

2006 AWARD WINNERS

Irving Fox Award

Jim Pojar was the winner of the 2006 Irving Fox Award. Jim is a forester and ecologist who lived and worked in British Columbia for over 25 years before moving to Whitehorse, Yukon Territory in 2004 where he currently works as Executive Director, Yukon Region for the Canadian Parks and Wilderness Society (CPAWS). His accomplishments include contributions towards developing and applying ecosystem classification in B.C.; towards conservation of B.C.'s biota; in managing for biological diversity; and in education. Jim has concentrated his ecological work in four main areas: forest ecology, applied conservation biology, resource management, and teaching. He also performs outreach to the forestry community, educators, and general public, as well as teaching university and field school courses in ecology and plant taxonomy. And he continues to pursue plant taxonomy as a serious hobby, helping to produce a Flora of British Columbia and writing several popular field guides to plants. Jim was selected for this award for his lifetime contribution to natural resource management in BC. His accomplishments compliment and parallel Irving Fox's vision and values, particularly in pioneering research, active publishing and mentoring to people and processes in the Bulkley Valley and abroad.

Jim Pojar Award

Two winners were selected for the 2006 Jim Pojar Award:

- *Our Box Was Full*, by **Richard Daly**, and
- *Is an Unprecedented Dothistroma Needle Blight Epidemic Related to Climate Change*, by **Alex Woods, David Coates** and **Andreas Hamann**

Our Box Was Full provides fascinating insight into the Delgamuukw case and sheds much-needed light on the role of anthropology in Aboriginal rights litigation. This book was selected partly for its forceful writing, the depth of the research, and the impact that the research has had and will continue to have. The resolution of aboriginal rights and title has been one of the most pressing issues of natural resource management, and this publication contributes to a better understanding of that issue.



Kevin Kreise presenting award for *Our Box Was Full*

This landmark work will find an audience for future generations, particularly among scholars and students of anthropology, Native studies, law, history and resource management.

Alex Woods, K. David Coates and Andreas Hamann collaborated on a publication entitled ***Is an Unprecedented Dothistroma Needle Blight Epidemic Related to Climate Change*** for the September 2005 issue of Bioscience. This study finds evidence for an indirect climate effect on lodgepole pine. It shows that an increase in local summer precipitation over the past 10 years has likely resulted in an increased life cycle of the fungus *Dothistroma septosporum*, a precursor for the *Dothistroma* needle blight. This work will undoubtedly have an immediate short-term impact within the scientific and resource management communities, and will influence and inspire further research, locally and internationally, as it demonstrates the adverse effects of climate change on the environment and on communities.

This publication was chosen because it is one of the first scientific studies to demonstrate a linkage between local ecological changes and climate change. Although such linkages have been suggested, applying the science to prove or disprove such effects is difficult. This work is an excellent example of the benefits of collaborative research, as the team was comprised of researchers from three different disciplines.



Kevin Kreise (right) presenting award to Dave Coates (left) and Alex Woods (centre)