

# EMEND Research Facility and Field Guide 2006

April 20, 2006



EMEND Research Centre: Main Building



EMEND Research Centre: lab and tents

## **Introduction:**

This guide provides information on the EMEND Research Facility, how to book accommodations, what to bring with you, facility use guidelines, and how to find the facility.

The EMEND Research Facility was established in 2005 with funding from the Canadian Foundation for Innovation (CFI), the primary EMEND industry partners (DMI and Canfor), and the University of Alberta. The primary function of the Facility is to provide a logistical base for field work conducted at the EMEND research site and is available for use by all EMEND researchers. The majority of operating costs are provided through contributions to EMEND from DMI and Canfor via their Forest Resource Improvement Association of Alberta (FRIAA) funding. To date, FRIAA funding has been sufficient to cover all EMEND related facility costs; however, we may charge a facility use fee of about \$20 per person per day if these funds are not sufficient to cover all operation costs.

Limited accommodation space **may** be available for non-EMEND researchers conducting studies in the region. This space is available at a cost recovery rate of \$75 per person per day with the understanding that EMEND personnel have first rights to any accommodation space.

As we are operating a new facility this year, please bear with us as we work out any kinks in operations and logistics. We ask that you please keep our neighbors in mind and keep noise down and please drive with courtesy to and from the research site. Further, no pets will be allowed at the facility this year due to our proximity to neighbors.

### **Location:**

We are now located in the farming area just west of Dixonville, AB. To find us, travel 10km west of Highway 35 on the Sulphur Lake Road. We are just west of the intersection between Sulphur Lake Road (Township road 874) and Range Road 251 (Map attached to end of document).

### **Accommodation booking:**

Call Jason or Charlene at 780-971-2518 (Research Facility number) to book your tent space as soon as you know when you are going up to EMEND. We require a minimum of three days advance notice in order for the cook to plan meals. There may be times when camp is full and we will not have room for you if you have not called ahead. EMEND researchers have priority over non-EMEND researchers.

There **may** be a \$20/person/day charge to EMEND research groups for camp use.

There **is** a \$75/person/day charge to non-EMEND researchers for camp use.

Please limit time at camp to working days.

### **"What do I do when I arrive at camp?":**

1. Report to Jason for tent/room assignment (or Charlene if Jason is not around).
2. If it's your first time at camp in 2006, you will go through a short orientation with Jason about camp rules, updates on the project and safety procedures. Make sure you understand the EMEND safety procedures.

### **Facilities:**

Camp has hot water, showers and laundry facilities. Whitemud Wilderness Camps (camp operator) will provide a constant supply of water. However, we still have to haul water in and sewer out; therefore, please be careful with your water use (especially with showers and laundry!). Be aware that water is one of the major costs for running the camp.

The cooks are very good. Don't worry about starving. Worry more about gaining weight! ☺. Please let us know in advance if you have any food allergies or if you are a vegetarian.

### **Accommodations:**

There are 8 beds inside the research facility, these are reserved for the EMEND core crew (EMEND management committee decision). The remaining sleeping accommodations are in canvas wall tents with comfortable beds and an electric heater. Although we are no longer located in the forest, bears do occasionally visit the area so **ABSOLUTELY NO FOOD in the tents** (this also keeps mice out of your tent). This is for the safety of you and all others in camp. Anyone who disregards this rule will be asked to leave camp immediately and will not be allowed to return.

You are responsible for keeping your room or tent clean. A bed sheet will be provided for you but please bring your own sleeping bag and pillow.

**Lab space:**

Let Jason know ahead of time if you require lab space for your work. We have a freezer reserved for samples but there is no fridge available for sample storage. You are responsible for the cleanliness of your section of lab trailer. If you leave it in a mess you may be charged for the expenses incurred for getting it cleaned.

**Fuel:**

We do have a gasoline tank at the facility and gas can be charged to your study at a cost recovery rate. However, this gasoline tank is not large so we ask that you fill your vehicle in Peace River when ever possible (i.e. make sure you fill in Peace River when coming from Edmonton). You will also require gas cans to take gas for your quads, there will not be any fuel available at the Research Site.

