

BCINVASIVES.CA | #OUTSMARTINVASIVES

2025 INVASIVES SPECIES RESEARCH CONFERENCE

GETTING AHEAD OF THE INVASION CURVE:
Bridging the gap between research and management



UBC OKANAGAN CAMPUS
Kelowna, B.C. | May 13 - 15

Acknowledgement

We gratefully acknowledge that the land on which we are gathering and learning from one another is situated in the unceded and traditional territory of the Syilx (Okanagan) Peoples.

A special thank you goes out to the conference advisory team, which helped guide the development of this research conference:

Crystal Chadburn, BC Ministry of Forests

Dr. Thomas Therriault, Fisheries and Oceans Canada

Dr. David Clements, Trinity Western University

Dr. Wendy Gardner, Thompson Rivers University

Dr. Michael Russello, University of British Columbia Okanagan

Dr. Paul Abrams, Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada

Background

The Invasive Species Council of B.C. (ISCBC) convened the first Invasive Plant Research Conference in 2011. The Research Conference was deemed successful for both academic researchers and practitioners by linking science with operations. Based on the 2011 Research Conference, the B.C. Research Road Map was created to identify the future needs and priorities for invasive plant research relevant to B.C.

To build upon this work, TRU and ISCBC co-hosted the 2017 Invasive Species Research Conference which took place in June, 2017, in Kamloops, B.C.

In 2021, the Invasive Species Research Conference took place virtually in an online event portal. Attendees learned about current and published research from 40 presenters in a variety of themed sessions. The event facilitated connections between invasive species researchers and practitioners in the Pacific Northwest.

Now, we're happy to reconvene at the University of British Columbia Okanagan (UBCO) campus and online for 2025!

Location

The conference will be taking place in the **Arts Building, Room 366**. Doors will open at 8:00 AM, with sessions starting at 8:30 AM each day of the conference.

Please refer to the maps of the University of British Columbia Okanagan (UBCO) Campus in the following page for detailed information on important rooms and parking.

PROVIDING THE **METALS THAT MATTER**

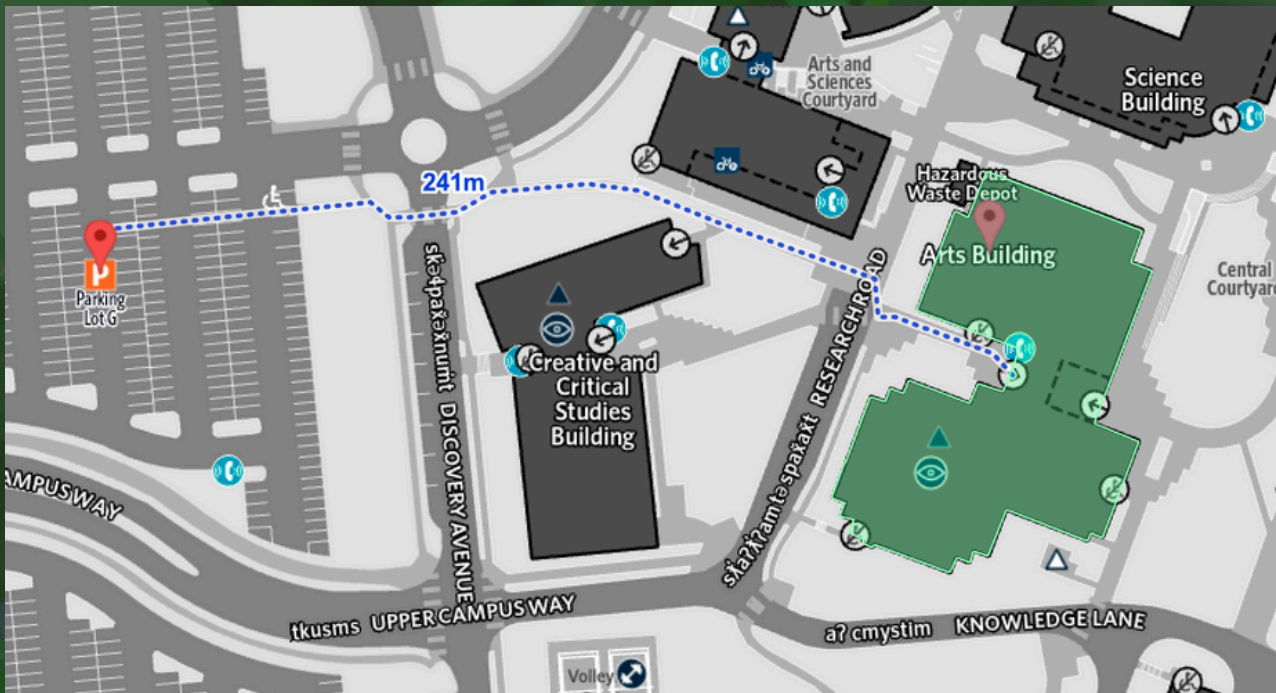
Teck is focused on responsibly providing the metals essential for global development and the energy transition while caring for the people, communities and land that we love.

