

»» JUNE 2024 NEWSLETTER ««

KNOWLEDGE EXCHANGE NETWORK (KEN) ECOLOGICAL FORESTRY RESEARCH INITIATIVE (EFRI)

Edition #3



WELCOMING NEW MEMBERS KLYE MCCARTHY AND SEAN O'CONNOR TO EFRI - PG. 2

THE EVOLVING ROLE OF WILDFIRE IN THE MARITIMES REGION OF EASTERN CANADA

Taylor, A. R. & MacLean, D.A. (2024). The evolving role of wildfire in the Maritimes region of eastern Canada. Canadian Journal of Forest Research, <https://doi.org/10.1139/cjfr-2024-0032>.

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A recent study by **Dr. Karen Harper*** and colleagues highlights the importance of site-specific edge studies, the effect forest edges have on vegetation patterns and ecological processes, and serves as a framework for conservation. On-going timber harvesting and deforestation has resulted in an increase in forest edges across the globe. This special issue includes current forest edge research from around the world and across different forest types.

* EFRI Committee Member, of the Forest Biodiversity Management Cluster

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Recent research has shown the Maritimes region of Eastern Canada are susceptible to forest fires despite its cool, damp climate and diverse mixed forests. With the threat of climate change looming large and the growing population in the region, new forest management and urban planning strategies must be developed to mitigate the challenges to effectively manage fires.

SPECIAL ISSUE: RECENT ADVANCES IN STUDYING VEGETATION AT FOREST EDGES

Harper, K.A., Rad, J.E., Rinas, C. (2024). Plant Ecology An International Journal (225-4). <https://link.springer.com/journal/11258/volumes-and-issues/225-4>

KLYE MCCARTHY AND SEAN O'CONNOR JOIN THE FOREST BIODIVERSITY MANAGEMENT CLUSTER (FBMC)

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>>> NEW RECRUITS ALERT!!!

Kyle McCarthy and Sean O'Connor will be joining the FBMC cluster under Dr. Anthony Taylor at the Forest Management Lab at the University of New Brunswick.

Kyle has already started field work at the Medway Community Forest Cooperative and is studying the effectiveness of tree marking to improve partial-cut harvesting methods.

Sean will be starting in September 2024 and will be researching the effects of partial-cut harvesting methods on stand windthrow vulnerability.

2023 BLUEPRINT FOR FOREST CARBON SCIENCE IN CANADA

Prepared by C. Smyth, J. Metsaranta, M. Fortin, S. Le Noble, **H. MacDonald**, J. Wolfe, C. Boisvenue, J. Laganière, J. Krakowski, X. Zhu, D. Paré, P. Tompalski, E. J. S. Emilson, K. Webster, M. Dosanjh, L. Venier, J. Edwards and based on input from the Canadian forest carbon science and policy communities.

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The purpose of the Blueprint is to outline forest carbon science contributions that will support evolving policy needs in Canada over the next 10 years. This is the second Blueprint: "A Blueprint for Forest Carbon Science in Canada: 2012- 2020" was published in 2012 to guide policy and research aimed at filling regional, national, and international data gaps, and to support Canada's objectives and obligations for climate change mitigation and adaptation, sustainable forest management, and reporting requirements.

