

MEETING AGENDA



Environmental
Concerns in
Rights-of-Way
Management®

14TH
INTERNATIONAL
SYMPOSIUM



VANCOUVER

BRITISH COLUMBIA
CANADA



MAY 11-14, 2026

FAIRMONT HOTEL
Vancouver 900 West Georgia Street
Vancouver, BC V6C 2W6



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ENVIRONMENTAL CONCERNS IN RIGHTS-OF-WAY MANAGEMENT 14TH INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM

MEETING AGENDA

MONDAY, MAY 11, 2026 (Field Day)

9:00am	Fairmont Hotel Vancouver
9:30am	Arrive at Grouse Mountain
9:30–11:30am	Grouse Mountain Gondola
11:30am–12:00pm	Travel to Hotel
12:00–1:30 pm	Lunch at Hotel & change
1:30–2:00pm	Walk to Vancouver Port
2:00–2:30 pm	Load Boat/Check in at Port
2:30–3:30 pm	Boat Tour: Exports of ROW in ports
3:30–5:00 pm	Walk to Brewery/near hotel
6:00–9:00 pm	50th Anniversary Welcome Reception (Columbia Ballroom)

KEY CATEGORIES





- Ecology/Environmental
- Regulatory & Permitting
- Reclamation/Restoration
- Planning/Evaluation & Assessment
- Indigenous Engagement Inclusion
- Technology & Mitigation Strategies
- Vegetation Management
- Energy Transition

TUESDAY, MAY 12, 2026

7:30–8:30 am	Breakfast / Exhibit Hall Open	Columbia Ballroom
8:30–8:45 am	Welcome Message	Pacific Ballroom
8:45–9:00 am	Safety Message	Pacific Ballroom
9:00–9:50 am	Keynote: “21 Things you should know about Indigenous Self Government” Speaker: Bob Joseph	Pacific Ballroom
9:50–10:00 am	Break	

TIME	ACTIVITY	ROOM	ABSTRACT
10:00–10:50 am	Morning Plenary Session—Rights of Way in Transition Panel: A Changing Landscape Over 50 Years	Pacific Ballroom	
11:00–11:25 am	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A Special Wetland, Eversource Energy’s Atlantic White Cedar Mitigation Project; Melissa Kaplan 	Waddington (130)	15
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Beyond the Brochure: Advancing Indigenous Reconciliation on the Ground; Julie Greenwood 	Boardroom	46
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A Synopsis of the Variance (Change) Request Program of the United States Federal Energy Regulatory Commission’s Voluntary Environmental Compliance Monitoring Program (ECMP); Anthony Dalbec 	Vancouver Island (130)	68
11:30–11:55 am	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> TBD 	Waddington (130)	74
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Partnership Playbook: Trending Strategies for Community Collaboration; Leticia Solaun 	Boardroom	28
11:30–11:55 am	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Roads to Everywhere: Meeting the Challenge of Assessing Induced Development; George Hegmann 	Vancouver Island (130)	50

TIME	ACTIVITY	ROOM	ABSTRACT
12:00–12:55 pm	Lunch / Exhibit Hall Open	Columbia Ballroom	
1:00–1:25 pm	● Biodiversity gains in ROW: Importance of Information based programs; MariClaire Rigby and Anand Persad	Waddington (130)	66
	● Incorporating local Inuit knowledge into caribou-road management strategies; Daniel W. Coulton	Boardroom	47
	● Building Trust Through Partnership: Successful Environmental ROW Management in Hyper-Rural Communities	Vancouver Island (130)	33
1:30–1:55 pm	● Comparing traditional ground survey methods to machine learning using UAVs to assess milkweed stem density and habitat composition in ROWs; Adam M. Baker	Waddington (130)	58
	● A Successful Industry-First Nation Collaboration on the Coastal GasLink Pipeline; Ward Prystay	Boardroom	35
	● The Northeast Utility Working Group: A Coalition for Conservation, Construction, and Right-of-way Maintenance; Benjamin J. Merritt	Vancouver Island (130)	25
2:00–2:25 pm	● Easement Landowner Perceptions and Preferences for Integrated Vegetation Management; Gabriel Karns	Waddington (130)	7
	● CER's collaborative approach to verifying compliance to environmental requirements on pipeline construction projects: Inspection teams comprised of Inspection Officers & Indigenous Monitors; Adele Houston	Boardroom	75
	● From the Working Face: Consulting Practitioners' Insights for Improving the Efficiency and Quality of Impact Assessment in Canada; Jason Smith	Vancouver Island (130)	19
2:30–2:55 pm	● Energy in the Balance: Implementing Mandated Infrastructure Upgrades Efficiently While Navigating Expanding Environmental Regulations; Ryan Scott	Waddington (130)	16
	● Wildlife on the Grid: Exploring the Effectiveness of Utility Rights-of-Ways as Urban Wildlife Corridors in Northwest Indiana; Mark Johnston	Boardroom	71
	● How well is the Canadian pipeline approvals process working in the post Bill C-69 era?; James Power	Vancouver Island (130)	56
2:55–3:15 pm	Break		
3:15–3:40 pm	● From Risk to Asset: Nature-Positive Outcomes and Avoided Risks through Integrated Vegetation Management and Conservation Tools; Dan Salas	Waddington (130)	29
	● TBD	Boardroom	73
	● California Must Adopt Biodiversity Net Gain to Protect Its Future; Robert Warwick	Vancouver Island (130)	11
3:40–4:05 pm	● Single and side-by-side high voltage powerlines cause similar rates of fatal bird collisions in southern Québec, Canada, during fall migration; Amélie Drolet	Waddington (130)	49
	● Plant and Animal Response to Powerline Right of Way Treatments: The Latest Research Findings from the Pennsylvania State Game Lands 33 (SGL33) Research Project; Hannah Cave Stout	Boardroom	45

