BIOS

Alberta Society of Professional Biologists • Winter 2011/2012 Volume 26 • Number 3

A Message From Your President

By Charles Macmichael, P.Biol.

Happy New Year to one and all! The coming of a new year brings a time to reflect on last year's events while planning for the year ahead.

Looking back on 2011, I was honoured to step into the role of President after the successful term of Laurie Hamilton. I am thrilled to know that things will be in the talented hands of Susan Patey LeDrew in the spring of 2012. I encourage all members of the society to consider getting involved in the organization in 2012: as a member of any one of our committees; or as a member of the Board of Directors. Those of you who are interested, and I hope there will be many of you, please contact our Executive Director, Ross Bradford, for information and details of the responsibilities, duties and activities for each of these roles.

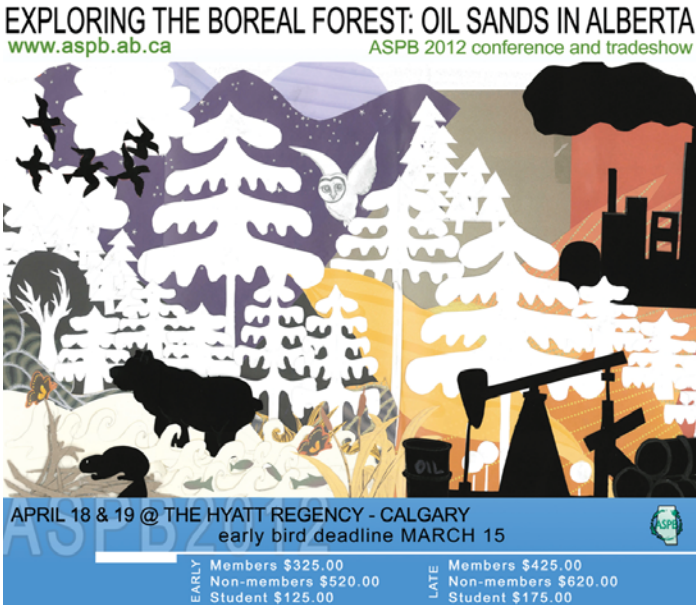
Since the last issue of BIOS, the Board of Directors and the various committees of ASPB have been busy working with the staff to finalize the strategic plan. This entails developing the required process documents for continued management of the society, its members and the governance of the profession within Alberta. The Board has taken into consideration the feedback from the membership, and has worked to offer a more balanced budget for 2012. The Board has begun to put plans in place to ensure that we continue on this path. As suggested above, if you are interested in this process and its documentation, I encourage you to contact the ASPB and any of its committee chairs through our updated website (it looks great!).

The society is growing continuously, and in December of 2011 was 1038 members, up from 980 members a year ago. I know our membership will continue to expand as the importance of the practice of biology increases, and the accountability and regulation of the profession continues to gain recognition within Alberta. This is in no small part due to the excellent work of our members. As the recognition of the profession grows, so do the requirements of the society to develop larger and more effective infrastructure to serve, to promote and to manage the profession and its members.

Again I encourage all members to take an interest in this process, and put themselves forward to volunteer to assist in development and execution of the Society's responsibilities. The ASPB is at an important stage in its growth, and we need to continue to look

…continued on Page 2

ASPB 2012 Conference



More information on page 3 as well as at
www.aspb.ab.ca/events/2012-aspb-conference

In This Issue

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BIOS is published for the enjoyment and benefit of the members of the Alberta Society of Professional Biologists, and for those interested in the field of professional biology. Articles or comments are welcomed and should be sent to the editor, Linda Zimmerling at lindazim@shaw.ca.

President's Message Continued

for ways to best manage this process with revenue generation, cost management, volunteer involvement, recruitment of new members and coordination.

As one of only two regulated biology professions in Canada, this is the time for all ASPB licensed biologists to remind government, industry, and the public, of the professional designation, its merits and benefits. We must remind these agencies, and other professional regulatory organizations, that the ASPB promotes the highest standards in the practice of biology to serve the public, and to increase awareness of the importance of sound biological stewardship. It is critical that it be known within Alberta that having a P. Biol. complete the work means that work is done by someone who has been recognized by the Alberta Government through POARA, and other professional regulated organizations, as competent, and who is accountable to standards of professional practice.

