



NRESi Bi-WEEKLY NEWS

June 6 - July 1, 2016

A newsletter for faculty, staff, students and the community
 who participate in the
Natural Resources & Environmental Studies Institute
 and NRES Graduate Programs

NRESi NOTES

FROM THE RESEARCH MANAGER

Hello folks

Hope that everyone is having a good summer so far.

This past month I had the pleasure of attending the a tour of the John Prince Research Forest research station on Tezzeron Lake north of Prince George. What a gorgeous spot. Thanks to Sue Grainger, Dexter Hodder and the other Research Forest staff for the tour.

The fall colloquium schedule is full and we have several speakers already lined up for the winter semester as well.

Al Wiensczyk, RPF

Research Manager, NRESi

UPCOMING EVENTS

NRESi COLLOQUIUM

Planning for the fall/winter 2016/17 colloquium series is currently underway. If you any suggestions for speakers, or if you would be willing to make a presentation yourself please contact me via email using the email address below.

TENTATIVE FALL SEMESTER COLLOQUIUM SCHEDULE

Presentation Date	Tentative Presenter and/or Topic
Sept 16, 2016	Dr. Briony Penn, University of Victoria
Sept 23, 2016	Travis Gerwing, UNBC
Sept 30, 2016	Dr. Francis Zwiers, Pacific Climate Impacts Consortium
Oct 7, 2016	Dr Fiona Johnston, Leibniz-Institute of Freshwater Ecology and Inland Fisheries, Berlin, Germany
Oct 14, 2016	Ron Long, Pink Mountain Biodiversity Initiative
Oct 21, 2016	Dr. Justine Karst, University of Alberta
Oct 28, 2016	Dr. Dominick DellaSala, GEOS Institute
Nov 4, 2016	Alexandre Bevington, BC Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations
Wed, Nov 9, 2016	Dr. Michelle Venter, UNBC
Nov 18, 2016	TBA—Inspiring Women Among Us (IWAW) sponsored speaker
Nov 25, 2016	Dr. Susan Wood-Bohm—Executive Director—Biological GHG Management—Alberta Innovates

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We're on the web at : www.unbc.ca/nres-institute/newsletter

UPCOMING EVENTS

Art, Change & Creativity—Climate Change Café

Thursday, July 7, 2016—7:00 pm

Two Rivers Gallery, Prince George, BC

Free admission and refreshments

Works from **Michele J. Jensen** and **Ruth Beer** speak to our relationship with the natural world. Take this **FINAL CHANCE TO EXPERIENCE** these exhibits. The climate change café provides a relaxed and engaging environment to reflect on these works and on how climate change is experienced in Prince George and Northern British Columbia. Join us to view exhibitions, discuss the intersection of art and the environment, and produce your own creative renditions of climate change landscapes and solutions. This event will explore how we as a community view our relationship to climate change.

Co-sponsored by the Pacific Institute for Climate Solutions and the University of Northern British Columbia.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Canada's Forest Sector: Adapting to a new reality. Technology and innovation as a catalyst for success.

Canadian Institute of Forestry: 2016 AGM and Demo International®

September 19-21, 2016

Vancouver, BC.—Four Seasons Hotel

This conference is being co-hosted by the UBC Faculty of Forestry, and the Canadian Woodlands Forum (CWF) in association with FPInnovations, the Council on Forest Engineering (COFE) and the Canadian Institute of Forestry (CIF).

Over the course of the conference, twelve individual themes with over eighty speakers from across Canada and internationally will address key topics such as: new silviculture practices, logistics and transportation; adapting to steep slopes; ground based harvesting systems; forest biomass production and handling; new technology in forest management, forest roads, forest modelling and human factors and safety.

The 108th Annual General Meeting of the CIF and the 2016 Annual Meeting of COFE as well as Awards Banquets for both organizations are being hosted at this conference as well. A variety of interesting pre and post conference tours have been planned as well, make sure to [register](#) your spot on the tour of your choice on the conference website early as space is limited!

