



International Ecological Footprint Learning Lab Newsletter – July 2025

The International Ecological Footprint Learning Lab is pleased to share the third newsletter for 2025. If you do not want to receive future newsletters, please let us know.

Research

Measuring and Acting upon Ontario's Ecological Footprint at the Ontario Biodiversity Summit



From left to right: Danielle Letang, Kaitlin Pal, Eric Miller, and Peri Dworatzek



The 2025 Ontario Biodiversity Summit was held at Trent University in Peterborough, Canada this May. **Eric Miller**, Director of the Ecological Footprint Initiative (EFI) moderated a session about Ontario's Ecological Footprint and Biocapacity. In this session, **Eric Miller** and **Peri Dworatzek**, IEFL Partnership Coordinator and PhD Student, shared the brand-new Ecological Footprint and Biocapacity data for the province of Ontario – this edition includes an innovation to calculate the Ecological Footprint of Production for Ontario.

Kaitlin Pal, EFI research assistant and former undergraduate student, presented her fourth-year masters thesis applying I=PAT analysis to Ontario's Ecological Footprint. **Danielle Letang**, IEFL partner from the Greenbelt Foundation, presented other ways this data has been analyzed and applied.

Presenting on Ecological Footprint and Biocapacity at the Environmental Studies Association of Canada 2025 Conference

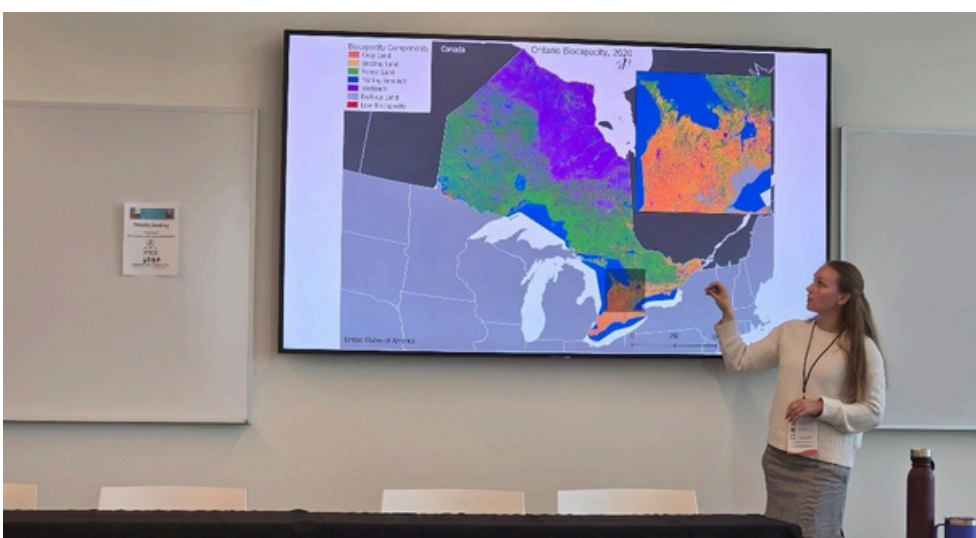
Kaitlin Pal, EFI research assistant and former undergraduate student, on Biocapacity and economic frameworks (I=PAT) as tools for assessing the ecological significance of protected areas in Canada, such as Ontario's Greenbelt. The I=PAT framework illustrates the pressures that Ontario's Ecological Footprint exerts on the Greenbelt's ecosystems as it relates to population, affluence, and technology. This research made future projections of economic indicators and Ecological Footprint and informed land-use policy and decision-making regarding protected areas.

Eric Miller, Director of the Ecological Footprint Initiative, presented on demography in Canada. In this presentation, Eric related humans to "the environment" and explored future scenarios by looking at age structures, age-specific patterns of consumption, and age-specific patterns in relation to energy and housing demands. Data about the Ecological Footprint of production and consumption in Canada was related to recent trends, and future demographic forecasts, with conclusions differentiating variables that relate to growth or decline in the total or per-capita Ecological Footprint.



Session that Eric presented in, he is at the front of the room presenting his research.

Peri Dworatzek, PhD Student and IEFL Partnership Coordinator, presented on an exploration into the relationship between Biodiversity indicators and Ecological Footprint and Biocapacity. In this presentation, Peri investigated what had been done in practice and said in the literature about the relationship between these indicators and conducted a correlation analysis between this accounting system and the Living Planet Index.



Peri presenting her research in the joint Environmental Studies Association of Canada (ESAC) and Canadian Sociology Association (CSA) on Biodiversity with a Biocapacity map of Ontario, Canada.