The increasing demands of the marketplace on the environment have resulted in new and restructured university programs. Because of this, the increased offerings of other certificate training programs are not always aligned with more traditional disciplines or degree programs. The ASPB is continuing to develop our relationships with educational institutions of Alberta to ensure that students and faculty understand how best to structure their degree programs to meet the qualifications of a professional biologist.

The ASPB continues to advocate for and on behalf of the professional biologist, to respond to government legislation, policy initiatives and professional equity. The ASPB recognizes the achievements of biology professionals through awards, publications and presentations. Through professional development opportunities, communication, and networking between professional biologists, the benefits of membership will continue to grow in 2012.

There are indications that the demand for professional biologists will continue to increase in 2012 and beyond. The ASPB and its members are well positioned to contribute to this process and benefit from it. I encourage you, the ASPB member, to raise the profile of your profession through discussion, high quality research and publishing, exhibiting your Certificate of Membership, participation in student development activities, and any other means at your disposal. By describing yourself as "Professional Biologist" you are promoting awareness of the designation, the organization and the profession.

The marketplace also encourages the other regulated professions to find a greater role to meet the expanding demands of industrial development and regulation. Our representation on the Joint Environmental Professional Practice Board (JEPP) provides the ASPB with a voice and a connection to the other professional regulatory organizations (PROs). Beyond this, the ASPB continues to develop its relationship with the College of Applied Biology and the Association of Professional Biologists in British Columbia. Several initiatives will be taking shape in 2012 to continue these relationships.

As the ASPB prepares for its annual conference and AGM in April 2012 (see the conference information in this newsletter) I am encouraged by the momentum that continues to build with this organization. I look forward to 2012, and hope to see you all at the conference and the AGM in April.

Sincerely,

Charles Macmichael

ASPB 2012 Conference and Tradeshow

CALL FOR PAPERS AND POSTERS

The Alberta Society of Professional Biologists' (ASPB) 2012 conference titled "Exploring the Boreal Forest: Oil Sands in Alberta" will be held at the Hyatt Regency Hotel, Calgary, Alberta, on April 18 and 19, 2012. The nature of industrial development and land use management in the oil sands region of Alberta has sparked increased attention recently, and presents challenges and opportunities for biologists.

The focus of the conference is on issues relevant to the oil sands region that may be occurring in other parts of the boreal forest across Alberta or elsewhere in Canada. ASPB invites submissions for presentations describing recent challenges and new approaches to dealing with, and managing, the biological resources in the oil sands and/or boreal region. Submissions may be examples from Alberta or elsewhere (please demonstrate application to Alberta's boreal and/or oil sands region).

There have been several new legislative developments and scientific advancements since the ASPB last held an oil sands-centric conference. This conference will provide attendees (both ASPB members and non-members) interested or directly involved in oil sands development and land use management with a forum to discuss current issues and challenges in this region of Alberta's northern boreal forest. Share your successes and challenges, facilitate new ideas, contribute to the discussion and debate the issues! Contributions could focus on the following:

- Current Legislation, Regulations, and Regional Planning;
- Reclamation and Closure Planning;
- Wetlands and Water Usage;
- Species at Risk and Rare Species;
- Ecological Restoration in the Oil Sands;
- Environmental Impacts & Risk Management (including Cumulative Effects and Integrated Access and Footprint Management); or
- Mitigation and Monitoring Programs;
- Oil Sands and Aboriginal Communities.

The 2012 ASPB Conference Committee welcomes presentation abstract submissions for review. Target audiences include representatives from industry, consulting, government, environmental advocacy groups, and academia. Topics are not restricted specifically to oil sands-related work, but should be relevant to the management challenges and environmental issues in the oil sands region of Alberta's northern boreal forest. Papers will be peer-reviewed. Acceptance of the contributions will be based on originality of the work, relevance to the conference topic and the practice of biology, and overall submission quality.

