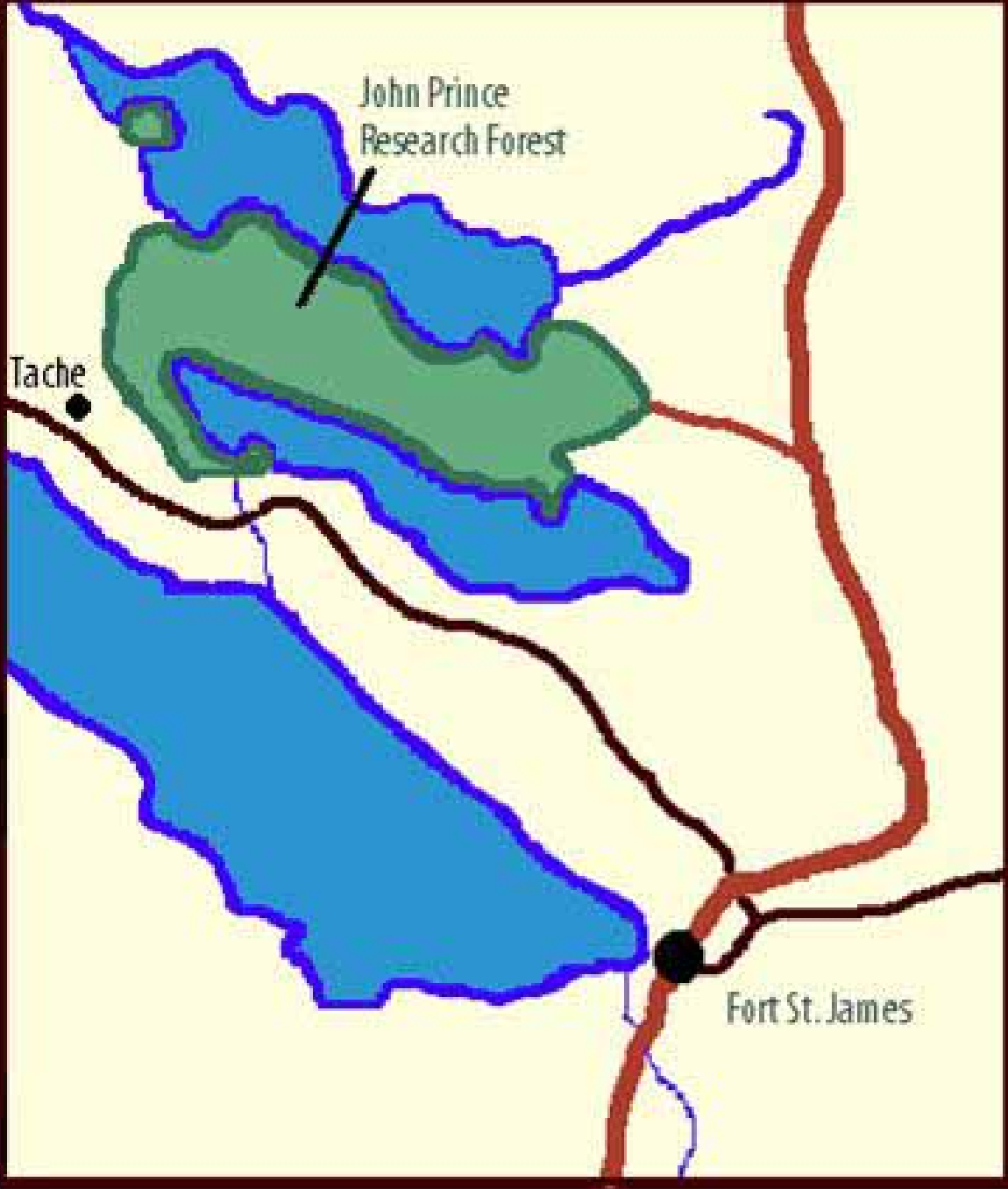


The JPRF is located in the eastern portion of Tl'azt'en Nation traditional territory; JPRF occurs within the boundaries of four keyohs belonging to the Stanley Tom family, Peter Tom family, Harry Pierre family, and Mona Pierre family.

