Managing Editor's Report

Marilyn ***Bittman***

During this era of budget constraints, the *Journal of Ecosystems and Management* continues to survive thanks to the dedication of its authors who support *JEM* by paying author fees. We would like to thank our authors as well as our peer reviewers who make possible the dissemination of important research throughout British Columbia, Canada, the US, and further afield.

In this issue of *JEM*, Fred **Bunnell** reminds us of the importance of crown land and how social licence to operate this land is a privilege. He provides us with a close-up of land ownership, its public voice, and lessons learned through awareness, especially when it comes to energy development. He closes "Her Majesty, Social Licence, and Energy Development in British Columbia" by pointing out that "heated discussion" is already in play, wherein the province has focused on the "right price" and the people are focusing on what is "right for the environment." Bunnell calls for more "thought and honesty" all round.

Stepping into the forests, Derrick **Reeves**, Mark **Coleman**, and Deborah **Page-Dumroese** bring our attention to soil disturbance monitoring protocols and the fact that, until recently, "no common method is currently being used on US National Forest lands, specifically focusing on Montana or Idaho." Their analyses are based on the varying methods of data collection used by the US National Forest lands, gathering valuable information both soil disturbance and harvesting. They found correlations to be difficult as described in their article "Evidence Supporting the Need for a Common Soil Monitoring Protocol." The authors point out that there is a need to set a standard of common practice across the US National Forest land with regard to monitoring methods, terminology, and guidelines.

Don **Gayton's** article, "BC Grassland Resources and Climate Change" examines the native grasslands and associated dry woodland ecosystems of British Columbia's Interior region. He explains how climate change is significant to the growth of Bunchgrass, Ponderosa Pine, and Douglas-fir biogeoclimatic zones and ultimately to both livestock and conservation sectors in the region. New ways of dealing with climate change are needed to address issues of bio-diversity, economics, and recreation.

The final article of this issue of *JEM*, "An Evaluation of the Main Factors Affecting Yield Differences Between Single – and Mixed-Species Stands" by David **Coates** & Erica **Lilles,** examines the importance of identifying management strategies to optimize both timber production and carbon storage. The authors point to four key factors that limit conclusions on whether or not mixed-species have a higher yield than single-species stands. Further research, including a review of past silviculture studies, needs to be conducted to obtain a clearer picture.

JEM continues to welcome article submissions that expand, reinforce, or challenge our understanding of natural resources and how to manage them sustainably.

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