**NOTE:** We have a gasoline tank only, there is no diesel available at the Research Facility.

**Suggested list of field gear:**

Waterproof boots (some people like steel toes leather or rubber boots. Steel toes required for Core Crew)

Bama socks<sup>®</sup> for inside your rubber boots

Warm jacket

Warm leather work gloves and toque

Field pants (water resistant and fast-drying)

Rain gear (should be durable, coated nylon seems to work best)

Cruise vest

Compass (or GPS device)

First aid kit and whistle (Fox 40)

Protective glasses

Insect repellent or a bug hat/bug jacket

Bear spray or bear bangers

Sunscreen and large brim hat

Water bottle - empty 1 or 2L pop bottles are cheap and reusable

Lunch container - Tupperware type so that your lunch doesn't get squished!

Swiss knife or a Leatherman

**Suggested list of camp gear:**

Warm sleeping bag and a pillow

Flashlight / Headlamp

Alarm clock (preferably battery-operated)

Ear plugs

Slippers for inside the camp

Shampoo, soap and other personal hygiene supplies (preferably unscented)

Towel and facecloth

Last and not least, remember to bring items to entertain you (and hopefully others) on your down time (e.g. crafts, guitar, books, cards, games – sorry, no loud instruments this year as we now have neighbours nearby).

**Facility use rules:**

- **No outside footwear inside the trailers (camp and lab trailers) or tents**
- Please remove muddy boots and gear outside the doors and carry them in (do not wear your muddy gear into the facility)
- **No smoking inside the trailers or tents.**
- **No drugs (ZERO tolerance).**
- “Semi”-dry camp: minimal amounts of alcohol are tolerated in camp. Alcohol abuse will not be tolerated and you may be asked to leave the facility if alcohol use becomes an issue (this is at the discretion of Jason or Charlene).
- **NO FOOD IN THE TENTS AT ANY TIME!**
- Meal times: 7-8AM, 12-1PM, 6-7PM (Warn the cooks if you are planning to be late, they can put a plate aside for you).
- **You must clean your dishes if you eat outside of meal times.**
- No pets allowed in camp (no exceptions due to proximity of neighbors)
- Keep noise down as some researchers work early in the morning (e.g. birders) or in the night (e.g. "bat people" and "moth collectors").
- Any personal problems or concerns should be addressed to Jason or Charlene.

### **Computers:**

The core crew computer(s) will be available for sign-up in the evening when not in use by the core crew. We suggest you bring your own computer or laptop if you require one for extended periods of time. There may be internet at the facility this year (dealing with Telus at the moment) however it will be slow dial-up and will be reserved for business purposes only. We have only one line to the camp so any internet use will prevent phone use. High-speed internet is available at the library in Peace River.

### **Phone:**

There is a business phone at the facility but it is restricted to EMEND-related calls (971-2518). If you wish to “chat” on the phone frequently then your best bet is to bring a cellular phone. They work at camp but only with Telus or Bell service.

### **Post office:**

We have a postal box at Dixonville's post office. Letters and packages should be mailed to you at:

EMEND Research Facility c/o <your name>  
P.O.Box 127  
Dixonville, AB  
T0H 1E0

### **Helicopters:**

If you require helicopters for your work please plan to meet them at the Research Site area and not at the Research Facility. This is a request from our neighbors.

## **Safety:**

**See the EMEND Emergency Response Plan and the EMEND Due Diligence manual for a more complete listing of safety requirements and response procedures.**

**Safety is the NUMBER ONE priority at camp and in the field!!** Many of the safety policies at EMEND have been initiated by our industry partners and must be followed if working in their forest management areas. Other safety policies have been adapted as a direct result of incidents from past years. Anyone found not following the EMEND safety rules and policies may be asked to leave the Research Facility and Research Site.

### **Required Safety Gear for working at EMEND:**

The following items are required for working at the EMEND Research Site.

(You are responsible the safety of yourself and your assistant(s). This gear is required and you may not be allowed to operate on the EMEND research site if you do not have it.)

#### For each vehicle:

- an ABC rated fire extinguisher (5 lb minimum)
- a first-aid kit (Alberta #3 recommended)
- a single bit axe and/or a pulaski
- a long or D-handle round point shovel
- a 5 gallon backpack water container with hand pump (e.g. Wajax)
- a canvas pail or a suitable container for filling water backpack/container (e.g. hardhat)
- a spill kit if carrying any fuel in vehicle

#### For each quad:

- A spade shovel AND either a small fire extinguisher or a container capable of holding 5 liters of water for each of your quads.

