

This Week in Soil Science
Carbon stocks and plant communities of a semi-arid grassland in the BC interior
Alex Kramer, M.Sc. Soil Science

Friday, Oct 8th 3:00-4:00 pm Livestream via Zoom
(see details below on how to join)

Abstract: As atmospheric CO₂ reaches all-time highs, understanding how soil carbon stocks change over time is crucial. An estimated 30% of the global terrestrial carbon pool is found in grassland soils, making them of particular interest for carbon storage research. In 1961, the Lac du Bois Grassland in the Southern Interior of British Columbia was differentiated into three grassland zones based on vegetation and soil type due to an increase in elevation from 350 to 950 metres. This corresponded to a 6-fold increase in soil organic carbon (1.3 to 8.1%C) and a decreasing annual water deficit with elevation. I re-sampled the same study locations and found out that there has been notable grassland plant recovery over 58 years, but unchanged or even decreased soil carbon stocks across the grassland.

Bio: Alex Kramer received his BSc in Microbiology at the University of Victoria and his MSc at UBC in Soil Science. His thesis focused on long term carbon storage in grasslands in the Southern Interior of BC. He is currently still working on this topic, focusing on deeper soil C storage.



How to Join

Livestreaming via zoom is available for this presentation; pre-registration required.

<https://ubc.zoom.us/meeting/register/u5MvduurrT4oHNF6SJLdx8V34tYVfePOWLyj>

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting. Folks in Plant Science and other programs are encouraged to attend via zoom. Please note that you only need to register once for the term (Zoom ID and password are the same)

In-person McMI 102 if you want to view on the "big screen" – note this presentation is via zoom. Participation in McMI 102 will be limited due to the capacity of the room (n=30) with priority given to folks in the Soil Science program (both LFS and Forestry). IF you are not a regular attendee and wish to come in-person, please email sandra.brown@ubc.ca to save your spot.