



September 2025 Vol. 45 (1)

# Boreus

Newsletter of the Entomological Society of British Columbia





## Table of Contents

The Society .....	4
Featured Article .....	5
<i>Night Quest 2025: Invertebrates of Pacific Spirit Regional Park</i> .....	5
Society News .....	7
<i>ESBC Bioblitz 2025: Malcolm Knapp Research Forest</i> .....	7
<i>2025 ESBC Special Projects Grant Recipients</i> .....	9
<i>2025 ESBC Annual Conference and AGM</i> .....	9
In Memoriam .....	10
<i>Leslie Chong (1949-2025)</i> .....	10
Entomology in the News .....	11
Upcoming Grant and Funding Opportunities .....	11
<i>EntSocBC Special Projects Grant</i> .....	11
<i>EntSocBC Student Awards</i> .....	12
Upcoming Events.....	12
<i>ESC-ESA JAM 2025:</i> .....	12
Classifieds .....	13
<i>Kelowna Museum request</i> .....	13
Employment and Research Postings .....	13
<i>Permanent Opportunities</i> .....	13

### Cover Sketch

*Boreus elegans* (Mecoptera: Boreidae), one of the more conspicuous snow scorpionflies in B.C. Larvae and flightless adults live in, and feed on, moss and clubmoss. Adults appear in the fall and are active on snow on warm winter days. Cover sketch credit Ward Strong and Robert A. Cannings.

### Cover Photographs

Greater Night-stalking Tiger Beetle ( <i>Omus dejeani</i> ), taken on Denman Island, B.C. Photograph by Jennifer Heron.	Helliwell Provincial Park, May 2012. Photograph by Jennifer Heron
Photographs taken in the Peace Region, BC. Photographs by Jennifer Heron	



The Entomological Society of British Columbia is a scientific Society founded in 1902 for the advancement of entomological knowledge in the province.

### Follow Us On Social Media!



entsocbc.ca

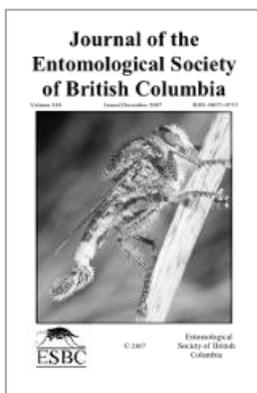


/entsocBC



/EntsocBC

### Check out our other publications!



## The Society

<b>President</b> <a href="mailto:president@entsocbc.ca">president@entsocbc.ca</a>	Michelle Franklin <b>Agriculture and Agri Food Canada, Agassiz</b>
<b>First Vice President</b>	Michelle Tseng <b>University of British Columbia, Vancouver</b>
<b>Second Vice President</b>	Rob Higgins <b>Thompson Rivers University, Kamloops</b>
<b>Secretary</b> <a href="mailto:secreary@entsocbc.ca">secreary@entsocbc.ca</a>	Tammy McMullan <b>Simon Fraser University, Burnaby</b>
<b>Treasurer</b>	Yonathan Uriel <b>Agriculture and Agri Food Canada, Agassiz</b>
<b>Editorial Committee (Journal)</b>  <a href="mailto:journal@entsocbc.ca">journal@entsocbc.ca</a>	Dezene Huber (Editor-in Chief) <b>University of Northern B.C., Prince George</b> Kathy Bleiker <b>Natural Resources Canada, Victoria</b> Joel Gibson, <b>Royal B.C. Museum, Victoria</b> Lorraine MacLauchlan <b>B.C. Ministry Forests, Lands and Natural Resources and Rural Development , Kamloops</b> Bob Lalonde <b>University of British Columbia – Okanagan, Kelowna</b> Steve Perlman <b>University of Victoria, Victoria</b> Rob McGregor <b>Douglas College, New Westminster</b> Marla Schwarzfeld <b>Agriculture and Agri Food Canada, Ottawa</b>
<b>Editor (Boreus)</b> <a href="mailto:Boreus@entsocbc.ca">Boreus@entsocbc.ca</a>	Joyce Leung Elton Ko <b>Canadian Food Inspection Agency, Burnaby</b>
<b>Directors</b>	Celia Boone <b>BC Ministry of Forests, Smithers</b> Debra Wertman <b>University of British Columbia, Vancouver</b>
<b>Graduate Student Representative</b>	Matt Tsuruda <b>University of British Columbia, Vancouver</b>
<b>Regional Director of National Society</b>	Sandra Gillespie <b>University of the Fraser Valley, Abbotsford</b>
<b>Web Page Editor</b> <a href="mailto:webmaster@entsocbc.ca">webmaster@entsocbc.ca</a>	Adam Blake <b>University of Washington</b>

