



# Research project database links previous and ongoing work

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## Ecosystem classification system update

Following the work done updating the ecosystem classification system for the Alex Fraser Research Forest (reported in *LINK* 6(1):10-12, [www.forrex.org/link/article.asp?article=241](http://www.forrex.org/link/article.asp?article=241)), Dr. Karel Klinka led a similar effort for the Malcolm Knapp Research Forest. Updated ecosystem classifications, maps, and site identification tools are now available and offer a unifying spatial framework for research, education, and ecosystem-specific management in the forest.

Extension tools associated with this project include a detailed report (Klinka, K., C. Chourmouzis, and P. Varga. 2005. Site Units of the University of British Columbia Malcolm Knapp Research Forest.). This report includes folded site maps stored in the map pockets and a CD-ROM featuring the report, a digital library of images highlighting the characteristic features of different forest communities and their spatial variability and dynamics, attribute tables, and maps with a GIS viewer.

The Alex Fraser, Malcolm Knapp, Aleza Lake, and John Prince Research Forests are valued for the opportunities they provide for research, demonstration, and education in British Columbia. In recent years, a variety of innovative learning tools have been developed to serve the needs of students, educators, researchers, natural resource professionals, and the many other users of knowledge flowing from the research forests.

One such tool is the Research Project Database, an on-line tool for organizing and extending research information ([www.rpd.forestry.ubc.ca](http://www.rpd.forestry.ubc.ca)). It presently holds over 1000 records on a variety of research projects related to riparian management, silviculture, wildlife, hydrology, ecology, and other applied science fields.

The database has two parts: a publicly available search engine tied to the database that allows for open access to limited metadata on each of the projects (see Table 1), and an on-line management tool intended for researchers who have ongoing projects in the research forests. The search engine

can be used by the general public to find information on current and past activities in the research forests, or by students and researchers as a literature review tool. The management component of the database provides access to more detailed information and can be accessed via a username and password obtained from any of the research forests (more detailed instructions on how to do this are provided in the available on-line help).

To increase its reach and usefulness to the natural resource community, the research project database will also be linked to FORREX's Natural Resources Information Network (NRIN) ([www.forrex.org/nrin](http://www.forrex.org/nrin)).

Although the current records are limited to research projects associated with one or more of the four British Columbia research forests, database managers are interested in expanding its applicability to include research projects tied to research forests in other parts of Canada and in the United States. To obtain a log-in username and password, or for more information on the database, visit the project's Web site at [www.rpd.forestry.ubc.ca](http://www.rpd.forestry.ubc.ca) or contact **Ionut Aron**, Research Co-ordinator at the University of British Columbia's Malcolm Knapp Research Forest at 604-463-8148 or via email at [Ionut.Aron@ubc.ca](mailto:Ionut.Aron@ubc.ca) 

**Table 1** Example of publicly available information through the "medium report" option of the research project database when conducting a search of all 2005 research projects established at the Malcolm Knapp Research Forest.

Project	Title	Status	Investigators
2005-06	Urban adaptation in white-crowned sparrows	proposed	Fran Bonier, Department of Biology, University of Washington
2005-05	Aquatic Terrestrial Coupling in Pacific Northwest lakes - Stage III	proposed	Tessa Francis, Department of Biology, University of Washington Daniel Schindler, School of Fisheries and Aquatic Sciences, University of Washington
2005-04	Suppression of Ambrosia beetles and bark beetles with <i>Lambda cyhalothrin</i> microcapsule formulations	active	John McLean, Faculty of Forestry, Department of Forest Sciences, University of British Columbia Jingen Tang, College of Forest Resources & Environment, Nanjing Forestry University
2005-03	Effects on the epiphytic hanging moss <i>Isoetes myosuroides</i> by partial harvesting in a second growth coniferous forest	active	Yoshi Minami, Tamagawa University
2005-02	Effect of leader trimming on Douglas-fir height increment and slenderness.	active	Steve Mitchell, Faculty of Forestry, Department of Forest Sciences, University of British Columbia
2005-01	Comparison of coastal B.C. softwood species through wood core analysis using Silviscan	active	Tennessee Trent, Paprican