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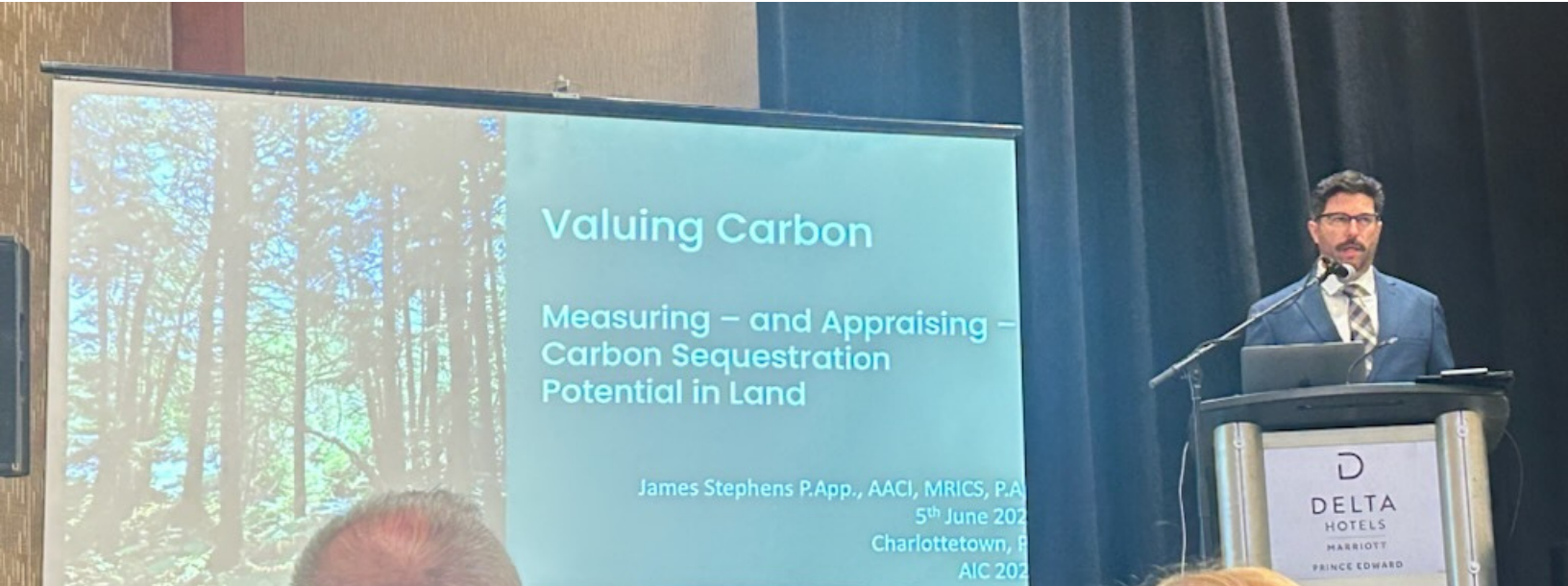
A recent review by **Heather Macdonald*** reviews the forest transition theory, introduced by Alexander Mather, which describes forest recovery following agricultural intensification and farmland abandonment. This analysis highlights social inequity in forest transitions, primarily in developed countries, driven by economic development and agricultural changes. State interventions showed mixed effects, with social justice and governance remaining critical issues.

ENVISIONING BETTER FOREST TRANSITIONS: A REVIEW OF RECENT FOREST TRANSITION SCHOLARSHIP

MacDonald, H. (2023). Envisioning better forest transitions: A review of recent forest transition scholarship. *Heliyon*. (9-10). <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.heliyon.2023.e20429>

* EFRI Core Team Member and Chair of the Knowledge Exchange Group (KEG)





CARBON VALUATION CLUSTER (CVC) PRESENTATION BY JAMES STEPHENS

>>> PRESENTED AT THE APPRAISAL INSTITUTE OF CANADA, AT THEIR 2024 NATIONAL CONFERENCE IN CHARLOTTETOWN

James Stephens* gave an interesting presentation on how carbon markets should, and will, affect land values based on the capacity of the land and soil to sequester carbon. However, traditional appraisal techniques require an update to accommodate the complex models which measure and predict carbon sequestration. This presentation provides an overview of current research by the Ecological Forestry Research Institute which is examining how best to integrate carbon modelling and measurement within land appraisal.

James is a Professional Appraiser (AACI), Agrologist, and researcher exploring the mainstream integration of ecological benefits into the market valuation of land. James is the current president of the Nova Scotia Real Estate Appraisers Association, Core Member of the Ecological Forestry Research Institute (based out of Dalhousie University, Halifax), and the owner of Hillside Consulting Ltd. He lives with his partner and dog on a humble woodland homestead in beautiful Unama'ki (Cape Breton), Nova Scotia.

* EFRI Core Team Member and Co-chair of the Carbon Valuation Cluster (CVC)

KNOWLEDGE EXCHANGE NETWORK (KEN) - CALL OUT

KEN Session Recommendations:

Got something you want to share or teach, or interested in learning about something new?
Let us know!

We are organizing the 2024 KEN sessions, and we want to make sure the upcoming sessions reflect your interests! So, did you just wrap up a research project and looking to share results, or got a skill worth sharing (like grant writing, or stress management), or just interested in learning more about a specific topic? Let us know and we can make it happen!

Please get in touch at: efri@dal.ca

OPPORTUNITY TO PARTICIPATE

Post Fire Regeneration Study:

Dr Karen Harper, Adjunct Professor at Saint Mary's University and Dalhousie University and a committee member of EFRI's FBMC is conducting a pilot study on regeneration at the edges of the 2023 Nova Scotia fires in collaboration with researchers from New Brunswick, looking at the New Brunswick fires.

There is an opportunity for people who are interested in studying revegetation post fire in Atlantic Canada to be a part of a group to try to get some funding for a collaborative multi-year project.

Please get in touch at:
KarenHarper@eastlink.ca