

**UNBC Public Presentation\***

**Wednesday, June 14, 12:00-1:00 p.m.**

**Room 103/104, UNBC Terrace Campus\*\***

**\*sponsored by the Lakelse Watershed Stewards Society, BC Parks,  
and Nature Trust BC**

**“Lakelse Lake Wetlands and the Goldilocks Zone”**

by Paula Bartemucci, Gentian Botanical Research



A botanical survey of Lakelse Lake Wetlands Provincial Park and Muller’s Bay (BC Nature Trust) was carried out in 2022, revealing at-risk wetlands, old-growth Sitka spruce forests, regionally-significant crabapple ecosystems, bog woodlands and diverse foreshore plant communities.

Lakelse Lake lies within the “Goldilocks zone” where climatic conditions are neither too wet nor too dry. This optimal climate supports a remarkable suite of federally and provincially rare lichens, three of which were found during the 2022 surveys. The ecology and conservation of the ecosystems and lichens found at Lakelse Lake will be discussed along with other charismatic, globally-rare lichens in the region.

**Bio:**

Paula Bartemucci (MSc.) is a botanist/lichenologist living in Smithers with her husband and two teen daughters among the toe-slope cottonwoods of Hudson Bay Mountain. She has worked in the fields of forest research, plant ecology, botany, and rare species conservation for the past 25 years. In recent years, she has focused on the ecology and conservation of rare lichens, which will be addressed in this presentation.