



NRES WEEKLY NEWS

March 30, 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

Dr. Terry Chapin

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Ecological and Societal Consequences of Changing Fire Regime in Alaska

Recent warming in Alaska has doubled the annual area burned, primarily because of the increase in number of extremely dry years. Fire severity has also increased, altering seed-bed conditions and changing successional trajectories. This has important effects, both globally and locally. At the global scale, the increase in fire acts as both a positive feedback (increased trace gas emissions) and a negative feedback (reduced energy absorbed and transferred to the atmosphere) to climate warming. Human activities have also substantially altered fire regime through both increased ignitions and suppression. At the local scale, this is important because it is increasing the flammability of landscapes near communities, precisely at a time when climatic changes and economic constraints are causing an increase in fire probability. There are potential solutions to increased fire risks, but these require careful communication and planning with local communities.

Friday, March 30, 2007
3:30 pm — 4:30 pm
Lecture Theatre 7-212

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



POSTER DISPLAY

Greg Halseth's students in the Geog 424 class (Rural and Small Town Social Geography) have been working on projects examining issues in the Cariboo Regional District. Topics which the students have explored include population change, economic change, housing, health care services, education services, communication/transportation issues, and others.

The students have prepared posters on their projects and will be undertaking a public display of their work. The display will be on:

Monday, April 2, 2007
8:50 am – 9:50 am
Bentley Centre Hallway

Please feel free to come by and look at the students' posters and quiz them on what they have learned.



TRAVEL

- **Oscar Garcia** traveled on January 30 to Albacete, Spain, for the next leg of his sabbatical, as Visiting Professor at the University of Castile-La Mancha, Department of Agroforestry Science and Technology.

GUEST SPEAKER

- **Stephen Dery** presented a talk on the climate change, human activity and management of natural resources at the Visions 2007 workshop held in Prince George on March 28th, 2007.

PUBLICATIONS

- **Owens, P.N.** (2007). Editorial. Sediment management at the river basin scale: challenges. *Journal of Soils and Sediments*, 7, 7.
- **Fondahl, G., B. Leon and S. Grainger** (2006) Forestry Management based on local values: an example of forest-co-management in British Columbia, *Indigenous Affairs* 4:44-49