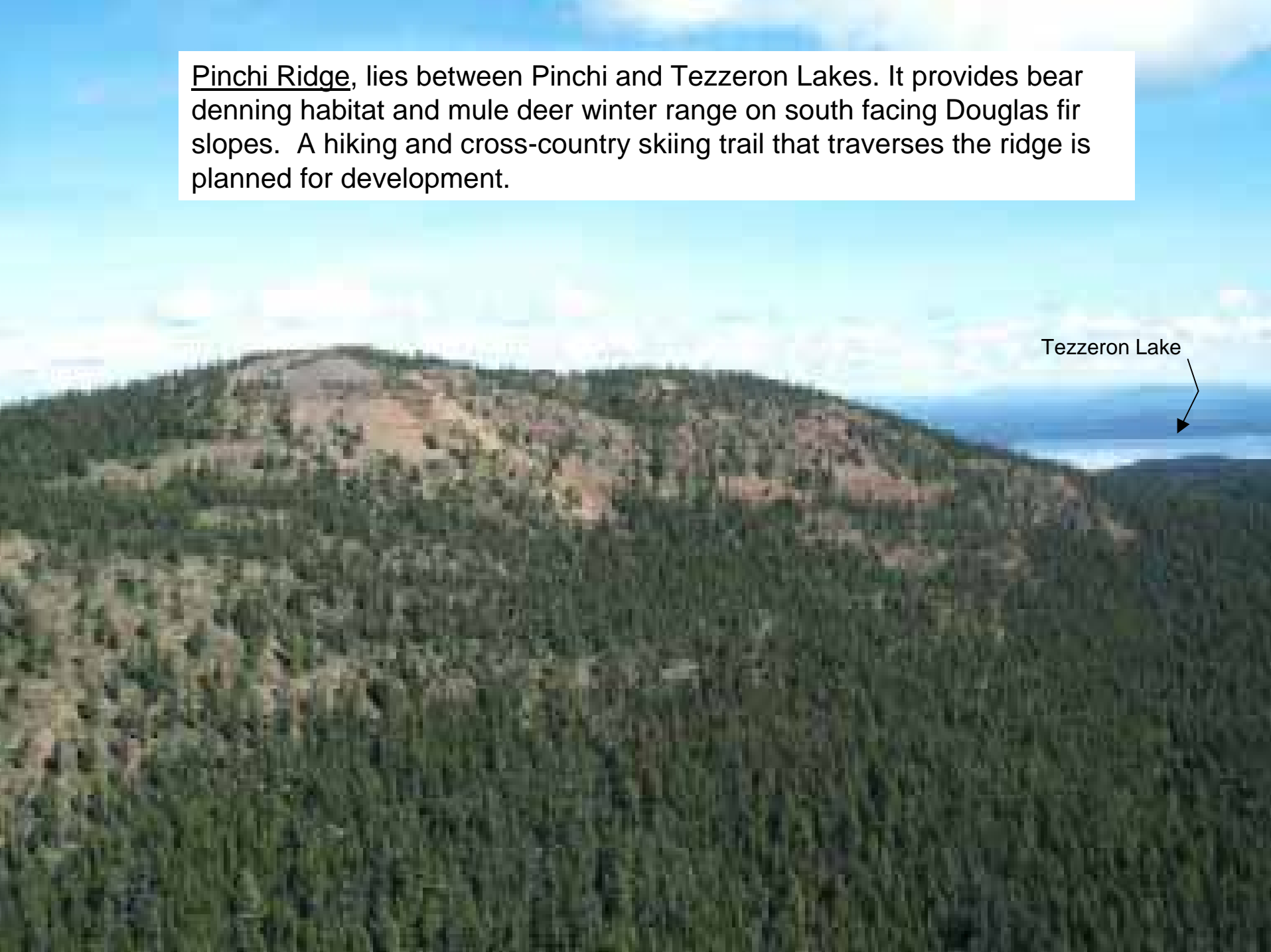


This peninsula on the southwest shores of Tezzeron Lake is a culturally important site for fishing and fish processing, and is char spawning ground.

