



2010 Annual Report from the Board of Directors March 2011

Bulkley Valley Research Centre 2010 Board of Directors:

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Bulkley Valley Research Centre Support Personnel:

Continuing Personnel

Rick Budhwa, Research Program Manager
Kirsteen Laing, Administrative Manager
Amanda Follett, Communications Coordinator
Alana Clason, NSERC/Adjunct Researcher
Erica Lilles, Soil & Vegetation Scientist

New Personnel (2010)

Dave Amirault, GIS Specialist

2010 – Year in Review:

2010 was another challenging year. Regular sources of funding continued to become scarce, and in some cases were eliminated. A major challenge for us in 2011 will continue to be the radically reduced funding available from the provincial government, among other funding sources. However, the recent federal budget announced a dramatic increase in funding available for applied research in colleges and universities, which presents another funding opportunity for the Centre and further research collaboration.

Some of our successes included diversifying our funding sources, establishing new relationships with foundations and environmental non-governmental organizations, and hosting a successful international conference on Interface Land Use Planning. We also continued to develop new and innovative research projects, such as our Valley Vision project.

One of the greatest strengths of the Centre is its ability to adapt and remain flexible during challenging times. In 2010, the Centre was fiscally responsible and maintained its administrative and research capacity within a positive and dynamic work environment. This is a good achievement, given the fact that other similar not-for-profit research related organizations experienced significant difficulties.

While 2011 will also be challenging, the Centre is well positioned to endure any challenges that may present themselves. We will continue to keep administration costs to a minimum, build new relationships, and diversify our funding sources. The strength of our governance and operational structure has become a leader in the province, and it will continue to guide us forward in the upcoming years.

Scientific Research and Projects: The Centre was involved in 34 projects throughout the year. It was awarded 8 new projects, completed 18 projects, and will be carrying 16 projects forward to 2011. We also submitted numerous other project proposals and letters of intent. Contracts awarded to the Centre in 2010 totaled \$130,595.

Scientific Extension: In 2010, the Centre:

- maintained and updated its website, www.bvcentre.ca
- hosted a public workshop (*Complexity in Everyday Life: A Participatory Workshop*, February 2010)
- collaborated with One Sky on a presentation (*Visiting Researcher talks about INFFER*, March 2010)
- hosted a conference (*Planning for the Crown-Settlement Interface Lands Conference*, June 2010)
- collaborated with One Sky and SkeenaWild on a presentation (*At Home in these Landscapes*, August 2010)
- hosted 13 public biweekly *research seminars* in partnership with Northwest Community College
- hosted 3 public *A Walk in Your Woods* field talks in partnership with Wetzin'kwa Community Forest
- provided administrative support to the Babine Watershed Monitoring Trust (www.babinetrust.ca)
- maintained the Valley Vision website (www.valleyvision.ca) to support coordinated land use planning in the Bulkley Valley
- prepared the following documents (available at www.bvcentre.ca/research/reports)

Research Reports (1):

- *Tweedsmuir-Entiako Caribou Project: Effects of a Mountain Pine Beetle Epidemic on Northern Caribou Habitat Use*

Journal Articles (2):

- *Competition and tree crowns: A neighborhood analysis of three boreal tree species*
- *Making monitoring manageable: a framework to guide learning*

Extension Notes (1):

- *Effects of a Mountain Pine Beetle Epidemic on Northern Caribou Habitat Use (EN #9)*

Research Notes (2):

- *Exploring Whitebark Pine at its Northwest Limit*
- *Ecosystem Change at Whitebark Pine's Northern Limit*

Conference Results (1):

- *Planning for the Crown-Settlement Interface Lands Conference (Results)*

Other Documents (2):

- *Contrasts among mycorrhizal plant guilds in foliar nitrogen concentration and $\delta^{15}N$ along productivity gradients of a boreal forest (Abstract)*
- *Skeena Salmon Habitat Workshop (Summary Notes)*

In addition to the above more formalized reports, there are abstracts, executive summaries, progress reports, and funder reports that are not mentioned here but are also available on the website at www.bvcentre.ca/research/reports/.

Communications and Outreach:

- Awarded the Jim Pojar Award at the AGM (March 2010)
- Awarded the Volunteer Distinction Award at the AGM (March 2010)
- Produced two newsletters (June 2010, December 2010)
- Held an open house (December 2010).

Research and Funding Diversification: The Centre has worked very hard at diversifying our funding sources as well as our research areas. We had 17 funding sources in 2010, which is impressive for a low funding year.

Governance & Administration: In 2010 the Centre acquired 13 new members for a total of 108.

Scholarship Program: *The Bulkley Valley Research Centre - Irving Fox Memorial Scholarship for Natural Resources Research and Management* was awarded to Alana Clason.

Enhancing Community Capacity: The Centre paid \$51,565 for administrative support and \$199,485 to researchers who work in the northwest (QCI to Vanderhoof) and \$48,281 on other local expenditures. Moreover, the Centre has directed many other business opportunities towards local enterprises as a result of our extensive research network and relationships.