This conference will also provide delegates with an opportunity to attend the Demo International® Equipment show, owned and presented by CWF and hosted by the UBC Faculty of Forestry, which runs from September 22-24 in Maple Ridge, BC. Occurring only every four years, this world class event has evolved into one of North America's largest outdoor equipment shows, all in a 'unique' setting, the forest; live and in action!

Make sure to take advantage of the '[early-bird](#)' [registration fees](#), and don't forget to book your hotel room at the Four Seasons Hotel! Please visit the conference website for full program and other related details: <http://www.demointernational.com/>.

On behalf of the Demo International® 2016 technical conference partners, we would like to encourage your participation and hope to see you in Vancouver this September!

UPCOMING EVENTS

2016 Southern Interior Silviculture Committee (SISCO) fall field tour

"Back to the Future" - Looking at previously harvested stands to help predict what current harvesting practices might bring in the future.

September 27-28, 2016

Summerland, BC

For more info as it becomes available visit <http://siscobc.com/>

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UPCOMING EVENTS

2nd Call for Papers and Registration Open:

Between Tradition and Increasing Challenges: Future Development of Small-scale and Community Forestry in times of global change.

IUFRO International Conference

September 26-29, 2016

Foz do Iguacu, Brazil

Post conference tour:

September 30—October 2, 2016

Misiones, Argentina

For more information: <http://www.latinoamericajointiufrofromeeting.com/>

UPCOMING EVENTS

CALL FOR STUDENT RESEARCH POSTERS

Watersheds 2016: *Building Capacity for Collaboration and Watershed Governance in BC*

September 30 - October 1, 2016

Vancouver, BC

For detailed event information and a preliminary program, please visit the Watersheds 2016 website: <https://watersheds2016forum.wordpress.com>

Submissions will be reviewed by the Event Organizers. Up to 10 spaces are available for student research posters. Alternative display formats are possible but students are asked to contact organizers to discuss first.

Criteria:

- A student (graduate student, undergraduate), or youth-based project.
- A BC-focused or relevant project that relates to the themes of the conference: watershed-focused collaboration, watershed governance, Indigenous-led water governance initiatives, water policy & law.
- Submission of title, approximately 250 word abstract describing the project and authors submitted by deadline: **July 29, 2016.**
- Co-authored posters are acceptable as long as the student is an author and it is the student who attends the conference and presents the poster.
- Consideration will be given to geographic diversity of presenters and their research.

Financial support

- Travel bursaries are not available. Students will receive a formal letter confirming their participation and are encouraged to apply for travel support from their supporting institution.
- Registration costs will be partially or entirely waived for students who can commit to a note-taking role.
- Student early-bird registration rate (\$200) applies to those who have a poster, but do not note-take.

Please contact Natasha Overduin: research@polisproject.org with your application, or to further discuss this opportunity.

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TRAVEL & CONFERENCES

Stephen Déry and Siraj ul Islam participated in the special symposium to honour Dr. Eric Wood's contributions to hydrology during the past 40 years at Princeton University on June 2nd/3rd. Stephen chaired a session on global water and energy fluxes at the symposium.

Rachel Hay, Waqar Younas, Siraj ul Islam and **Stephen Déry** participated and presented their latest findings at the joint CGU/CMOS congress in Fredericton, New Brunswick, May 30th to June 2nd. Stephen co-chaired a session on cold regions hydrology and hydrometeorology at the joint meeting.

Dr. Phil Mullins will be travelling to Cape Breton University to present at the 7th International Outdoor Education Research Conference: <http://www.cbu.ca/ioerc7/> which is held every two or three years. My talk is titled "*Learning ecologically: A relational approach skill development and specialization in fly fishing*" based on research funded by a SSHRC Insight Development Grant. I will be presenting work done by my graduate student, Genevieve Huneault, and I over the last two years.