The research forest is divided into management zones, with different emphases, such as culture and traditional use, wildlife, recreation, and harvesting.



Pinchi Ridge, lies between Pinchi and Tezzeron Lakes. It provides bear denning habitat and mule deer winter range on south facing Douglas fir slopes. A hiking and cross-country skiing trail that traverses the ridge is planned for development.




Tezzeron Lake

Pinchi Mercury Mine was operated during the second World War and during the 1960s; it is currently out of operation, and some reclamation work has been done.

Pinchi Lake



Satellite image Logging began in the 1940s, to supply cord wood to the mine. This was followed by commercial forestry with small, on-site mills in the 1950s and 1960s. In the mid 1970s and 1980s, large scale industrial forestry developed. The tenure was changed to a small business licence in the 1990s. This management history has resulted in a diverse and interesting landscape from a forest management perspective.

A satellite image of a forest landscape. The image shows a dense forest with various shades of green and brown, indicating different types of trees and possibly some clearings or roads. A yellow outline is drawn around a large, irregularly shaped area in the center-left of the image. A white arrow points from a text label to a specific spot within this yellow-outlined area. The background is a dark, almost black, area, possibly representing a body of water or a very dark forest floor.

The JPRF's
First Cutblocks



The Cinnabar Resort was purchased in 2002, and currently operates as a research facility and as a recreational resort for the public. Some Atco trailers have been recently added to provide computer workspace, showers, a kitchen, and additional accommodation. The resort uses a diesel generator and a radio phone. Two caretakers operate the resort seasonally from May to November.



