

KEVIN STEVENS

Kevin's research focuses on assessing the impacts of water quality impairments resulting from mining and wastewater treatment plant discharge on wetland plant communities and plant driven processes. He also examines wetland remediation and ways of enhancing function in constructed wetlands.

MICHAEL ENGLISH

Mike examines how climate warming-induced changes to the annual snowpack structure influence the Bathurst Caribou herd. He also conducts research in the high arctic on the carbon balance near Lake Hazen, Ellesmere Island.

SCOTT SLOCOMBE

Scott seeks to improve the management of large, complex regions. His work connects environmental assessment and land use planning in the western cordillera and St Elias region (Yukon) using ecosystem approaches.

JENNIFER BALTZER

Jennifer's research focuses on the impacts of climate warming and direct human disturbance on the structure and function of forest ecosystems. This includes the impacts of permafrost thaw and the resulting land-cover change, Boreal wildfires, and vegetation changes at tree lines.

KEN HEWITT

Ken's first expedition to the Karakoram Himalayas was in 1961. He continues to maintain a very active field research programme in that region, and his research continues to play a major role in redefining how we interpret temporal and spatial patterns of glacial and geomorphological processes.

DEBORAH MACLATCHY

Deb is primarily interested in the source, mechanisms and effects of endocrine disruptors on fish native to Canadian ecosystems, especially those ecosystems under pressures from climate warming and urbanisation. Fish species and ecosystems studied include mummichog (Atlantic estuaries), shiners, walleye and whitefish (NWT rivers and lakes), and darters and fathead minnow (S. Ontario rivers).

PHILIP MARSH

Philip's research focuses on understanding the effects and interactions among a warming and drying climate, shrub expansion into tundra, thawing permafrost, snow cover, and soil moisture on water resources.

WILLIAM QUINTON

Bill's research is focussed on the southern fringe of discontinuous permafrost between Fort Simpson, NWT and Fort Nelson, BC. His team uses a combination of field observation and numerical modelling to evaluate the impacts of climate warming, permafrost thaw and land cover change on water resources.

COLIN ROBERTSON

Colin is interested in the development and application of spatial analysis and modelling tools applied broadly to large-scale environmental change processes. Colin's research contributes to understanding how northern landscapes and populations are changing, and to new geospatial methods and models.

Cold Regions Research Centre



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ABOUT US

The Cold Regions Research Centre was established in 1987, evolving from a large multidisciplinary, research & training, project on snow & ice hydrology in the Karakoram Himalaya of Pakistan that was based in WLU’s Geography Department. While the Centre’s initial focus was on arctic & mountain glaciology & hydrology, since 1990 the scope & role of the Centre within the geography department & the university has broadened. Today the CRRC is focussed on cold regions (mountain & northern) research on topics including hydrology, climatology, ecology, toxicology, glaciology, resource management, and community health.

OUR RESEARCHERS

BRENT WOLFE

Brent employs several approaches to decipher the environmental consequences of multiple stressors on northern lake-rich landscapes. Current research centres on the Peace-Athabasca Delta, northern Alberta, where analysis of lake sediment cores provides an unparalleled window into the past to address water resource concerns of today.

ALISON BLAY-PALMER

Alison explores the connections among country food use, a changing climate, human health and community well being. Her research uses Participatory Action methods that are grounded in community needs.

ALEX LATTA

Alex’s research addresses Aboriginal peoples’ involvement in water governance in the NWT. This includes questions regarding the NWT Water Stewardship Strategy, as well as more regional and local concerns for socio-ecological resilience in relation to water resources.

JASON VENKITESWARAN

Jason’s research in southern Boreal regions focuses on biogeochemical cycling in lakes, streams and catchments, and on how human and climate related disruptions change these cycles. He integrates stable isotope measurements and process-based models to evaluate the impacts of excess nutrients, changing lake ice-cover and land-use on ecosystem functioning.

PHOTOS COURTESY OF
Kevin Stevens (top right)
Michael Braverman (second from top)
Brent Wolfe (third from top)
Phil Marsh (bottom)
Jason Venkiteswaran (front cover)
Kristen Olesen, Hoarfrost River, NWT (back cover)