Learn more at teck.com

Teck



Maps of UBCO



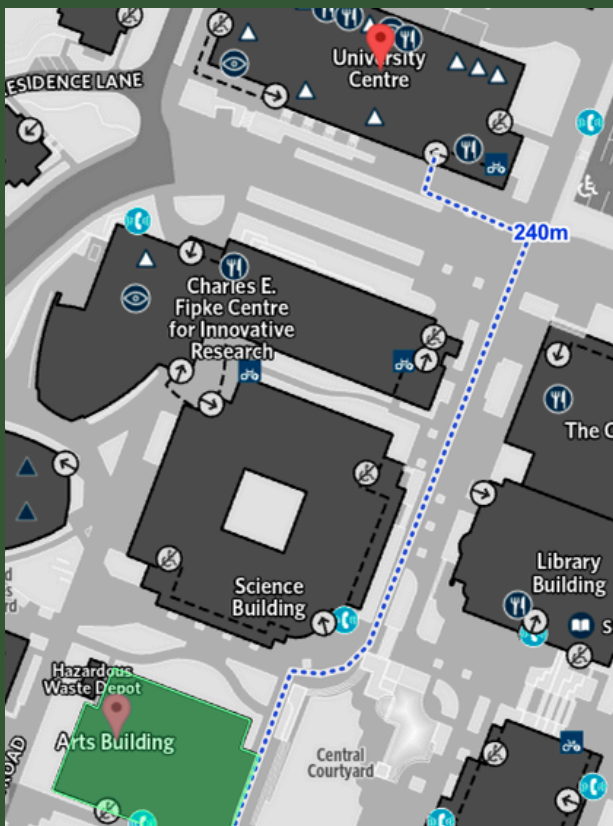
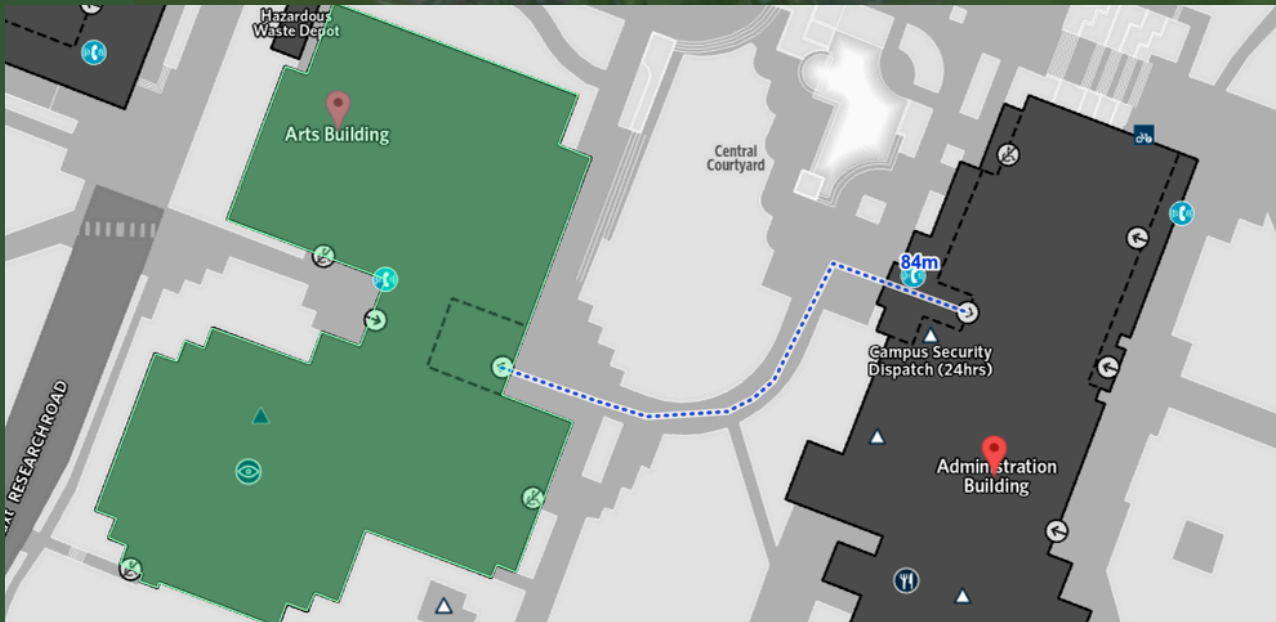
Main Conference:

- Sessions will be taking place in **room 366 of the Arts Building**.
- Morning breaks will be taking place in the **3rd Floor Foyer** of the Arts Building.

