BC PARF 2013 Conference Summary

4th BCPARF Conference A Great Success

From December 3-5th a great group of park and protected areas researchers, academics, managers, ngo's, consultants, students and others gathered at the TRU campus in Kamloops for the 4th biennial BC Protected Areas Research Forum conference.
Thanks to all who attended, to our great speakers, volunteeers, conference organizing team and to TRU for hosting such an excellent event.

Conference Team

Co-Chairs: **Tory Stevens**, BC Parks and **Pam Wright**, UNBC

TRU Coordinator: Karl Larsen

Advisory Team: Peter Arcese (UBC), Rick Rollins (VIU), Wolfgang Haider (SFU), Rick Kool (RRU), Marlow Pellatt (Parks Canada), Lynn Wilson (CRD Parks), Eric Higgs (UVic)

Keynote Address

Dr. Stephen Woodley

Re-thinking protected areas systems as solutions to global problems

Abstract: There are two key global ecological challenges: the loss of biological diversity and human-caused climate change. The development of conservation landscapes is an essential strategy to addressing both of these interrelated challenges. This presentation makes for case for conservation landscapes, discusses how this change in land and sea management might be accomplished, and looks at global success stories that are making this happen. Canada has perhaps the best opportunity in the world to develop conservation landscapes, but is far short of realizing this advantage.

Stephen Woodley is an ecologist, who has worked in the field of environmental management for over 35 years. He has worked as a consultant, a field biologist, manager of a national fire restoration program and forest ecologist. He was the first Chief Scientist for Parks Canada, where he worked on a number of issues related to protected areas, including ecological monitoring, species at risk, wildlife disease, ecological restoration and science policy. For the last 2 years Stephen has worked for the International Union for the Conservation of Nature on biodiversity and climate change issues in protected areas.