



NRES WEEKLY NEWS

January 12 - 16, 2009

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



Dr. Christopher Opio

Associate Professor
Ecosystem Science & Mgmt. Program, UNBC

Development Challenges & Opportunities in Northern Uganda, East Africa

This FRIDAY

For the past 22 years, northern Uganda has been affected by the activities of Lord's Resistance Army (LRA). These activities have resulted in a lot of sufferings to the people of this region. Besides escalating poverty, there is total collapse of basic social infrastructure and services. Access to education, health care, food, clean and safe drinking water, and many other social, economic and environmental needs is severely limited. The war in northern Uganda is over, and there is now relative peace in the region. I will discuss our (UNBC delegation) recent trip to Uganda; and development challenges and opportunities (including approaches being taken to address development issues) in northern Uganda. Geographical and socioeconomic settings of the region will be presented. I will also present preliminary results of water quality study that I recently conducted in the region. The talk will end with a discussion of research needs for the region.

Light Refreshments will be Served

Friday, January 9, 2009

3:30 - 4:30 pm

Lecture Theatre **7-238**

Next FRIDAY

Dr. Lana Ciarniello, RPBio

Northern Bear Awareness Society
(www.northernbearawareness.com)

Application for Provincial Bear Smart Community Status for Prince George: Bear Hazard Assessment & Bear Management Plan



Prince George, BC, Canada has one of the highest records of bear complaints and numbers of bears destroyed in the province. Black and grizzly bears inhabit areas surrounding Prince George, although black bears are more frequently encountered. In 1998, the Omineca Bear Human Conflict Committee (OBHCC) was formed by a group of concerned residents to address bear-human conflicts and bears destroyed within the city limits. In 2000, the OBHCC developed the Northern Bear Awareness Society (NBA) with the goal of promoting public awareness on issues such as bear behaviour and learning.

In 2006, the NBA refocused its efforts towards achieving Provincial Bear Smart Status for the City in an effort to further identify and examine ways to reduce the number of bears destroyed and the potential for negative bear-human conflicts. I will discuss the steps required to obtain provincial Bear Smart status and the benefits of achieving this status to the bears and citizens of Prince George. Results of my recently completed Bear Hazard Assessment for Prince George and surrounding area also will be discussed and related to the development of a Bear-Human Conflict Prevention Management Plan for Prince George. Bear behaviour and learning will be reviewed as it relates to recommendations in the management

Light Refreshments will be Served

Friday, January 16, 2009

3:30 - 4:30 pm

Lecture Theatre **7-238**

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 MICHELLE KEEN: keenm@unbc.ca

OTHER COMING EVENTS

Global Fridays
Senate Chambers
12:00—1:30 pm

January 16, 2009

Keith Christie, Assistant Deputy Minister, Global Issues Branch, Department of Foreign Affairs & International Trade

Reflections on the Limits of Multilateralism: Human Rights, Trade and Environmental Policy

PUBLICATIONS / APPOINTMENTS

Burton, P.J., Parisien, M.-A., Hicke, J.A., Hall, R.J., Freeburn, J.T. (2008) "Large fires as agents of ecological diversity in the North American boreal forest". *International Journal of Wildland Fire* 17: 754-767.

Moore, R.D., Fleming, S.W., **Menounos, B.**, **Wheate, R.**, Fountain, A., Stahl, K., Holm, K., Jakob, M. (2009) "Glacier Change in Western North America: Influences on Hydrology, Geomorphic Hazards and Water Quality". *Hydrologic Processes* 23: 42-61.

CONFERENCES / TRAVEL

This week, graduate students Nathan Einbinder and Cristian Silva (**supervisor: Catherine Nolin**) are in Granada, Nicaragua to present the following papers at the *Conference of Latin Americanist Geographers (CLAG)* in the session "Landscapes of Conflict":

- Einbinder, N. *Violence and neoliberal development: A case from Rio Negro, Guatemala*
- Silva, C. *The Exhumation of Margarita Telon Cun: Analyzing the Effects of Internal Armed Conflict in Rural Guatemala*

THESIS DEFENCES

Congratulations to Susan Robertson on the successful defence (with a clear pass) of her Ph.D. thesis, "Ecology of Ecto- and Ericoid Mycorrhizal Systems in Petroleum Hydrocarbon-Contaminated Soils in Sub-Boreal Forest Soils". (Supervisors: **Dr. Hugues Massicotte** and **Dr. Michael Rutherford**)

Mr. Kyle Kusch is a candidate for the degree:
Master of Arts in Natural Resources and Environmental Studies (Geography)

Mr. Kusch will be defending his thesis entitled:

"Historical Migration Patterns in the Upper Fraser Region, British Columbia"

Supervisor: **Dr. Greg Halseth**

Date: January 15, 2009

Time: 9:00 am

Room: Senate Chambers, Room 1079
UNBC Prince George campus

Mr. Marcel Macullo is a candidate for the degree:
Master of Science in Natural Resources and Environmental Studies (Biology)

Mr. Macullo will be defending his thesis entitled:

"Genetic Determination of Subspecies Classification for the Banff Longnose Dace (*Rhinichthys cataractae smithi*)"

Supervisor: **Dr. Mark Shrimpton**

Date: January 19, 2009

Time: 9:00 am

Room: Room 6-205, Conference Centre
UNBC Prince George campus

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