

# News from the Editor

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## **Julie Taylor Schooling, Corporate Publications Specialist**

**T**his diverse issue of *JEM* covers philosophical, strategic, and operational aspects of natural resource management with applicability to planning and policy, watershed management, habitat protection and enhancement, and worker safety.

Bill Bourgeois opens this issue of *JEM* with a commentary on the evolution of the forest sector's approach planning and managing our land base. He sees ecosystem-based management (EBM) as the most recent iteration, and concludes his exploration of how EBM can be applied by recommending key actions to make this approach a cornerstone of forest management in British Columbia.

Michael Blackstock examines climate change from a "water-first" approach in this Perspectives article, and concludes by urging us to acknowledge water's central functional and spiritual roles in our world—he sees the need for both respect and science-based understanding, in our own and younger generations, as we collaboratively develop climate change mitigation strategies.

Louise Waterhouse, Ann Donaldson, David Lank, Peter Ott, and Elsie Krebs describe a study designed to confirm reliability of Marbled Murrelet habitat assessment methods, and conclude that using air photo-interpreted forest structural characteristics improves identification and selection of nesting habitats for management, though some modifications may be needed.

Jed Cochrane and Lori Daniels address the need for safe sampling of partial stem cross-sections by describing safety criteria, sampling procedures, and documentation based on British Columbia's Wildlife/Danger Tree Assessment methods and developed in consultation with WorkSafeBC.

Three Popular Summaries from the Association of BC Forest Professionals' ExpoFor 2008 (held in Penticton, B.C.) are included in this issue of *JEM*. Elke Wind and Bill Beese introduce an assessment field card to support identification of potential breeding habitat for amphibians in south coastal areas. David Jack, John McLean, and Gordon Weetman share highlights of their evaluation of nitrogen-fertilized mature lodgepole pine resistance to mountain pine beetle. Kevin Lyons and Ken Day assess the use of waste wood windrows as mulch to create an all-weather road surface at the Alex Fraser Research Forest in Williams Lake, B.C.

Russell Smith, Rob Scherer, and Don Dobson tested the H60 concept (elevation above which 60% of a watershed lies) for the Mission Creek watershed near Kelowna, B.C., and conclude that this concept overestimates the extent of snow cover during spring peak flow, and thus does not reasonably represent the snow-sensitive zone of this watershed (with implications for assessing impacts of potential forest harvesting).

Mark Shrimpton, Christopher Cena, and Adrian Clarke report findings indicating that removal of handing culverts to permit fish passage was an effective management approach to increase available fish habitat in tributaries of the Torpy River in central British Columbia.

## **Coming Up**

We look forward to publishing the planned series of articles on non-timber forest products, developed in collaboration with the Centre for Non-timber Resources, in *JEM* 9(2).