Parking:

- The closest parking lot to the Arts building is **Lot G**. Parking rates vary based on the lot.
- Guests staying overnight on campus receive a complimentary parking code at check-in.
- All other guests pay an hourly/daily rate through the HONK app or at a pay station.
- Be sure to register your vehicle's license plate, arrival and departure date through the HONK Mobile app or website, to avoid parking tickets.

Maps of UBCO



Networking Lunch:

- Day 1 and 2 lunch will be taking place in the **Campus Administration Building**, across from the Arts Building.

Evening Reception & In-Person Poster Session:

- Cocktail reception and poster session of Day 1 will be hosted in the University Centre.

**Specializing in the thermal treatment and recycling
of hydrocarbon contaminated soil, sediment and
sludge at our facility in Princeton, BC.**



envirogreen
technologies ltd.

844-688-6048
info@envirogreentech.com
envirogreentech.com

CLIENT FOCUSED
COST EFFECTIVE
THERMAL TREATMENT

Agenda at a glance

Day 1 - May 13

8:30 AM	Opening Remarks & Indigenous Welcome
8:45 AM	Keynote Presentation
9:25 AM	Hot Topics Presentations
10:25 AM	Break
10:40 AM	Session One: Prevention
12:00 PM	Networking Lunch
1:00 PM	Session Two: Monitoring & Surveillance
2:20 PM	End of Day: Closing Comments
2:30 PM	Field Trip: Summerhill Pyramid Winery
5:30 PM	Reception and In-Person Poster Session

Day 2 - May 14

8:30 AM	Opening Remarks & Indigenous Welcome
8:45 AM	Keynote Presentation
9:25 AM	Hot Topics Presentations
10:25 AM	Break
10:40 AM	Session Four: Management & Control
12:00 PM	Networking Lunch
1:00 PM	Session Five: Virtual Poster Session
1:30 PM	Session Six: Pathways & Vectors
2:30 PM	End of Day: Closing Comments
2:40 PM	Field Trip: John's Family Nature Conservancy Regional Park

Day 3 - May 15

8:30 AM	Welcome
8:40 AM	Hot Topics Presentations
9:20 AM	Session Seven: Impacts
10:20 AM	Break
10:40 AM	Session Eight: Lighting Talks
11:05 PM	Workshop: Invasive Species Research Roadmap
12:30 PM	End of Day: Closing Comments

Day 1

Keynote Speaker

***Dr. Carla
D'Antonio***

Distinguished Professor

University of California,
Santa Barbara (UCSB)



Dr. D'Antonio is a Professor at UCSB in the Environmental Studies and Ecology, Evolution and Marine Biology Programs. Her research over 38 years has focused on the ecology of invasive plants, their influence on fire regimes and post fire recovery as well as on community structure, ecosystem processes and success of ecological restoration. Prior to UCSB 21 years ago, she worked for the USDA's Exotic and Invasive Weeds research program, and was on faculty at UC Berkeley for 13 years. She has worked in Hawaii, California and the Great Basin. Currently she teaches fire ecology and restoration ecology at UCSB, conducts research on post-fire landscapes as well as restoration of native species to degraded, grass-invaded landscapes in California and Hawaii.

Day 2

Keynote Speaker

Dr. Stephanie Green

Associate Professor

University of Alberta (U of A)



Dr. Green is an Associate Professor and the Canada Research Chair in Aquatic Global Change Ecology and Conservation at the University of Alberta. Her lab investigates the causes and consequences of biodiversity change in marine and freshwater ecosystems. Dr. Green's research uses field studies and experiments, quantitative models, and stakeholder surveys to understand how biological invasions impact natural resources. For the past 15 years, she has worked collaboratively with non-profit and government partners on the ecological effects and management of prolific aquatic invaders including the European green crab on Canada's Pacific coast, the Northern Crayfish and Prussian carp in Canada's freshwater systems, and the Indo-Pacific lionfish in the Western Atlantic Ocean.