An abstract must follow the format outlined on the ASPB website and be submitted electronically to pbiol@aspb.ab.ca by **January 20, 2012** for review. Please reference the ASPB 2012 Conference in the subject line. Within the abstract, please explain how the proposed presentation will complement the conference topic. If you do not receive email confirmation that your submission was received within five business days, please contact the ASPB directly at (780) 434-5765. Please note that the cost of preparing the proposal and attending the conference will be at the applicant's expense (including speaker discounted conference registration).

In addition, the 2012 ASPB Conference Committee is planning a panel session and would like to solicit topics for discussion. Please send your ideas to pbiol@aspb.ab.ca by **January 20, 2012** for review.

Abstract Format

For Abstract format specifications please visit www.aspb.ab.ca/events/2012-aspb-conference

Sponsorship Opportunities

Animal and Plant Friends Fund Sponsors	***Sponsorship amount***	***Benefits[1,2]***
Sandhill Crane	$10,000	Corporate logo on program and signage displayed throughout conference, one free tradeshow table, plus eight free registrations
Woodland Caribou	$5,000	Corporate logo on program and signage displayed throughout conference, one free tradeshow table, plus four free registrations
Stemless Lady's Slipper	$3,000	Corporate logo on program and signage displayed throughout conference plus two free registrations
Artic Grayling	$1,500	Corporate logo on program and signage displayed throughout conference plus one free registration
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Supporting Sponsor	$1,000	Recognition in program, one free registration
Event Sponsors		
Banquet (5 sponsors)	$2,000 each	Corporate logo on program and entry placards, verbal recognition at the start of banquet
Name tags (1 sponsor)	$2,000	Corporate logo on name tags
Speaker (Banquet) 1 sponsor	$1,000	Corporate logo on program and entry placards, verbal recognition when the speaker is introduced.
Lunch (2 sponsors)	$1,000 each	Corporate logo on program and entry placards, verbal recognition at the lunch break
Coffee breaks (4 sponsors)	$500 each	Corporate logo on program and entry placards, verbal recognition at the coffee break
AGM (1 sponsor)	$2000	Recognition at AGM

Student Sponsor:
Any unused Fund Sponsor Registration or Banquet tickets can be donated toassist students to attend the event. These sponsors will receive specialrecognition at the conference, and will be recognized by corporate logo on adsposted at the respective universities.

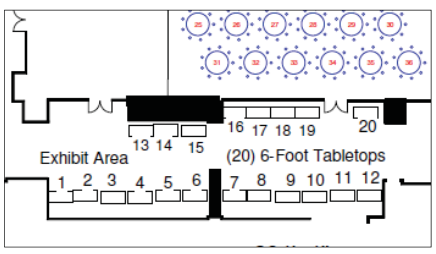
[1,2] For specifications and conditions of sponsorship, please visit the conference website.

Contact P. Ross Bradford, ASPB Executive Director at ExecutiveDirector@aspb.ab.ca 780-469-6196 with sponsorship inquiries.

Tradeshow Opportunities

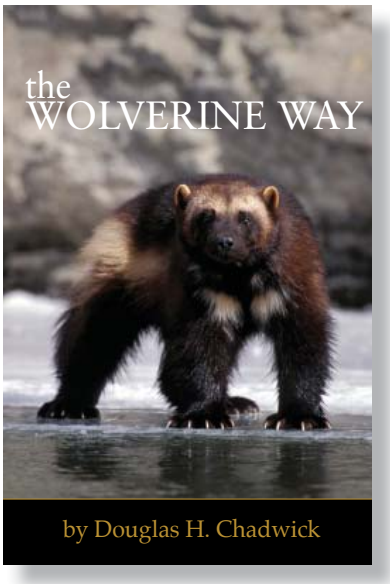
Costs of exhibit tables are $500. Tables are booked on a first-come, first-served, basis (only 20 available). To book a table, send an e-mail to pbiol@aspb.ab.ca and include 'Tradeshow Inquiry' in the subject line.

Tradeshow tables 1-20 set-up schematic



Book Review: The Wolverine Way by Douglas H. Chadwick

By Angela Bowditch, P.Biol.



