

SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES

POST-HARVEST STAND DEVELOPMENT CONFERENCE

MARTIN ALEXANDER
CANADIAN FOREST SERVICE

Dr. Marty Alexander is a Senior Fire Behavior Research Officer, Canadian Forest Service (CFS), Northern Forestry Centre, Edmonton, Alberta. He has been employed by the CFS since 1976. His research interests are wildland fire behavior and forest/grassland fire danger rating, including the practical and scientific application of such knowledge to fire/fuel management and other disciplines. Marty was one of the architects of the Canadian Forest Fire Behavior Prediction System and also served as one of the co-coordinators of the International Crown Fire Modeling Experiment in the Northwest Territories from 1995 -2001. He has been heavily involved in fire behavior training on a national and international basis.

PETER BLENIS
UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA

Peter received his B.Sc from the College of Forestry in Syracuse and his M.Sc and Ph.D in Plant Pathology from the University of Wisconsin-Madison. Current studies focus on the epidemiology of western gall rust, assessing the risk of Septoria canker in intensively managed plantations and evaluating the impact of aspen shoot blight. Previous work has included investigations of the epidemiology of armillaria root disease, methods for evaluating lodgepole pine and aspen for gall rust and shoot blight resistance, respectively, and the impact of grazing on aspen regeneration.

RICHARD BRIAND
WEST FRASER MILLS LTD.

Richard Briand graduated from the University of Alberta forestry program in 1991. He spent the first decade of his career with a consulting firm based in Edmonton, Alberta. He is currently employed by Hinton Wood Products, a division of West Fraser Mills Ltd., as Management Forester. The majority of Richard's work experience has been in the fields of management planning, forest inventory, growth and yield and timber supply analysis. He is currently the project lead for the joint West Fraser Mills, Alberta Newsprint Company and Sundance Forest Industries initiative pursuing the development of reforestation standards directly linked to FMA-specific yield expectations.

HAROLD BURKHART
VIRGINIA TECH

Harold has been as faculty member in the Department of Forestry at Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University since 1969. He presently serves as Professor and Head of the department and as Director of the Loblolly Pine Growth and Yield Research Cooperative, a consortium of industry, public agency, and university partners. Active in publishing and professional organizations, he is a past editor of Forest Science and co-author of the textbook, "Forest Measurements".

IAN CAMERON
AZURA FORMETRICS

Ian is a stand modeller and analyst with Azura Formetrics. He has over 25 years experience in the research and analysis of growth & yield and stand development issues, both within government and in private consulting. He specializes in the development, modification, calibration, and testing of growth & yield models; quantification of stand development patterns; and analysis of silvicultural treatment options. Ian has a BSF degree from UBC and an MF from Yale University.

This Conference is a Collaborative Initiative of the Foothills Growth & Yield Association, Foothills Model Forest, and Alberta Forest Genetic Resources Council

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SUE CARSON

CARSON ASSOCIATES LTD.

Sue Carson obtained a BS in Natural Resources and MS in forestry and wildlife management from the University of Michigan, and a PhD from North Carolina State University in Forest Genetics with minors in Genetics and Plant Pathology. Sue managed the Resistance Screening Center for the USDA Forest Service for five years, and carried out research at the New Zealand Forest Research Institute for 17 years, where she also acted as Project Leader for the Molecular Breeding group. Sue has been consulting for seven years, and two years ago started a company which produces genetically superior clonal varieties of radiata pine for plantation forests.

DAVE COATES

BRITISH COLUMBIA MINISTRY OF FORESTS

Dave has a BSF (UBC), M.Sc. (Oregon State University) and Ph.D (UBC) in silviculture and forest ecology. Since 1989 he has held the position of Research Silviculturist with the B.C. Forest Service and lived in Smithers since 1979. He has active studies in coastal and interior temperate forests, subalpine forests, sub-boreal and boreal forests. He is the leader of the Date Creek silvicultural systems experiment; an internationally recognized forest dynamics experiment that has integrated silviculture with forest ecology and provided silvicultural solutions for biodiversity problems. His research interests include: linking tree population dynamics to ecosystem processes, canopy understory interactions, spatially-explicit stand dynamics, gap dynamics and simulation modeling. He is currently using the SORTIE-ND model to explore silvicultural issues in stands damaged by the mountain pine beetle in northern BC.

PHIL COMEAU

UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA

Phil is Professor of Silviculture and Stand Dynamics in the Department of Renewable Resources at the University of Alberta (U of A) in Edmonton, Alberta. He has been teaching and doing research at the U of A since April of 2000. From 1998 to 2000 Phil worked as Research Leader – Forest Stand Dynamics and as a Research Scientist with the B.C. Ministry of Forests, Research Branch in Victoria, B.C. Phil completed his Ph.D. in Forest Ecology at the University of British Columbia in 1986. The focus of his current research is on competition dynamics and relationships between tree growth and environmental factors. Studies include various aspects of mixedwood management, vegetation management, and silvicultural systems in western Canadian forests. He is also the current Chair of the Western Boreal Growth and Yield Association.

