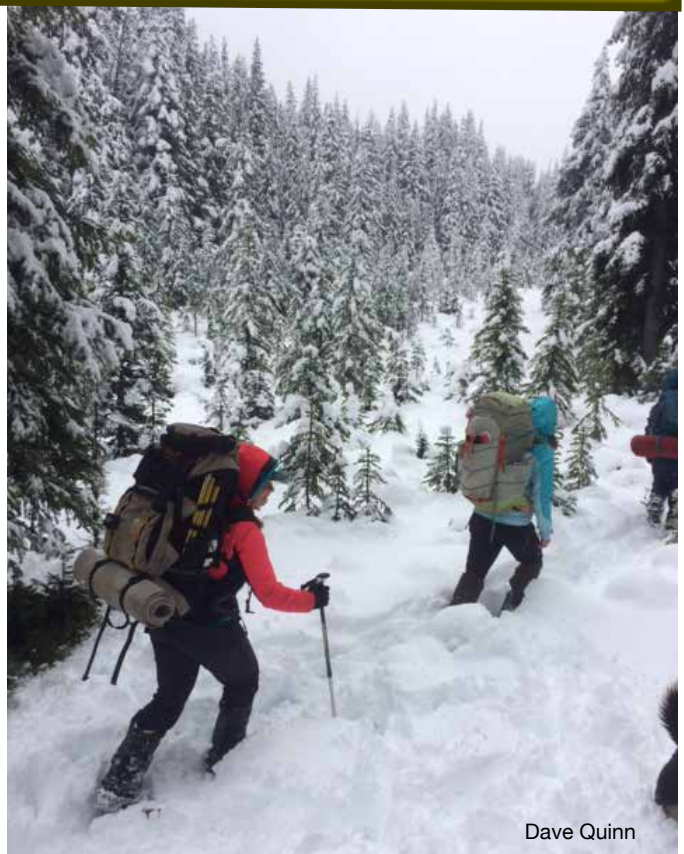


Snow in June? You Bet...

This innovative program is possible because of BC Hydro's Community Giving Funding



Dave Quinn



Dave Quinn

Six Mount Baker students took part in a field session of Mainstream's [Climate Change Adaptation 2.0: Living With Wildfire Program](#). The session was led by Dave Quinn and assisted by teacher Leah Cormier.

The class explored "[Watershed Resiliency in the face of Climate Change](#)" which included 2-field days in upper Coyote Creek/Lussier River to look at human impacts on watershed resiliency and forest management.

Students compared the extensive clear-cut logging of Coyote/Lussier/Nichol creeks (90%+ of forests converted to young forests below operability line, partly due to fire salvage, partly post-fire logging of live stands), and resulting runoff challenges with Coyote Creek, which was completely blown out in freshet; the bridge is long gone, etc, as compared to the intact watershed up upper Crazy Creek, and upper Coyote Creek.

Students also looked at the movement of ecosystems in response to changing climates (Upwards, and Northwards) in the loss of the open subalpine meadows on the Coyote Plateau in the last 40 years due to warmer winters and lower snowpacks. Forest ingrowth there is very obvious, and all open meadows are slowly disappearing as the treeline moves upwards on the north half of the plateau.

The class discussed adaptive forestry/silviculture options of larch plantations established in TFL 47 near Golden, where larch is currently not found, a great adaptation to predicted climate shifts (as compared to the extensive expanse of even-aged pine in the Coyote watershed).

35 cm of fresh snow overnight put a damper on our plans to extensively explore the upper Coyote plateau.