The Glacier Wolverine Project was a 5 year study done in Glacier National Park involving capture, marking and tracking to gain insight into the enigmatic wolverine *Gulo gulo*. The wolverine is a species in trouble with little confirmed information. Jeff Copeland and Rick Yates ran the project to fill in the blanks for many unanswered questions about the biology and natural history of the wolverine. Douglas H. Chadwick was originally involved in the project to do research for an article, but was fascinated by these animals and stayed as a volunteer.

Wolverines can be very elusive and cover a huge territory relative to their size, which makes studying them very challenging. Chadwick shares anecdotes and facts, both amusing and touching, that were learned through the study that make it an interesting read for both the lay-person and the biologist. Wolverines have a reputation for ferocity and at a diminutive 18 kg (40 lbs) in size, have been known to scare a grizzly bear off of a kill site. During the study male wolverines were observed travelling with juvenile offspring, a behaviour virtually unheard of in the animal kingdom. Chadwick recounts the difficulty of keeping these determined animals in the trap long enough to handle them. One male chewed his way out of a log trap only to travel to the next trap and chew his girlfriend out of her trap.

Chadwick is a master storyteller and does an amazing job of weaving in an important conservation message into the fascinating story of the wolverine: "To make a point about their present status [in the United States], you could cram all of them into one person's mountainside trophy home. It would be a snarlfest, but they'd fit" (pg. 23). Glacier National Park is expected to have no glaciers by the year 2020. Chadwick compares wolverines to the polar bear as a gauge of climate change: "Yet until scientists started to focus on climate change, no one gave much thought to how creatures with built-in snowshoes, a super-cozy furcoat, smoldering metabolism, and food cached in nature's refrigerators are supposed to handle swimsuit weather in our ever-toastier Age of Industrial Exhaust" (pg. 61). Chadwick discusses the threats to wolverines: habitat fragmentation, roads, hunting and trapping pressures and touts projects such as the Yellowstone to Yukon Conservation Initiative (Y2Y) and Freedom to Roam Campaign that strives to create a wildlife corridor though Canada and the United States.

ASPB Christmas Social

ASPB's Christmas Social at the Big Rock Brewery was organized by the Calgary Professional Development Committee.

Twenty six members and non-members came out for the ASPB's annual Christmas Social and were treated to some great pizza and local beer to wash it down. After eating and sampling the fine brews, the group toured the Big Rock facility and witnessed how the beers are made including their signature brands.

Facts:

- Big Rock-Friendly Pubs around Alberta are frequently testing new varieties of beers. Once a positive threshold is achieved it becomes a bottled variety and is then sold to Liquor stores (the latest, a Rye and Ginger Ale Beer, was a hit during the tour).
- Calgary's hard-water is one of Big Rock's key secret ingredients for producing a great beer (go figure!)
- The Big Rock "cans" you see in farmers' fields signify these as suppliers of malting grains to Big Rock (yes another ingredient)

Jan Simonson and Karoliina Munter choose their 6 favourite varieties of beer.

Charles (current President) and Susan (incoming President) joke around at the Big Rock Brewery

Photo credits: Stacey Schaub-Szabo, P.Biol.

We enjoyed this visit so much we will be organizing another "beverage" tour somewhere in March.

Peggy Thompson 2011 Award Winners

In the category of a biological technical report:

Judy Bennett, P.Biol. and Dave Reid, P.Biol.

Contributors to:

Oldman Watershed Council. 2010. Oldman River State of the Watershed Report 2010. Oldman Watershed Council, Lethbridge, Alberta. 284 pp.

In the category of a scientific publication undergoing professional review:

Allan H. Legge, P.Biol.

Legge, Allan H. (Ed.) 2009. Air Quality and Ecological Impacts: Relating Sources to Effects. Developments in Environmental Science, Volume 9. (Series Editor: S.V. Krupa). Elsevier Ltd. 312 pp.

ASPB 2011 Graduate Student Endowment Scholarship Recipients

University of Alberta - Jason Gardiner

Thesis topic: "The identification of new gene expression profiles associated with early stages of vein formation". My work will contribute to the characterization of families of plant transcription factors for which very little is known. Further, my study will advance our knowledge of the molecular events underlying leaf vascular strand formation.

