

NRESi Bi-WEEKLY NEWS Apr 3 - Apr 14, 2017

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 everyone,

The last day of classes for the winter 2017 semester has come and gone.

Firstly I would like to thank all of our NRESi Friday colloquium speakers for the past year. Your efforts are greatly appreciated. Also a big thank you to Dr. Oscar Venter (NRES faculty colloquium series advisor) as well as members of the UNBC faculty who suggested speakers for our series. In addition, I would like to thank the Pacific Institute for Climate Solutions (PICS), Inspiring Women Among Us (IWAU) organizers, the Departments of Anthropology, Psychology, Health Sciences, and Nursing, the UNBC student chapter of The Wildlife Society, the Doug Little Memorial Lecture organizers, Polar Days, and the Canadian Meteorological and Oceanographic Society, for sponsorship of some our Friday Colloquium speakers. We are now starting to plan for next years and I already have a couple of suggestions for speakers. Please drop me an email or stop me in the hall if you have ideas for speakers for the fall 2017 or winter 2018 colloquium series. I would also like this opportunity to congratulate our student scholarship/award winners for the 2016-17 academic year. Ms. Laura Grant, who is conducting research on mountain caribou in the Telkwa range of northern British Columbia, was the winner of the Susan Stevenson Memorial Award. The recipient of the Dr. Joselito (Lito) Arocena Memorial Undergraduate Thesis Prize was Mr. Paul Koch. The recipient of the Dr. Joselito (Lito) Arocena Memorial Graduate Prize for 2016-17 is still yet to be determined. And finally, Dr. Stefanie LaZerte won the annual NRES Graduate Student Publication Award for her extension note on Chickadees. Congratulations to all.

Al Wiensczyk, RPF

Research Manager, NRESi

UPCOMING EVENTS

Canadian Institute of Forestry E-lectures

Date/Time	Title	Presenter(s)
Apr 26 2017 10:30 am PST	Canadian Urban Forest Network: Updates and Future Directions	Adrina Bardekjian, Michael Rosen, Heather Fraser, Peter Wynnyczuk, Meagan Hanna, Martha Barwinski, and Lanny Englund
Apr 27, 2017 10:30 am PST	Flexibility From Bioenergy - The role of bioenergy in balancing the electricity grid and providing storage options	Antti Arasto — Research Manager, Sustainable Energy and Research Technologies, VTT Technical Research Centre of Finland.

All electronic lectures are free. Your consideration of CIF/IFC membership would be appreciated. To become a CIF/IFC member: www.cif-ifc.org/membership-content/become-a-member/ www.cif-ifc.org/e-lectures/

For additional information or to register, contact the Ronnie Huang (CIF-IFC)

E-mail: electures@cif-ifc.org Tel: 705-744-1715 ext. 630

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PLEASE EMAIL ALL INFORMATION AND MATERIAL TO: al.wiensczyk@unbc.ca

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

UPCOMING EVENTS

Great Northern Landscape Conservation Cooperative Webinars

Date/Time	Title	Presenter(s)
Apr 19 2017 11:00 am PST	Introduction to the North Central CSC Liaison Team with the Great Northern LCC http://greatnorthernlcc.org/event/943	Geneva Chong, Tabitha Graves, Kathi Irvine, Greg Pederson, Todd Preston, David Wood—Northern Rocky Mountain Science Centre
Apr 19, 2017 1:00 pm PST	Mapping change agents in the Green River Basin: Land use and energy development http://greatnorthernlcc.org/event/944	Not given
May 10, 2017 11:00 am PST	Evaluation of cultural ecosystem services using social media data http://greatnorthernlcc.org/event/936	Rebecca Hale—Idaho State University
May 26, 2017 1:00 pm PST	Sage steppe resilience mapping in the Green River Basin http://greatnorthernlcc.org/event/945	Not given

All webinars are free but require pre-registration. Click on the given link to find out more about the webinar and to access the webinar-registration page.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Association of Professional Biologists Conference

2017 Annual Professional Biology Conference and AGM

The Final Frontier: Bridging Social, Political and Scientific Worlds in Professional Biology.

April 20-21, 2017 Richmond, BC

As one of Canada's largest natural resource specialist events, the APB conference in Vancouver's lower mainland is an event not to be missed. Take advantage of this unique opportunity to learn from leaders in various applied biology fields, and build connections across industry, government, conservation organizations In addition to our great speaker lineup, delegates will be able to take advantage of networking with various vendors at our tradeshow and distinguished banquet keynote.