On May 24, 2016, **Dr. Catherine Nolin** and Grahame Russell (UNBC Geography Adjunct faculty member & Director of Rights Action) completed a 10 day Mining Impunity Delegation to Guatemala, re-examining four major mining struggles related to Canadian and U.S. owned mining operations. They will soon publish their final conclusions. A summary of all Alerts written from the field can be found at:

<http://www.rightsaction.org/action-content/summary-mining-impunity-delegation-alerts> and

<http://www.unbc.ca/geography/field-schools/guatemala-2016>

"We continue to be astounded by the deafening silence and/or denials by the Canadian and U.S. governments, by the Guatemalan government, and by the mining companies and their investors about the widespread repression, human rights violations and environmental harms caused by mining in Guatemala, and by the context of corruption and impunity within which mining companies operate." (Catherine Nolin & Grahame Russell)

Also, while in Guatemala, Catherine initiated a new research project with Grahame Russell and documentary photographer James Rodriguez (mimundo.org) titled "Memory/Truth/Justice: Project Disappeared in Pacux" with surviving family members from the Los Encuentros massacre of 1982, now living in Pacux. We are working on this project in anticipation of the trial of 10 Guatemalan military officers for forced disappearance and other war crimes during Guatemala's internal armed conflict; one of several massacres tied directly to the development of a World Bank funded hydroelectric dam project.



IN THE NEWS

Julia MacGillivray, Marc Howard, Aseem Sharma and **Stephen Déry** participated in a community outreach event at Tatuk Lake, hosting 45 Vanderhoof middle school students at our weather station there on June 23rd.

Dr. Neil Hanlon's sabbatical year is starting with three weeks at the Institute for Lifecourse and Society at the National University of Ireland, Galway. The Irish Centre for Social Gerontology is part of the Institute and a multidisciplinary research centre on ageing. <http://www.nuigalway.ie/ilas/>

Move towards divestment adopted by the Canadian Association of Geographers:

Several NRESi members, alongside other UNBC faculty and students, belong to the Canadian Association of Geographers (CAG). At the Annual General Meeting on 2 June 2017 (Halifax, NS), members voted to support recommendations for changes to CAG investment policy ([link to report](#)). UNBC's **Dr. Neil Hanlon** serves as CAG Treasurer, and contributed to this report. The CAG Executive Committee is now working to implement recommendations that will direct CAG funds towards fossil-free investments.

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IN THE NEWS

John Prince Research Forest

Nestled on the shores of beautiful Tezzeron Lake north of Fort St James at the site of the former Cinnabar Resort is the research station for the John Prince Research Forest. On June 6th, a busload of UNBC faculty and staff had the opportunity to take a guided tour of the research station and learn about the facility and some of the on-going research projects. The John Prince Research Forest (<http://researchforest.unbc.ca/jprf/jprf.htm>), which was established in 1999, encompasses just over 13,000 ha of crown land between Tezzeron (Chuzghun) and Pinchi (Tesgha) Lakes in the traditional territory of the Tl'azt'en First Nation. The landscape exhibits diverse forest types and land management history and has a wide range of natural resource values and environmental conditions.



The research forest is co-managed as a working forest by UNBC and the Tl'azt'en First Nation with the purpose of promoting inter-disciplinary research while providing education and employment opportunities for the local community. The philosophy of the research forest is to blend traditional knowledge and western scientific approaches of understanding our environment and the impacts of our management on it.

The research forest has an annual allowable cut of approximately 17,500 m³. The revenue from the timber harvested funds the operations of the research forest and station. Any surplus revenues from forest management must be reinvested into Research and Education Programs.

Early research emphasis at the research forest was on social science, including the integration of Traditional Ecological Knowledge (TEK) into Forest Management planning, targeting forest reference conditions, and development of criteria and indicators for co-management. This focus has shifted slightly with current efforts being directed towards long-term wildlife and habitat monitoring.

The John Prince Research Forest supports research in three ways, as a research facility, as an experiment itself, and through its own internal research program.

As a facility, the research station provides accommodation for researchers or students and staff are available to help identify key experts in the community and/or study sites and can provide safety check-in and supervision (if needed).

