

	Future Forest Ecosystems Scientific Council Seminar Series 2012
--	--

**Monitoring forests to anticipate and respond to climate change in BC:
Suggested indicators and state of information for monitoring
May 10, 2012**

	Laurie Kremsater M.Sc. R.P.F., R.P.Bio. Consultant lkrem@shaw.ca
---	--

Project Principal: John Innes; Project Personnel: Margie Eddington, Laurie Kremsater

Abstract

The webinar describes a collaborative project between the MFLNR and the University of British Columbia's Department of Forest Resources Management. There were 4 phases to the project: phases 1 and 2 were conducted during 2008/09 by John Innes and Margie Eddington; phases 3 and 4, funded by the Future Forest Ecosystems Council, occurred during 2010 and 2011. John and Margie undertook phase 3; I was involved only in the phase 4 work, but will attempt to give an overview and provide highlights of the whole project.

Phases 1 and 2 resulted in a selection of recommended indicators for monitoring for natural resource management in BC in light of climate change, along with a list of potential data sources and suppliers that could support analyses of those indicators. Phases 3 and 4 of the project built on those previous phases to develop a more consolidated monitoring and reporting framework. The first key activity of phase 3 was to more fully identify the framework's target audience and their key information needs and management questions in light of climate change. To accomplish this, Eddington and Innes (2008) surveyed about 550 forest and range managers operating in the province.

During phases 3 and 4, work also began to better determine the extent to which current monitoring and inventory programs are able to support the analyses of the suggested indicators. This included examining factors such as the extent of available data collections, the state of inventory or monitoring processes available in the Province, and the number and distribution of permanent sample sites. For phases 3 and 4, indicators were divided into two groups (ones addressed during phase 3 and those left for phase 4) depending on when they received funding. Assessing the state of information available to support the indicators was piloted in the South Selkirk study area.

Biography

Laurie Kremsater (B.Sc., M.Sc., R.P. Bio., R.P.F.): Laurie has over 25 years experience in applied research in forestry and wildlife habitat ecology in BC. Her work began on ungulates and since then has included many more aspects of biodiversity, monitoring and adaptive management. After her Bachelor degree in Forestry, Laurie completed a Masters degree in Wildlife, focusing on effects of forest edges on black-tailed deer. Since that time, she has worked as a research associate at UBC and an independent consultant on a wide range of topics including deer, caribou population dynamics, forest bird surveys, amphibian surveys, biodiversity training courses, design of monitoring programs, regenerating forests after mountain pine beetle, and effects of climate change. She was a member of the Clayoquot Scientific Panel, and has participated in a number of other land use planning initiatives on both the coast (Weyerhaeuser's and WFP's forest strategies; EBM planning and reserve design) and in the interior of B.C. She was involved in two FFESC climate projects: the South Selkirk project that is the focus of this webinar, and the Kamloops Future Forests Strategy project.