

NRES Bi-WEEKLY NEWS

April 21 - May 5, 2006

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

APRIL THESIS DEFENCES



On April 18, **Chad Renzie**, candidate for a Master of Science in Natural Resources and Environmental Studies degree, successfully defended his thesis entitled:

"A Comparison Of Harvesting Productivity And Cost Between Partial Cut And Clearcut In Old Cedar-Hemlock Forests In East Central British Columbia"

Supervisor: **Dr. Lito Arcena**,
Environmental Science Program

On April 19, **Lisa Wood (nee VanArendonk)**, candidate for a Master of Science in Natural Resources and Environmental Studies (Forestry) degree, successfully defended her thesis entitled:

*"An Investigation Of Natural Hybridization Between Jack Pine (*Pinus banksiana*) And Lodgepole Pine (*Pinus contorta* var. *latifolia*) In Northern British Columbia"*

Supervisor: **Dr. Ian Hartley**,
Ecosystem Science and Management



MAY THESIS DEFENCES

TUESDAY, MAY 2

Ms. Erin L. O'Brien, candidate for the degree: Master of Science in Natural Resources and Environmental Studies (Biology) will be defending her thesis entitled:

"Social And Extra-pair Mate Choice By Female Tree Swallows: The Importance Of Male And Nest Site Quality, And Consequences For Offspring Performance".

Supervisor: **Dr. Russell Dawson**,
Ecosystem Science and Management

Date: Tuesday, May 2 Time: 9 a.m. Place:
Senate Chambers Room 1079

FRIDAY, MAY 5

Mr. Brett Boukall, candidate for the degree: Master of Science in Natural Resources and Environmental Studies (Biology). will be defending his thesis entitled:

"The Influence Of Environmental Factors On The Reproductive Output Of Peregrine Falcons In The Yukon".

Supervisor: **Dr. Russell Dawson**,
Ecosystem Science and Management


Date: Friday, May 5 Time: 9 a.m. Place:
Conference Centre Room 6-306

TRAVEL



- **Dezene Huber** gave an invited talk entitled "Plant defenses from the insects' perspective: potential targets for basic and applied research", at the Genomics Forum 2006 hosted by Genome British Columbia at UBC on Friday 7 April.
- **Dezene Huber** was a public examiner for an M.Sc. defense in the Department of Biological Sciences at SFU on Tuesday, 11 April.
- Last week the Community Development Institute sponsored **Anne Hardy** to travel to the Queen Charlotte Islands and talk about her research into the Drive Tourism Market. Anne presented three seminars Queen Charlotte City, Port Clements and Masset. The timing was ironic given the sinking of the ferry and there was a lot of good discussion about ways in which the island may be able to cope this summer, as it seems BC Ferries will cancel the ferry service to the QCI's from June onwards.
- **Kathy Parker** will attend the 11th North American Caribou Workshop in Jasper, Alberta, 23-27 April. She will present a paper entitled "Monitoring body condition of caribou with isotopic tools".
- **David Connell** was invited to attend the National Farmers' Market Forum as a member of the team representing the British Columbia Association of Farmers Markets. This is the first time provincial associations of farmers markets will meet together, which reflects the growth of farmers markets across the country and their increasing role within local food systems. The Forum will take place April 28-29 in Toronto, Ontario.
- **Elena Jones** (NRES MSc student) and **Mike Gillingham** will attend the 11th North American Caribou Conference from April 23rd through 27th in Jasper, Alberta. Elena will present a paper entitled "Comparison of seasonal habitat selection between threatened Woodland caribou ecotypes in central British Columbia" based on her research with caribou north of Prince George. This research was the focus of a recent program in the Leading Edge series produced by the Knowledge Network.

PUBLICATIONS

- **Rea, R.V.**, D.P. Hodder & K.N. Child. 2006. Considerations for natural mineral licks used by moose in land use planning and development. *Alces* 40: 161-167
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- **Sanborn, P.**, Geertsema, M., Jull, A.J.T., and **Hawkes, B.** 2006. Soil and sedimentary charcoal evidence for Holocene forest fires in an inland temperate rainforest, east-central British Columbia, Canada. *The Holocene*, 16: 415-427
 - Steven Ralph, Claire Oddy, Dawn Cooper, Hesther Yueh,



Sharon Jancsik, Natalia Kolosova, Ryan N. Philippe, Dana Aeschliman, Rick White, **Dezene Huber**, Carole Ritland, Francois Benoit, Tracey Rigby, Andre Nantel, Yaron S.N. Butterfield, Robert Kirkpatrick, Elizabeth Chun, Jerry Liu, Diana Palmquist, Brian Wynhoven, Jeffrey Stott, George Yang, Sarah Barber, Robert A. Holt, Asim Siddiqui, Steven J.M. Jones, Marco A. Marra, Brian E. Ellis, Carl J. Douglas Kermit Ritland, Jorg Bohlmann. 2006. Genomics of hybrid poplar (*Populus trichocarpa* × *deltoides*) interacting with forest tent caterpillars (*Malacosoma disstria*): normalized and full-length cDNA libraries, expressed sequence tags, and a cDNA microarray for the study of insect-induced defenses in poplar. *Molecular Ecology* 2006 15(5): 1275 - 1297

BABY NEWS

- Congratulations to Glen and **Jenia Blair** and big sister Olivia, a baby boy!!! Born Friday, April 7 8:44am – 8lbs. 5oz, 21" long.

ADJUNCT NEWS CORNER

- **Dr. Allan Carroll**, Research Scientist, Pacific Forestry Centre, and adjunct professor at UNBC, visited campus last week. He met with **Staffan Lindgren, Kathy Lewis, Brent Murray, and Brian Aukema** regarding research collaborations, and attended a committee meeting for **Greg Smith**, M.Sc. candidate. He also led a lab 'brown-bag' meeting, where he discussed issues of global climate change and potential spread of the mountain pine beetle into the boreal jack pine forests.

VISITING SCHOLAR

- Dr. Mary Reid, University of Calgary, will visit UNBC on Tuesday, April 25, to meet with **Staffan Lindgren, Dezene Huber, and Brian Aukema** regarding research collaboration. She will discuss her research in a lab 'brown-bag' meeting, and attend the proposal defense of MSc candidate **Marnie Graf**.

FUNDING

- **Anne Hardy**, in conjunction with her colleague Ulrike Gretzel of Texas A&M University, recently received funding from the BC Real Estate Partnering Fund, the Northern Rockies Alaska Highway Association, the Dawson Creek Tourism Association and the Elkhart Community in Indiana (who manufacture 70% of North America's RVs) to do research into RVers on the Alaska Highway. With pregnant belly in tow, Anne, Ulrike and research assistants will spend June and July comparing the behavior, motivations and travel habits of RVers who travel independently with those who travel in caravan groups.



REMINDER: Share your information about recent publications, grants, and/or other honours you may have received with others interested in NRES issues.

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

PLEASE EMAIL ALL INFORMATION AND MATERIAL to
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