

EMEND Tour - Ecosystem Management Emulating Natural Disturbance

Public members toured a world class forest research site, right in their backyard. The EMEND research study site is located in the Clear Hills Upland, Lower Foothills Eco-region of Alberta, approximately 90 km north-west of Peace River. The site area is characteristic of the boreal mixed wood plains.

Members of two public advisory committees visited this large and comprehensive forest research project. The tour on July 13, 2007 included Daishowa Public Advisory committee members and High Level Forests Public Advisory Committee members. Dr. John Spence, University of Alberta, introduced the group to the history and research impact of EMEND.

The knowledge that is gained from the EMEND research project will be used to help define an ecological approach for forest companies. The EMEND research objective is to determine forest harvest practices that "emulate" wildfire. This will promote



Derek Sidders with the Canadian Forest Service gave an overview of the research design and lead the tour through silviculture treatments and retention blocks.



Colin Bergeron started work with the EMEND core crew in 2001 and now is completing his PhD on Beetles and EMEND landscape ecology.

holistic and ecologically based forestry.

The tour featured "impromptu" presentations by student researchers and a walking tour of the silviculture treatments.

Industry partners have contributed over \$4 million to EMEND over the past 10 years. There is considerable planning value within EMEND research for retention planning and harvesting.

EMEND, in its 9th year, was designed through the collaborative efforts of the forest industry, government and research organizations. University of Alberta and Canadian Forest Service are the primary research organizations. Daishowa Marubeni International Ltd. and Canadian Forest Products Ltd. are the primary industry funders.

EMEND is designed to cover a full rotation of the forest; or 80-100 years in the boreal region. Dr. Spence noted the foresight made by the forest companies in conceiving of such a long term study.

Upcoming Reclamation Seminars

A technical session on soil conservation, reclamation and rehabilitation of forest soils and temporary access roads. The seminars, sponsored by AFEX partners, (FPInnovations, Boreal Forest Research Centre, WOLF) are of interest to forestry companies, oil and gas, contractors, and government personnel.

Peace River	October 23, 2007	Edmonton	October 25, 2007
FPInnovation Members	\$100	Non FPInnovation Members	\$120

To see the agenda and registration form, go to www.feric.ca
To register, call Lisa at Boreal Forest Research Centre (780) 618-2624

Seminars in Peace River & Edmonton

Deliver Low-Impact Stream Crossings

A broad cross-section of industry representatives came away with a better understanding of low-impact stream crossing techniques after two information sessions staged in Peace River and Edmonton in June, 2007.

More than 200 people attended the Stream Crossings for Summer Conditions seminars, hosted by the combined efforts of FP Innovations - FERIC Division, NAIT Boreal Forest Research Centre and the Woodland Operations Learning Foundation (WOLF).

The technical sessions for the installation, maintenance and removal of temporary crossings were extremely well-received. The seminars brought in FERIC and WOLF experts from Vancouver to Montreal to deliver strategic information on stream crossing regulations, construction options and best practices.

"Forestry, oil and gas and government attendees enjoyed the practical and technical information from a high caliber of speakers," reports research coordinator Lisa Ladd of the Boreal Forest Research Centre.

Devon Canada environmental manager Tracy Hunt was enthusiastic about the seminar she attended in Peace River. "This is very unique and very beneficial," said Hunt. "Erosion and stream crossing material is invaluable in planning conscientious industrial activities. As a company, we have a fair amount of involvement in stream crossings and it's important to focus on minimizing our impact on our environment as much as we can manage." Hunt said the seminar information delivered valuable links to additional resources, such as the Department of Fisheries and Oceans (Government of Canada). "It's a great advantage to have this type of seminar offered in this area, it's close at hand and convenient," she said. "As you can tell by the crowded room, I'm not the only one who feels this way."

The room was just as crowded two days later in Edmonton. There,

significant representation from Calgary and points south was seen. "Calgary is head office for oil and gas and the industry is keen to be kept up to speed on the latest on-the-ground information," points out Ladd. For Phil Dubé, Boucher Brothers Lumber Woodlands Manager, the most valuable aspect of the seminar is information sharing. "It's good to hear about regulatory elements as well as being able to share experiences with people who do things differently than we do here in northern Alberta," said Dubé. Since summer logging is expensive in northern Alberta, new concepts such as open-bottom and embedded culverts aren't practical here, he notes. "The seminar not only shows you what to do, it illustrates what not to do because it's just too expensive," he said. "It's important that industry place a priority on technology transfer initiatives like this, where we can hear from the regulatory side as well as people who are actively doing it. The forestry business is a tough one to be in right now, and we can only afford to invest in things that have tangible results, especially the smaller companies with limited flexibility."



Stream Crossing CDs Available



An interactive multi-media CD has been developed and allows the user to choose a presentation, navigate to specific sections within a presentation, as well as see and hear the presenter and associated slides. Both the winter and summer stream crossing seminar CDs are available for \$63.60 (incl GST) from the Boreal Forest Research Centre by phone (780) 618-2624 or fax (780) 624-0725.

PARTNERS

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