

Boreal Seminar 2008

This year's long-awaited Boreal Seminar took place in June at Kapuskasing's Centre de Loisirs, a good central location for boreal forest managers, and conveniently aligned with several other events in the area. The primary focus of the event was to update everyone on the advances that have been made in many of the FRP's longer-term projects and also to make people aware of the new ones starting up.

One significant presentation, covering the best management practices (BMP's) gleaned from the Romeo Malette Forest's trial run of Patchworks, was particularly timely as the Gordon Cosens will be the next team to take up the challenge of going spatial. We at the FRP hope that these BMPs will help to steer the team onto the path of least resistance right from the launch! A few other notable talks included the SprayAdvisor Decision Support System which is being widely used in the Kapuskasing area, and the discussion of Stand Density Management Diagrams and how they fit with the concept of enhanced forest productivity (EFP). These presentations were a great segue to the field tour of the newest EFP test block (44) which took place in the afternoon.

It was especially great to have several representatives of the Forestry Futures Trust at the event, to hear about the status of their program and to have the opportunity to show the results of many projects which they had funded in the Enhanced Forest Productivity Science Program. Despite the swarms of bugs and the rainy weather, the field tour to Block 18 (the EFP pilot site near Timmins) and the NEBIE site with this group clearly conveyed the message that FRP science is extremely practical and is making its way into actual planning and operations.

As always we hope these events provide a good impetus for managers to gain interest in and start to adopt the forest science that is out there – every little bit will help to improve sustainability, reduce operating costs, and ease some of the pain of forest management!

Thanks to all for participating, check out

<http://www.forestresearch.ca/workshops/BorealScienceSeminar.pdf> to take a closer look at the many great presentations from this event.