

NRESI RESEARCH COLLOQUIUM SERIES

FRIDAY

FEB. 3, 2006

3:30 - 4:30 pm

**ROOM
NUMBER**

6-205/211

(Conference Centre)

**LIGHT
REFRESHMENTS
SERVED AT 3:20 PM**

Dr. Kerstin Stahl

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**CLIMATOLOGY OF WINTER COLD SPELLS IN RELATION
TO MOUNTAIN PINE BEETLE OUTBREAKS**

The occurrence of winter cold mortality has been an important control on the historic range of Mountain Pine Beetle in BC, and decreased frequencies of mortality events have contributed to previous outbreaks. This study relates the historic occurrence of potential mortality events in BC to the occurrence of specific synoptic circulation patterns and the effects of large-scale climate modes (Pacific Decadal Oscillation, Arctic Oscillation, El Niño-Southern Oscillation). Because the circulation patterns associated with potential cold mortality are not well reproduced by the second-generation Canadian coupled GCM, the reliability for climate change scenario predictions using downscaling is limited at present.