This conference will focus on Industry Practices and Social License, Effective Collaboration with First Nations and Local Communities, Species and Ecosystems at Risk, and New and Traditional Sampling Technology and Protocols. For more information and to register: https://professionalbiology.com/professional-development-networking/annual-conference/

UPCOMING EVENTS

Conference

Minerals North: Crossing Paths

April 25-27, 2017

Prince George Civic Centre, Prince George, BC.

Minerals North 2017 will be hosted in Prince George April 25 - 27 in Prince George, BC. Sponsorship and Tradeshow information is now available, and program information will be updated soon.

For more information: http://mineralsnorth.ca/conference/

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UPCOMING EVENTS

Annual General Meeting

Northwest Invasive Plant Council AGM

April 26, 2017

Prince George Fish Hatchery, 1384 River Road, Prince George

9:30 am-2:00 pm

Come here about the 2016 highlights, participate in the Annual General meeting, and learn about the 2017 target plant list.

Please RSVP by April 20th (required for catering)

manager@nwipc.org or call 250-649-0151

UPCOMING EVENTS

Learning Forum

Renewable Cities Global Learning Forum

May 17-19, 2017

Vancouver, BC.

Join us at Global Learning Forum 2017 to participate in a solutions-focused dialogue on the transition to 100% renewable energy in cities. 400+ leaders from local governments, the private sector, utilities, and the NGO and research communities will gather to engage and learn.

Free registration is available to **First Nations Community members** and **Northern local government staff** on a scholarship basis. For more details and to apply see this link: https://docs.google.com/forms/d/

e/1FAIpQLSf epMFdMjU E XQBA1jTPEmsynihfyVWk9huOwJpe- BLgyA/viewform

For more info on the forum go to: http://www.renewablecities.ca/dialogues-projects/global-learning-forum-2017#1480950093346-17c9190b-c5b0

UPCOMING EVENTS

Invasive Species Research Conference

Invasive Species Research Conference: Turning Science into Action

June 20-22, 2017

Thompson Rivers University, Kamloops BC

Thompson Rivers University (TRU) and the Invasive Species Council of BC are co-hosting this conference which will bring together scientific researchers and practitioners and features two renowned keynote speakers, Dr. Daniel Simberloff & Dr. Anthony Ricciardi. The conference agenda includes a series of oral and poster presentations, lightning talks, invasive species field trips and more - all in the beautiful, sunny location of Kamloops, BC. Invasive species researchers and practitioners from across the Pacific North-West are invited to attend and to submit scientific research abstracts for presentations at the Invasive Species Research Conference.

For more information go to the conference website. http://events.bcinvasives.ca/about-invasivespeciesresearchconference/

UPCOMING EVENTS

Conference

Forest Genetics 2017: Forest Health and Productivity in Changing Environments

June 26-29, 2017

University of Alberta, Edmonton, AB

The hosting organizations for this conference are CFGA and WFGA, which represent academics, researchers, tree breeders, seed biologists, students and forestry practitioners involved in genetics and tree breeding in Canada and western North America. Their joint, biennial conference series provides a forum for sharing research results, technology transfer, and broadening the scope of their activities to cater for emerging economic and environmental challenges.

Visit the Conference website for more information and to register: http://forestgenetics2017.ca/

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UPCOMING EVENTS Conference

2017 Interior Safety Conference: Leading Safety – Building Strong Supervisors

May 27, 2017

Kin 1—CN Centre, Prince George, BC.

This year's safety conference is being held in partnership with the **Canada North Resource Expo** and both events will be located at the CN Centre in Prince George. Delegates attending the safety conference will also get free admission to the CNRE.

The 2017 conference's theme is "Leading Safety – Building Strong Supervisors". The conference will include sessions on how to build strong teams, WorkSafeBC requirements, and communicating with different generations. There will also be sessions on how to manage fatigue at work and steep slope logging. The conference will provide practical information and tools for all workers not just supervisors and managers.

The conference steering committee is made up of representatives from Industry, the BC Forest Safety Council and WorkSafeBC. Sponsorships from industry allow for free admission for delegates.

For more information, please contact Gerard Messier (BC Forest Safety Council) at 1-877-741-1060 or by email at Gerard.Messier@bcforestsafe.org.

Online registration

Conference Agenda

TRAVEL & CONFERENCES

Gail Fondahl traveled to Prague, for the International Arctic Science Committee business meetings (31 March-2 April). Her term as Chair of the Social and Human Sciences Working Group ended at the meeting; she remains the Canadian representative (and past chair) to the WG for two more years. While in Prague she also attended a kick-off lunch meeting held for the International Advisory Board of the Arctic Challenge for Sustainability Project, a new Japanese-based research project (http://www.arcs-pro.ip/en/about/index.html).

