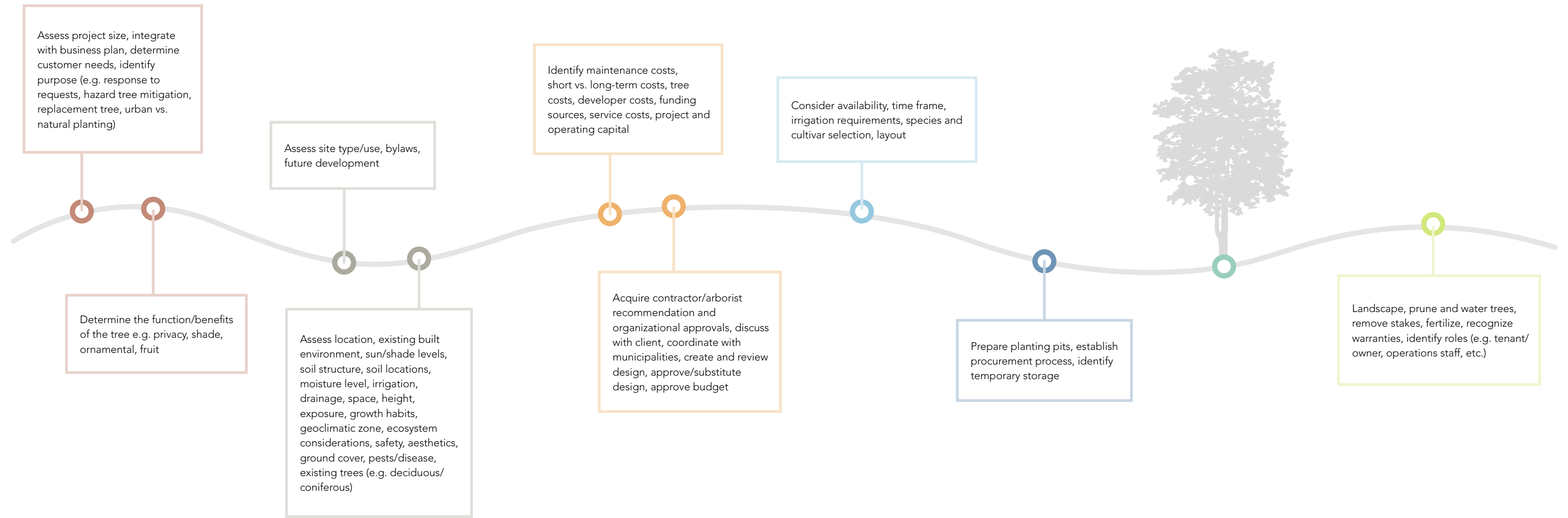


Tree Species Decision-Making Process

Based on your role and experience, what are the key steps and decision points that determine which tree goes in the ground?

