

School updates. This list does not include all school still offering forestry training only those that responded for a request to provide an update. Look for forestry programming at UBC and NVIT on their websites.

## BCIT

Our Sustainable Resource Management Program has about 40 students in various stages of completion. All students complete the one year Natural Resource Certificate of Technology. Most students continue on to the second year to complete either the Forest Management (FM) diploma or the Environmental and Community Planning (ECP) diploma. The two diploma options share a common core of natural resource management academic and technical skills. The ECP is directed toward natural resource management and urban forestry in the urban interface areas for municipalities, regional districts and the environmental consulting sector. The Forest Management diploma focus on the skills required to become a Registered Forest Technologist. Some components of the new program are still under development.

In addition to our regular student types, we are getting significant interest from university students and university graduates from a variety of backgrounds, but in particular geography degree programs. Overall the calibre of student is higher that we have seen in many years. We expect a regular intake of 35 to 45 students, and a regular graduation class of 15 to 20 Forest Management students and 20 to 30 Environmental and Community Planning Graduates.

Additional BCIT programs in the natural resource sector are the Fish, Wildlife and Recreation Diploma, the Ecological Restoration BTech Degree, and the Environmental Engineering BTech Degree. All are fully subscribed at this time.

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## Natural Resources and Environmental Technology Program Launched at CNC

Thanks to the efforts of Doug Routledge at COFI, the Ministry of Forests and Range, forest companies Canfor and Dunkley lumber as well as forestry associations the Forest Resource Technology Program has been replaced rather than cancelled at CNC. The new program is entitled Natural Resources and Environmental Technology (NRET) and it started off with an intake of the targeted 22 students and is already filling for the 2010 fall intake. The NRET program maintains a core of forestry studies (logging/engineering, measurements, silviculture and forest health) and the basic support courses of soils, plants, and ecology. A number of new non-core forestry courses have been added such as recreation/tourism, earth sciences, and First Nations studies. As well the focus of traditional courses like forest policy have shift towards a broader resources policy focus. These changes reflect the broader focus in the region on development of a wider spectrum of natural resource development and protection.

The English and the communication stream has been changed in that university transfer English 103 and a new technical writing English 229 course are now part of the NRET curriculum. The final term includes an English component combined with a field research exercise that is meant to fulfill national accreditation requirements for research exposure.

Graduates are expected to continue to service the forestry sector as well as register with the ABCFP as Forest Technologists. Accreditation is in process but the ABCFP has reviewed and will accredit the changed program so graduates can continue to register. University transfer continues to be an important aspect of the program and new articulation agreements are being worked out with receiving institutions.

[http://www.cnc.bc.ca/CNC\\_Programs/NRETech.htm](http://www.cnc.bc.ca/CNC_Programs/NRETech.htm)



## Selkirk College School of Renewable Resources

The School of Renewable Resources at Selkirk College is the home to the following technical programs:

Technical Certificate (1 year)

- Renewable Energy

Nationally Accredited Two year Diploma programs

- Forest Technology
- Recreation Fish and Wildlife Technology
- Integrated Environmental Planning Technology

Advanced Diploma & Bachelor Degree

- Geographic Information Systems

Across this program mix, we experienced an enrolment gain in September 2010, which was great news for the school as the fiscal pressure on post secondary institutions continues to be a significant limitation. In Forest Technology, we graduated 20 students last year and 90% have found associated work through-out western Canada. That said, it is a competitive job market and graduates had to go further afield to secure work.

We continue to see the value of hands-on field based training in all three of the technical diploma disciplines, especially when it is connected to higher levels of training in Geographic Information Systems (GIS). Approximately half of our GIS class comes from graduates of the diploma programs who are interested in completing the Bachelor degree in GIS.

While the post secondary environment in BC continues to be fiscally challenged, the 1 year certificate in Renewable Energy Technology is being delivered for the second cohort. These students are at the forefront of this emerging discipline which has many ties back to land management in terms of planning, development and in some cases feedstock for processes such as Biomass energy systems.

Thanks you for this opportunity to provide an update and please don't hesitate to call me if you have any questions about our operations here in the West Kootenays.

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## UNBC Forest Ecology and Management

Enrolment into the new Forest Ecology and Management major is on the climb and there is an upbeat response from students, faculty and the public to our new curriculum.

Further, the Canadian Forestry Accreditation Board recently reviewed our program and granted a full six-year accredited term. As such, we are excited to announce that UNBC will continue to produce the top-calibre forest professionals required by the profession.

To learn more about the program, course progression, graduate qualities, and our unique approach to forestry education, check out our poster.

[Forest Ecology and Management Program Matix](#)



UBC

UBC currently has 557 registered students in total (this includes all 4 degree programs):

- Conservation 250 students (45%)
- Forest Sciences - 56 students (10%)
- Wood Products Processing - 103 students (18%)
- BSF - 148 students (27%)
- Forest Resources Management major - 113 students (20%)
- Forest Operations major - 35 students (7%)

The Conservation program continues to grow in popularity as can be seen from the numbers. The Faculty is currently trying to grow this program even larger, and in particular increase the number of international students who mainly choose that program.

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## VIU Forest Resource Technology

VIU Forestry provides the technical training required for a starting career in most fields of forestry. We emphasize a traditional forestry program with education in Measurements, Forest Ecology, Silviculture, Forest Protection, Harvesting and Roads, and Integrated Resource Management.

Graduates of this program meet the required standard for membership in the Association of B.C. Forest Professionals (ABCFP) as Registered Forest Technologists (RFT). In addition students may complete a bridging year to enter a degree program in Forestry at the University of British Columbia, University of Northern British Columbia, or University of Alberta.

In the summer, between the first and second year of the program, students find a forestry-related job to broaden their knowledge of practical forestry. VIU assists students in obtaining forestry employment, both during the summer months and following graduation.

VIU accepts 28 students per year into the first year of the Forestry program and generally will accept second year transfer students if space is available. Currently we have 23 students enrolled in first year and 18 in the graduating class.

VIU holds an annual Forestry Tours to Europe and other locations around the world to gain experience in other cultures and forestry practices. This year we plan to travel to Eastern Europe in April and visit Hungary and the Czech Republic. Exchange programs are available for students interested in studying at designated forestry schools in Europe.

***A free information session is held in March. Check with the VIU Advising Centre for more details, (250) 740-6410, or visit our website at:***

***<http://www.mala.ca/calendar/Technology/forestresources.asp>***

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