NRESi Members in the News

Darwyn Coxson was this year's recipient of the Confederation of University Faculty Associations of BC's (CUFA BC) Paz Buttedahl Career Achievement Award. Named in memory of Dr. Paz Buttedahl — academic, community builder and faculty association leader — this award is for sustained outstanding contributions to the community beyond the academy through research or other scholarly activities by an individual or a group over the major portion of their career. Congratulations Darwyn!

Northern Analytical Laboratory Service (NALS) Update

The University of Northern British Columbia is home to an extensive suite of analytical science instrumentation that enables a broad spectrum of chemical, physical, and biological analyses. UNBC has made these services available to researchers as well as private, public, and non-profit sectors to help meet their research, development, and quality assurance needs through the Northern Analytical Laboratory Service (NALS).

One of the services offered is a **Water Analysis Package**. This is not a commercial service and is specifically designed to help local communities. Physical and biological tests, dissolved anions and elemental analysis are all available.

Need more information?

http://www.unbc.ca/northern-analytical-lab-service

To arrange a tour please contact Hossien Kazeman at hossein.kazemian@unbc.ca or Phone: 250-960-5168

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Pacific Institute for Climate Solutions (PICS) news

• In March and April, UNBC PICS fellow Ben Pelto made presentations to the Nechako Rotary Club, grade 5, 6 and 7 classes at Nusdeh Yoh Elementary, and tabled at the Central Interior Science Exhibition. Ben displayed his field research equipment, made "glacier goo" with students to show how glaciers move, and demonstrated a home-made "ice core".





- With PICS support, a Life Cycle Analysis of the Wood Innovation Research Lab
 is being undertaken by Stephanie Wall under the supervision of Dr. Guido Wimmers.
- **Zoë Meletis** (Geography; former PICS Program Committee member) and Alex Schare (PICS Fellow, 2016) are members of the Pacific Institute for Climate Solutions Strategic Planning Task Force. They have been meeting with other Task Force Members, in Vancouver, and will continue to do

so over the next few weeks. Zoë and Alex have enjoyed working with the other Task Force members, sharing perspectives from/about PICS at UNBC, and trying to ensure that smaller cities, the north, and rural issues are front of mind as the plan is crafted. PICS plans to have a draft strategic plan ready for Fall 2017.

- The Art, Change & Creativity (ACC) project team (**Dr. Zoe Meletis**, Dr. Mark Groulx, and undergraduate students Carleen Paltzat and Scott Brown) is heading to Cork, Ireland to present at the Conference of Irish Geographers May 4-6. The ACC project will also be presenting at the Canadian Association of Geographers meeting Toronto in late May and the Canadian Institute of Planning conference in Calgary in June.
- Northern local governments and First Nations communities can apply for free registration to the Renewable Cities <u>Global Learning Forum</u> on May 17-19 in Vancouver. Here is the direct link of the application form: https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSf epMFdMjU E XQBA1jTPEmsynihfyVWk9huOwJpe- BLgyA/viewform

Cumulative Impacts Research Consortium (CIRC) news

The CIRC is hiring a **Research Associate** to join the CIRC's leadership team.

The ideal candidate for this position will have strong organizational, interpersonal and communication skills, and previous research experience. Demonstrated experience in research management (writing grants and supporting the implementation of research) is required. The successful candidate will have a graduate degree from an accredited university in the field of natural resource studies, the health sciences, community development, or equivalent, and a minimum of two years of experience in research and project management. An equivalent combination of education and experience may also be considered.

Application Deadline: April 28, 2017

Visit the following website for further details: http://www.unbc.ca/cumulative-impacts/news/job-opportunity-circ-unbc-hiring-research-associate

IN THE NEWS

(Government Press Releases)

Raising awareness of co-op education at UNBC

Apr 7, 2017—Prince George, BC. Students at the University of Northern British Columbia (UNBC) will be encouraged to explore co-op opportunities to support their career ambitions. The university will receive \$75,000 to support outreach to more employers and increase awareness of the benefits of co-op placements for both employers and students.

For more details...

Factsheet: B.C.'s forest sector: helping drive the provincial economy

Apr 7, 2017—Victoria. British Columbia's forest sector is a key economic driver and a fundamental component of the economic and social fabric of dozens of B.C.'s communities. In 2016, the value of B.C. forest product exports was \$14 billion, up 84% since 2009.

For more details...

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IN THE NEWS

(Government Press Releases)

FACTSHEET: Reforestation in B.C.

Apr 7, 2017. British Columbia prides itself on being a world leader in sustainable forest management. Since specific reforestation programs began in the 1930s, over 7.5 billion trees have been planted. For more details...