#### Personal Safety Equipment:

- Reflective vests (cruise vests)
- Personal Safety Equipment for quads (Helmets, gloves, safety glasses)
- A two-way radio for each group of workers (these can be rented from Quintel in Peace River 780-624-2730 for \$100/month. Ask them to program the EMEND/DMI channels (171.555 and 169.725) into it).
- bear spray for each person
- a personal first-aid kit
- Any other required Personal Protective Equipment for certain tasks (i.e. running a chainsaw)

**Sign-in / sign-out board:** indicate EVERY DAY where you are going, if you will be using dangerous equipment (e.g. shotgun) and when you are coming back. Please erase your location information when you return to camp at the end of the day.

**Get the required training BEFORE** coming to camp if you are planning to use All-terrain vehicles (quads), chainsaws, guns or any other power tools. This has to be provided by your supervisor.

Bring your certificates (or photocopies) to EMEND as you will not be allowed to use equipment if you do not have the certificate with you (provincial policy).

Wear a high visibility vest and hardhat while in the field.

Always try to work in pairs with a radio (2-way radios are \$100/month at Quintel in Peace River).

There will be regular safety meetings at camp on different subjects.

Park your vehicles "ready-to-go". (i.e. back into parking spot)

Leave all vehicle keys on a hook in the 'boot room' in case vehicles need to be moved. Please ensure all vehicle keys are labeled appropriately.

Be careful with cigarettes and cigars in the field. Make sure they are out!!! You may be held personally accountable for any costs incurred in fighting a fire started from your cigarette.

### **Quad Use and Safety:**

(For further info on quad usage see EMEND Quad Safety and Etiquette in the EMEND Due Diligence Manual).

**NEW!! As of April 2005, all quads used in the DMI Forest Management Area (EMEND research area) must be equipped with spade shovel AND either a small fire extinguisher or a container capable of holding 5 liters of water.**

Make sure you have your own quads before coming up to camp if you need to use them as Core Crew quads are not available for general use.

Protective gear (helmets, glasses, gloves, sturdy footwear) is mandatory at all times while using quads.

**No doubling** is allowed on quads.

Do not speed on the trails! This is how accidents occur and trails/quads get damaged. Keep quads in a low gear going through mud puddles.

Do not follow other vehicles too closely.

Shift into 1<sup>st</sup> gear to go through muddy, wet trails or muskeg. Do not go through deep puddles and muskeg if you don't need to (i.e. it is probably easier to walk 100m than push your stuck quad out of the mud hole).

Do not widen the trails, create go-around or use the landings and machine corridors with your quads. Do not drive your quads in the study compartments!

Do not operate an ATV after having consumed alcoholic beverages. This is grounds for dismissal and/or loss of EMEND camp usage.

Watch for other vehicles on the roads. Do not overtake another vehicle until the driver has acknowledged you and waved you through.

**Emergency central land locations:**

**Call 911 for ambulance, police, or structure fire.**

Facility Phone #: 780-971-2518

**EMEND Research Facility Location:**

Legal Land Description: - **NE-23-87-25-W5M**

- 0.5 km west of TWP Road 874 (Sulphur Lake Road) and Range Road 251 intersection.

Road Directions: 43 km N of Grimshaw Hwy 35, turn Left/West at Sulphur Lake Sign, go 10 km

on Sulphur Lake Road. Facility is west of Range road 251

**EMEND Research Site Location:**

Legal Land Description: **SE-03-90-03-W6M (This is for the DMI/Canfor haul road intersection)**

Centralized location: where DMI P200 Road connects with Canfor Road at Km 235, Sulphur Lake area.

Road directions: 43 km N of Grimshaw Hwy 35, turn Left/West at Sulphur Lake sign, go 59.5km on the same road.

**Contact personnel & Important numbers:**

Jason Edwards: Field Coordinator: (780) 435-7369 (office), jasedwar@nrcan.gc.ca

John Spence: EMEND Project Leader: (780) 492-1426 (chair's office)

EMEND Research Facility phone: (780) 971-2518 (available in early May)

Two-way radio frequencies: Available early May

DMI Woodlands: (780) 624-7415

Canfor: (780)

Northern Forestry Center (Edmonton): (780) 435-7210

Ambulance, RCMP, Air evacuation: **911 (may not work on satellite phones)**

Environmental Complaints: 1-800-222-6514

Forest Fires: 310-FIRE (310-3473)

Poison Control Center: 1-800-332-1414

**Directions to EMEND Research Facility and Research Site:**

