Welcome to the first issue of the revamped Boreal Research Institute (BRI) newsletter, **NAIT Boreal News**! The Research Extension and Education (REE) team is working hard to deliver tools, training and programs. Along with our [website](#), Boreal News is our new way to keep in touch once a season.

BRI welcomed 4 new staff members this year: Catherine Brown, Julie Willoughan, Kim Murray and Dr. Stefan Schreiber. [Read more here](#).

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**Field Season.** Summer staff are essential for field work and data collection. Because of their hard work, we have new data sets to analyze, and report on the effectiveness of different forest and peatland reclamation activities. Thank you to everyone at BRI for your dedication to research projects.

**Boreal Drone.** Images taken with BRI's new drone are now available for viewing on our website. The drone will provide new opportunities to evaluate seasonal/annual progressions, and record videos of different projects. Below is BRI's 1st drone video of a reclaimed wood chip road.
UPCOMING EVENTS

Boreal Nature Series: Grizzly Bears in Peace River, with guest speaker Courtney Hughes. **Oct. 19th, 2017**, Peace River, 7 - 8 pm. Learn how local Alberta Environment and Parks staff and industry are working towards understanding grizzly bear populations in NW Alberta, and how to get involved in citizen science. [Read more here.]

NAIT 6th annual seminar: Site Preparation and Vegetation Management in Reclamation. **Nov. 14th, 2017**. Discuss, network, and share knowledge about challenges and opportunities surrounding site preparation and vegetation management in reclamation. Edmonton, AB. [Read more here.]

NAIT 7th annual seminar: Linear Disturbance Impacts on Boreal Wetland Ecosystems. **Nov. 16th, 2017**. Network, contribute, and learn about up-to-date research results on linear disturbance and wetlands. Edmonton, AB. [Read more here.]

Introduction to Linear Mixed Effects Models and GLMM with R. **Jan. 22-26, 2018**. Edmonton, AB. The course starts with a basic introduction to linear mixed effects models, followed by an introduction to Bayesian statistics, MCMC and generalized linear mixed effects models (GLMM). [Read more here.]

RECENT PUBLICATIONS

**Field Guide: A Guide to Mosses and Liverworts of Alberta Peatlands. 2nd Edition.** This guide introduces 60 species of mosses and liverworts that comprise the flora of bogs and fens of Alberta (and western boreal Canada). The guide is designed to be used both in the field and in the laboratory. [Download.]

**Technical Note #24: Well Clay Pad Removal and Peat Inversion.** This technical note describes the civil earth work procedures to remove the clay pad and to create a flat, hydrologically connected peat surface suitable for surface suitable for peatland vegetation development. [Download.]
Peer-reviewed: Pinno et al. (2017). Germination and early growth of boreal understory plants on 3 reclamation soil types under simulated drought conditions. Native plants, 18(2). This greenhouse study determined the germination and early growth of the understory species *Leymus innovatus* (Beal) Pilg. (Poaceae; hairy wild rye), *Chamerion angustifolium* (L.) Holub (Onagraceae; fireweed), and *Solidago canadensis* L. (Asteraceae; goldenrod) in 3 operational reclamation soil types under various water stress conditions. [Access here.](#)

Peer-reviewed: Strack et al. (2017). Impact of winter roads on boreal peatland carbon exchange. Global Change Biology, p.1365-2486. Winter roads impact tree canopy cover and the compression of the peat by heavy equipment, which alters local thermal, hydrological, and ecological conditions. This study evaluates the impacts of winter roads on peatlands and carbon exchange processes. [Access here.](#)

A sincere thank you to all partners and sponsors of "Partners in Boreal Education".

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Valley fog in Peace River. Picture by Bin Xu.

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