University of Calgary – Susanne Golby

Photo credit: David Lindo

Thesis topic: "Multispecies biofilms from an oil sands tailings pond". The objective of my research was to study the indigenous microorganisms of the Alberta oil sands tailings ponds, and to find ways in which they can be used as bioremediation tools to detoxify tailings water. I focused particularly on metal resistance of the microorganisms as metals are inhibitory to organic biodegradation. There is a collaborative research effort between the Universities of Calgary and Alberta to apply wastewater bioreactor technology to treat tailings effluents. Our collaborators at the U of A are Drs Yang Liu and Tong Tu from the Engineering Faculty.

University of Lethbridge - Chad Laing

Thesis topic: "Whole genome sequences of *E. coli* O157:H7". I am examining whole genome sequences of *E. coli* O157:H7 and determining the regions of the genome that are most variable between strains. These regions will then be used for molecular fingerprinting and characterization of this important human pathogen.

Edmonton Regional Science Fair 2011 ASPB Award Recipients

By Michele Moscicki

On behalf of the entire Edmonton Regional Science Fair council we thank you for your support of youth in science! We are also pleased to announce that the team of 8 students from Edmonton that competed at the Canada Wide Science Fair in Toronto did very well! Each student came home with a medal and two students from Edmonton took home the top honour winning the Best in Fair award out of 509 students competing from across the country. This would not be possible without organizations such as yours that sponsor our regional fair.

"Hatching Eggs" Honourable Mention: Teron Calihoo
Photo Credit: Lorie Taylor Leech

"Mold On Food" First Prize: Alexandra Kopf and John Whitehead
Photo Credit: Lorie Taylor Leech

Robin Leech, P.Biol. (ASPB past Executive Director) presented the winners with their awards.

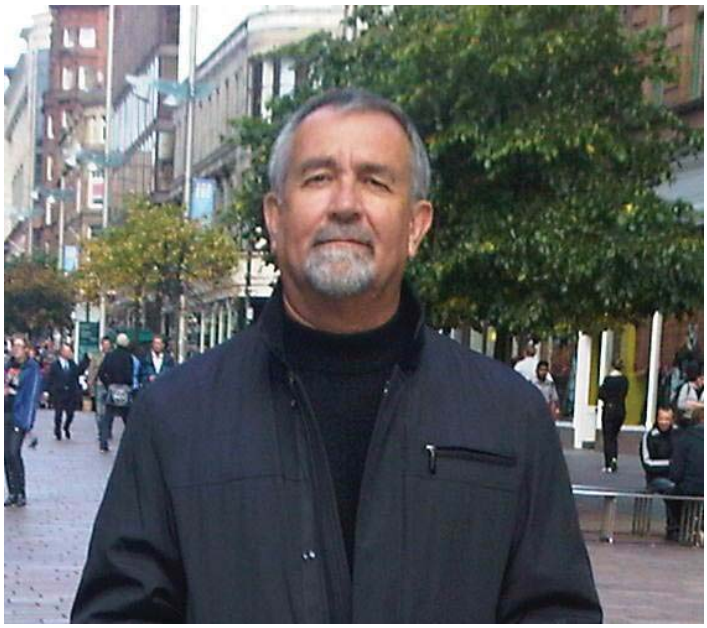
Calgary Youth Science Fair 2011 ASPB Award Recipient

Gerry Ward presents the ASPB Award to Sarah Hyslop for her project: Biofilm Eradication: A Novel Approach. Photo used with permission CYSF.

The CYSF will have its 50th Anniversary in 2012! Become a judge and be part of the celebration! Visit www.cysf.org for details.

Interview with a Biologist: David Trew, P.Biol.

By Ngaio Hotte, P.Biol.



What do bagpipes, dahlias, and water quality have in common? No, this is not a biology riddle. They are all interests that captivate this issue's Featured Biologist, David Trew.

As Executive Director of the North Saskatchewan Watershed Alliance (NSWA), David coordinates the interests of over 130 members representing industry, government, non-government organizations, and the public, who are working together to protect and enhance water quality in the North Saskatchewan River basin. The NSWA is one of eleven Watershed Planning Advisory Councils (WPACs) established under the provincial *Water for Life* Strategy. At the beginning of this year, the NSWA released a Discussion Paper for its Integrated Watershed Management Plan for the basin. The document shaped discussion between communities and policy-makers about the future of the North Saskatchewan River Watershed, and will form the basis for the NSWA's plan for the region, forthcoming in 2012.

