



# NRES WEEKLY NEWS

## January 30 - February 3, 2012

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

### COMING EVENTS

### NRESI RESEARCH COLLOQUIUM SERIES

Feb. 3, 2012

## Margot W. Parkes, PhD

Canada Research Chair in Health, Ecosystems & Society  
School of Health Sciences, UNBC



### EcoHealth, OneHealth, Global Health: Why diversity, emergence and resilience are key to responding to wicked problems

Ecohealth has emerged as a nexus of scholarly and practical effort at a time of considerable transition in research, policy, practice, and education. This presentation will offer a critical reflection on where ecohealth is headed as a transdisciplinary endeavour and how this emerging field positions itself among a series of other 'turn of 21st century' efforts such as OneHealth and Global Health. Early impetus for the journal EcoHealth drew on the momentum of 'Ecosystem Health' and 'Global Change and Human Health', plus growing interest in a journal to represent 'Conservation Medicine' and related fields. In the decade since, ecohealth has been informed by scholarly lineages that include 'ecosystem approaches to health'; rapid expansion in the field of disease ecology; richer understanding of complex ecosystem dynamics and their relationships with human well-being across cultures and societies; and increased recognition of the social-ecological context for animal and human health. As well as these different lineages, the influence of international conventions, declarations and assessments cannot be overlooked. Some would argue that ecohealth offers a conceptual space and scholarly home for the convergence, synthesis, and commonalities among, for example, the Rio Declaration on Sustainable Development, the International Panel on Climate Change, the Millennium Ecosystem Assessment, the WHO Commission on the Social Determinants of Health, and the UN Declaration on Rights of Indigenous Peoples' Rights. Informed by the boundary-crossing involved with establishing an international, transdisciplinary journal and Association, this presentation reflects on a decade of field-building efforts, and the scholarly diversity, emergence and resilience required to understand and address the wicked problems that ecohealth is a direct response to.

Friday, February 3, 2012

3:30 - 4:30 pm

Room: 7-152

Feb. 10, 2012

## Dr. Kevin Hutchings

Canada Research Chair in Literature, Culture and Environmental  
Studies, Dept. of English, UNBC



### Don't Call Me a Tree Hugger: The Social Semantics of a Stereotype

In this presentation I will discuss some of the central connotations of the term "tree hugger" as it has been used in academia, literature, and popular culture. Following an anecdotal introduction and a brief examination of the history of the term as it originated in India's Chipko movement, I will consider the representation of "tree huggers" in selected literary works, television shows and advertisements, bumper stickers and other cultural texts, paying particular attention to the way the term "tree hugger" encodes accusations of misanthropy, romantic anti-rationalism, and sexual deviance.

Friday, February 10, 2012

3:30 - 4:30 pm

Room: 7-152

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

**PLEASE EMAIL ALL INFORMATION AND MATERIAL TO: Michelle Keen: [keenm@unbc.ca](mailto:keenm@unbc.ca)**

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## Dr. Brian Pickles

Postdoctoral Research Fellow, UBC-Okanagan



### Tales from the underground: Mycorrhizas, migrating trees, and climate change

The idea of climate change conjures up images of polar bears on shrinking ice, rising sea levels and extreme weather events. These are all appropriate concerns in the short-term. However, over longer time-periods climate change will generate large shifts in the distribution of ecosystems, with trees migrating across continents. Even these responses to altered conditions are relatively easy to imagine, but when it comes to below-ground organisms, how do we make predictions about their future distributions?

From the fossil record we know that mycorrhizal symbioses, involving plants and fungi, have occurred since plants arrived on land. Mycorrhizal fungi colonise the roots of host plants, where they exchange nutrients for carbon and provide other important services such as protection from pathogens. It is estimated that over 90% of all plant species form these symbioses.

Environmental changes generate important ecological challenges for symbioses. Here I discuss the potential impacts of climate change on the ectomycorrhizal symbiosis, focusing on Interior Douglas-fir and its fungal partners, which is a vital part of Canada's temperate and boreal forest ecosystems.

**Thursday, February 16, 2012**

**3:30 - 4:30 pm**

**Room: Weldwood Theatre (7-238)**

## Dr. Ted Binnema

Professor, Dept. of History, UNBC



### Do Salmon Eat Moose? Reconstructing the BC Environment, 1806-1913

Wildlife biologists increasingly understand that management decisions relating to dwindling mountain caribou herds in British Columbia, and woodland caribou herds throughout Canada's subarctic must take into consideration the historical relationships amongst caribou, moose, and wolves. I will argue that the research must be expanded across more trophic levels in an effort to reconstruct past environments more completely. Indeed, I will argue that the population levels of caribou cannot be understood unless salmon are considered. The presentation will be based on an analysis of historical documents, including unpublished documents of the Hudson's Bay Company.

**Friday, March 2, 2012**

**3:30 - 4:30 pm**

**Room: 7-152**

## ELSEWHERE

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GLOBAL FRIDAYS  
SENATE CHAMBERS  
12:00 - 1:30 pm

February 10, 2012

The Honourable Kevin Lynch

"Productivity: The Great Economic and Social Imperative for Canada"

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## CONGRATULATIONS

to **Oscar Garcia** and **Brian Menounos** on becoming Canadian citizens this week.

**Hugues Massicotte** is the winner for the 2012 Cover photo contest, for the journal *Botany*. He gets a very nice framed memento of the cover page (the mountain lady-slippers of PG!).



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**PLEASE EMAIL ALL INFORMATION AND MATERIAL TO: [Michelle Keen: keenm@unbc.ca](mailto:Michelle.Keen@unbc.ca)**

## PUBLICATIONS

Brown, M.G., Black, T.A., Nestic, Z., **Fredeen, A.L.**, Foord, V.N., Spittlehouse, D.L., Bowler, R., **Burton, P.J.**, Trofymow, J.A., Grant, N.J. and D. Lessard 2012 "The carbon balance of two lodgepole pine stands recovering from mountain pine beetle attack in British Columbia". *Agricultural and Forest Meteorology* 153: 82-93 doi: 10.1016/j.agrformet.2011.07.010

**Burton, P.J.** and S.E. Macdonald 2011 "The restorative imperative: assessing objectives, approaches and challenges to restoring naturalness in forests". *Silva Fennica* 45(5): 843-863 Available online at: <http://www.metla.fi/silvafennica/full/sf45/sf455843.pdf>

Picketts, I.M., Werner, A.T., Murdock, T.Q., **Curry, J.**, **Déry, S.J.**, and D. Dyer 2012 "Planning for climate change adaptation: Lessons learned from a community-based workshop". *Env. Science & Policy* 17: 82-93

Rose, N.-A. and **P.J. Burton** 2011 "Persistent climate corridors: the identification of climate refugia in British Columbia's Central Interior for the selection of candidate areas for conservation". *BC Journal of Ecosystems and Management* 12(1): 101-117 Available online at: <http://jem.forrex.org/index.php/jem/article/view/42/62>

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