

The ABMI 2nd Internal Forum – Session Descriptions



1. Do You Know Your Ecosystem Services?

Have you always wondered what constitutes an Ecosystem Service? This is your chance to (finally!) delve into the incredible diversity of services provided by our ecosystems! During this “act”ion-packed workshop, teams will face off and compete in a variety of skill-

testing challenges.

Moderators: Dan Farr, Tom Habib and Amy Nixon (Application Centre)



2. ABMI 101: Are You Ready? This is Jeopardy –

ABMI’s Favorite Quiz Show Join the fastest, most effective and fun way to get up to speed about the ABMI and its activities. Be a contestant and find yourself in the winner’s circle. Contestants will receive trivia clues (phrased in the form of an answer) to which they must ring-in and provide the question. Highest score of the day

will become part of the ABMI’s Jeopardy Hall of Fame and receive the coveted ABMI Jeopardy Prize. Great for new employees or for staff who just want to brush-up on or show off their knowledge of all things ABMI.

Moderators: Jim Herbers, Pam Foster (Executive Office & Information Centre)



3. Hot on the Cold Trail of Winter Wildlife Ever wonder who made those footprints in your backyard after a snowfall? Wish you knew who was sharing your winter hiking trail? Embrace your inner sleuth and learn how to track some of the hardest and most elusive mammals in Alberta.

Moderators: Greg Brooke, Marty Lankau & Jesse Watkins (Monitoring Centre)



4. Telling Science Stories in a Social Media World

Everyone has great stories to share and the ABMI is no exception. There are endless creative possibilities to tell innovative and interesting stories: from wildlife to human footprint; interesting data to inspiring personalities and everything in between. But what is the best way to tell, format and share these stories? How can social media such as blogging and other tools help us? What if I can’t write or don’t have time? Together we look at innovative science storytelling, demystify aspects of social media and find ways to tell stories that work for you.

Moderators: Sonya Poller and Tara Narwani (Information Centre)



5. Harnessing People Power: Citizen Science Join us for a citizen science brainstorming session and help shape the outcome of the ABMI's upcoming citizen science project! We'll try out some existing citizen science technology, present some initial plans and themes, and gather your feedback. The goal is to contribute ideas to the development

of a successful and user-friendly citizen science system for the ABMI. *Moderators: Monica Kohler, Shawn Morrison, Turar Sandybayev (Information Centre & Science Centre)*



6. Keeping it Green While ABMI is out conducting world class monitoring of the green leaves, green frogs and green birds, have we taken a moment to monitor the green within ABMI? Monitoring the far reaches of the provinces comes at a cost, how can we (and are we) offsetting some of our carbon footprint in the office, on the road, and in the field? Get ready to pioneer some green initiatives in the workplace (whether it's behind a desk or an ATV).

Warning: this session may involve the opportunity to get involved in impactful actions, group discussions, prizes from the Office of Sustainability, and some inspiration from Kermit the Frog –let's paint the ABMI green!

Moderators: Jolene Swain, Kendal Benesh (Monitoring Centre) & Emily Dietrich from the UofA's Office of Sustainability



7. Royal Alberta Museum Taxonomy Challenge Try your hand at three different real-life challenges faced by RAM-ABMI taxonomists:

- Sort "aquatic invertebrates" to morphogroups
- Key out macrolichens using ultraviolet light and an excerpt of the new lichen flora (in prep)
- Coin common names for mites, inspired by Dave Walter's scanning electron micrograph images

Get points for completing a task correctly (or creatively) and compete for a mystery grand prize announced at the end of the day.

Moderators: Diane Haughland, Dave Walter, Rob Hinchliffe, Mireille Martel, Darcie Thauvette (Processing Centre/RAM)



8. A Silent or a Noisy Spring? Applications in GIS and Spatial Analysis Learn to use GIS (Geographic Information System) technology and spatial analysis to visualize the influence of the oil industry in Alberta from 1999 to 2011. By the end of the session you will be able to generate change data, and build a model that will both generate a map, and help predict future changes.

Moderators: Mark Bablitz, Haitao Lee and Bryce Maynes (Science Centre)



9. Remote Sensing: It's Not All Just Pretty Pictures

Come experience some of the latest and greatest that today's remote sensing technology has to offer! Get a taste for what remote sensing is all about and try your hand at image analysis using real data, and you may even get to see our unmanned aerial vehicle fly!

Moderators: Greg McDermid and Jennifer Hird, (Remote Sensing Group)