



Richer than Gold: Biodiversity vs. Industrial Mining

Roo Vandegrift, Friday, September 11, 2020

3:00 – 4:00 PM, Zoom Virtual meeting room

Presentation: Join Dr. Roo Vandegrift for an exciting adventure into one of the last unlogged watersheds in western Ecuador, to document the rich biodiversity that is threatened by mining. He and his international team of researchers led a National Geographic funded expedition into the heart of the threatened Los Cedros Protected forest to help describe its wonders. Dr. Vandegrift will share background on the fungal biodiversity of the region (with notes on other kingdoms and a special focus on the genus *Xylaria*), highlight preliminary findings from this recent adventure, and discuss current and future challenges for preserving this part of the planet. He will also share his recent project: an effort to communicate these pressing conservation concerns by producing a feature-length documentary film, called *Marrow of the Mountain*. Expect beautiful images of wonderful organisms!

For more information about the film project and how to contribute: marrowofthemountain.com

About the speaker: Roo earned his PhD in 2016 from the University of Oregon in the lab of Dr. Bitty Roy. He is a mycologist, artist, and environmental activist who is currently working as producer for the feature length documentary film, *Marrow of the Mountain*.

Seminar information: This seminar will be held virtually via Zoom. To log into the seminar please use the following web link:

<https://zoom.us/j/94667395095?pwd=VWFiMTg2MVdCWVhxbXp2bnROcidiZz09>