The structure of the research forest is in itself a research project.

Internal research projects include collaborations with faculty from UNBC, other universities and government, and long-term monitoring and trials, and often incorporates "special" management issues identified by the JPFR or Tl'azt'en Nation.



Educational use of the research forest includes field schools, class projects and field trips, student employment and volunteer projects, and graduate and undergraduate student projects.

For more information about the research forest, contact Sue Grainger (Research Forest Manager, phone: 250-960-3700; email: susan.grainger@unbc.ca) or Dexter Hodder (Director Research and Education, phone: 250-996-0411; email: Dexter@johnprinceresearchforest.com).

IN THE NEWS

Stay up-to-date with the latest NRESi and member news by following us on Twitter: [@UNBC_NRESi](https://twitter.com/UNBC_NRESi)

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Pacific Institute for Climate Solutions (PICS) news

Position: Climate Change Research Co-op/Intern

Ministry: Agriculture

Salary: \$1,661 biweekly (\$23.73 per hour) (graduate level co-op)

Start/End Date: September 2016 to April 2017 (8 months)

Location: Victoria (*note: Please do not apply unless you are willing to be located in Victoria*)

Application Deadline: July 11, 2016

This position is a unique opportunity to build understanding of the importance of agricultural climate change adaptation and to contribute to high priority policies, programs, and actions to advance climate change adaptation and mitigation in the B.C. agriculture sector. Note that the position is located in Victoria and that no relocation expenses will be paid.

Qualifications:

The co-op must be self-motivated, work both independently and as part of a team, be flexible, creative and take initiative. To be qualified, the candidate must:

- Be enrolled in a university graduate program in agriculture, climate change, resource management, natural sciences, earth sciences, environmental studies/science, economics, planning, business, public administration, public policy, or a related field.
- Have experience conducting research and analysis; strong verbal and written communication skills; and experience presenting findings through presentations and graphic/visual products
- Have proficiency with Microsoft Office, including Word, Excel, PowerPoint, Publisher, and Visio
- Have the ability to work closely with key stakeholders of the Ministry and industry
- (preferable) Have completed courses and/or have experience with climate science, adaptation to climate change, agriculture, natural resource management, economics, and policy analysis
- (preferable) Have work experience in a government setting.

How To Apply:

Send a resume and a covering letter, explaining how you meet the position requirements, why you are interested in the position, and how it aligns with your planned career direction, to:

Ian McLachlan, Manager – Climate Action, Ministry of Agriculture

Email: ian.mclachlan@gov.bc.ca Tel: (250) 356-1852

Full Job posting: <http://www.unbc.ca/climate-change-research-co-op-8-months>

Cumulative Impacts Research Consortium (CIRC) news

The CIRC is pleased to announce the preliminary release of a CIRC-authored [report](#) examining the community impacts of unconventional natural gas development to support policy, regulation and governance in northern BC. Please note that our team continues to work with this data to inform a more robust accounting of the opportunities and challenges associated with continued natural gas development in BC.

Colleagues at the Pacific Salmon Foundation have just released a new data-driven tool called the [Pacific Salmon Explorer](#) that explores Skeena salmon populations and their habitats.

Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council funding opportunity

SSHRC has just launched its 4th **Knowledge Synthesis Grant** competition “**How are the knowledge systems, experiences and aspirations of First Nations, Inuit and Metis peoples essential to building a successful shared future for all Canadians**”

SSHRC Knowledge Synthesis Grants are valued at \$25,000 and are tenable for one year. Applications are submitted as PDF documents via email.

Application deadline: September 13, 2016

More information about grant eligibility and the application process can be found at: http://www.sshrc-crsh.gc.ca/funding-financement/programs-programmes/ksg_aboriginal_peoples-ssc_peoples_autochtones-eng.aspx

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IN THE NEWS

(Government press releases)

Canada-U.S. softwood lumber negotiations

Jun 30, 2016—Victoria. Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations Minister Steve Thomson released the following statement today on the status of negotiations between Canada and the United States on softwood lumber:

[For more details...](#)

Statutory decision makers authorize Mt. Polley Mine return to full production.

