

Presented By: UNBC's Natural  
Resources & Environmental  
Studies Institute



# PUBLIC PRESENTATION



**Tuesday  
November 21,  
2017**

**7:00pm**

**Royal Canadian  
Legion Branch**

**357 Skeena Dr.  
Mackenzie, BC**

**Participants can also  
attend remotely by  
going to:**

**[www.unbc.ca/nres-  
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***(BlueJeans feed only)***

## **Amphibian Landscapes in Northern BC: Research Techniques and Conservation Management**

**Guest Presenter: Mark Thompson, RPBio**

Senior Ecologist/Project Manager  
DWB Consulting Services Ltd.

### **Presentation Summary**

Amphibians provide many different kinds of ecological functions. The larval and adult stages of amphibians supply different ecological functions and are akin to two ecological species divided into terrestrial and aquatic environments. They also hold a huge share of vertebrate biomass in forest and wetland ecosystems. They outweigh birds and mammals on a cumulative per hectare scale. However, the research that gives us most of what we know about amphibian ecology comes from study sites in the United States and tropical regions. In comparison, very little research has been completed into the ecology of amphibians in northern environments, but they probably share similar ecological functions. Amphibian population are churned by abrupt seasonal transitions as they emerge from their hibernacula after winter freeze to migrate into lakes and ponds during spring freshet. This talk will provide a review of a four-year study into amphibians and their habitats around the Williston Reservoir and how varied landscapes are being used for natural experimental design. The research hypotheses and methods being used will be presented into context with some of our preliminary findings. Some of the techniques include QGIS analysis, PIT tag telemetry, digital records of skin pattern for fingerprinting, and software for population analysis. Conservation, threats, and management practices for amphibians will also be discussed in context of the study and other public-outreach initiatives.

### ***All are welcome to attend. No registration required.***

The Natural Resources & Environmental Studies Institute at the University of Northern BC, together with its partners, invite those with interest in learning more about amphibians in north-central British Columbia to attend this presentation and discussion. This presentation will also be viewable on the internet via the BlueJeans feed only. Visit [www.unbc.ca/nres-institute/colloquium-series](http://www.unbc.ca/nres-institute/colloquium-series) for information on how to connect.

This project is funded by the **Fish and Wildlife Compensation Program** on behalf of its program partners **BC Hydro**, the **Province of BC**, **First Nations** and the **public**, who work together to conserve and enhance fish and wildlife impacted by existing BC Hydro dams.