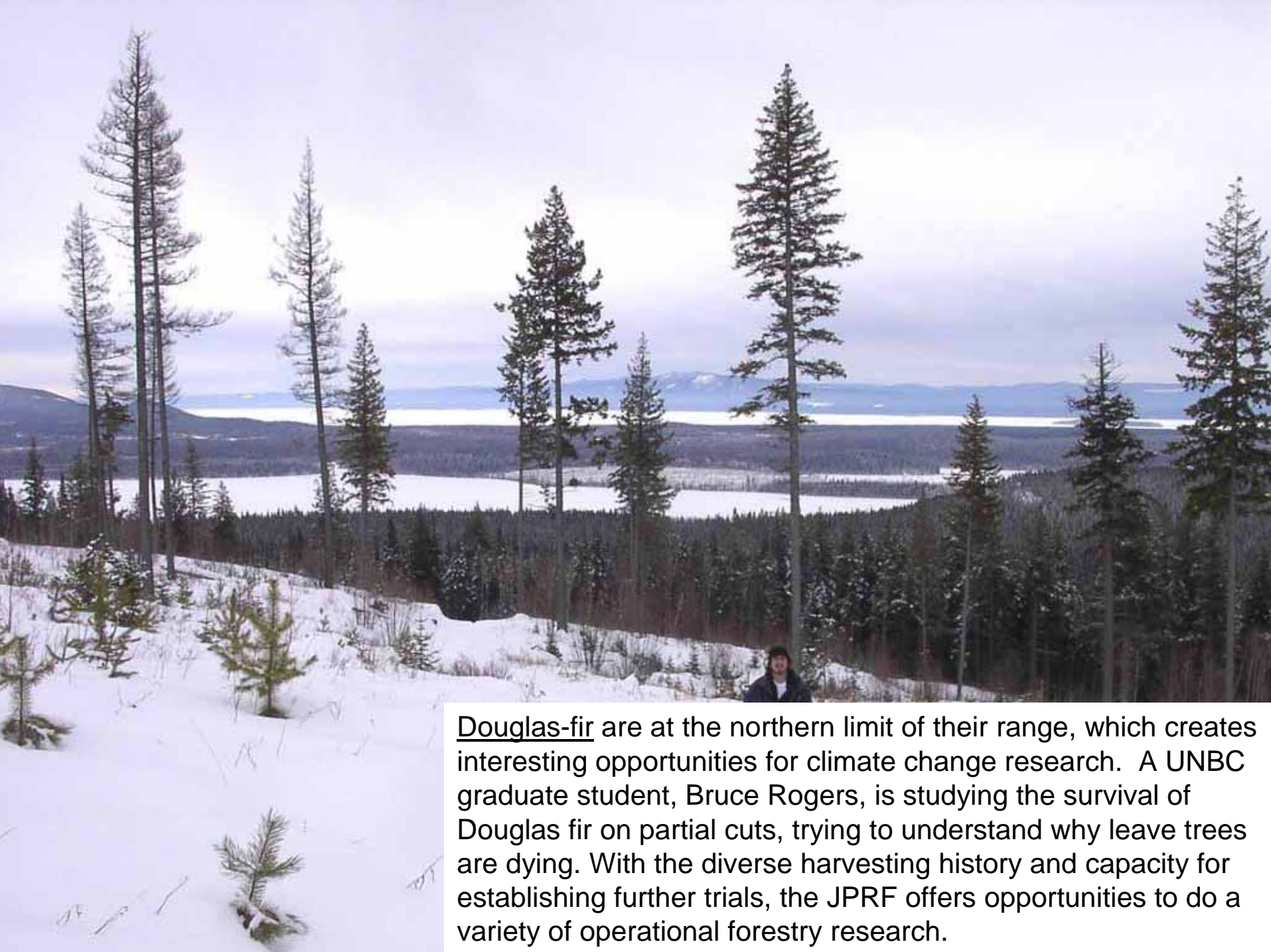
The JPRF operates under a special use permit where co-management by Tl'azt'en Nation and UNBC is a condition of the tenure. It is managed by Chuzghun Resources Corporation, a non-profit company established in 2001, which is governed by a board of directors: 3 representatives and 1 alternate are from UNBC, and 3 representatives and 1 alternate are from Tl'azt'en Nation. As the forest manager, Sue Grainger takes direction from the board, and runs day-to-day operations.



To support implementation of their mandate, the JPRF earns its base funding from logging revenues. Because it is a research forest, minimum stumpage (tax) is granted. JPRF also seeks funding from outside agencies to support its research, education, and community development activities. Local contractors are hired to complete logging and silviculture work.



