

Understanding Ecosystem

(text and photos by Dr. Trudy Sable, Director, OANR)

Understanding Ecosystems Module

June 30-July 11, 2003

From June 30th-July 11th, 2003 the Understanding Ecosystems Module took place outside of the community of Sheshatshiu, Labrador as the first half of the course Innu Studies, Ecosystems and Ethnography (ACS 301.1). In attendance were all of the Innu Environmental Guardians with the exception of one, as well as two young women from the community. The course was instructed by Herb Hammond, a noted Ecologist from the British Columbia based consulting firm Silva Ecosystem Consultants Ltd. Mr. Hammond has many years of working with the Innu , and has been instrumental in designing Innu Nation's co-management agreement with the Department of Forest Resources and Agrifoods (DFRA). During the last two days of the course representatives were present from the DFRA as well as Western Newfoundland Model Forests Ltd, who provided funding for the module. Trudy Sable and Zoe Nudell of GRI's Science Horizon also attended to document and assess the module for future curriculum development.

Throughout the two weeks of the module most of the instruction occurred at a tent site off of Grand Lake Road, complimented by field trips to cut block sites. Three of the ten days were spend indoors due to unfavorable weather.