Practitioner Group: **Grounds/Facilities/Maintenance Staff**

ACTIVITY 1A SUMMARY OF RESPONSES

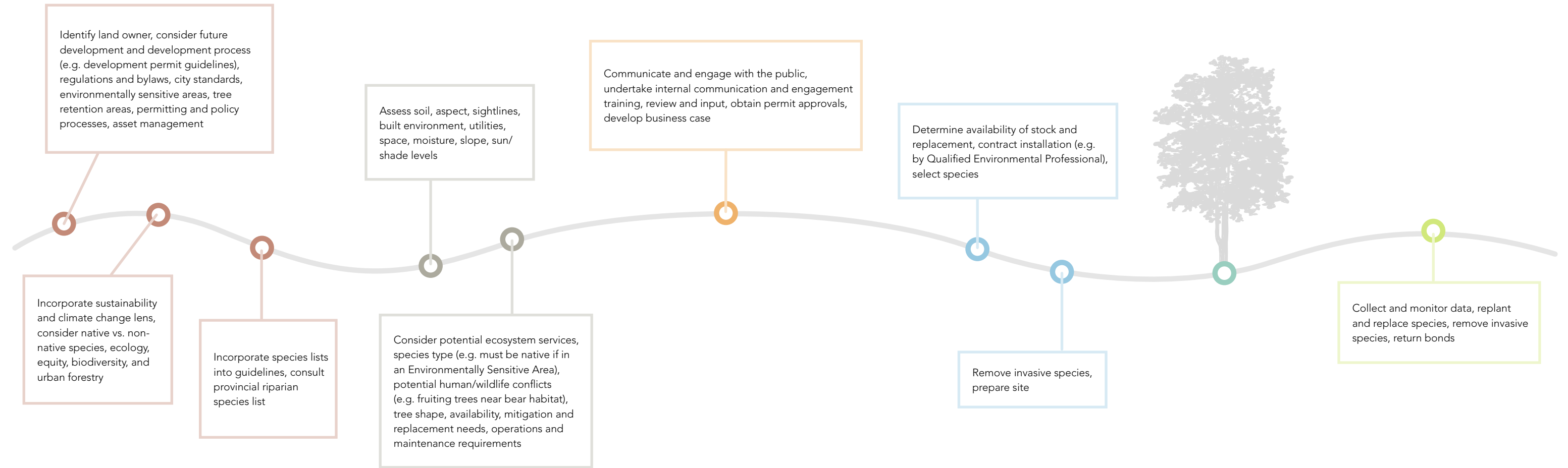


Tree Species Decision-Making Process

Based on your role and experience, what are the key steps and decision points that determine which tree goes in the ground?

Practitioner Group: **Municipal Environment Manager**

ACTIVITY 1A SUMMARY OF RESPONSES

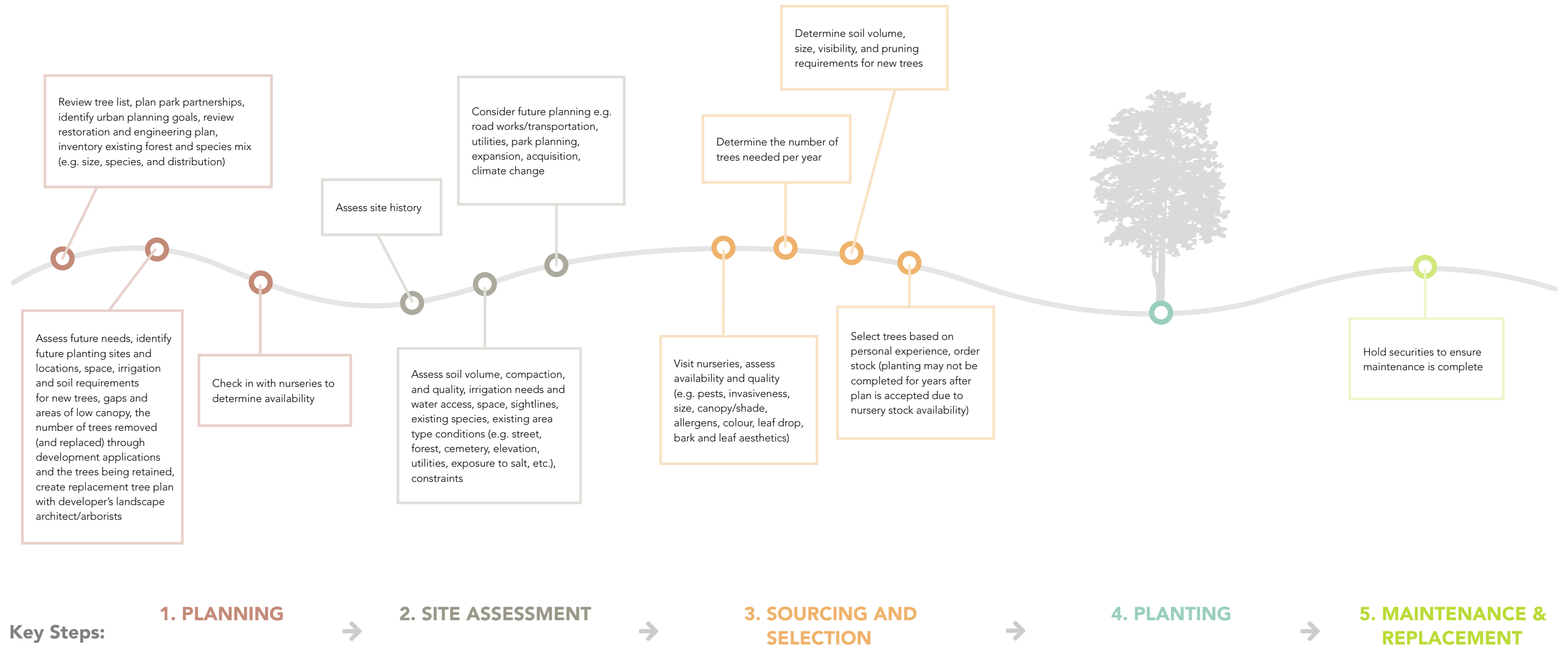


Tree Species Decision-Making Process

Based on your role and experience, what are the key steps and decision points that determine which tree goes in the ground?