## Become a Member!

**Membership** of the Entomological Society of B.C. is available to anyone interested in entomology. Annual dues are due **March 30<sup>th</sup>** of each year.

Join or renew your membership online via the Society's website <http://entsocbc.ca/membership/>.



## Featured Article

### Night Quest 2025: Invertebrates of Pacific Spirit Regional Park

Every spring, Pacific Spirit Regional Park in Metro Vancouver lights up for one night during Night Quest, an event that is jointly organized by Metro Vancouver Parks and the Pacific Spirit Park Society. Each year, Night Quest takes on a new theme and this year, it just so happens the spotlight was on invertebrates!

Visitors were greeted along a 2 km trail by invertebrates (aka costumed park interpreters) who were there to share their fascinating lives and the crucial roles they play in the forest ecosystem. Walking along the illuminated trail, you would encounter the Termite Queen, who was diligently tending her eggs, and also a millipede and roly-poly duo who explained how they recycle nutrients by breaking down decaying material. My personal favourite encounter was with the unlikely lovers Fester the Fly and Spinneret the Spider who like many modern couples, met through the “web”! Spinneret admired Fester’s dazzling compound eyes, while Fester couldn’t get enough of Spinneret’s charmingly hairy legs. Still, judging by the drool glistening on Spinneret’s fangs, one had to wonder how long this romance survived after we moved along the trail.

Night Quest was a truly magical evening. For those who were unable to attend, I leave you with a small piece of the night: a poem recited by the Forest Spirit, celebrating the extraordinary world of invertebrates:

*We are the whispers in the dirt,  
The world in the water,  
The whoosh through the air,  
We are the pulse of life that many don’t see, but all can feel and bear.*

*We are the builders of unseen realms,  
Weavers of webs, keepers of helms.  
We break down bones of fallen trees,  
Turn death to life with graceful ease.*

*We pollinate, decompose, and feed other animals.  
In important ways we make Pacific Spirit more changeable.  
Sometimes we ravish dismantle and more,  
But this opens-up the park and through it, restores.*

*Without us, the world would fail!  
No blossoms sprout, no winds to sail,*



*The air would sour,  
The soil would rot,  
And nature's dance would  
slow then stop.*

*So honour the ones you  
cannot see, us tiny  
creatures who set life free,  
Protect our homes, let your  
gardens grow,  
Create wild places where  
we can go.*



*Leave fallen leaves,  
Let flowers bloom, Reduce  
those poisons, they seal  
our doom.  
By aiding this park we all  
share, you help us thrive  
and show you care.*

*We are the pulse, the hum,  
the spark,  
The heart of the park, both  
bright and dark*

*So honour the one you  
cannot see,  
Us tiny creatures that set  
life free.*

*Credits: Metro Vancouver*

**- Joyce Leung**



*From top left: Illuminated  
trails; lantern; millipede  
and roly-poly; moth; Fester  
the fly (left) and Spinneret  
the Spider (right)*



## Society News

### ESBC Bioblitz 2025: Malcolm Knapp Research Forest

The ESBC-sponsored July 2025 Insect BioBlitz at Malcolm Knapp Research Forest (MKRF, University of British Columbia) was a great success, with 369 observations and 124 species (and counting) logged by 20 observers on iNaturalist, with many other attendees who came out to learn about insects and other arthropods



We thank all the observers, iNaturalist identifiers, volunteers, and MKRF staff for helping us gathering data and educating the public on the wonderful arthropod diversity at the Research Forest. We also greatly enjoyed having Synergy Semiochemicals attend with some of their traps and displays of pinned insects, which particularly engaged children. The BioBlitz was featured in an article by local online publication The Ridge, and was followed-up by an article featuring Quinlan Wu's exciting aquatic beetle findings.

