Life, Earth & Environment Seminar Series

When: **Wednesday 23rd September, 12 – 1 pm**

Where: **Natural Resources Building, Lecture Theatre 1 (EM1)**

Fitness and social behavior in an asocial species: Highlights from 30 years of chasing red squirrels

Dr Jamie Gorrell

Postdoctoral Researcher

ERS, UNE

Untangling ecological effects from evolutionary processes remains one of the biggest challenges in wildlife studies. The Kluane Red Squirrel Project has spent the last 30 years studying the ecology, evolution and energetics of a wild population of red squirrels from the Yukon Territory of Northern Canada. Though red squirrels are classified as asocial and territorial, their surprising social structure is more complicated than expected.

I will discuss these strange behaviours and other highlights from our longterm research touching on a range of topics including population dynamics, life history, reproductive investment, genetics, physiology, parasitology and plant-herbivore interactions.

Biography

Dr Jamie Gorrell in a new Postdoctoral Researcher working with Dr Rose Andrew in the Adaptation, Speciation, and Hybridisation Lab. His research here focuses on the genomics of speciation in Eucalyptus.

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