



NRES WEEKLY NEWS

November 21 - 25, 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

Nov. 25, 2011

Dr. Celia Boone

Postdoctoral Fellow, Ecosystem Science & Management
UNBC



Constraints of Bark Beetle Populations

Bark beetles are most renowned as major disturbance agents during outbreaks in coniferous forests worldwide. However, these herbivores remain at low density, endemic levels in weakened, nutrient depleted resources for decades and only intermittently erupt into ecologically and economically damaging population densities. To transition from endemic to outbreak densities, bark beetles must surpass a series of biotic and abiotic constraints, such as host plant defenses, natural enemies, interspecific competition, and weather. Once each threshold is breached they no longer restrict herbivore progress. I will discuss my research investigating interactions among some of these constraints, and mechanisms that allow bark beetles to breach these thresholds to colonize robust, well-defended resources and ultimately cause landscape level disturbances.

Friday, November 25, 2011

3:30 - 4:30 pm

Room: 7-158

Thanks to grad student demand, Annie Booth's ongoing hard work, and an empty slot in our colloquium series, we are going to host a:

NRESi Welcome Back Event for Grad Students, Staff, and Faculty

When? Friday, January 13th, starting at 3:30 pm.

Where and what? Rumours of a trivia showdown and potluck dinner have been heard . . .

DETAILS TO FOLLOW! SO MARK YOUR CALENDARS AND WAIT FOR UPDATES!

The NRESi Colloquium series organizers would like to thank Michelle Keen, Mike Gillingham, and our Eluminating student assistants for their ongoing support. We would also like to thank everyone for your faithful and engaged attendance. We wish you all a festive holiday, and look forward to seeing you at the Welcome Back Event on January 13th. We would like to pass on a grad student suggestion that after this Friday's talk, and during the two next talk-less Fridays, NRESiers should spend some time together at the Thirsty Moose, from 3:30 pm onward. We look forward to our first scheduled NRESi talk by Bill McGill, on Friday, January 20th. STAY TUNED FOR DETAILS!. Lastly, we know some of you have research projects, works-in-progress, etc. that you'd like to share with us via NRESi talks next term so . . . send them our way! And thanks to those who have recently submitted names, titles, and talk proposals. SEE YOU NEXT YEAR!!! Zoë and Brent

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: [Michelle Keen: keenm@unbc.ca](mailto:keenm@unbc.ca)

GRADUATE THESIS DEFENCE

Mr. Eiji Matsuzaki is a candidate for the degree:

Master of Science in Natural Resources and Environmental Studies (Forestry)

Mr. Matsuzaki will be defending his thesis entitled:

“Carbon Stocks of Western Redcedar Western Hemlock Stands in
Canada’s Inland Temperate Rainforest”

Supervisor: **Drs. Art Fredeen and Paul Sanborn**

Date: **December 7, 2011** Time: 9:00 am Room: Senate Chambers

ELSEWHERE

GLOBAL FRIDAYS
ROOM 1079 - SENATE
12:00 - 1:30 pm

November 25, 2011

Dr. Daniel Béland, Johnson-Shoyama Graduate School of Public Policy and
Associate Member, Dept. of Sociology, University of Saskatchewan

“Drift and Austerity? Federal Social Policy in Conservative Times”

CONFERENCE ANNOUNCEMENT for NRES Graduate Students, Postdoctoral fellows and supervisors:

The **Pacific Ecology and Evolution Conference**, to be held on Vancouver Island at the Bamfield Marine Sciences Centre in **March 2012**, has established a reputation as a conference that provides a unique opportunity for young scientists to gather, exchange ideas and seek collaborations with peers from across Western Canada and the United States in a comfortable, intellectually stimulating environment.

Questions regarding the conference can be directed to Kendra Robinson, the Graduate Student organizer of the conference at UBC. To contact Kendra or for more information, please visit the PEEC 2012 website at <http://www.peec2012.webs.com/>.

TRAVEL / RESEARCH / CONFERENCES

Stephen Déry is giving a talk entitled “Blowing snow in BC’s Cariboo Mountains” at York University’s Department of Mathematics and Statistics on Friday, 25 November. Stephen will also be giving a talk entitled “Climate, snow and water: Recent change in the Upper Fraser Basin” at the University of Waterloo’s Interdisciplinary Centre on Climate Change (IC3) on Tuesday, 29 November.

Staffan Lindgren participated in a panel discussion on the BBC World Services, London, UK, program “The Forum” (<http://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/p004kln9>) regarding “trees”. The program was recorded on Wednesday 23 November, with Staffan at the CBC studio in Prince George, with the other participants, Tracy Chevalier, an American-born novelist living in England, and Tony Kirkham, Head of the Botanical Gardens in Kew, England, and host Bridget Kendall in England. The Forum “...presents an ideas discussion ... which tackles the big questions of our age ...” according to their website. It is broadcast to a worldwide audience of ~40 million listeners. The program will be broadcast on Saturday 26 November, and will be available on-line from the program website.

Ken Otter has been invited to give a talk at the Pacific Wildlife Research Centre, Environment Canada in Vancouver 29 November on the research he is doing in conjunction with bird migration and wind farms.

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