



NRES WEEKLY NEWS

October 29 - November 2, 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

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



Dave Trepanier

Director of the Prince George Activator Society



'Aghelh Nebun: bringing an environmental perspective to the criminal justice system

The Prince George Activator Society (PGAS) assists men on conditional release from prison in their re-integration into society. An important initiative at PGAS has been the development of 'Aghelh Nebun, a wilderness camp on Kenneth Creek in the Bowron River valley. In this talk, I will present the background to this initiative, including the social and cultural dimensions of re-integration. I will then present some of our current work to make the camp environmentally sustainable and self-sufficient. These include sustainable timber harvesting and milling of dimensional lumber, constructing energy-efficient buildings, and growing food at the camp. Aside from their intrinsic value, each of these activities also provides camp residents with valuable and marketable skills. I believe there are tremendous opportunities for collaboration between PGAS and UNBC in disciplines at the intersection of criminal justice, First Nations culture, environmental stewardship, and sustainability, and I look forward to engaging with the UNBC community.

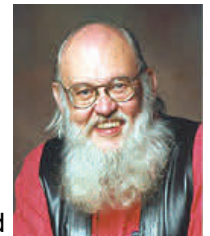
Friday, November 2, 2012

3:30 - 4:30 pm

Room: 7-152

Dr. Fred Bunnell

Professor Emeritus, Dept. of Forest Sciences, UBC



Don Quixote seeks biodiversity and collides with reality — Why aren't we doing better?

I ignored climate change in our research program on sustaining biodiversity until 2004, when I could ignore it no longer. We have since documented that bird species are arriving earlier, leaving later, overwintering more, expanding ranges northward, shifting relative density northwards and raising second clutches when they formerly raised one. These changes significantly alter management options. They all occurred between the 1960s and 1990s, the period termed 'climate normal' by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change. Habitats are faring no better. Alpine tundra and small wetlands are disappearing, forests and grasslands are morphing, rivers aren't functioning as they used to, and the ocean is downright scary (as in Washington and Oregon, larval oysters in BC can no longer consistently build shells; nude oysters don't survive). All that is startling enough that the question — Why aren't we doing better? — was unavoidable. Answers to that convinced me my time was better spent in activism than doing more research.

Friday, November 9, 2012

3:30 - 4:30 pm

Room: 7-152

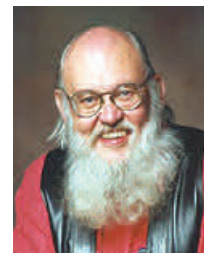
REMINDER: Share your information about recent publications, grants, and/or other honors you may have received with others interested in NRES issues.

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

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



2012 Doug Little Memorial Lecture Series
Thursday, November 8, 2012 7:30 pm
Canfor Theatre (6-213)



Dr. Fred L. Bunnell
Professor Emeritus
Department of Forest Sciences
University of British Columbia

Her Majesty, Social License and Astonishing Opportunity — Observations of a Bystander

Only Commonwealth Nations, and not all of them, have retained the feudal concept of crown lands. That concept expands the breadth of stakeholders when governments or corporations request social license to operate. British Columbians take the concept of social license seriously and have frequently denied social license in ways that have led to significant changes in land-use practices. The most common failings of those applying for social license are: lack of respect, leading with economic issues, perceived bullying and omitting or hiding information. British Columbia's history of taking social license seriously, combined with diverse features, such as the province's richness (the richest north temperate region on the planet), climate change and apparently untamable global debt, produce an astonishing opportunity for British Columbians to improve the well-being of their children and grandchildren.

WEBCAST: http://www.unbc.ca/nres/nresi_webcast.html

COMING EVENTS — ELSEWHERE

THESIS DEFENCE — Mr. Troy Lee (Master of Arts in History) is defending his thesis "The 'Last Resort of the Lumberman': Perceptions of British Columbia's Coastal Forests, 1849-1914" 16 November at 1;00 in the Senate Chambers. (**Scott Green** is a committee member.)

PUBLICATIONS

Henry, P., Henry, A. and M.A. Russello 2012 Variation in Habitat Characteristics of American Pikas along an Elevation Gradient at Their Northern Range Margin. *Northwest Science* 86(4) 346-350
doi: 10.3955/046.086.0410

TRAVEL / CONFERENCES / RESEARCH

The Forest Process Models Wiki — **Oscar Garcia** started a web site to serve as a bulletin board, wiki, and discussion forum for the International Union of Forest Research Organizations (IUFRO) Unit 4.01.05 "Process-based models for predicting forest growth and timber quality". Oscar is the Coordinator of IUFRO 4.01.05. The site is publicly accessible at <https://sites.google.com/site/iufro40105/> .

Staffan Lindgren will be at the University of Alberta on Friday, 2 Nov., where he will serve as external examiner on a PhD dissertation on defense of lodgepole pine to mountain pine beetle and their blue stain fungal associates.

Staffan Lindgren will attend the joint annual meeting of the Entomological Society of Canada (ESC) and the Entomology Society of Alberta in Edmonton, 4 - 7 November. Prior to the scientific meeting Staffan will attend the Board of Governor's meeting on 3 Nov. in preparation for assuming the role as 2nd Vice President of the ESC. He will moderate two discussion groups on "Reviewing a scientific paper" as part of the symposium "Perspectives on the scientific publication process" on Sunday morning. He will then be a judge of student presentations in forest entomology Monday morning, before attending the editorial board meeting of The Canadian Entomologist. Finally he will attend the ESM AGM on Tuesday afternoon, when he will officially join the Governing Board.

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