It's no accident that David was chosen to lead the organization. A long-time resident and provincial biologist, David contributed to the evolution of watershed-level management science in Alberta and has earned his respected role in the NSWA.

David studied zoology at the University of Guelph, and during summers was hired on by the Ontario Department of Lands and Forests, Fish and Wildlife Division, to conduct research for the Canada Land Inventory. He fondly recalls, "I spent the field season immersed in field limnology, conducting bathymetry, testing water chemistry samples, test-netting fish, and mapping spawning beds in northern Ontario."

After graduation, a close connection to his family roots prompted David to leave Canada for Britain. His travels took him to Scotland, where he landed a research position at the University of Strathclyde, studying the ecology of West Scottish Sea Lochs. Based out of the town of Oban, the position offered an opportunity to sail up and down the Scottish coast, measuring phytoplankton primary production.

When he returned to Canada in 1974, David headed to Alberta, where he was offered a job as an assistant to Dr Martin Paetz, the Chief Fishery Biologist with the Fisheries Branch of Alberta Department of Lands and Forests. "The field of fisheries biology was strongly emerging in Alberta, and my supervisor was one of the first experts in the province," he recounts. It was a tremendous opportunity to travel throughout the province, supporting the rapidly-emerging fisheries program and working with other regional biologists.

In 1976, David made a move to Alberta Environment, where he worked in the Pollution Control Division. At the time, the quality of Alberta's lakes was perceived to be declining, and the provincial government was scrambling to establish methods of assessment and develop predictive models to manage impacts. Applied limnology was still emerging, both in Canada and internationally, and David's project team developed field and lab assessment methods that influenced the practice of limnology in Alberta.

His first major study was at Baptiste Lake, where shoreline and watershed development were degrading water quality, and much controversy existed. "We developed the first measured watershed and lake nutrient budget in Alberta and investigated the effects of land use on runoff and surface water quality," says David. "We collected and compared water quality data for forested and agricultural tributaries entering the lake, and documented the first evidence of internal phosphorus loading from bottom sediments."

Using the knowledge and sampling methodology they developed at Baptiste Lake, David and his colleagues went on to survey hundreds of lakes over the next fifteen years, laying the groundwork for phytoplankton identification, nutrient measurement and examining the impacts of anthropogenic development on lake water quality.

By the mid-1980s, David was managing his own crew of seven limnologists, who were collectively responsible for evaluating and providing water quality management advice for each of the major river basins in Alberta. His group worked with regulators to reduce phosphorus loading in the Bow and Oldman Rivers from wastewater treatment facilities in Calgary and Lethbridge, respectively. They also conducted watershed studies at Wabamun Lake, Pine Lake, Lake Isle, lakes in the Cold Lake-Beaver River area, and other sites, and investigated the effects of algal blooms on cyanotoxicity at Lac Ste Anne and Lac la Nonne. By conducting river basin assessments, establishing a long-term river monitoring program, and helping to develop nutrient management plans, David and his team paved the way for significant water quality improvements in the rivers of central Alberta.

During the 1990s, David and his colleagues began to investigate water quality impacts of agriculture, pulp mills, and oil sands development. He coordinated efforts with the provincial and federal agricultural departments and industry members through the Canada - Alberta Environmentally Sustainable Agriculture (CAESA). CAESA's work provided the first empirical evidence of the impact of agriculture on runoff and water quality in Alberta. He also participated in the Northern Rivers Ecosystem Initiative, helped to develop the acid deposition management framework for lakes, and investigate the impacts of new reservoir construction on water quality.

David applauds the provincial government's transition from managing water quality to integrated water and land management, through implementation of *Water for Life*, as a step in the right direction. "I was always concerned that there was a lack of policy for watersheds. I have spent my career trying to promote the integration of land management policies and planning for water. Historically, [the province has] been good at managing point sources, such as wastewater, and issuing licences for water withdrawals, but holistic management to incorporate non-point sources is just now emerging." "When *Water for Life* was rolled out in 2003-04, there was a specific commitment to watershed planning," he says.

