



NRES WEEKLY NEWS

January 12, 2007

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

NRESI RESEARCH COLLOQUIUM SERIES

BEGINNING FRIDAY, JANUARY 19

Dr. Ken Otter
Ecosystem Science and Management, UNBC

"Habitat quality, matrix concepts and reproductive behaviour in chickadees"



Forest harvesting can fragment the landscapes for forest-dependent species, creating habitat patches separated by expanses of less-hospitable habitat (called "the matrix"). Such isolation can affect the potential for dispersal among forest patches, which can affect population dynamics of forest species. Recently, reforestation practices have been proposed to help mitigate these effects by creating habitat matrices that facilitate inter-patch dispersal, or even serve as alternate breeding habitat for generalist species. However, the mere utilization of managed landscapes by forest birds may not necessarily ensure that habitats remain of adequate quality to sustain populations.

I will discuss habitat quality concepts in light of our own research on breeding and behaviour of black-capped chickadees habitats of different ages, and parallel research on Eurasian tit species, to assess proposed ideas in matrix-habitat management.

Friday, January 19, 2007
3:30—4:30 pm
Lecture Theatre 7-158

Light refreshments served at 3:20 pm

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

PLEASE EMAIL ALL INFORMATION AND MATERIAL to
Elissa Zemlak: zemlak@unbc.ca

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

PUBLICATIONS

Hartley, I.D.; Wang, S.; Zhang, Y. 2006: Water vapor sorption isotherm modeling of commercial oriented strand panel based on species and resin type. *Building and Environment*. doi:10.1016/j.buildenv.2006.10.002

Gustine, D.D., K.L. Parker, R.J. Lay, M.P. Gillingham, and D.C. Heard.

2006. Calf survival of woodland caribou in a multi-predator ecosystem. *Wildlife Monographs* 165.

Walker, A.B.D., K.L. Parker, and M.P. Gillingham. 2006. Behaviour, habitat associations and intrasexual differences of female Stone's sheep. *Canadian Journal of Zoology* 84:1187-1201.

MAGAZINE FEATURE

ESM Adjunct Professor **Allan Carroll**, "one of the country's foremost beetle experts," is featured in an interview (and in a photo, "staring down the beetle") in the Jan/Feb 2007 issue of "Canadian Geographic" magazine.



TRAVEL

Keith Egger is traveling to Australia at the end of the month to attend the annual conference of the International Tundra Experiment from Feb 2-6 at Falls Creek, NSW. Keith will be giving an oral presentation on the effects of experimental warming on microbial communities in the high arctic, and he will be moderating a session on incorporating microbial ecology monitoring into the ITEX protocols.

INVITATION

Karen Rollins, Energy, Water and Waste Management Chair for the Alpine Club of Canada, will be visiting UNBC on **Thursday, January 18th** (10:00 to 14:00) to explore the potential for a collaboration between the ACC, Parks Canada and the NRES Institute at UNBC. The project, tentatively entitled "Backcountry Energy and Environmental Solutions" (BEES), seeks to assess solutions for producing energy, providing potable water, and managing wastewater in remote, off-grid locations, and sharing of this information.

Interested NRESI members should rsvp to fredeena@unbc.ca and plan to attend the informal lunch meeting with Karen from 11:30 to 1:30 on January 18th in the NRESI office in the old lab building.