Practitioner Group: **Urban Forester**

ACTIVITY 1A SUMMARY OF RESPONSES

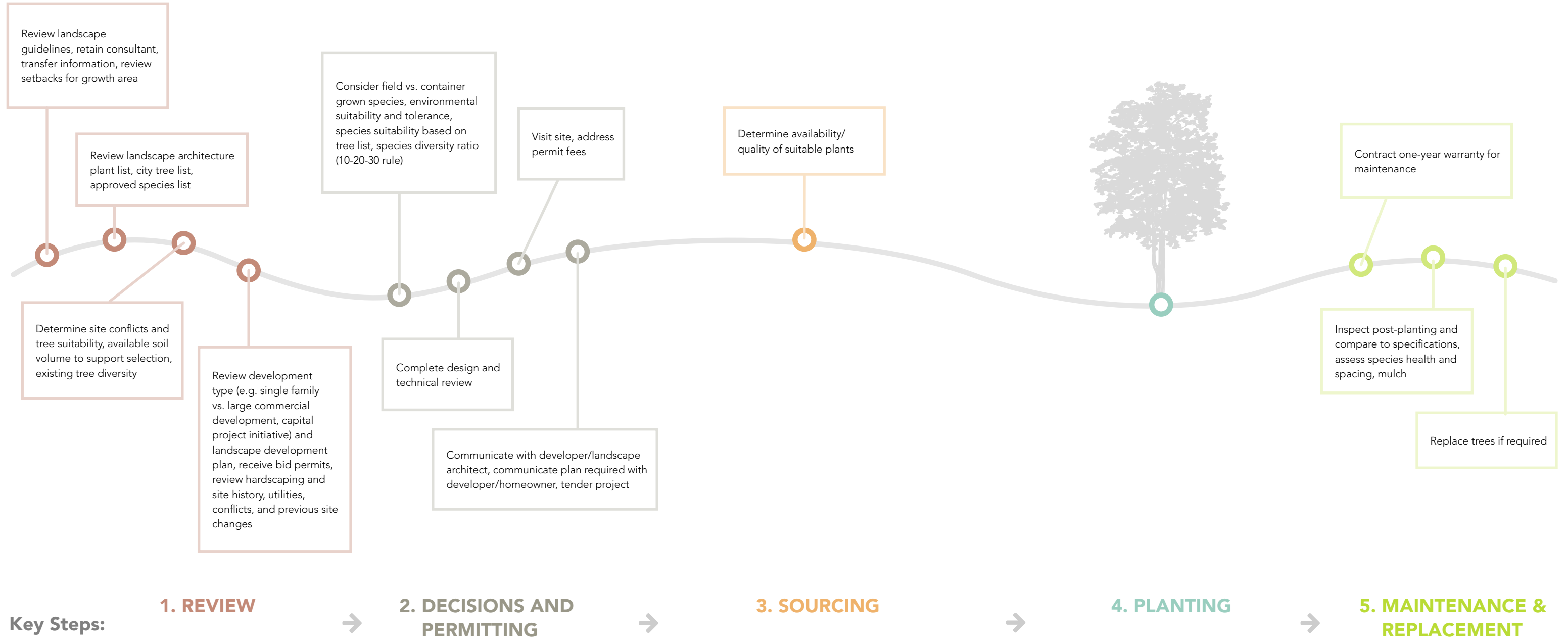


Tree Species Decision-Making Process

Based on your role and experience, what are the key steps and decision points that determine which tree goes in the ground?