In Memoriam

Sheila R. Colla, professor in the Faculty of Environmental & Urban Change, York Research Chair in Interdisciplinary Conservation Science, and collaborator in the IEFL partnership passed away on July 6, 2025, at the age of 43. Sheila is remembered for her excellence in interdisciplinary science research as a conservation scientist that informed policy and public awareness. Sheila's family has requested that those wishing to honour her legacy plant a native flower or tree, upload a bumblebee sighting to BumbleBeeWatch.org, write to government officials in support of pollinator protection plans.



Knowledge Mobilization

July 24 is Earth Overshoot Day in 2025

July 24 marks Earth Overshoot Day in 2025, when humanity's ecological footprint will have proportionately exceeded the planet's annual biocapacity. This campaign is led by IEFL partner [Global Footprint Network](https://GlobalFootprintNetwork.org), using data from the 2025 edition of the National Ecological Footprint and Biocapacity Accounts. Their campaign is referenced by international organizations, including the United Nations, and attracts significant media attention.

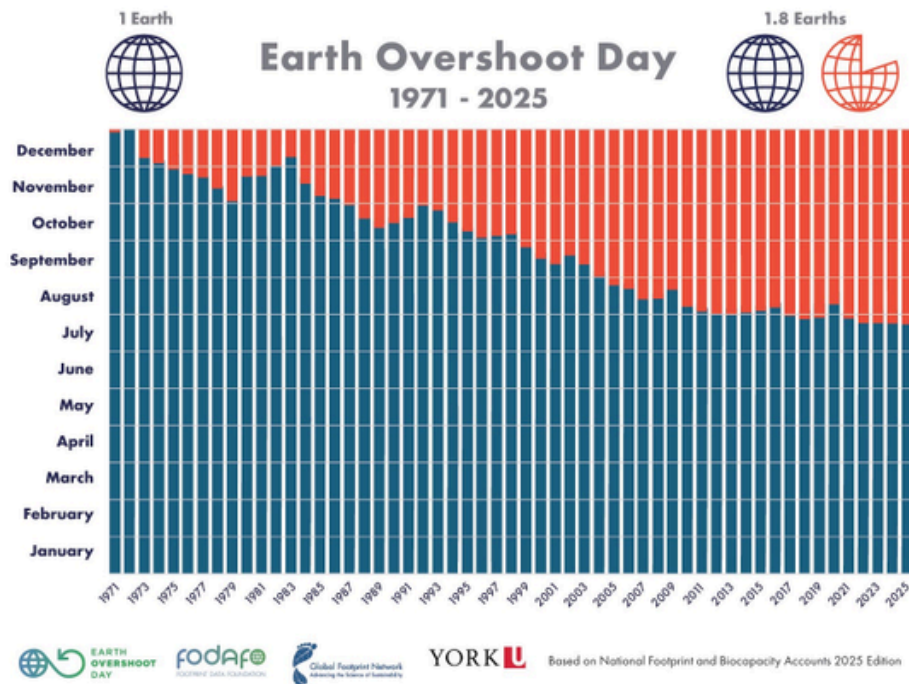


Photo sourced from the [Earth Overshoot Day](https://www.earthovershootday.org/) website.

York University engaged the media through its media release marking Earth Overshoot Day, relating the day to humanity's growing ecological footprint amid trade wars and tariffs. Continue reading its release at [News@York](https://news.yorku.ca/2025/08/01/earth-overshoot-day/).

IEFLL Geographic Scaling Workshop

In April, members of the International Ecological Footprint Learning Lab hosted a virtual event about geographically scaling Ecological Footprint and Biocapacity. This event showcased research from **Dr. Jennie Moore**, Director of the Institute of Sustainability at BCIT; **Les Kuzyk**, Urban Planner at the City of Calgary; and **Peri Dworatzek**, IEFLL Partnership Coordinator and York University PhD Student. **Eric Miller**, Director of the Ecological Footprint Initiative moderated the event. The recording is available on the [IEFLL YouTube account](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCvKvKvKvKvKvKvKvKvKvKvK).

Geographic Scaling of Ecological Footprint and Biocapacity

Hosted by the International Ecological Footprint Learning Lab (IEFLL)
April 10, 2025

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Jennie Moore
Director of Institute Sustainability,
British Columbia
Institute of Technology




Les Kuzyk
Urban Planner, at
the City of
Calgary



Peri Dworatzek
PhD Student, at
York University

Moderated by



Eric Miller
Director of Ecological
Footprint Initiative, at
York University



This webinar draws on research supported by the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada

Two Ecological Footprint Articles in the Sufficiency and Wellbeing Magazine

Peri Dworatzek, IEFLL Partnership Coordinator and PhD Student, wrote two short articles for the new magazine, Sufficiency and Wellbeing hosted on Substack. The two articles explain the value of using Ecological Footprint all the way from the global down to the local scale. You can find the links to the articles below. [Our global ecological footprint: Measuring our impact on the environment from global to individual](#) (Part 1).