See you at the next BioBlitz!

– *Debra Wertman*

**Check out the Bioblitz observations here:**

<https://www.inaturalist.org/projects/malcolm-knapp-research-forest-insect-bioblitz-2025>.

**The Ridge feature on ESBC Bioblitz:**

<https://readtheridge.com/how-photographing-bugs-contributes-to-science/>

**Quinlan Wu's aquatic beetle findings:**

<https://readtheridge.com/what-these-small-black-beetles-mean-for-the-health-of-malcolm-knapp-research-forest/>



*Dipteran party at the 2025 Bioblitz. Photo credit: Debra Wertman*



*Sneaky wolf spider (Lycosinae). Photo credit: Debra Wertman*



## 2025 ESBC Special Projects Grant Recipients

ESBC is happy to announce the 2025 recipients of our special project grants.

**Quinlan Wu** – Quinlan is an undergraduate student at UBC. Quinlan will use grant funds to collect and catalogue the larvae of *Dytiscus* diving beetles within Metro Vancouver, and to produce a larval key.

**Karen Ashby** – Karen runs The Paper Nest, a pesticide-free pest removal company. She will be using grant funds to create online and physical outreach materials relating to beneficial aspects of wasps, and to encourage peaceful coexistence with wasps whenever possible.

**Native Bee Society of BC** – The Native Bee Society will use grant funds to create educational materials relating to native pollinators, to be distributed at outreach events throughout the province.

Have a project in mind that helps advance and promote entomological knowledge in the province of British Columbia. Consider applying for a ESBC Special Projects Grant. The next deadline is **June 1<sup>st</sup> 2026**

## 2025 ESBC Annual Conference and AGM

The 2025 Entomological Society of British Columbia conference and annual general meeting will be held **November 21-22**, at the **University of the Fraser Valley Abbotsford campus**. Check our meeting page for more details as they are announced.

Meeting page: [Meetings - Entomological Society of British Columbia](#)





## In Memoriam

Leslie Chong (1949-2025)



We lost Leslie Jade Chong at the age of 75 when she died of a stroke on the night of 5 April, 2025.

At a time when women had many fewer career options, Leslie began work in the pioneering Pestology Lab at Simon Fraser University in 1974. Shortly after, she met Professor John Borden, became his technician, and from that moment, ran his laboratory and guided his more than 100 graduate students through their studies for the next 29 years. She retired in November 2003.

Leslie had fortitude, an adventurous spirit and keen intelligence. She loved to travel and was a great photographer. Bonsai, the fibre arts, family genealogy: her interests were diverse and she approached all projects with great enthusiasm. She was a generous person and she will be deeply missed by everyone who knew her.

- **Julie Brooks**



## Entomology in the News

Invasive ash-tree killer insect detected in Vancouver, a first in B.C.

<https://vancouversun.com/news/invasive-ash-tree-killer-insect-detected-in-vancouver-a-first-in-b-c>

Mosquito traps set and study launched in B.C.'s Sea-to-Sky region after illnesses reported

<https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/british-columbia/sea-to-sky-mosquito-traps-1.7589390>

How photographing bugs contributes to science – The Ridge

<https://readtheridge.com/how-photographing-bugs-contributes-to-science/>

## Upcoming Grant and Funding Opportunities

### EntSocBC Special Projects Grant

Every year, the ESBC invites applications for funding requests for projects that advance and promote entomological knowledge in the province of British Columbia. Projects address the following goals:

- Contribute to the understanding of insects and relatives in British Columbia
- Raise appreciation of insects and relatives in British Columbia
- Contribute to insects and relatives' conservation in British Columbia

The amount and number of projects funded annually depends on available funds. Up to a total of \$5000 CAD across all projects is available annually. Requests for funds that exceed this amount will be considered on a case-by-case basis.

