

# ***NRES / CSAM RESEARCH COLLOQUIUM SERIES***

***FRIDAY***

***OCT. 14, 2005***

***3:30 - 4:30 pm***

**LECTURE  
THEATRE  
9-200  
(Medical Building)**

**LIGHT  
REFRESHMENTS  
SERVED AT 3:15 PM**

***\*\*\*NOTE\*\*\*  
NO FOOD OR DRINK  
ALLOWED  
IN LECTURE THEATRE***

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### **Robbing Peter to Pay Paul: Forest Dynamics, the Mountain Pine Beetle and Climate Change**

The mountain pine beetle is native to the pine forests of western North America where it normally exists at very low densities, infesting only weakened or damaged trees. Under conditions conducive to survival, populations may temporarily increase allowing beetles to infest healthy trees. On rare occasions, these increases are rapid and widespread, leading to landscape-level outbreaks and the mortality of large numbers of trees. Although there have been 4 outbreaks during the past century in British Columbia, the ongoing epidemic is unprecedented in its size and severity. It is projected to continue until the majority of mature pines in the province have been killed. This paper will examine the roles that forest management practices, climate and global warming have played in the course of this extraordinary forest disturbance event.