TIME	ACTIVITY	ROOM	ABSTRACT
	 Addressing the Challenges of Developing Transmission Line Infrastructure in Urban Areas: A Northern Virginia Perspective; Jon Berkin	Vancouver Island (130)	78
4:10–4:35 pm	 Native Plants, Biodiversity Gains using IVM in Relation to Adjacent Land Use: NYPA; Anand Persad	Waddington (130)	22
	 Getting Started on Nature Positive Strategies and Biodiversity Disclosure; Kristine Sare	Boardroom	64
	 Assessing the Impact of the Monarch CCAA: Five Years of Conservation Efforts; Megan Petraitis	Vancouver Island (130)	41
4:40–5:00 pm	Plenary/End of Day	Columbia Ballroom	

WEDNESDAY, MAY 13, 2026

7:30–8:30 am	Breakfast / Exhibit Hall Open	Columbia Ballroom	
8:30–8:55 am	Welcome Message	Pacific Ballroom	
TIME	ACTIVITY	ROOM	ABSTRACT
9:00–9:25 am	 Using drone and satellite imagery to assess the quality of pollinator habitat on rights-of-way; Ashley Bennett	Pacific Ballroom	62
	 Redefining UVM in Urban Environments; Kathryn Manende; Kathryn Manende and Deven Morrill	Boardroom	13
	 Unparalleled constraints and complexities—the Buffalo Plains Windfarm; Andy Edeburn	Vancouver Island (130)	18
9:30–9:55 am	 Saving Snails: Novel ROW Mitigation for an Endangered Invertebrate; Nick Parayko	Pacific Ballroom	14
	 Assessing Agricultural Land Reclamation Following the Trans Mountain Expansion Project: Findings from Year One of Post-Construction Environmental Monitoring; Amy Sigsworth	Boardroom	32
	 HVDC Insulator Replacements—Controlling the Chaos of Regular Maintenance; Corey Schutzman; Corey Schutzman, Jessica Farrell, and Kristopher Wilkes	Vancouver Island (130)	17
9:55–10:10 am	Break		
10:15–11:00 am	Morning Plenary Co-Benefits of Nature-Based Solutions	Pacific Ballroom	
11:05–11:25 am	 Quantifying Natural Recovery in Forested Areas; Brittany Flemming	Waddington (130)	77
	 An assessment of non-herbicidal oils used in IVM control methods on ROW Session; John Goodfellow	Boardroom	9
	 Proactive Environmental Offsets Reduce Time Lags and Regulatory Risk; Dave Sare	Vancouver Island (130)	53
11:35–11:55 am	 Threatened and Endangered Species Compliance in a Time of Regulatory Uncertainty; Andrea Sampson	Waddington (130)	76
	 Legacy soil impacts across Ohio pipeline ROWs. What are they and how might they impact integrated vegetation management?; M. Scott Demyan	Boardroom	57
	 Celebrating 15 Years of the Utility Arborist Research Fund: Findings and Future Possibilities; Paul Putman	Vancouver Island (130)	24

