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BC WATER Symposium

Creating a WATER SCIENCE Strategy

Victoria

University of Victoria

Kelowna

UBC Okanagan

Prince George

University of Northern BC

August 30—September 1, 2010



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- IT/AV Advisor – Bowen Moran, Ministry of Environment
- Program Manager & Link to Advisory Committee – Angeline Tillmanns, Ministry of Environment
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- Robin Pike, Ministry of Forests
- Dr. Todd Redding, FORREX
- Dr. Valentin Schaefer, School of Environmental Studies, University of Victoria
- Samina Tajwar, MITACS

Hans Schreier

"Hans Schreier has spent a career making a difference in the lives of Canadians and people around the world. His ability to translate his knowledge and research into real and useable information has put him at the forefront of watershed and water reuse issues around the world. He can speak the language of the water manager in Vancouver, the teenager in Central America or the village elder in Nepal. Hans' contribution to water issues is too great to ever be measured."

Dr. Mark Servos, Scientific Director, Canadian Water Network

<http://research.ires.ubc.ca/schreier/teaching.html>



Trevor Murdock



Trevor Murdock is a climate scientist with an undergraduate degree in Physics and Astronomy Co-op from the University of Victoria (1995) and a M.Sc. in Earth and Ocean Sciences from the University of Victoria (1997). Trevor currently leads the Regional Climate Impacts theme at the Pacific Climate Impacts Consortium in Victoria, BC.

For the past 13 years, he has worked on applications of climate research to assist decision-making and planning. Trevor's work has focused on climate scenarios and online mapping tools, downscaling to high resolution, analysis of historical climate data and improvement of seasonal climate predictions.

His current interests include: use of climate projections at the community level, impacts of climate change on biodiversity, and analysis of results from regional climate models and other forms of downscaling.

Markus Schnorbus

Markus Schnorbus is an experienced hydrology modeller, researcher and forecaster with sound knowledge of mountain and forest hydrology and a strong background in deterministic and statistical techniques. He possess a BEng (Mechanical) degree from the Royal Military College of Canada (1991, Kingston, ON) and earned an MASc (forest hydrology) degree from the University of British Columbia in 2000.

Markus has extensive experience using physically-based spatially distributed hydrology models to investigate forest harvesting effects on streamflow in watersheds throughout British Columbia as well as a strong background in the use of conceptual models for operational streamflow and seasonal flow forecasting of the Fraser River. Markus has most recently led the implementation of the Variable Infiltration





Speaker Biographies

Diana Allen

Dr. Diana Allen (Ph.D. 1996, Carleton University) is a Professor of Hydrogeology in the Department of Earth Sciences at Simon Fraser University. Her research program focuses on various aspects of groundwater protection, spanning the development of aquifer risk assessment methodologies to understanding and forecasting the potential impacts of climate change on groundwater resources. Dr. Allen is a member of the Pacific Institute for Climate Solutions (PICS) Program Committee. She co-leads a Canadian Water Network (CWN) project with Karen Bakker (UBC) that aims to develop a Canadian Water Security Framework as a Tool for Assessing Cumulative Impacts and Improving Watershed Governance. She also leads an interdisciplinary team of researchers at SFU focusing on the Secondary Impacts of Climate Change on Human and Ecosystem Health using Risk Based Approaches.

Dr. Allen is an expert member of UNESCO's GRAPHIC (Groundwater Resources under the Pressures of Humanity and Climate Change) program; a member of the Province of BC Ground Water Advisory Board; a member of the Program Committee for the Pacific Institute for Climate Solutions (PICS); Co-Editor of Canadian Water Resources Journal; Associate Editor for Environmental Research Letters; and former Associate Editor for Hydrogeology Journal.

<http://www.sfu.ca/personal/dallen/>



Ken Matthews



Mr. Ken Matthews is Chair and Chief Executive Officer of the Australian National Water Commission. He has an economics degree from the University of Sydney, and is a Fellow of the Institute of Public Administration and the Australian Institute of Management. He received a Centenary Medal for services to public administration in 2001, and was appointed Officer of the Order of Australia in 2005. Mr. Matthews has held the positions of Secretary of the Department of Transport and Regional Services and of the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry.

<http://www.nwc.gov.au/www/html/2382-mr-ken->

John Richardson

Dr. John Richardson is a professor at the University of British Columbia in the Department of Forest Sciences where he is also director of the Stream and Riparian Research Laboratory. His research addresses issues of ecology and management of streams, riparian areas and with a broad interest in aquatic biology. He has published over 140 articles, more than a hundred of them in international, peer-reviewed journals. Over 25 graduate students, 10 post-doctoral fellows and 10 research assistants, as well as dozens of undergraduate students have studied in his research team. He is on the editorial boards of the Journal of Applied Ecology and the Canadian Journal of Fisheries and Aquatic Sciences, as well as being a member of three endangered species recovery teams. He is also an associate of the Peter Wall Institute for Advanced Studies. Between 1994 and 1999, Dr. Richardson was jointly appointed as a faculty member at UBC and a senior research scientist for the Ministry of Environment.