The challenge of implementing water quality monitoring and developing baselines has been compounded by a historical shortage of funding. "The other challenge, as with other resource managers, is the funding issue," he explains. "Modest budgets have been provided for water quality monitoring in Alberta. The panels for monitoring on the Athabasca have just been developed in the past few years. Sometimes it takes a solid piece of research or a calamity to wake people up. I hope that in the future our society will see the importance of comprehensive, basin-scale water quality management as well as the research and monitoring components."

The renewed wave of interest in environmental management demonstrated by a younger generation offers David some encouragement. "I graduated high school in 1966," he reflects. "And I was the only person who went into environmental work. It was just not on the radar." In recent years, David says he has witnessed environmental education brought into the elementary school curriculum, and seen the quality of education improve dramatically. "As a result, industry is now more environmentally conscious. In my work at the WPAC, I talk to a large number of organizations. There is huge interest in seeing water and watersheds properly managed." David traces his own connection with the environmental issues back to his boyhood pursuits of fishing, hunting, scouting, and camping. "Raised in Port Hope, [Ontario,] I grew up on the Ganaraska River, fishing or swimming," he recalls. "You get imprinted as a youngster with things that interest you." When he began his studies at the University of Guelph, David intended to focus on fisheries biology, but his interest later broadened to limnology.

But David is more than just a fish guy; he also leads a bagpipe band, enjoys antiques and art, and cultivates a vibrant garden. In the summertime, David's band tours North America and Scotland and he plays solo gigs for highland dancing. "Music is a really big part of my life," he notes. "At the end of the day, I assume a different identity." His appreciation for music and art has drawn him to travel throughout Europe. "I pursue art in different ways," David explains. "I collect art, and I love to travel and see different countries."

David's career may have evolved away from field work toward a focus on water resources planning and policy development, but he still enjoys time outdoors. "My main interaction with Mother Nature now is gardening," David says. Over the last five years, he has focused on one flower in particular. "This year, I had the most beautiful multi-coloured Dahlias," he says proudly. "These flowers are just incredible." In fact, the flowers he grows are so impressive that this year, David and a friend have decided to create a calendar: "Dave's Dahlias," he laughs.

David's balanced appreciation of art and science may be exactly what makes him so skilled at his job. "I know other people who have been trained in the sciences who use art as a counterbalance," he reflects. "There are two very different types of people that I interact with." In his role, managing various interests integrating land and water management, David's ability to operate in different spheres strengthens his understanding of opposing interests and helps him to generate new solutions to challenges.

Dave's Dahlias. Photo credit: Dave Trew, P.Biol.

Reflecting on the developments he has witnessed during his career, David is optimistic about the future. "There has been a tremendous water science foundation laid around the world since the Second World War," he explains. "Pollution was most acute in Canada in the 1950s. Since then, there has been steady progress uphill. We have a strong foundation in science and technology, there is much more awareness about environmental management, and there is demand for it. Governments are finally getting a clear vision on the need to manage river basins holistically."

David sees the steady rate of progress on environmental issues and the vast improvement in the health of rivers in central Alberta as indicators that progress is moving in the right direction. "There is good, clear evidence of technology and how it has improved the health of rivers," he points out. "I would like to see [technology] applied more to tributaries and lakes. These are not yet managed as well as rivers. But I'm optimistic because of public pressure and government recognition of the need for improvement."

David warns a younger generation of biologists of the need for long-term perseverance and patience as they work to protect, conserve, and manage environmental quality. "Dedicate yourself," he instructs. "Because you're probably in for the long haul. Environmental change doesn't happen overnight. Whether you work in government, industry or academia, it requires a longer term commitment. The management of these systems is complex and requires longer-term dedication."

The rewarding part, he says, is that the work is incredibly interesting. "We're quite fortunate as individuals. Many people in other fields get bored or burn out. I know many biologists, now in their mid-60's, who are still interested and passionate about their work. I love coming to work each day. I love the job and the challenge, and I feel very fortunate."