Helping Land & Construction Projects Digitally Track,
Document, and Comply with Soil Movement Regulations

Shaping the Future of Soil Management

SoilTrackers is a digital logistics and compliance platform that helps construction projects, landowners, fill sites, and environmental professionals manage the movement of excess soil in accordance with evolving provincial and municipal regulations.

Our Services



Soil Movement Tracking & Documentation

Track every load from source to fill site with GPS, timestamps, volume, cost, and driver details. Maintain a complete digital chain-of-custody for compliance and operational efficiency.



Fill Site & Project Oversight

Enable fill sites to approve or reject loads, set site-specific rules, and monitor volumes. Project managers can track activity in real time, reduce manual work, and generate reports effortlessly.



Regulatory Compliance & Reporting

Align with environmental regulations like Ontario's O. Reg 406/19 and BC's Protocols 9 & 19. Store QP reports, lab data, and permits — all exportable for audits or government filings.

Why Choose Us



Built by Land & Construction Experts

Our team includes developers, agri-property owners, and compliance professionals who've navigated these regulations firsthand.



Regulation-Ready Platform

Designed to align with excess soil legislation across Canada — and scalable for future integration



Simplify Compliance & Save Time

Eliminate paperwork, reduce manual errors, and streamline approvals with our all-in-one platform.



Trusted by Fill Sites and Contractors

From permit support to volume tracking, we're helping partners digitize operations and stay audit-ready.



Flexible, Scalable & Secure

Whether managing one project or a province-wide rollout, our tech grows with your needs and keeps your data protected.

Get in touch with us!

© 778-882-7645

www.soiltrackers.com

8:30 - 8:45 AM	<i>Opening Remarks & Indigenous Welcome:</i> Steve Thompson , ISCBC Board Chair Pamela and Grouse Barns , Westbank First Nation
8:45 - 9:25 AM <i>Keynote Presentation:</i>	Dr. Carla D'Antonio , UCSB <i>Invasive species management as part of native species restoration in grass invaded ecosystems: Lessons from California and Hawaii</i>
9:25 - 10:25 AM <i>Hot Topic Presentations:</i>	Dr. Philip Weyl , Centre for Agriculture and Bioscience International (CABI) <i>Overview of the CABI - BC: Canada partnership over the years in developing biological control</i> Dr. Chandra Moffat , Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada (AAFC) <i>Development of molecular tools for weed biological control</i> Dr. Fabio Mologni , University of Vienna <i>Collating existing evidence on cumulative impacts of invasive plant species in riparian ecosystems of British Columbia, Canada</i>
10:25 - 10:40 AM	<i>Break</i>
10:40 - 12:00 PM <i>Session One: Prevention</i>	Dr. Miranda Hart , University of British Columbia (UBC) <i>Okanagan - Biofertilizers: Invasive Species underground</i> Mark Apfelbacher , CD3 General Benefit Corporation <i>Building Capacity to Prevent AIS in the Columbia River Basin</i> Steven Brownlee , Simon Fraser University (SFU) <i>Predicting potential invasion pathways and lake susceptibility for the arrival of zebra mussels (<i>Dreissena polymorpha</i>) into British Columbia</i> Dr. Gwylim Blackburn , Canadian Forest Service (CFS) <i>Collaborative tool production for invasive species management: A review and two case studies in genetics</i>
12:00 - 1:00 PM	<i>Networking Lunch</i>

1:00 - 2:20 PM

*Session Two:
Monitoring &
Surveillance*

Nicole Jeans-Williams, Synergy Semiochemicals Corporation | *Optimizing release device technology for a multipheromone blend; Notes on chemistry and field trapping of longhorn beetles in British Columbia, Canada*

Jocelyn Heywood, SFU | *Influence of burrowing behaviour on population density estimates of the invasive Japanese mud snail (*Batillaria attramentaria*)*

Dr. Dave Ensing, AAFC | *Population genomic variation in spotted knapweed (*Centaurea stoebe* ssp. *micranthos*)*

Dr. Vicki Maloney, Envu | *Monitoring Biodiversity Response to Invasive Annual Grass Control Across Several Western US Ecoregions*

2:20 - 2:30 PM

Closing Comments:

Dr. Dave Ensing, AAFC & ISCBC Board Director

2:30 - 5:00 PM

Field Trip: Summerhill Pyramid Winery Tour & Tasting

5:30 - 7:00 PM

Reception and In-Person Poster Session:

Join us for drinks and canapés while browsing the posters.