<http://faculty.forestry.ubc.ca/richardson/home.html>

Symposium Overview

The BC Government together with the University of Victoria, University of British Columbia-Okanagan, University of Northern British Columbia, and MITACS (Mathematics of Information Technology and Complex Systems) welcome you to the BC Water Symposium.

The BC Water Symposium will allow participants to take an interdisciplinary view of the challenges and opportunities around the creation and sharing of information and knowledge to support the sustainable management of water resources and aquatic ecosystems. The objectives of the symposium are to:

- to discuss current and emerging water issues
- to develop new collaborative relationships, and
- to work together to build the foundations for a BC Water Science Strategy (WSS).

The Symposium is being held concurrently in Prince George, Kelowna and Victoria and is featuring sessions that are linked together via webinars as well as local independent sessions and discussion. This delivery will allow participants to listen to ideas from some of BC's top researchers as well as a guest from Australia, while still having a chance to discuss information and knowledge challenges specific to their own region.

The focus of the BC Water Symposium and the Water Science Strategy is information and knowledge creation and knowledge translation and exchange as it pertains to the sustainable management of water resources and aquatic resources. Developing a Water Science Strategy (WSS) is a commitment made by the BC Government in Living Water Smart: BC's Water Plan. The Government's intention is to facilitate a collaborative process with multiple partners, including First Nations, to produce a strategy that can be used by organizations and bands across the province to bridge the gap between those that create and hold water related knowledge and those that apply this knowledge to make decisions, support policy development and create operational procedures.



Symposium Program

Day One - August 30th

Time	Session	Linked/Independent
3:00-5:00 pm	Poster set-up	Independent
4:15-5:00 pm	Registration opens	Independent
5:00-5:10 pm	Local Welcome	Independent
5:10-5:20	BC Welcome – MLA John Slater, Parliamentary Secretary for Water Supply and Allocation	Linked via webinars (Speaker in Kelowna)
5:20-6:05 pm	Public lecture – Hans Schreier, UBC Title: <i>Examples of Innovative water protection and conservation methods for B.C.</i>	Linked via webinars (Speaker in Kelowna)
6:05-9:00 pm	Locally organised events including a public reception	Independent

Day Two - August 31st

Time	Session	Linked/Independent
8:00-8:30	Registration	Independent
8:30-8:40	Local welcomes	Independent
8:40-8:50	Ministry of Environment Welcome Celine Davis, MOE	Linked via webinars (Speaker in Victoria)
8:50-9:15	Introduction to Water Knowledge Strategy Angeline Tillmanns, MOE	Linked via webinars (Speaker in Prince George)
9:15-10:00	Plenary Speaker: Diana Allen, SFU Title: <i>Water Science Research: Challenges and Success Stories in Knowledge Translation</i>	Linked via webinars (Speaker in Prince George)
10:00-10:30	Break	Independent
10:30-10:50	Plenary Speaker: Markus Schnorbus, PCIC Title: <i>Impacts of Future Climate Change in Selected Watersheds of British Columbia</i>	Linked via webinars (Speaker in Victoria)
10:50-11:10	Plenary Speaker: Trevor Murdock, PCIC Title: <i>Historical and Future Climate in BC: Informing Decision-Making</i>	Linked via webinars (Speaker in Victoria)
11:15 -12:00	Plenary Speaker: John Richardson, UBC Title: <i>Learning how to protect water for environmental and human needs in a variable world</i>	Linked via webinars (Speaker in Kelowna)
12:00-1:00	Lunch	Independent
1:00-2:00	Break-out discussions I What are the most urgent current and emerging issues pertinent to the sustainable management of water resources and aquatic ecosystems? Where are there knowledge gaps?	Independent

Day Two - August 31st - Cont.

Time	Session	Linked/Independent
2:00-2:50	Panel Discussion – How are different types of information (e.g. research, TEK, monitoring) used to inform policy and procedures and make decisions?	Independent
2:50-3:20	Break	Independent
3:20-4:30	Break-out discussions II What are the information needs water scientists, policy-makers, end users, and stakeholders?	Independent
4:30-6:00	Poster session & reception	Independent

Day Three – September 1st

Time	Session	Linked/Independent
8:00-8:30	Registration	Independent
8:30-9:00	Recap of yesterday's activities and discussions	Linked via webinars
9:00-10:00	Plenary speaker: Ken Matthews, Chair of Australian National Water Commission	Linked via webinars (Speaker in Victoria)
10:00-10:30	Break	Independent
10:30-12:00	Break-out discussions III What are the successes and challenges of translating knowledge into action? How can we support information and knowledge creation? Where are the opportunities?	Independent
12:00-1:00	Lunch	Independent
1:00-1:30	Facilitator re-cap of morning discussion groups	Independent
1:30-3:00	Break-out discussions IV What will the WSS look like? How can we continue to work together to create and implement a WSS?	Independent
3:00-3:30	Break	Independent
3:30-4:30	Plenary discussion on Water Science Strategy & Next Steps	Linked via webinars and/or online blogging

