

BRIAN FUHR

BULKLEY VALLEY RESEARCH CENTRE

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Brian Fuhr is a RPBio who moved to Smithers from Victoria in 1988. Prior to moving to Smithers, he worked as a fisheries research biologist, wildlife consultant and wildlife habitat ecologist throughout British Columbia. He led the development of a methodology for grizzly bear habitat assessment and estimation of carrying capacity for British Columbia. Beginning in 1988 he became the Habitat Protection Section Head for the Skeena Region's Ministry of Environment. This included leading the Ministry of Environment's involvement in land use plans, the regional protected areas strategy, the environmental assessment of major projects and forestry. Brian is currently employed as a land use planner for the Integrated Land Management Bureau of the Ministry of Agriculture and Lands. The emphasis of his current career development is in the fields of sustainability and land use planning processes with a particular emphasis on issues surrounding the balance of environment and economy.

Away from work, Brian has a passion for white-water boating, backcountry exploration and sailing on the North Coast.

Bulkley Valley Research Centre Welcome

* Transcribed

"It's a pleasure to be here to welcome you all to the conference on behalf of the board and staff of the Bulkley Valley Research Centre.

I think you will see that the conference objectives are actually very parallel to those of the Bulkley Valley Research Centre. I have to shamelessly put in a few words for the Centre here. I think it is one of the things that really helps make the Valley and events like this resonate. The Centre was formed in 2002 really along similar lines to the goals of this conference. It's really for independent research to bring people together to help solve some of the problems that challenge the natural resources of the northwest. We don't advocate any particular position in resource management, it is really about independent research. We run, roughly, something under \$1 million worth of research projects currently and we're really interested in diversifying the kind of research we do, and include human dimensions in that research. In particular it is the talent of the staff, people you see around here, like Kirsteen Laing, Rick Budhwa, Jill Dunbar, Amanda Follett, organizing things like this and pulling it together. Many of you will understand the difficulty and challenges in pulling these things together and making them come off seamlessly. And it's that kind of talent that we intend to continue to hold and attract to the northwest. And it's that kind of talent that helps initiatives like this move forward.

So thank you all and I hope you have a great conference."

Skeena Salmon Habitat Conference – September 15 & 16, 2009