Day 2 - May 14

Agenda

8:30 - 8:45 AM

Opening Remarks & Indigenous Welcome:

Dr. Wendy Gardner, TRU and Conference Advisor

Pamela and Grouse Barns, Westbank First Nation

8:45 - 9:25 AM

Keynote

Presentation:

Dr. Stephanie Green, U of A | ***Functional eradication as a framework for invasive species control***

9:25 - 10:25 AM

Hot Topic

Presentations:

Gregg Howald, Freshwater Life | ***Accelerating Mechanisms to Meeting Target 6 of the Global Biodiversity Framework: Preventing Species Extinctions***

Elsa Cousineau, Lallemand Plant Care | ***Designing a Data-Supported Management Program for Emerald Ash Borer***

Dr. Fernando Hernandez, UBC | ***Rapid and repeated evolution during biological invasions is facilitated by crop to wild introgression in sunflower (*Helianthus annuus* L.)***

10:25 - 10:40 AM

Break

10:40 - 12:00 PM

Session Four:

Management &

Control

Emma Carey, UBC Okanagan (UBCO) | ***Who are you?: Embodied sensory engagements with 'invasive' plant species in the Okanagan***

Dr. Rebecca Nelson, Utah State University | ***The effects of invasive goatgrass removal on plant-pollinator networks***

Dr. Brian Heise, TRU | ***Investigating Predation on Juvenile Chinook Salmon (*Oncorhynchus tshawytscha*) in the Okanagan Basin***

Adam Soames, TRU | ***Exterminating Bohemian Knotweed (*Reynoutria × bohemica*) Propagules Using Thermal Treatment and Anoxia***

12:00 - 1:00 PM

Networking Lunch

1:00 - 1:30 PM

*Session Five:
Virtual Poster
Session*

Brandon Drucker, SFU | *Forest in Flux: Tracking the Water Relations of Iconic Native vs. Invasive Trees*

Sumer Seiki, UBC | *Environmental Impact: Preservice Teachers Changing Landscapes*

Scott Walmsley, City of Port Coquitlam & AAFC | *Potential Impacts of Biological Control Parasitoid Winsome Fly (*Istocheta aldrichi*) on Scarabs in Western North America*

1:30 - 2:30 PM

*Session Six:
Pathways &
Vectors*

Selina Spence, UBCO | *Nuclear competition? Investigating intraspecific competition between arbuscular mycorrhizal fungi isolates*

Amy Kim, UBC | *Two is better than one? – Disentangling the relationship between hybridization and invasion success in searockets*

Dr. Brian Van Hezewijk, CFS | *Using historical data to predict the introduction and growth of spongy moth populations in Western Canada*

2:20 - 2:30 PM

Closing Comments:
Gail Wallin, ISCBC Executive Director

2:30 - 5:00 PM

Field Trip: John's Family Nature Conservancy Regional Park

8:30 - 8:40 AM	<i>Welcome:</i> Lindsay Barnett, ISCBC
8:40 - 9:20 AM	Dr. Jason Pither, UBC Okanagan <i>Assessing Transparency and Reproducibility in Invasion Science</i>
<i>Hot Topic Presentations:</i>	Brennan Webster, Ministry of Forests <i>InvasivesBC; BC's provincial invasive species database!</i>
9:20 - 10:20 AM	Dr. Sandra Gillespie, University of the Fraser Valley <i>Invasive pollinators: status of <i>Bombus impatiens</i>, the eastern bumblebee, in British Columbia</i>
<i>Session Seven: Impacts</i>	Em Lim, SFU <i>What goes in must come out: European green crabs alter nutrient cycling dynamics in marine ecosystems</i> Milène Wiebe, U of A <i>From optimizing trapping to determining management thresholds of <i>Carcinus maenas</i></i>
10:25 - 10:35 AM	<i>Break</i>
10:35 - 11:05 AM	Dr. Jen Baron, UBCO <i>Balancing Wildfire Resilience, Wildlife Habitat, and Invasive Plant Management through Ecosystem Restoration in Montane Forests</i>
<i>Session Eight: Lighting Talks</i>	Nicholas Hivon, UBC & AAFC <i>Modeling infestation dynamics of the invasive fruit fly, spotted-wing drosophila, from valley-bottom to mountain top</i> Owen Kui, SFU <i>Do invasive marine mud snails modify mud? Density vs cage effects in a field experiment</i> Andres Mancera Barreto, UBC & AAFC <i>Identifying geo-climatic factors and biological interactions influencing St. John's wort biological control</i>
11:05 - 12:30 PM	<i>Invasive Species Research Roadmap Workshop</i>
12:30 PM	<i>Closing Comments</i>

Thank you to our *sponsors!*

Innovation



Impact



Catalyst



Partner Level



With Support From