Applications are accepted and evaluated twice annually. The next deadline is **June 1<sup>st</sup>, 2026**

Visit <https://entsocbc.ca/awards-scholarships/esbc-special-projects-grant/> for more information.

**Application Deadline: June 1<sup>st</sup> 2026**



## EntSocBC Student Awards

Each year the Entomological Society of British Columbia presents several awards to students of entomology.

- Student Oral Presentation Awards
- Dexter Johnson Award
- Equity, Diversity & Inclusion Award
- Graduate Student Scholarship Competition

Visit <https://entsocbc.ca/awards-scholarships/> for more information.

## Upcoming Events

### ESC-ESA JAM 2025:

## NEW BUGS RISING

2025 ESC / SEC - ESAB JAM - CALGARY



## NOUVELLES BESTIOLES À L'HORIZON

The 2025 Joint Annual Meeting of the Entomological Society of Alberta and the Entomological Society of Canada will take place from **5-8 October 2025 in Calgary, Alberta.**

The JAM will be held at the Best Western Premier Calgary Plaza Hotel & Conference Centre.

Abstract submission is now closed but you can still register to attend! Registration can be cancelled up until September 20, 2025 with a full refund minus a \$50 administration fee. Cancellations after Sept 20 will not be refunded.

For information, please visit <https://entsocalberta.ca/jam2025/>



## Classifieds

### Kelowna Museum request

Linda Digby of the Kelowna Museum Society is requesting help acquiring insect specimens for the natural history museum. Their interest is the south Okanagan region. They are seeking donations of identified, labelled specimens and photographs from members or students. Contact Linda directly at the museum, [www.kelownamuseums.ca](http://www.kelownamuseums.ca).

## Employment and Research Postings

### Permanent Opportunities

#### Research Associate – Pest Risk Modeler

The Research Associate will lead the development and implementation of advanced species distribution and pest risk models, manage ArcGIS-based platforms for stakeholder engagement, and secure funding to advance innovative research on invasive forest and agricultural pests, delivering actionable decision-support tools for integrated pest management.

The expected pay for this position is \$70,000/year.

Visit <https://forestry.ubc.ca/career-opportunities/research-associate-pet-risk-modeler/> for more information

**Application Deadline: September 25<sup>th</sup>, 2025**

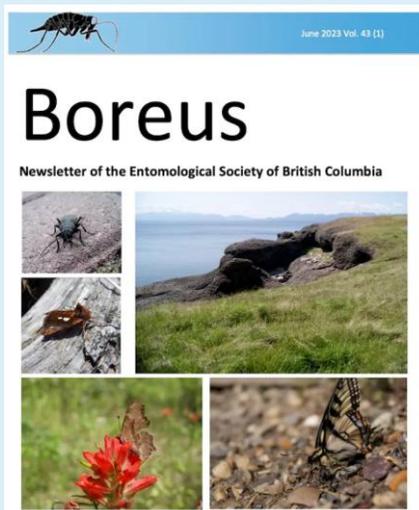


*Checkered beetle (Cleridae) checking things out. Photo credit: Debra Wertman*



*Alder flea beetles having feast. Photo credit: Debra Wertman*

## Got something to share? Submit to Boreus!



*Boreus*, the Newsletter of the Society is published in June and December. It contains entomological news, comments, reports, reviews and notices of meetings and other events. While emphasizing the Society's affairs, *Boreus* provides members with a forum for their views and news of British Columbia entomology, as well as informal articles, notes regarding research projects, and anything else that may be of interest to entomologists.

Please submit any entomological photograph, article, event or informational tidbit to the Editor!

Please send correspondence concerning Boreus to Joyce Leung at [boreus@entsocbc.ca](mailto:boreus@entsocbc.ca).

The deadline for submissions to be included in the Summer issue is **June 1**, and the Winter issue is **December 1**. Submission dates are flexible. Submit before the end of the *month*.