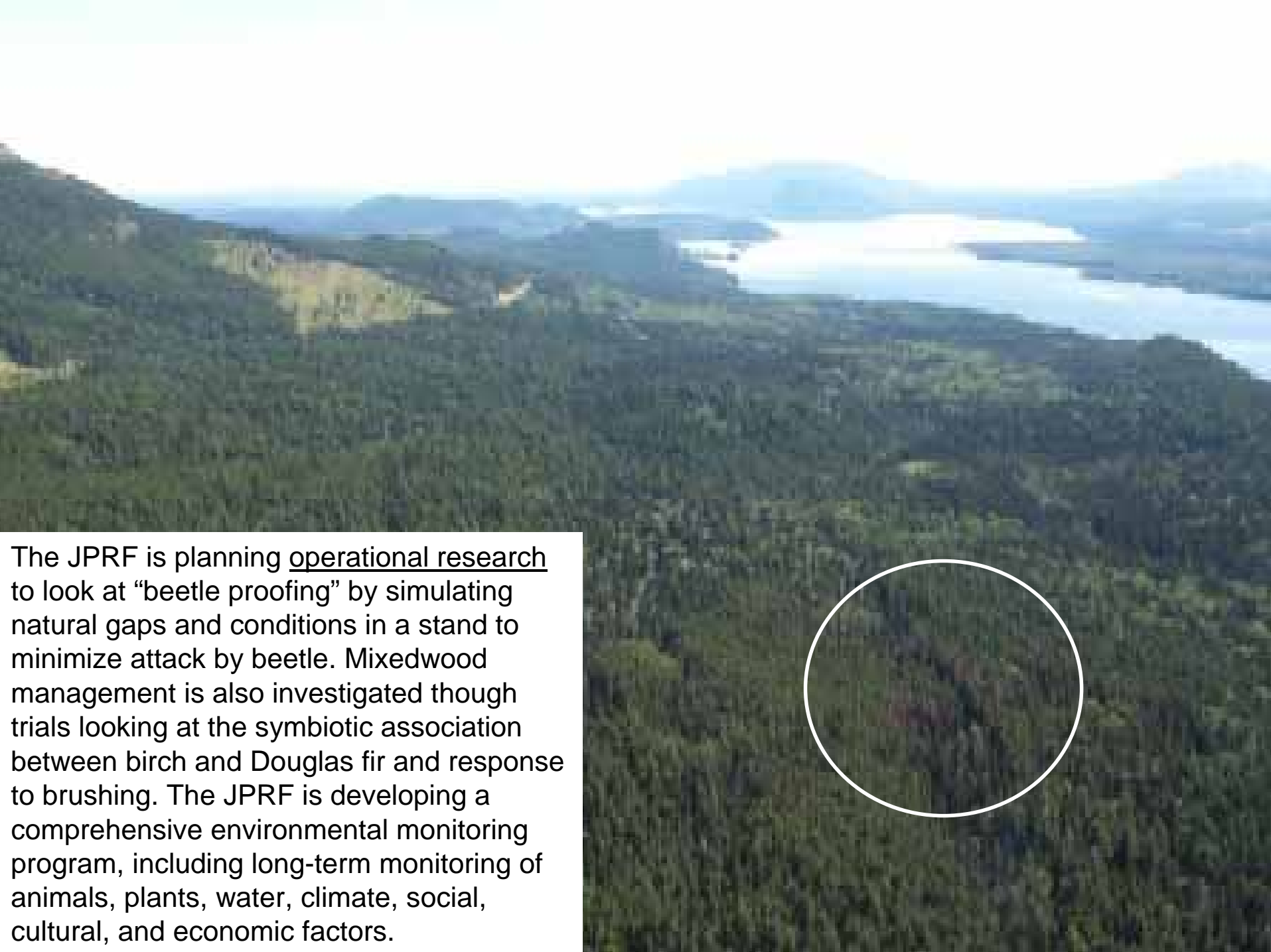
Student Research Michelle McGregor (right) focused her masters on reconstructing Historical Forest Conditions on the JPRF using air photos, oral histories, and historical data for use in ecological restoration. Students are involved in research at the undergraduate, graduate, and post-doctoral level on the JPRF. The JPRF provides scholarships and bursaries for UNBC and Tl'azt'en Nation students.



Douglas-fir are at the northern limit of their range, which creates interesting opportunities for climate change research. A UNBC graduate student, Bruce Rogers, is studying the survival of Douglas fir on partial cuts, trying to understand why leave trees are dying. With the diverse harvesting history and capacity for establishing further trials, the JPRF offers opportunities to do a variety of operational forestry research.



This mineral lick is an important feature for wildlife on the JPRF. Bubbles of gas rise, keeping the water open in winter. Dexter Hodder, JPRF Research Coordinator, and Roy Rea, Senior Lab Instructor at UNBC, set up wildlife cameras to monitor animal activity day and night, and during different seasons. Cameras have also been installed to monitor wildlife use of coarse woody material in streams. The JPRF is also undertaking research on mule deer winter range, bear denning, vegetation management and moose habitat, and the impact of road traffic on wildlife.

