



NRES WEEKLY NEWS

October 17 - 21, 2011

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

Oct. 21, 2011

Dr. Phil Burton

Cdn. Forest Service and
Assoc. Adjunct Prof., ESM Program, UNBC

Classifying and Mapping Forest Disturbance Regimes



We tend to classify ecosystems, landscapes and regions on the basis of dominant vegetation, assumed to be at equilibrium with the prevailing climate and terrain. But vegetation also reflects its history of disturbance and various attributes of the disturbance regime. Natural ecological disturbances can be characterized by their frequency, annual area affected, seasonality, selectivity and causal agent, many of which may be associated and which change more readily than the distribution of tree species. Several decades of mapped nationwide forest fire data and BC-based fire and insect outbreak histories were used to undertake hierarchical spatially constrained cluster analysis. The resulting maps portray zones of homogenous disturbance regimes, which are discussed in terms of risk analysis and adaptation to climate change.

Friday, October 21, 2011

3:30 - 4:30 pm

Room: 7-158

Oct. 28, 2011

Dr. Morgan D. Hocking

Postdoc Fellow, Hakai Network, SFU and
Science Director, Qqs Projects Society, Bella Bella



Salmon-ecosystem interactions of the BC Central Coast

Spawning Pacific salmon subsidize terrestrial habitats with marine-derived nutrients and energy. Declining salmon populations and the loss of nutrient subsidies are a concern for conservation and management because they may lead to shifts in key ecosystem processes. I discuss linkages between salmon populations and terrestrial communities of plants, insects, songbirds and resident fish based on my work for over ten years on the Central Coast of BC near Bella Bella. This region remains one of the largest intact tracts of temperate rainforest in the world. It is also home to growing First Nation communities who are assuming a greater role in resource management. To end I discuss the opportunities and challenges of integrating science with First Nations objectives in order to implement ecosystem-based management.

Friday, October 28, 2011

3:30 - 4:30 pm

Room: 8-164

Dr. Hocking's presentation will be followed by poster presentations by NRES Graduate Students in the Winter Garden. ALL WELCOME

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: keenm@unbc.ca

GRADUATE THESIS DEFENCE

Mr. Alvaro Palazuelos is a candidate for the degree:

Master of Arts in Natural Resources and Environmental Studies (Environmental Studies)

Mr. Palazuelos will be defending his thesis entitled:

“Environmental Values and Beliefs in University Students”

Supervisor: **Dr. Annie Booth**

Date: **November 17, 2011** Time: 11:00 am Room: 6-306

COMING EVENTS

NRESi Annual Grad IceBreaker and Poster Session
28 Oct 2011 - 4:30 to 5:30pm - Atrium of Teaching & Learning Building

This annual event follows the **Student-Nominated NRESi Colloquium**, which will be given this year by **Dr. Morgan Hocking** (SFU) on "Salmon-ecosystem interactions of the B.C. Central Coast" - **3:30-4:30, 28 Oct, room 8-164**.

The IceBreaker is an opportunity for new and returning graduate students to interact with each other and faculty. We encourage students to present posters of their research, either from UNBC or elsewhere. Sign-up sheets will be posted at the Administrative Assistants' (Marlita, Brenda, Jutta and Michelle's) stations on each floor of Building 8. Please sign up so that we know how many poster boards to order. Alternately, email Jutta Koehler (koehlerj@unbc.ca), Annie Booth (annie@unbc.ca) or Ken Otter (otterk@unbc.ca) to indicate your intention to present and we will sign you up. Deadline for sign up for posters is 25 Oct 2011 so that we can assure the right number of poster boards.

PEACE OUT — a film by Charles Wilkinson

***** Most Popular Canadian Documentary at the 2011 Vancouver International Film Festival *****

Monday, November 14, 2011
Weldwood Theatre (7-238) UNBC Campus
7:00—9:00 (admission FREE)

Special Presentation by the NRESi Institute and UNBC's Green Committee

On the top left hand corner of North America an energy bonanza of unimaginable proportions is taking place — far away from the eyes of the world. In Canada's vast Peace River region the mega-projects include a major new dam, tens of thousands of hydro-fracked shale gas wells, a nuclear power plant, and the Tar Sands. Energy costs. Care to find out how much? **Peace Out** looks at societal attitudes to industrial development in northern BC and Alberta. The film covers a range of developments including BC Hydro's proposed Site C dam. The film features interviews with Peace locals such as Chief Roland Wilson, Gerry Attachie, Ken Boon, Gwen Johnason, and others.