B.C. invests \$7.7 million to advance wood use and grow global markets

Apr 7, 2017—Vancouver. The Government of British Columbia is investing \$7.7 million to promote the use of B.C. wood, advance wood building systems and products, and expand global markets, Premier Christy Clark announced at the Council of Forest Industries annual convention today. For more details...

Mount Polley long-term water management plan approved

Apr 7, 2017—Williams Lake. The approval of the long-term water management plan for Mount Polley means the mine can continue to operate providing 350 well-paying jobs in the region, Minister of Energy and Mines Bill Bennett announced today. For more details...

May proclaimed as Invasive Species Action Month

Apr 7, 2017—Victoria. The B.C. government has proclaimed May 2017 as "Invasive Species Action Month" to help raise awareness of invasive plants and animals in British Columbia and to highlight the environmental and economic damage they can cause. For more details...

FACTSHEET: Caribou recovery

Apr 7, 2017. As part of Balanced Budget 2017, government committed \$27 million to a comprehensive caribou recovery program over the next three years. For more details...

B.C. seeds northern B.C. ecosystem restoration

Apr 7, 2017—Prince George. The Province has awarded \$100,000 to the Society for Ecosystem Restoration in northcentral B.C. to help rejuvenate damaged ecosystems in the North, Mike Morris, MLA for Prince George-Mackenzie, and Shirley Bond, MLA for Prince George-Valemount announced today. For more details...

B.C. government provides \$298,000 in regional invasive plant grants around Prince George.

Apr 6, 2017—Prince George. The provincial government is providing \$298,000 to the Northwest Invasive Plant Council to help manage invasive plants in the Prince George region announced local MLAs Shirley Bond and Mike Morris today.

For more details...

First Nations to benefit from Kemess mine

Apr 6, 2017—Victoria. New government-to-government and mineral tax revenue-sharing agreements provide for economic benefits and collaboration opportunities for First Nations in northern B.C., related to the proposed Kemess Under-For more details... ground mine.

Seeking input for B.C. boreal caribou recovery plan

Mar 31, 2017—Victoria. The Province is looking for public comment on an updated B.C. boreal caribou implementation plan (BCIP) that was originally completed in 2011. For more details...

Job Opportunities

Instructor—Environmental Science

Keyano College Fort McMurray, AB

Application Deadline: See job posting

The successful candidate will be required to teach/revise/design courses in consultation with the Chair, faculty and other post-secondary institutions. Responsibilities include carrying out regularly scheduled instruction, ensuring student awareness of course objectives, defining evaluation techniques, validating learning outcomes, staying current in their discipline, and engaging in scholarly activity. The successful candidate will also be expected to have office hours for student consultation and create an awareness of the discipline in the community. Participation in both Departmental and College affairs, particularly with respect to recruitment, tutoring, and academic advising of students is also required. For more information: https://careers.keyano.ca/postings/984

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Job Opportunities

SNC Lavalin

Prince George

SNC Lavalin is hiring two junior positions (0 to 3 years experience), one intermediate (3 to 8 years experience); and full project manager (>10 years experience). Education in any of the following areas will be considered: B.Sc./M.Sc./ B.A.Sc. Environmental / Earth Sciences / Env Engineering. Positions relate to contaminated site assessment and remediation, reclamation, and landfills, etc.

Contact Trevor McConkey for more information or to apply: 250-562-5172 ext 56557. Trevor.McConkey@snclavalin.com

Knowledge Mobilization Specialist

University of Saskatchewan

Application deadline: Tuesday, April 18, 2017

The University of Saskatchewan is searching for a Knowledge Mobilization (KM) specialist to assist with a \$77.8-million grant entitled Global Water Futures (GWF). GWF is intended to transform the way communities, governments and industries in Canada, and other cold regions of the world, prepare for and manage increasing water-related threats. A key approach is designing user solutions that focus on real world problems.

For more information: http://jobs.usask.ca/job_postings/jobs/1720rs.php#.WO_u0IjysdW

Research Scientist: Terrestrial Systems Ecology Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry

Sault Ste Marie, Ontario

Application deadline: Monday, April 24, 2017

Do you have a demonstrated advanced knowledge of terrestrial systems ecology? If so, consider this opportunity with the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry, where you will use your research and leadership skills to examine the multi-scale cumulative effects of land use policies and practices and help ensure the sustainability of Ontario's natural resources.

Go to the following website to apply and to find online job description: https://www.gojobs.gov.on.ca/Apply.aspx?
Language=English&JobID=105352

PhD Opportunities

Dalhousie University

Truro, Nova Scotia

Soil organic carbon storage and deficit as influenced by soil type and depth and farm management regime.

