



NRES WEEKLY NEWS

February 28 - March 4, 2011

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

NRESI RESEARCH COLLOQUIUM SERIES

Feb 25, 2011

Ken Otter

Associate Professor
Ecosystem Science & Management

Assessing the Conflict between Bird Migration and Wind Development in the BC Rockies

Since the late 1990s, BC's hydro-based energy production has not kept pace with demand, and the province has been exploring alternate means of energy generation. The lower Peace Region in north-eastern BC in particular is heavily prospected for wind development. However, these foothills in the eastern Rockies lie along significant animal migration corridors and the mountainous topography of the region has the potential to funnel migrating birds into the same landscapes where wind turbines are proposed. I will be presenting data from both radar and visual tracking on bird movement through the Dokie Wind Development near Moberly Lake, and how an understanding of movement patterns helps assess the potential for conflict at this and other installations.



Friday, Feb 25 , 3:30—4:30 pm

Location : 7-150

March 3, 2011

SPECIAL RESEARCH COLLOQUIUM

Sponsored by the UNBC Fish & Wildlife
Student Chapter of TWS

Dr. Helen Schwantje

Wildlife Veterinarian
BC Ministry of Natural Resource Operations
**Zoonotic Wildlife Disease, or
Would You Eat This?**

This talk will be an overview of common and not so common diseases and parasites of BC wild animals that are potentially capable of infecting people. No snacks will be provided but be prepared for thrilling and realistic photographs.



Thursday, March 3rd at 7:00 pm Location : 7-238

For Elluminate information and link to the webcast: http://www.unbc.ca/nres/nresi_webcast.html
For a list of upcoming seminars: <http://www.unbc.ca/nres/seminar/>

March 4, 2011

Julie Johnston
 Teacher, Teacher Trainer,
 Adult Educator, GreenHeart Education



Julie found her activist's voice while helping to save the Nechako River, back in the 1990s. That experience made her realize how little she understood about ecology and how life works on the precious planet. Is that the fault of the education system, she wondered. Since then, Julie has become a sustainability educator with GreenHeart Education, a consulting not-for-profit that works with educators around the world to green their classrooms, curricula and school communities. So what does "greening the heart of education" look like at the postsecondary level? And what's the role of the different faculties and stakeholders of the university? Julie will present the rationale for transformative changes, some of which are already in the works at UNBC.

Friday, March 4, 2011 3:30 - 4:30 pm Where: 7-150

GRADUATE THESIS DEFENCE

Ms. Naira Johnston is a candidate for the degree:

Master of Science in Natural Resources and Environmental Studies

Ms. Johnston will be defending her thesis entitled:

"The associations between weather and topography on golden eagle flight behaviour at a wind farm in the Canadian Rockies"

Supervisor: **Dr. Ken Otter**

Date: March 3, 2011 Time: 9:00 am Room: 6-307

NRES INSTITUTE NEWS

This year's **NRES Institute Annual Lecture** will be held on Thursday April 7th and will be given by Dr. Peter D. Ward. Dr Ward is a palaeontologist and professor of Geological Sciences at the University of Washington in Seattle. He is currently examining the nature of the Cretaceous Tertiary extinction event. He will be talking about extinction events!

PUBLICATIONS

P. T. Sanborn, R. P. Brockley, and B. Mayer. 2011. Stable isotope tracing of fertilizer sulphur uptake by lodgepole pine: foliar responses. *Can. J. For. Res.* 41: 493

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

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: [Jutta Koehler: koehlerj@unbc.ca](mailto:Jutta.Koehler@unbc.ca)

ELSEWHERE ON CAMPUS

The **UNBC Fish and Wildlife Student Chapter of TWS** will be holding its second annual **Ice-Fishing Derby** on **Saturday, February 26th from 10:00 am to 3:00 pm at West Lake Provincial Park** (weather permitting). This is a family friendly event and there is a \$10/entry fee (one line/person; only \$2 for kids 14 and under). Tickets will be for sale in the hallways at a table on Friday February 25th or you can register on Saturday at West Lake. The students have come up with over \$600 worth of prizes again this year, so write this date on your calendars. A portion of the proceeds will be given to the Nechako White Sturgeon Recovery Initiative. You will of course need a valid fishing license, so see http://tws.unbc.ca/Derby_2011.htm for more details.

The **Prince George Naturalists Club in affiliation with the UNBC TWS Student Chapter** invite you to join Don Beckett for an historic slide show of his 1973 canoe and kayak trip down the Nahanni River. The presentation on **Saturday March 5th at 7:30 p.m. in 7-238 at UNBC** will focus on the early years of recreational canoeing on the Nahanni and promises to show what it was like then.

Dr. Ian Hartley, Dean of Graduate Studies presents: "Want to Chair a Thesis Defense?"

Date: March 9, 2011, 10:00 am-12:00 noon, 6-307

This workshop is being held for those of us who have not served as a chair at a thesis defense, but who would like to start helping out in this way. Given the importance of these events, this workshop will provide some guidance to Faculty who have participated as a committee member or supervisor on several defenses but now would like to take it to the higher level.

Register by March 4, 2011 by using our [Online Registration Form](#)

CONGRATULATIONS

Sybille Haeussler represented UNBC at the Climate Change Adaptation - Sustainable Forest Management Workshop at UBC, Feb. 14-15th, speaking on the topic "Incorporating Local Knowledge and Experiences into Climate Change Adaptation". A webcast of the workshop can be accessed at:

<http://www.forestry.ubc.ca/ccs-sfm-workshop/home.aspx#>

On February 24, **David Connell (Environmental Planning) and Daniel Sturgeon (undergraduate student in the Bachelor of Planning degree)** presented the results of their research at a provincial workshop on agricultural planning. The research was based on an evaluation of Investment Agriculture Foundation's Local Government Agricultural Planning funding program. The workshop, held in Richmond, included 165 participants involved in agricultural planning from across BC.

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