Jun 23, 2016—Victoria. Statutory decision makers with the Ministry of Energy and Mines have authorized the Mount Polley Mining Corporation to return to full production using the repaired and strengthened tailings storage facility (TSF) to manage tailings.

[For more details...](#)

Factsheet: Government response to Mount Polley Mine tailing storage facility breach

Jun 23, 2016—Victoria. On Aug. 4, 2014, a large and unprecedented breach occurred at the Mount Polley Mine tailings storage facility. Government took immediate steps to respond, addressing health and safety concerns and initiating three investigations.

[For more details...](#)

Public invited to comment on Mount Polley environmental impact report

Jun 21, 2016—Williams Lake. British Columbians have 30-days to comment on Mount Polley Mining Corporation's Post Event Environmental Impact Assessment Report (PEEIAR).

[For more details...](#)

Financial assistance available for flooding victims

Jun 17, 2016—Victoria. Disaster Financial Assistance (DFA) is now available to eligible British Columbians in the Peace River Regional District area, including Dawson Creek, Chetwynd, Fort St John, Hudson's Hope, Pouce Coupe, Taylor, Tumbler Ridge and the First Nations communities of Saulteau and West Moberly who may have been impacted from the major flooding that occurred this past week.

[For more details...](#)

New, green heating coming to provincial buildings in Prince George

Jun 16, 2016—Prince George. The Prince George Law Courts and Plaza 400 will soon be connected to Prince George's Downtown Renewable Energy System (DRES), a hot-water utility that produces thermal energy using sawmill residue from Lakeland Mills Ltd., reducing greenhouse gases and reliance on non-renewable fossil fuels.

[For more details...](#)

Progress made, new funding for transportation action plan for highway 16.

Jun 15, 2016—Prince George. Today Minister of Transportation and Infrastructure Todd Stone announced \$2 million in new provincial and federal funding for the now \$5-million Highway 16 Transportation Action Plan, outlined the progress made to put the plan in action and opened the application process for new community vehicles.

[For more details...](#)

New Cariboo water tool added to B.C.'s hydrology toolbox

Jun 14, 2016—Quesnel. First Nations, industry and members of the public can now access science-based information on water supply in the central portion of the Fraser River watershed with the release of the Cariboo Water Tool. The water tool is a leading edge, GIS-based program that supports decision-making on water-use planning and approvals.

[For more details...](#)

New mill in Mackenzie champions innovation, diversity

Jun 13, 2016—Mackenzie. Duz Cho Forest Products celebrated the official grand opening of its new cant mill, Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations Minister Steve Thomson announced today.

[For more details...](#)

BC publishes updated hunting and trapping regulations

Jun 13, 2016—Victoria. The Province has released the 2016-18 Hunting and Trapping Regulations Synopsis, detailing the most up-to-date rules and regulations for hunters throughout British Columbia.

[For more details...](#)

New rules for compost facilities to better protect the environment.

Jun 10, 2016—Victoria. The Ministry of Environment is amending the organic matter recycling regulation (OMRR) to require permits for compost facilities that process food waste or biosolids.

[For more details...](#)

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IN THE NEWS

(Government press releases, con't.)

Training initiatives for mature workers available in Fraser Lake

Jun 10, 2016—Fraser Lake. To help mature workers in Fraser Lake get the training and support they need for local jobs, the Government of Canada and the Province of British Columbia will provide nearly \$160,000 to the College of New Caledonia (CNC) Vanderhoof campus to deliver the Targeted Initiative for Older Workers (TIOW) program.

[For more details...](#)

Treaty principals take action to improve treaty negotiations

Jun 7, 2016—Victoria. The Government of Canada, the Province of British Columbia and the First Nations Summit have developed a path forward to improve and expedite treaty negotiations with First Nations in British Columbia.

[For more details...](#)

B.C. joins western Canadian fight against invasive species

Jun 6, 2016—Victoria. The Province is joining forces with neighbouring jurisdictions in the fight against invasive species, including zebra and quagga mussels.

