



NCASI-Canada Bulletin highlights

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The National Council for Air and Stream Improvement (NCASI) is an independent, non-profit research institute that focuses on environmental topics of interest to the forest products industry. Established in 1943, NCASI is recognized as the leading source of reliable data on environmental issues affecting this industry, and has more than 75 member companies throughout the US and Canada. To keep members informed about relevant regulatory policies and ongoing research efforts, NCASI distributes a variety of publications, including alerts, newsletters, and handbooks. In addition, research articles authored or sponsored by NCASI frequently appear in peer-reviewed scientific journals and other external publications. Their website can be found at <http://www.ncasi.org/default.aspx>

Highlights of Bulletin Volume 4 No 1

NCASI launches caribou research program

NCASI has launched a multi-year program to identify options for enhancing the viability of caribou populations in managed boreal forests. It is expected that research results will lead to methods for quantifying spatial variation in food resources in caribou habitat and thus enhance the ability of managers to identify optimal areas for caribou conservation on a given landscape. In addition, results may lead to the development of silvicultural approaches that enhance the nutritional value of caribou habitat within industry-managed forest lands. Finally, perspectives will be gained regarding the hypothesis that the nutritional value of a landscape can affect a local caribou population's resistance to predation pressure. For more information, please contact **Darren Sleep** at 514-286-9690/email dsleep@ncasi.org or **Kirsten Vice** at 514-286-9111/email kvice@ncasi.org

Read the full article at: http://www.ncasi.org/programs/areas/forestry/canadian_program/wildlife/caribou/fn-20-05.aspx

Report synthesizes key environmental information for wood products

NCASI has recently published a report (Special report No. 08-01, Wood Products Air Quality Technical Information Document) synthesizing wood products industry environmental information, which will be used as the foundation for air quality policy-related discussions at the federal and provincial level. This key document fills important information needs related to the environmental profile of the wood products sector, and helps clarify knowledge

gaps. For more information please contact Kirsten Vice at 514-286-9111/email kvice@ncasi.org

Please note that Special Report No. 08-01 is available electronically to NCASI members only on our website; however, employees of universities, government agencies, and trade associations may request printed copies. To request printed reports is to contact publications@ncasi.org.

EEM Program Science Symposium addresses pulp mill effluent biological responses

The Environment Effects Monitoring (EEM) program includes a federal regulatory requirement for mills to evaluate the effects of effluents on fish, fish habitat, and use of fisheries resources by humans. The basic study design consists of a series of three-year cycles in which a targeted fish species is sampled at a site below the effluent discharge and then compared to fish collected at a site upstream.

The EEM data analyzed to date (three monitoring cycles) indicate that on a national average, fish sampled downstream of effluent discharges show evidence of increased food availability or absorption rates (through greater body mass, growth rates, and liver size), with reduced energy allocation to reproduction (indicated by smaller gonads), compared to fish collected upstream.

Topics presented during the 2008 EEM Science Symposium included findings from Cycle 4 of this program. The trend for heavier fish with larger livers and smaller gonads remains, but these effects were less pronounced overall, and were absent at some sites.

The EEM study design differs from that of the NCASI's Long-term Receiving Water Study (LTRWS) in terms of its scope, the spatial extent of sites, and the regularity of sampling across seasons and years. The LTRWS is designed to assess community-level patterns of biotic structure and biomass as they relate to water quality and habitat variables upstream and downstream of mill effluent discharges. Because streams are complex systems, and habitats and biota can vary dramatically over a stream gradient, multiple sites upstream and downstream of effluent discharges are monitored to distinguish naturally occurring spatial patterns from effluent effects.

The greater understanding of effluent effects on fish and macroinvertebrates derived from the EEM program is an important contribution to scientific knowledge, and will aid in resolving ongoing



current research

effluent effects questions. For more information please contact **Camille Flinders** at 360-293-4748/ email cflinders@ncasi.org or Kirsten Vice at 514-286-9111/ email kvice@ncasi.org

Please note that an article on LTRWS is available electronically to only NCASI members on our website; employees of universities, government agencies, and trade associations may request printed copies from publications@ncasi.org

To read more about LTRWS, go to: <http://www.ncasi.org/programs/areas/assessment/ltrws/default.aspx>

Sustainable Procurement Guide released by WRI/WBCSD

A new guide and resource kit on sustainable procurement of wood- and paper-based products has recently been published as a collaboration between the World Resources Institute and the World Business Council for Sustainable Development. The report is intended to be a resource for procurement managers, informing them of key issues related to sustainable procurement. For more information, please contact **Reid Miner** at 919-941-6407/ email rminer@ncasi.org or Kirsten Vice at 514-286-9111/ email kvice@ncasi.org

View the guide at: <http://www.sustainableforest-prods.org/>

NCASI to develop compendium of wildlife monitoring programs

NCASI will be developing a compendium of ongoing wildlife monitoring programs to identify sources of information, gaps, redundancies, and opportunities for industry collaboration. If you are aware of wildlife monitoring programs on a provincial or smaller scale in your region, NCASI staff would greatly appreciate hearing from you to include these programs in the compendium. For more information please contact Darren Sleep at 514-286-9690/ email dsleep@ncasi.org 

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