

Environmental Science Seminar Series

Thursday, March 21, 2024, 4:00 – 5:00 pm, S203

TITLE

Indigenous protected areas and the next generation of conservation

SPEAKER

Dr. Courtney Mason, Thompson Rivers University

ABSTRACT

For many Indigenous communities around the globe, the histories of park formation are filled with experiences of displacement and cultural loss. Colonial practices of park management in Canada are being replaced by consultation processes that favour Indigenous frameworks. Led by ground-breaking Canadian policy on Indigenous Protected Areas, new designations of parks are emerging that support Indigenous-led conservation practices that have ambitious biodiversity, socio-economic and reconciliation objectives. Using Indigenous methodologies and policy analysis, I will argue that Indigenous led conservation practices in parks have the potential to enhance healthy ecosystems, climate resiliency, regional livelihoods, and the preservation of cultural values.