Practitioner Group: **Development/Bylaw Staff**

ACTIVITY 1A SUMMARY OF RESPONSES



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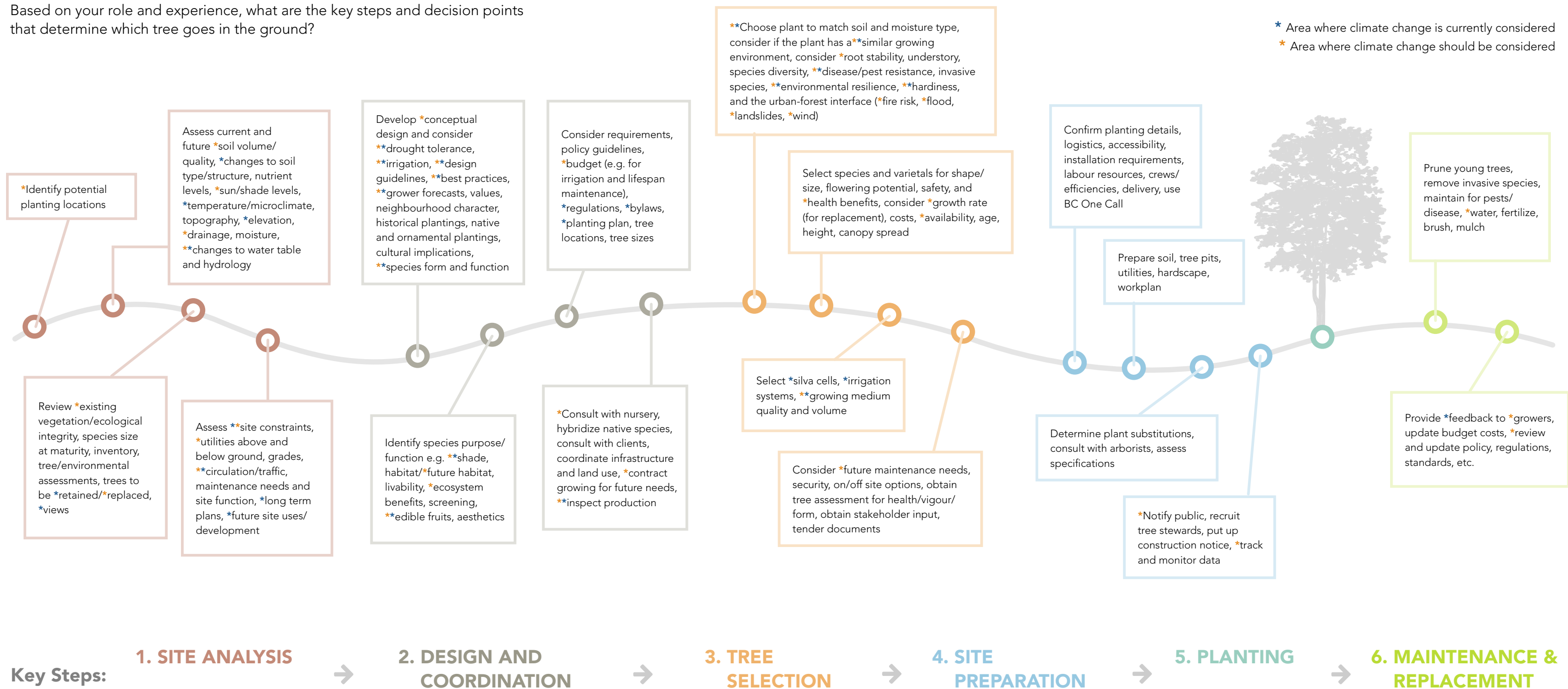
ACTIVITY 1B - Next, we asked participants to complete the same worksheet task as a group with the other participants at their table, noting where climate change is currently being considered (*), and where climate change should be considered (*).

Following the workshop, we summarized each table worksheet and created a single summary of responses:



Tree Species Decision-Making Process

Based on your role and experience, what are the key steps and decision points that determine which tree goes in the ground?



ACTIVITY 2: Urban Tree Tool

To introduce Activity 2, Amelia Needoba from Diamond Head Consulting presented on Metro Vancouver's Urban Forest Climate Adaptation Initiative materials. To help understand how these materials can be made more accessible via an online tool, a current example of an online tree selection tool (**citree**) was demonstrated and participants were asked two questions:

ACTIVITY 2A - How could an online tool be made most useful to you?

ACTIVITY 2B - What did you like and dislike about the citree tool example?

The feedback from these questions will be considered as Metro Vancouver's online tool is developed.

A Few Workshop Learnings

1. British Columbia nurseries need more lead time - it may take 8-10 years from the date of order to the date of planting if the species requested is new and different. Since some trees may not be available at nurseries, it is important to consider appropriate (climate-resilient) substitutes.
2. Climate change should be considered when identifying potential planting locations and future site requirements/constraints, providing feedback to growers, reviewing policies, and planning for maintenance (e.g. watering).
3. An online tool that is easy to use, accessible on site (mobile-friendly), visually appealing (includes images of each tree species), and updated regularly would be most useful to practitioners.
4. A street tree needs to be in the landscape for several decades before the value of ecosystem services produced (carbon, stormwater, air quality and building energy savings) begins to exceed the investment in planting and maintenance.