PUBLICATIONS

Dhar, A. and **C.D.B. Hawkins** 2011 "Regeneration and growth following mountain pine beetle attack: A synthesis of knowledge". *BC Journal of Ecosystems and Management* 12(2): 1-16 <http://jem.forrex.org/index.php/jem/article/view/22/84>

Poirier, L.M. and J.H. Borden 2011 "Effect of artificial diet components on conspecific repellency of larval oral secretions from western spruce budworm (Lepidoptera: Tortricidae)". *Can Entomol* 143: 384-387

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

CONGRATULATIONS

to **Greg Halseth** on being appointed UNBC's first Tier 1 Canada Research Chair. Greg's research examines rural and small town community development, and the social geography of community change, all with a focus upon northern BC's resource-based towns.

David Lobb (U of Manitoba), **Phil Owens, Ellen Petticrew** and Glenn Benoy (Environment Canada, and Agriculture & Agri-Food Canada) have received an NSERC Strategic Grant worth \$524,000 for the period 2011-2014 for a project entitled *Development of environmental fingerprinting techniques for sources of sediment and associated phosphorus within agricultural watersheds of Canada*. The project will evaluate existing and new tracers of organic and inorganic fine-grained sediment (such as geochemical, environmental radionuclide, compound specific stable isotopes and DNA tracers). This project will involve fieldwork in four watersheds in Canada: Quesnel (BC), South Tobacco Creek (MB), Bras d'Henri (QC) and Black Brook (NB). A large portion of the experimental work will be undertaken at the Quesnel River Research Centre. The work will help support the on-going PhD projects of Alex Koiter and Nick Reiffarth and support new graduate students at UNBC.

ELSEWHERE ON CAMPUS

October 21, 2011

Allison Fedorkiw, Exec. Director, 27 Million Voices

"Child Trafficking in West Africa: Context, Causes & Strategies"

GLOBAL FRIDAYS
ROOM 5-183
12:00 - 1:30 pm

October 28, 2011

Grahame Russell, Rights Action

"This is how the unjust global economy works:

Canadian investment and business interests in Honduras"

ELSEWHERE

Grahame Russell of Rights Action will be speaking at ArtSpace on Wednesday, October 26th from 7:00 - 9:00 pm (entry by donation, suggested \$5-\$10. All proceeds will go towards communities confronted by Canadian mining in Guatemala.) Grahame's talk is: *"Mining and Indigenous Rights in the Americas: Connecting Struggles across North and Central America"*.

CALL FOR CONFERENCE SESSIONS

Association for Environmental Studies and Sciences (AESS) <http://www.aess.info/>

2012 Annual Meeting

21 - 24 June, Santa Clara, CA

Call for sessions — Deadline: 1 December 2011

Call for individual papers/presentations — Deadline 1 March 2012

For those in NRES who don't know about AESS, here is some background information.

AESS is a new professional association. It was founded in 2008, and is designed to serve environmental scholars who value inter- and multi-disciplinary approaches to research, teaching, and problem-solving. AESS has developed astonishing breadth in the few years of its existence, drawing in natural and physical scientists, social scientists, scholars from the humanities, and folks from the arts. An annual conference has been held annually since 2009. AESS also has its own journal, the Journal of Environmental Studies and Sciences (JESS).

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CALL FOR CONFERENCE SESSIONS (cont'd)

If you would like further information on AESS or the Santa Clara conference, please contact **Ken Wilkening** (kew@unbc.ca) of the Department of International Studies. Ken has been to all of the AESS conferences and is currently serving as the Chair of the Program Committee for the Santa Clara conference.

TRAVEL

Roy Rea attended the National Association of Biology Teachers' 2011 Professional Development Conference 12 - 15 October in Anaheim, CA.

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