An aerial photograph of a vast forest landscape. In the foreground and middle ground, there are dense, dark green coniferous forests. A large, light-colored lake or reservoir is visible in the background, surrounded by more forested hills. The sky is bright and slightly hazy. A white circle is drawn on the right side of the image, highlighting a specific area within the forest.

The JPRF is planning operational research to look at “beetle proofing” by simulating natural gaps and conditions in a stand to minimize attack by beetle. Mixedwood management is also investigated through trials looking at the symbiotic association between birch and Douglas fir and response to brushing. The JPRF is developing a comprehensive environmental monitoring program, including long-term monitoring of animals, plants, water, climate, social, cultural, and economic factors.



UNBC, Tl'azt'en Nation, and the JPRF have partnered on several social science research projects. Some include developing and evaluating an Aboriginal Forest Planning Process, identifying local level criteria and indicators for sustainable forest management, and developing computer tools to visualize the effects of different forestry policies and operations over time. Future social research is planned on ecotourism development, educational programming, the application of traditional environmental knowledge in resource management, and improving partnerships.



The JPRF, in partnership with the Chuntoh Education Society, is engaged in developing an outdoor education program that combines science and traditional knowledge. Currently, the program - Yunkut Whet So Duleh, or, We Learn From Our Land - is aimed at children from the three local First Nation schools and two local elementary schools. The intent is to extend programming to other schools in School District 91. A fall module was piloted in September 2003 at 3-day school camps attended by students from Eugene Joseph, Nakal Bun, and Marie Joseph elementary schools.

The JPRF also hosts summer camps for Tl'azt'en children and youth. These combine experiential learning, cultural activities, and recreation.



The JPRF is designed in part to provide hands-on learning for UNBC and Tl'azt'en Nation students. High school and university students visit the JPRF for class field trips. In this photo, UNBC resource recreation and tourism students are exploring the recreation potential of the area. There are summer and winter opportunities, and eco-cultural tourism potential.



Volunteer Angela Anderson, a UNBC wildlife student came to the JPRF to learn field skills. She was investigating bear den site selection. The JPRF also provides learning opportunities to students through summer employment, independent studies, professional reports, and thesis projects.



Forestry field camp takes place at the JPRF in August. It aims to provide extensive, hands-on learning for students to acquire field skills and a management style that considers all forest values. For instance, students learn about soils, wildlife, roads, silviculture, ranching, trapping, and stand dynamics. They also learn about Tl'azt'en traditional land use, cultural values, and the incorporation of traditional knowledge into management. Dr. Paul Sanborn, a soil scientist from UNBC, made students get their hands dirty to understand concerns of harvesting on soils in this area.



The JPRF provides training at an entry level to give Tl'azt'en youth an opportunity to work and grow in their position. Ron Winser began as a trail building crew member, then crew supervisor, and is now the JPRF community liaison/recreation coordinator. This photo shows four Tl'azt'en youth who participated in a 10 week Environmental Youth Team project. Here they were learning plant and wildlife sign identification. The JPRF also provides mentorship for full-time Tl'azt'en employees in research, forestry field skills, and recreation.



The JPRF ran a six-month Youth Services program for eight Tl'azt'en youth. Students learned to identify and map culturally modified trees and archaeological sites, as well as carry out oral history research, trail building, pit house construction, and interpretive sign development.



Once students were trained in interviewing, they were sent out to gather knowledge from elders about what traditional structures were like. With help from Dexter Hodder, they then cleared a traditional trail, and designed and built the pit house. It has become very popular with Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal people in the area.



Forestry students were brought to the pit houses to learn about First Nations values from Sabastian Anatole, a Tl'azt'en Elder. The pit house can accommodate about 20 people, with a fire in the center. There is as side entrance, and an opening at the top for smoke to escape.



Cache pits were traditionally used for food storage. Farrah puts the finishing touches on this cache pit by putting spruce bows in the base. A larger tree cache was also constructed, which was traditionally used for longer term food storage.