



NRES WEEKLY NEWS

January 20 - 25, 2013

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

COMING EVENTS

NRESI RESEARCH COLLOQUIIUM SERIES

For Elluminate information and link to the webcast: http://www.unbc.ca/nres/nresi_webcast.html



Dr. Brad Hawkes

Canadian Forest Service
Pacific Forestry Centre, Victoria, BC



Response of Southwest Yukon Forests to Spruce Beetle

In 2000 and 2002, monitoring plots were established within the area infested by the spruce beetle, *D. rufipennis*, in southwest Yukon by the Canadian Forest Service. The study objective was to document long-term changes in spruce mortality, stand dynamics, tree regeneration, surface vegetation response, and surface woody fuel load. A partial plot re-assessment was conducted in 2010 to determine stand condition, understorey and seedling density, and coarse woody debris mass. A sub-set of the re-assessed plots had spruce increment cores and basal sections collected to determine growth release of overstorey trees, as well as, understorey and seedling establishment dates. Preliminary results of the plot re-assessment will be presented.

Friday, January 25, 2013

3:30 - 4:30 pm

Room: 7-158

Dr. Philip Jessop

Canada Research Chair of Green Chemistry
Queen's University



CO₂-Triggered Switchable Solvents and Surfactants

For many practical applications of solvents and surfactants, the ability to “switch” the material’s properties during a process would be extremely useful. Imagine, for example, a solvent that is capable of dissolving a desired product during an extraction, and then afterwards can be “switched off” so that it is no longer capable of dissolving the product. The product would then precipitate and be easily collected, without any need for distillation. The author invented the first switchable solvents in 2004 and has been working with his students to develop many more switchable liquid and solid materials since then. This presentation will summarize the series of switchable solvents and surfactants developed in the author’s labs.

Friday, February 1, 2013

3:30 - 4:30 pm

Room: 7-158

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

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



GRADUATE THESIS DEFENCE

Mr. Eric Kopetski is a candidate for the degree:

Master of Arts in Natural Resources and Environmental Studies (Geography)

Mr. Kopetski will be defending his thesis entitled:

“You Want Me to Grow Trees? The Social Implications of Biomass Crops on the Resilience of Quesnel, British Columbia”

Supervisor: **Dr. Greg Halseth**

Date: **February 5, 2013** Time: 10:00 am Room: Senate Chambers

GRADUATE THESIS DEFENCE

Mr. Blake Rowsell is a candidate for the degree:

Master of Arts in Natural Resources and Environmental Studies (Tourism)

Mr. Rowsell will be defending his thesis entitled:

“Mountain Bike Tourist Development Under the Midnight Sun: Capitalizing on Destination Attributes to Maximize Potential in the Yukon Territory, Canada”

Supervisor: **Dr. Pat Maher**

Date: **February 27, 2013** Time: 10:00 am Room: 6-306 Conference Centre

OTHER NRESi EVENTS

The Yellowstone to Yukon Conservation Initiative (Y2Y) and Natural Resources and Environmental Studies Institute (NRESi) are hosting a workshop entitled “**Protected or in Peril?: Conservation in the Peace River Break and Muskwa-Kechika Regions**” on Friday, March 15th and Saturday, March 16th. This workshop will focus on the conservation values, challenges and opportunities in the greater Peace River Break and northern Canadian Rockies region. The Peace River Break is one of the most ecologically diverse landscapes in the Yellowstone to Yukon Region, yet there are few protected areas, decreasing intact habitat for wide-ranging wildlife species, and a rapidly expanding industrial footprint—including the prospect of a third hydroelectric dam on the Peace River. A detailed workshop announcement can be found at

<http://web.unbc.ca/~Michael/Y2YPeaceBreakWorkshopAnnouncement.pdf>

The Friday NRESi Colloquium will kick off the workshop and there will be a public presentation Friday evening on the UNBC campus. **The day-long workshop on Saturday has room for 70 participants and advanced registration (no charge) is required.** Please contact Mike Gillingham (michael@unbc.ca) or Juri Peepre (<jpeepre@yahoo.ca>) to register or if you have additional questions.

PUBLICATIONS

Garcia, O. 2012 Building a dynamic growth model for trembling aspen in Western Canada without age data. *Canadian Journal of Forest Research* DOI: 10.1139/cjfr-2012-0366

McKechnie, I.M., **P.J. Burton** and **H.B. Massicotte** 2012 Propagation of *Vaccinium membranaceum* and *V. myrtilloides* by seeds, hardwood stem, and rhizome cutting methods. *Native Plants Journal* 13: 223-234

Milakovic, B. and **K.L. Parker** 2013 Quantifying carnivory by grizzly bears in a multi-ungulate system. *Journal of Wildlife Management* 77:39-47

Rea, R.V. 2012 The influence of Willow (*Salix* sp.) rose insect galls on Moose (*Alces alces*) winter browsing. *Canadian Field Naturalist* 126: 189-193



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PLEASE EMAIL ALL INFORMATION AND MATERIAL TO: Michelle.Keen@unbc.ca

TRAVEL / CONFERENCES / RESEARCH

Ken Otter is visiting the Royal Ontario Museum's bird and mammal collections 21 Jan - 1 Feb to do research for a book that is part of the focus for my sabbatical. While there, I will be visiting other collaborators to work on existing projects, primarily Dr. Scott Ramsay at Wilfrid Laurier University, where I will also be presenting our research around wind energy and avian migration. If time permits, I will also be visiting collaborators at Windsor University (Dr. Dan Mennill) and Queen's University (Dr. Laurene Ratcliffe).

Mark Shrimpton had meetings with the Pacific Trails Pipeline group in Vancouver and the Freshwater Fisheries Society of BC in Victoria 13 - 20 January.

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