Managing Editor's Report

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he *Journal of Ecosystems and Management* canvasses a broad range of topics, reflecting the complex issues that face our research community and resource managers today. In this issue, climate change continues as a major theme, indicative of its relevance and its urgency. Consistent with *JEM*'s mandate to provide helpful information and support to its readers, the articles present possible answers to the burning question: "What should we do about climate change?"

A thoughtful perspective piece, "Actions to Promote Climate Resilience in Forests of British Columbia," by **Fred Bunnell** and **Laurie L. Kremsater**, provides seven broad actions that the authors believe would help to make forests more resilient to the major uncertainties introduced by climate change. Their accompanying research report, "Migrating Like a Herd of Cats: Climate Change and Emerging Forests in British Columbia," describes probable changes in the distribution of tree species in British Columbia. The authors recognize that making these predictions in the face of climate change and its consequences is challenging at best.

This issue also features a two-part look at climate change from the perspective of BC Parks. **Pamela Wright** and **Tory Stevens**' research report, "Designing a Long-Term Ecological Change Monitoring Program for BC Parks," describes the progress of BC Parks in developing and implementing a province-wide, protracted ecological change monitoring program to understand the shifts occurring within protected areas. Though intended to be ecological reservoirs, these protected areas are of course not immune to the impacts of climate change. As part of the monitoring project, BC Parks conducted a series of focus group interviews and an electronic survey of field staff, which is discussed in **Pamela Wright**'s accompanying article "Field Staff Perspectives on Managing Climate Change Impacts in Parks and Protected Areas."

A new landscape model for simulating climate change and forest carbon is the focus of a *Link News* article by **Caren Christine Dymond**, **Robert M. Scheller**, and **Sarah Beukema**. This new model "is an extension within the LANDIS-II family of models," designed to help natural resource managers deal with the effects of changing environments through "what-if scenarios and project ideas."

Ellen Simmons provides another observation on climate change in her *LINK News* article, "Climate Change, First Nations, and Adaptation," reminding us that we are all vulnerable to disruptions caused by today's rapidly changing weather patterns. Her article focuses on the impact of climate change on First Nations communities and the necessity to simultaneously use both Western science and traditional ecological knowledge to uphold the resilience that has sustained these communities for countless generations.





In a second *LINK News* article, "British Columbia's Indigenous People: The Burning Issue," **Ellen Simmons** emphasizes Aboriginal people's "long-established and strong connection to the land." The article explains how Mother Nature's elements, especially fire, have served as "an historic and harmonious instrument in this close relationship."

The continued sustainability of rural and remote communities is the focus of the perspective piece by **Titi Kunkel**, **Mory Ghomshei**, and **Robert Ellis**, "Geothermal Energy as an Indigenous Alternative Energy Source in BC." This article reviews the benefits and impacts of geothermal resource development as a complementary indigenous, alternative energy source for British Columbia, which is anticipating an increase in demand for energy and the consequent shortfall in supply of electricity over the next 20 years.

Ajit Krishnaswamy and **Samantha Charlton** also recognize the need for the development of sustainable energy sources in their *LINK News* article "FORREX's 2012 Clean Energy Community of Practice Needs Assessment." In February this year, FORREX conducted a Clean Energy Community of Practice Needs Assessment, the results of which demonstrated a proven need for a Clean Energy Knowledge Exchange (CEKE). A CEKE would provide a forum wherein clean energy professionals could learn from and with each other, improving the knowledge, skills, and adaptability of individuals, businesses, and communities in the development of clean energy.

This kind of information-sharing and the creation of synergies is also an invaluable strategy when it comes to natural resource management. In "Strategies and Tools for Effective Public Participation in Natural Resource Management," **Ajit Krishnaswamy** discusses public participation in this context, seeking to uncover its basic concepts and best practices.

The effects of electrofishing on juvenile bull trout are examined by **Steven Arndt** and **James Baxter**, leading to the discovery that the larger juveniles attack the smaller during confinement. "Consumption of Juvenile Bull Trout (*Salvelinus confluentus*) by Larger Conspecifics During an Electrofisher Sampling Event" is a thought-provoking *LINK News* article that points out "practical implications for sampling programs while encouraging wider circulation of these observations."

Thanh Viet Nguyen also talks fish in "Ecosystem-Based Fishery Management: A Review of Concepts and Ecological Economic Models." This well-thought-out discussion article examines basic concepts, economic models, and nutrient flows. Although there is no "universal definition or consistent application" in the models reviewed, the author points out that there is general agreement regarding "the need to implement ecosystem-based fishery management."

In the *LINK News* article "Northern Silviculture Committee Winter Conference 2012: From Theory to Practice," **Alan Wiensczyk** provides a synopsis of the key presentations of this conference, which was attended by 145 silviculture professionals. Presenters from government, academia, non-government organizations, and the consulting community provided information related to the conference theme, "From Theory to Practice."

This issue also discusses the area of non-timber forest products. **Evelyn Hamilton** outlines forest resource management system and legislative framework in relation to non-timber forest product (NTFP) management. After providing an overview of what NTFPs are, she then discusses the history related to their use as well as associated rights and regulations. As a discussion paper, "Non-timber Forest Products in British Columbia: Management Framework and Current Practices" brings to light "terms of land ownership, the resource management system, management objectives, socio-economic factors, and current trends" within the province of BC.







In closing this issue, we also close an era of mailing out print issues of the *Journal of Ecosystems and Management*. The next issue, Volume 13(3), will be available online only, immediately to subscribers and with delayed access to non-subscribers. This action comes about largely due to funding and budget constraints. That said, FORREX remains committed to providing its readership with research results, Indigenous knowledge, management applications, socio-economic analyses, and scholarly opinions within the realm of natural resource management.



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