Start Date: May 2017

For more information or to apply: Please contact Dr. Derek Lynch, Department of Plant, Food and Environmental Sciences, Faculty of Agriculture, Dalhousie University, PO Box 550, Truro, Nova Scotia B2N 5E3, Canada, E-mail:

<u>Derek.lynch@dal.ca.</u> To apply please send transcripts and a resume, statement of career goals, and contact information (addresses, email and phone numbers) of at least two references.

University of Alberta

Edmonton, Alberta

Boreal soil carbon

Start Date: September 2017

This Ph.D. project will aim to clarify how interactions between the soil geological material and vegetation may ultimately determine the response of boreal soil carbon to climatic changes. We will use a variety of methods, including NMR and stable isotope tracking, to evaluate the source and fate of boreal carbon in soil profiles under different environmental conditions.

Interested candidates should e-mail their transcript, a detailed curriculum vitae, a cover letter that summarizes their qualifications and research goals, and the names and contact information of three references to Dr. Sylvie Quideau at sylvie.quideau@ualberta.ca

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PhD Opportunities

University of Wisconsin

Madison, Wisconsin

Determination of the roles of pyrophilous microbes in the breakdown and stabilization of pyrolyzed forms of soil organic matter

Start Date: Summer or Fall semesters 2017

We are recruiting a Ph.D. student to work on a DOE-funded multi-institutional project investigating the role of microbes in post-fire soil organic matter (SOM) dynamics.

The position could start during the summer or fall semesters of 2017. If you are interested in this project, please contact twhitman@wisc.edu, sending a statement of interest and your cv before April 15, 2017.

Course offerings

Field Course in Human Ecology (HHSC760/NRES760). Spring semester (May-June).

This field school is an intensive, interdisciplinary course addressing themes including social-ecological systems, human-environment relationships and ecosystem approaches to health. The hybrid course will combine northern BC field experiences focused on integrative approaches to health, environment and community issues, with real-time connections with students and instructors from four universities (UNBC, Guelph, U of T. & INRS). Field activities and inter-institutional learning will focus on the course theme of: "The role of universities in their watersheds".

The hybrid course is supported by the Consortium for the Canadian Community of Practice in Ecosystem Approaches to Health: www.copeh-canada.org.

For more information about the UNBC course, please contact: Margot Parkes margot.parkes@unbc.ca

Advanced Forest Vegetation Management

Whitecourt, Alberta

May 15-18, 2017

Maritime College of Forest Technology, NB

North America's top Forest Vegetation Management Experts & Risk Management Strategists come together to provide your employees with state-of-the-art knowledge and skills that are needed in today's world.

Cost: \$2,399 + 5% GST

Contact Todd MacPherson for more info or to register (506) 458-0649. Email: ce@mcft.ca

LITO AROCENA STUDENT AWARDS

In December 2015, dear colleague and founding UNBC faculty member, Dr. Lito Arocena passed away after a short battle with cancer. In honour of his memory, a UNBC memorial fund was established to support three student awards, which have recently been instituted:

- **Dr. Joselito (Lito) Arocena Memorial Scholarship** (\$1000). Available to a full time undergraduate student who has completed 90 credit hours and is pursuing a Bachelor of Science honours or majors degree in one of the following: Biology, Environmental Science, Geography, or Natural Resources Management. Criteria: Academic excellence
- **Dr. Joselito (Lito) Arocena Memorial Undergraduate Thesis Prize** (\$250). Awarded for the best thesis presented by undergraduate students completing an undergraduate major or honours degree in one of: Biology, Environmental Planning, Environmental Science, Environmental Studies, Geography, Natural Resources Management, or Nature-based Tourism Management.
- **Dr. Joselito (Lito) Arocena Memorial Graduate Prize** (\$250). The Prize will be awarded to the student nominated by the NRES Graduate Program for the UNBC Governor General's Gold Medal.

Thanks to contributions from donors and UNBC, the fund is currently large enough to endow the \$1000 scholarship in perpetuity. However additional contributions are needed to permanently endow the two prizes, and to increase the amounts awarded over time. If anyone would like to contribute to this fund, through payroll deductions or otherwise, please go to www.unbc.ca/giving/employee-giving for more information.

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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 <u>NRESi Youtube channel</u>. We are in the process of migrating the recorded talks to the UNBC video archive. The most recent colloquium and special presentation talks (2016/17) can be found at https://video.unbc.ca/channel/NRESI/



Shrike— near Vanderhoof, BC. Photographer: Dexter Hodder

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