THOM ERDLE

UNIVERSITY OF NEW BRUNSWICK

Thom has worked as a professional forester in New Brunswick for 25 years and has been employed in the industrial, consulting, government, and university sectors. His work has focussed on forecasting stand and forest development and forest management design and evaluation. He is currently professor of forest management at the University of New Brunswick.

KEN GREENWAY

ALBERTA SUSTAINABLE RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT

Ken received his BScF and PhD from the University of Alberta (1990/1995). From 1994 -2002 he was employed as a Research Silviculturist with the Alberta Research Council (ARC). His research there was operationally focused looking at how harvest operations impacted regeneration and early growth of aspen. The Forestry Group at ARC was heavily focused on soils and soil physical properties and much of research investigated the role of forest operations in moderating soil properties. After a brief stint at the University of Alberta, he joined Alberta Sustainable Resource Development, Forest Management Branch (Edmonton) as the Provincial Silviculture Specialist. His role has been in developing reforestation policy, working with regional offices on specific needs and helping to incorporate science into forest management policy.

SHONGMING HAUNG

ALBERTA SUSTAINABLE RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT

Shongming is the Senior Biometrician in the Forest Management Branch of Alberta Sustainable Resource Development. Also an Adjunct Professor in the Department of Renewable Resources at the University of Alberta. Major area of speciality is forest productivity and modeling.

RANDY JOHNSON

UNITED STATES FOREST SERVICE

Research Geneticist for the USDA Forest Service for 11 years. Worked with breeding program design and development, and resistance breeding. Currently working on the genetics of wood quality and incorporating genetic gain into growth models. Previous jobs have included shrub breeding at the U.S. National Arboretum and coop director of the radiata pine breeding cooperative in New Zealand. Received a MS and PhD from North Carolina State University.

VICTOR LIEFFERS

UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA

Victor has been a professor of silviculture at the University of Alberta since 1983. He has worked on mixedwood management and forest dynamics problems. He was editor of the Canadian Journal of Forest Research, and has trained over 40 graduate students. He is currently an NSERC Industrial Research Chair with West Fraser and Weyerhaeuser as sponsors.

DAVID MACLEAN

UNIVERSITY OF NEW BRUNSWICK

Prior to joining the University of New Brunswick as Dean in 1999, Dr. MacLean was a Research Scientist with the Canadian Forest Service for 21 years, working on spruce budworm effects on trees and stands. Through the 1990s, he coordinated Canada-wide research networks to develop GIS-based decision support systems for four of Canada's major insect pests, and to determine silvicultural approaches to integrated insect management. Dr. MacLean currently leads research projects on effects of human-caused and natural disturbances on forests, and the influence of forest and insect management on carbon sequestration.

GORDON MILLER

CANADIAN FOREST SERVICE

Gordon Miller earned a B.Sc. (Hons.), M.Sc. and M.P.M. in Biological Sciences and his Ph.D. (Entomology) from Simon Fraser University. From 1978 to 1980 he served as a research biologist with the B.C. Ministry of Forests in Victoria, British Columbia. In 1980, Gordon joined the Canadian Forest Service as a research scientist at the Pacific Forestry Centre in Victoria where he conducted research on cone and seed insects. Since that time he has had a long and accomplished career with the Canadian Forest Service including:

- Director, Protection and Production Program
- Director, Operations, Office of the Assistant Deputy Minister, Canadian Forest Service
- Director and Director General, Science Branch
- Director General of the Canadian Forest Service's Northern Forestry Centre in Edmonton

In this current position Gordon is responsible for research, operational programs such as the Model Forest and First Nations Forestry Programs, CFS initiatives involving policy and science, and networking with other agencies.

DOUGLAS PITT

CANADIAN FOREST SERVICE

Doug is a research scientist from Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario. He has a H.B.Sc. in Forestry from Lakehead University (1984) and a Ph.D. in Forest Biometrics from Auburn University (1994). He began his career with J.D. Irving Limited, New Brunswick, as an operational forester and forest protection supervisor. He has been with the Canadian Forest Service since 1987, focusing on quantitative silviculture research. His efforts have provided foresters with many practical tools for crop establishment, stand tending, and remote sensing applications in forest sampling.

KIM RYMER

ALBERTA-PACIFIC FOREST INDUSTRIES INC.

Kim received a BScF from the University of British Columbia in 1977. He worked as a forest consultant on the B.C. coast and then moved north to manage the Yukon forest and fire programs before joining Alberta-Pacific Forest Industries in early 1992, prior to the mill start-up. Kim's expertise is largely with forest management, forest policy and inventory. He is currently the Chief Forester with Alberta-Pacific.