TIME	ACTIVITY	ROOM	ABSTRACT
12:00–12:55 pm	Lunch / Exhibit Hall Open	Columbia Ballroom	
1:00–1:25 pm	● Roads Versus Right-Of-Ways: Comparing Bat Acoustic Data From Two Land Use Types; Steve Johnson	Waddington (130)	40
	● Measure Vegetation Management Program Progress & Enhance Decision-Making with Machine Learning; Travis Rogers	Boardroom	67
	● Exploring AI Solutions for Environmental and Socio-economic Assessment of Linear Infrastructure: Tools, Challenges, and Best Practices; Matt Mosher	Vancouver Island (130)	30
1:30–1:55 pm	● Environmental Planning and Response During an Underground Transmission Line Installation in Sensitive Environments; Andrew Orthober; Andrew Orthober and Kyle Ayers	Waddington (130)	54
	● Integrating Advanced Technologies and Data-Driven Strategies for Enhanced Utility Vegetation Management; Robert Vanderhoof and Dylan Walsh	Boardroom	48
	● Digital Solutions for Erosion and Sediment Control: A Coastal Gas Link Pipeline Project; Kristen Foreman	Vancouver Island (130)	34
2:00–2:25 pm	● Sampling for Clubroot: Are False Negatives Compromising Crop Biosecurity on Linear Infrastructure Projects?; Brent Saulnier	Waddington (130)	55
	● The effect of construction mats on right-of-way plant community composition and pollinators; Ashley Bennett	Boardroom	12
	● A Guide to Implementing Site-Level Biodiversity No Net Loss and Net Gain Approaches in the Oil & Gas Industry; Kristine Sare	Vancouver Island (130)	65
2:30–2:55 pm	● Everyone's a winner: designing out archaeological impacts and project risks on a linear megaproject in Germany; Brigitte Stefanie Buss	Waddington (130)	21
	● TBD	Boardroom	61
	● Rights-of-Way and Snake Populations in Southern Alberta: Lessons from a Long-Term Mark-Recapture Study; Laura Southcott and Adam Martinson	Vancouver Island (130)	20
2:55–3:15 pm	Break		
3:15–3:40 pm	● Stuck Between a Rock and a Rare Plant: Balancing Natural Resources and Growing Energy Consumption; Ryan Scott	Waddington (130)	59
	● Vegetation Management for Species-At-Risk on Operational Pipeline Rights-of-Way; Stephanie Grossman	Boardroom	72
	● Shredded Wood Material for Rights of Way Stabilization, A Case Study—Georgia Transmission Corporation; Lauren Atteberry	Vancouver Island (130)	6
3:40–4:05 pm	● SunZia Plant Salvage: Managing Environmental Assets in the Heart of the Sonoran Desert; Colin Piggot	Waddington (130)	36
	● Grid Reliability Meets Biodiversity: Lessons from Europe's Ecological Corridor Management ApproachSession; Janis Bauto	Boardroom	32

TIME	ACTIVITY	ROOM	ABSTRACT
	● SunZia Transmission – Streamlining Success in Migratory Bird Treaty Act Compliance on a Large Linear Project; Lori Jones	Vancouver Island (130)	38
4:10–4:35 pm	● What Gets Measured Gets Done: Driving Environmental Compliance Through Meaningful Key Performance Indicators (KPIs). A Case Study from the Trans Mountain Expansion Project; Sean Britt	Waddington (130)	26
	● Satellite-Based Corridor Monitoring for Construction and Vegetation Management; Julie Haskill and Brad Novacosky	Boardroom	42
	● Toward a better management of forest roads in Québec; Philippe Jolin-Morin	Vancouver Island (130)	51
4:40–5:00 pm	End of Day - Recap & Goodbye	Pacific Ballroom	

THURSDAY, MAY 14, 2026

7:30–9:00 am	Breakfast / Exhibit Hall Open	Columbia Ballroom	
9:00–9:30 am	● Right of Way Planning: A Canadian Perspective: Integrating Engagement; Craig Neufeld and Niki Palle (Planning and Evaluation Assessment)	Waddington (130)	92
	● Opportunities for Ecological Improvements Through Multifunctional Transmission Corridor Design; Katie Morrice	Boardroom	69
	● Scalable, Efficient, and Enduring Solution for Managing and Analyzing Environmental Data; Venesa Whyte	Vancouver Island (130)	60
9:35–10:00 am	● Bat use of forested ROWs in the eastern United States; Donald Solick	Waddington (130)	70
	● Post Fire Hazardous Tree Removal and Subsequent Vegetation Analysis Reveals Biodiversity Net Gain in Napa Valley and Adjoining Areas; Anand Persad	Boardroom	63
	● Mapping monarch seasonal breeding patterns in eastern North America to inform mowing strategies for roadsides and other rights-of-ways; Vincent Fyson	Vancouver Island (130)	39
10:05–11:00 am	Transition in Use of Technology; Selecting the Right Tool for the Right	Pacific Ballroom	
11:00–11:30 am	Final Goodbye	Pacific Ballroom	
12:00 pm	Box Lunches		