Professional Liability Insurance

As a benefit of membership, ASPB has arranged with HUB International Insurance to provide special group corporate insurance rates. HUB International Insurance publishes insurance InFacts periodically, which include helpful insurance tips, such as the following:

Basic Insurance is all I need . . . or is it?

While you may see value in having insurance for your tools and equipment, and even liability coverage in the event of an injury or property damage, you may not be covered for incidents that occur as a result of your work. Below are examples of recent claims in the biology and environmental industry:

- **Inaccurate Reporting:** An insured was retained to conduct an ecological and environmental impact study on a new development. The insured failed to accurately report how to protect an ecosystem on the property. The claimant alleged negligence in the clearing of trees on the property as a result of the inaccurate report.
- **Incomplete Testing:** An insured was retained to test groundwater samples. The claimant alleged that the insured's testing procedures were incomplete and inaccurate, and that the insured failed to verify the test results.
- **Failure to Inform:** An insured failed to advise their client of all relevant standards and regulations relating to the management of renewable resources.
- **Wrong Information:** An insured provided inaccurate recommendations in the conducting of an experiment in plant growth.

The above claims are simple omissions that resulted in large payouts. While you or your staff may not have made these or other costly errors in the past, a simple miscommunication could cost you more than your reputation. With Professional Liability insurance, you will be covered for your errors or omissions, as well as legal costs incurred. This valuable program has been developed for your association by Hub International Insurance Brokers in conjunction with ENCON Group Inc., one of Canada's leading professional liability underwriters. Together we also provide integrated claim management and loss prevention services for your association.

For more information about the Professional Liability insurance program that has been arranged by your Society, please obtain an information package from your Society website or contact:

Jordan Fellner
Account Manager
Hub International Insurance Brokers

Phone: 604-899-3939
Toll Free: 1-800-606-9969
Fax: 604-293-1493
Email: jordan.fellner@hubinternational.com

HUB International | HUB TOS
3875 Henning Drive, Burnaby, BC V5C 6N5
www.hubtos.com

Articles Worth Sharing

Carbyn, L., R. Leech, and G. Ash. 2011. The evolution of biological societies in Alberta. Canadian Field-Naturalist 124(4): 321-329.

The article by Lu Carbyn, Robin Leech, and Gary Ash was published in The Canadian Field-Naturalist, Fall 2011. As Alberta biologists, you are likely familiar with our journal, but you may not be aware of the major changes we've made to our journal over the past year. These include:

- Creating a website for our journal that includes all content going back to 2003 (http://www.canadianfieldnaturalist.ca/index.php/cfn)
- Making issues more than five years old available for free online via the Biodiversity Heritage Library (access the link through our journal's Archives page).
- Catching up our publication schedule by publishing two years' worth of issues in the past year, thanks in large part to the efforts of outgoing Editor-in-Chief, Dr Francis Cook.

I hope you will visit our website to read our published research, consider subscribing to the online or print versions of our journal, and consider submitting your own articles, notes, and book reviews to us in the future.

Sincerely,
Dr Carolyn Callaghan, Editor-in-Chief of The Canadian Field-Naturalist
editor@canadianfieldnaturalist.ca

Check out the ASPB January 2012 Bulletin for the link to view the article.

ASPB Introduces Paperless Option

ASPB Introduces a Paperless Option: ASPB Membership Renewal Notice has a New Toggle!

By now you have received a friendly email reminder regarding your membership renewal with the ASPB. As in the past, renewals are completed online, and this process has reduced the amount of paper used by the ASPB. New to membership renewals is a toggle that will give you a choice of whether you would like to continue to receive BIOS publications as a hardcopy (current default with membership), or whether you would prefer to have only a digital version emailed to you. The pros of the digital version include the following: a digital version is easy to forward to friends and colleagues; no paper or ink is used to create the digital version (this saves the ASPB money on printing costs); and a digital version can still be printed, if desired. A key pro of the published paper copy is that it looks very professional, and once read, it can be posted or displayed at your office or other bulletin board and used as advertising for the ASPB. Don't worry if you select an option at the time of renewal and then change your mind later. You will be able to access the toggle in your personal profile at any time.

If you have other green initiatives, or any articles you would like to share, please email them to the BIOS editor, Linda Zimmerling, at lindazim@shaw.ca .