[Shifting focus from individuals to communities: Measuring our impact on the environment from global to individual](#) (Part 2).

Ontario College and University Sustainability Professionals

Kiona Lo and **Eric Miller** presented on July 23 to the Ontario College and University Sustainability Professionals about their work quantifying York University's scope 1, 2, and 3 emissions and ecological footprint. For more information on this presentation, please contact iefll@footprintpartnership.net

Ecocity Peer Network Webinar Series hosted by the British Columbia Institute for Technology (BCIT)

A recording and slides are available of the most recent webinar titled “Consumption-based Solutions for Climate Action”. This webinar showcased practical tools and strategies to support equitable climate action, including a tool that displays estimates of consumption-based emissions and ecological footprint data for communities across British Columbia. **Dr. Jennie Moore**, Director of the Institute of Sustainability at BCIT, was one of a panel of speakers at the event. Access this webinar among the series, [at this link](#).

National Accounts Production

Launch of 2025 edition of National Ecological Footprint and Biocapacity Accounts on Earth Day

The 2025 Edition of the National Ecological Footprint and Biocapacity Accounts was launched this past Earth Day. This marked the first launch that brought together data analysts from across the Atlantic Ocean, from York University and the University of Iceland. **Eric Miller**, Director of the Ecological Footprint Initiative (EFI) moderated and hosted the event. Other presenters included, **Kiona Lo**, Senior Data Analyst at EFI; **Peri Dworatzek**, IEFL Partnership Coordinator and York University PhD Student; **Neha Basnet**, EFI Data Analyst and York University MES Student; **Joanna Silva**, EFI Data Analyst and York University MES Student; and **Joanna Louise Van Berkum**, EFI Data Analyst and University of Iceland Masters Student. Other data analysts from the University of Iceland include **Rakel Baerings Halldórsdóttir** and **Matthew Don Reimer Dyck**.

This event brought people from around the world to celebrate in another successful edition of data that includes Ecological Footprint and Biocapacity data for all countries around the world on a timeline from 1961 to 2024. The recording of the event is available on the [IEFL YouTube account](#).



From left to right starting in top row: Kiona Lo, Eric Miller, Peri Dworatzek, Neha Basnet, Joanna Silva, Joanna Louise Van Berkum, Rakel Baerings Halldórsdóttir , Matthew Don Reimer Dyck

Launch of 2025 edition of National Ecological Footprint and Biocapacity Accounts on Earth Day

As we start a new edition of the national accounts, we have new additions to the team of brilliant data analysts from York University and the University of Iceland. Continuing from previous editions, **Eric Miller** expertly leading the production and innovation of the accounts; while **Kiona Lo** and **Peri Dworatzek** are expanding the research and development of the accounts in relation to the partnership goals. **Neha Basnet** and **Joanna Louise Van Berkum** are moving on to team leadership roles to train and support the new cohort of data analysts.

Drumroll for our new team of data analysts producing the 2026 edition... from York University: **Beatrice Foley**, **Bumika Srikanthalingam**, and **Anna Long**. From the University of Iceland: **Petra Dimitoriva Toneva**, **Marina Ermina**, and **Clara Klinkenberg**. This edition will incorporate innovative methodological updates – more to be released later this year.



Meet an IEFL Member

Kiona Lo, Senior Data Analyst at the Ecological Footprint Initiative (EFI), was attracted to EFI because of the application of informatics in the interdisciplinary field of environmental studies. Kiona has a science background, having earned her undergraduate degree in biology. Kiona discovered in working with the data in her first summer that she wasn't creating data so much as quality checking the data that was coming in. Her preoccupation was not so much with the data points themselves, but quality checking the data to see if it had been uploaded correctly and that no changes had been made unintentionally. Read more on the IEFL blog, [link here](#).



Publications

Kish, K. and K. Pal. (2025). Calculating the Biocapacity of the Saugeen Ojibway Nation Claims of Title and Treaty. The Journal of Aboriginal Economic Development, 15(1). <https://doi.org/10.29173/jaed495>

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Have something you want to share? [Fill out this online form](#) to share announcements, publications, and events in our next newsletter.

Explore our website: <https://www.footprintpartnership.net/>

The International Ecological Footprint Learning Lab partnership newsletter is edited by **Peri Dworatzek**, Partnership Coordinator of IEFL. If you have any questions or comments, please email: iefl@footprintpartnership.net