Thanks to all who participated in this workshop. By working collaboratively and learning from each other, we are one step closer to ensuring our region's urban forests thrive in a changing climate.

For the greatest benefit, a tree should spend most of its life in healthy maturity

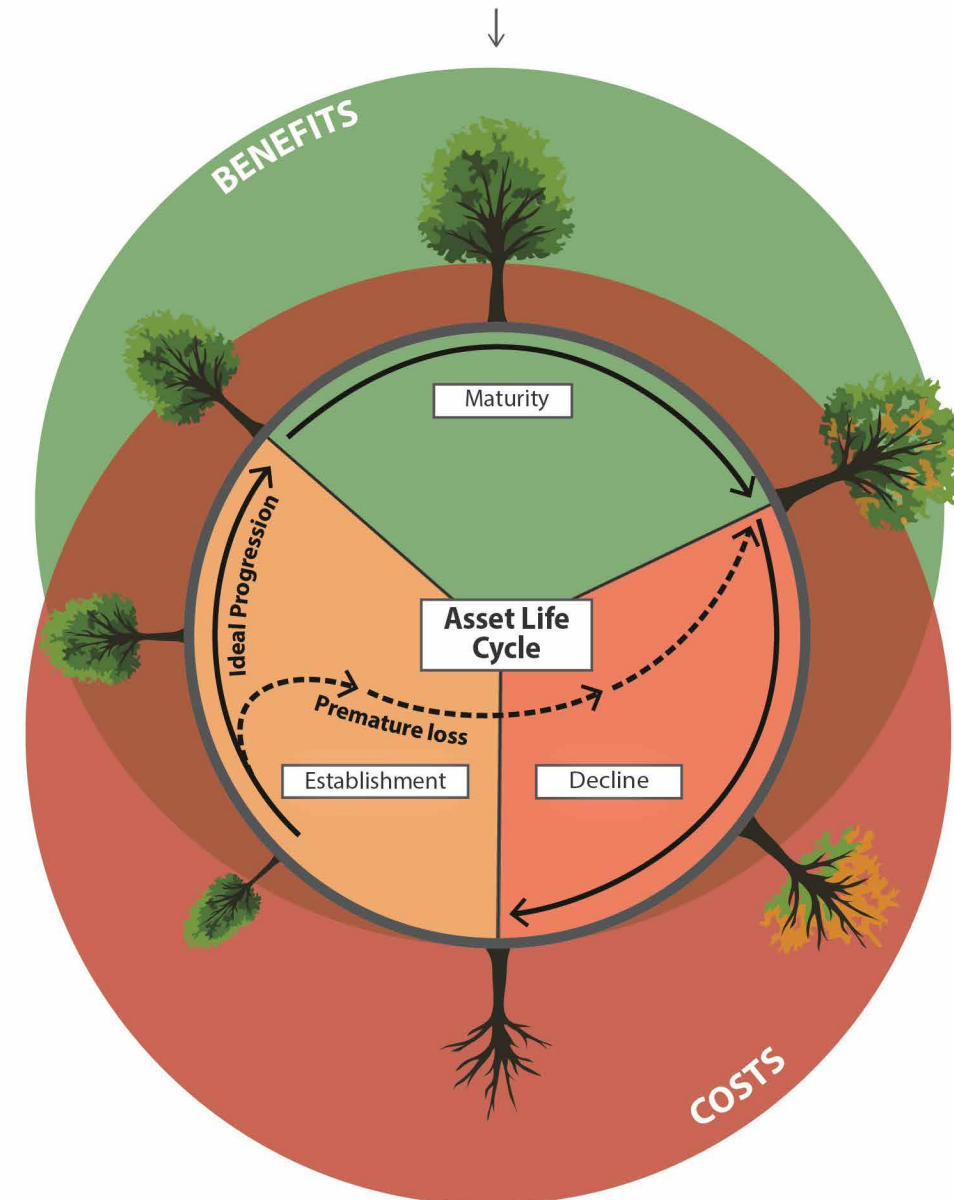


Image by Diamond Head Consulting