[For more details...](#)

PUBLICATIONS

Huber, D.W.P., and J.A. Robert. 2016. Chapter Three-The Proteomics and Transcriptomics of Early Host Colonization and Overwintering Physiology in the Mountain Pine Beetle, *Dendroctonus ponderosae* Hopkins (Coleoptera: Curculionidae). *Advances in Insect Physiology*. 50:101-128.

Li, Z., Hao, Z., Shi, X., **Déry, S. J.**, Li, J., Chen, S., and Li, Y., 2016: An agricultural drought index to incorporate the irrigation process and reservoir operations: A case study in the Tarim River Basin in China, *Global and Planetary Change*, **143**, 10-20.

LaZerte, S.E., Slabbekoorn, H. & **Otter, K.A.** 2016. Learning to cope: vocal adjustment to urban noise is correlated with prior experience in black-capped chickadees. *Proceedings of the Royal Society of London B*. 283: 20161058. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1098/rspb.2016.1058>

COURSE OFFERING

PhD summer course: Climate Change Adaptation and Transformations towards Sustainability.

When: August 1-5, 2016

Where: University of Oslo, Oslo, Norway.

This PhD course explores the relationship between adaptation and transformation, two concepts that are key to understanding societal responses to climate change. The objective of the course is to engage students with the latest theories, frameworks, approaches and methods for addressing two critical questions in solutions-oriented global change research: What does it mean to successfully adapt to climate change? How can deliberate transformations to sustainability be carried out rapidly, yet in ways that ethical and equitable?

Organizers: Oslo Summer School in Comparative Social Science Studies at the University of Oslo, in collaboration with the Future Earth Norway Secretariat.

Lecturer: Professor Karen O'Brien, Department of Sociology and Human Geography, University of Oslo, Norway

Rolling admission, applications are now being accepted

Course Credits: 10 pts (ECTS)

Max. 25 participants

[Read more about the course and apply here.](#)

If you have any questions please get in touch with Linda Sygna at the Future Earth Norway Secretariat:

linda.sygna@sosgeo.uio.no

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SUSAN STEVENSON MEMORIAL AWARD

As its first project of this kind, the Natural Resources and Environmental Studies Institute (NRESi) has established the Susan Stevenson Scholarship Fund, in memory of wildlife ecologist and NRESi member Susan Stevenson. During a 35-year career built primarily in the BC central interior, Susan designed and implemented important research and inventory projects related to mountain caribou habitat, lichen biology, and silvicultural systems, collaborating with a diverse range of researchers, and gave generously of her expertise to the next generation of scientists. Susan exemplified the Institute's values of interdisciplinary curiosity and unselfish collaboration, and enriched the lives of all those who worked and studied with her.

Efforts have succeeded in reaching the goal of \$15,000 that will be matched by UNBC to allow for an annual award. Additional contributions to the fund are welcomed. The inaugural award will be presented in the 2016-2017 academic year. NRESi would like to thank everyone who contributed to the scholarship!

The following award criteria for the **Susan Stevenson Memorial Award** have been developed:

Value: \$1,000

Eligibility: Available to a full or part time female graduate student enrolled in either the Masters (NRES) or PhD (NRES) degree programs with a research emphasis in one or more of: wildlife ecology, plant biology, forest ecology, or innovative silvicultural systems and practices that emphasize wildlife management and biodiversity objectives.

Criteria: Satisfactory Academic Standing (3.0 GPA)

Conditions: Student is unable to receive this award more than once.

Recipient Selection: Senate Committee on Scholarships and Bursaries on recommendation of the NRESi Steering Committee. Applicants will provide a statement, not exceeding 500 words in length, explaining how their intended research fits within the areas specified for his award.

COLLOQUIUM ARCHIVE

Did you miss a colloquium or special lecture this semester? Visit NRESi's webcast archive to catch up! They can be found on the [NRESi Youtube channel](#).

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