DOUG SKLAR

ALBERTA SUSTAINABLE RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT

Doug graduated from the University of Alberta with a B.Sc (Forestry) in 1974. Since then he has worked primarily in Alberta in a variety of forest management positions in industry and government as well as an independent consultant. Doug has been the Director of the Forest Management Branch in the Alberta government since June 1999.

JOHN SPENCE

UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA

John received his BSc (1970) in biology at Washington and Jefferson College, his MS (1974) in Zoology at the University of Vermont, and his PhD (1979) in Zoology at the University of British Columbia. He has been in an academic position at the University of Alberta in Edmonton, Canada since receiving his PhD and was appointed as Chair of the University's Department of Renewable Resources in July 2001. He's been a visiting professor at several universities, including Berne, Copenhagen, Helsinki, Oxford and Michigan State and a visiting scientist with both the United States and Canadian Forest Services. Research in Spence's laboratory has pursued both basic and applied questions in entomology and in forest ecology.

KEN STADT

UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA

Ken has a background is in botany, plant physiology and ecology and is particularly interested in process modeling of forest dynamics. He has been involved in several on silvicultural and ecological studies in boreal mixedwoods during the past 14 years, including development of the MIXLIGHT light model. Ken is currently a research assistant professor in Renewable Resources at the University of Alberta, working with the Mixedwood Growth Model development team.

BARB THOMAS

ALBERTA-PACIFIC FOREST INDUSTRIES INC.

Barb has worked as an industrial scientist for the past ten years primarily in the field of poplar tree improvement after completing a PhD at the U of A in 1996 in Forest Biology and Management. Previous degrees were obtained from UBC with a BSc in Agriculture, MSc in Forest Genetics. In recent years, as a consultant, Barb has been responsible for the management of the research program feeding the operational hybrid poplar farm program and FMA area balsam poplar program at Alberta-Pacific Forest Industries in north-eastern Alberta.

JAN VOLNEY

CANADIAN FOREST SERVICE

Dr. Volney is a Research Scientist with the Canadian Forest Service at the Northern Forestry Centre. His work aims to understand the changing impacts of insects on forest productivity and sustainability. He earned degrees in forest entomology (BScF, University of New Brunswick, (U.N.B) forest ecology (MFS, Yale University), mathematics and statistics (MA, U.N.B.) and entomology (PhD, State University of New York, College of Environmental Science & Forestry at Syracuse).

Much of his current work is conducted on large-scale forestry experiments on the EMEND (Ecosystem Management Emulating Natural Disturbance) project and near Zama City, Alberta. The objective of these experiments is to contrast the effects of harvesting regimes on site productivity with those of natural disturbances such a fire and uncontrolled spruce budworm outbreaks. He maintains an interest in the population biology of the conifer feeding spruce budworms.

TREVOR WAKELIN

FOREST RESOURCE IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION OF ALBERTA

Trevor is the Director of Fibre Resources for Millar Western Forest Products Ltd., a family-owned company based in Edmonton, Alberta. Millar Western Forest Products owns and operates a pulp mill and two lumber mills, and conducts woodlands operations supplying the fibre requirements of all three facilities on the basis of sustainable forest management principles.

Trevor has taken an active role in the work of industry associations and the management of industry/government issues in areas such as enhanced forest management, the softwood lumber trade dispute, industry codes of practice, and stumpage and tenure reviews. As well as serving as president of the Forest Resource Improvement Association of Alberta (FRIAA), he currently serves as chair of the Alberta Softwood Lumber Trade Council and as a director of the Canadian Lumber Trade Alliance. He is a past president of the Alberta Forest Products Association (AFPA) and has served the AFPA since 1998 as a director and since 1986 as chair and member of numerous committees.

BOB WINSHIP

WEYERHAEUSER COMPANY LTD.

Bob has been a practicing forester, working for industry in Alberta for over 25 years. His experience includes forest management planning, silviculture, timber harvesting, tenure and strategic issue management. He has worked with deciduous, coniferous and mixedwood regimes in four subregions. He has been involved with numerous opportunities working collaboratively with the Province in the development of policy and regulation.

ALVIN YANCHUK

BRITISH COLUMBIA MINISTRY OF FORESTS

Alvin is currently Manager and Senior Scientist, Forest Genetics Section, Research Branch. He has been with Research Branch since 1988, in various capacities from Technical Advisor, Quantitative Geneticist to Group Research Leader, and previous to that spent four years with Narinder Dhir as the lodgepole pine breeder in the Alberta Forest Service. Current research interests are in the areas of pest and disease resistance breeding and deployment, advanced generation breeding strategies, and in forest gene conservation research, and spent time with the FAO in Rome as consultant on forest genetic resource conservation and management.

