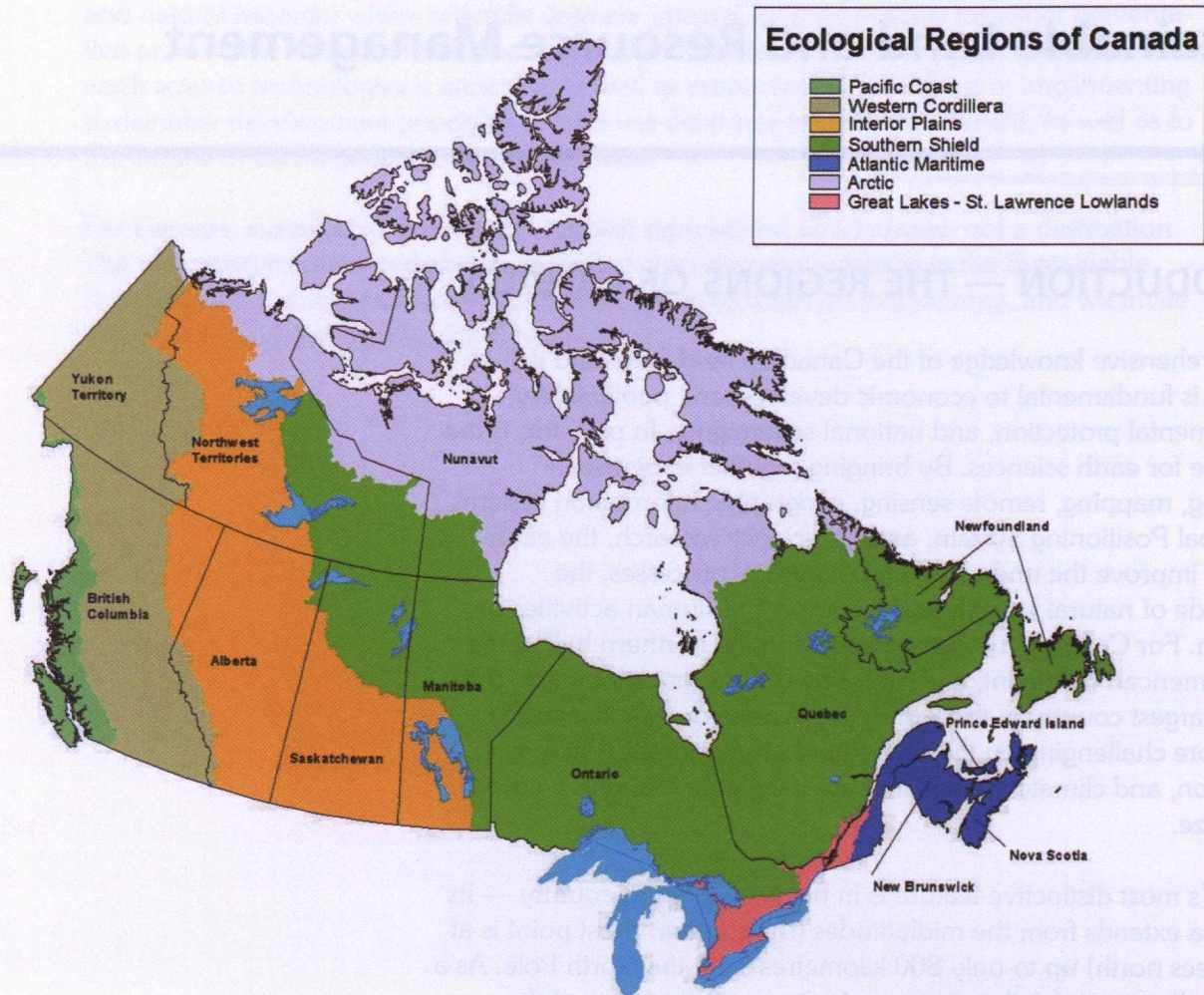




Source: The National Atlas of Canada

particular reference to natural resource-based activities. In several of these regions, the economy also makes substantial use of resources in the adjacent offshore areas.

The **Pacific Coast** region corresponds to the Pacific Maritime ecozone. Physically, this area is almost entirely mountainous and could be considered as part of the Western Cordillera, but as the Pacific Coast is so distinctive in climate, it is usually considered as a separate region. It has the mildest climate in Canada as a result of warming due to offshore currents. The area is also the wettest region of Canada. Both aspects help to give it Canada's most productive forest area. Most of the forested area is a temperate rainforest noted for its huge coniferous trees, notably Douglas fir. There are small areas of farmland, but the economy has always been based on forestry and related industries and on trade within the Pacific rim.