



UNIVERSITY OF WYOMING ENR Highlights



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THE BIM KENDALL HOUSE, NEW HOME OF THE ENR PROGRAM

The Environment and Natural Resources Program (ENR) has moved into its new home, the Bim Kendall House, located just west of campus on Fremont and Eighth streets. This new office location is the center of the ENR program, housing the Haub School, Ruckelshaus Institute, and Wyoming Conservation Corps. The Bim Kendall House, with its new energy-efficient addition, provides office, classroom, and common spaces for students, staff, and faculty. The 1950s prairie-style building, formally known as the Verna J. Hitchcock House, has been retrofitted with sustainable building materials and renewable energy technologies. ENR is seeking the silver level in LEED (Leadership in

Energy and Environmental Design) certification from the U.S. Green Building Council.

ENR's new home also includes the Bergman Gardens, in honor of former ENR director Harold Bergman. The xeriscape, which includes a variety of native plants, was made possible thanks to generous donations from members of the Ruckelshaus Institute Board.

The Kendall House renovation and construction was made possible by the generous gift from Don and Bim Kendall. The project also received funding from the Kresge Foundation, Rocky Mountain Power, and matches by the Wyoming State Legislature.

Wyoming Conservation Corps Hits the Field!

The 2010 WCC Field Season began in May with a successful orientation and field trainings. Thirty-eight crew members were trained in Wilderness First Aid, and 40 students in Leave No Trace camping techniques.

While camping at Camp Jack at Curt Gowdy State Park, crews discussed the mission of the WCC program and were trained on how to build trails. WCC crew members logged more than 800 hours of work for the park during the three-day training. During orientation, crews also met with key leaders involved in public lands management, including Jamie Wolf with the Wyoming Outdoor Council, Nick Agopian with Devon Energy, ENR leaders, Indy Burke, Courtney Carlson, and Steve Smutko, and the Assistant Dean of Students, Matt Caires.

Also in May, WCC celebrated AmeriCorps week by participating in several volunteer projects to benefit local organizations in Laramie.

Click [here](#) to view a pdf of the schedule of WCC's Summer Projects.

WCC working with Devon Energy to install a wildlife-friendly enclosure, near Rawlins.



SAVE THE DATE!

"Bark Beetle Impacts in the Intermountain West — Redefining Post-Disturbance Forests and Management Strategies"

A workshop to evaluate science status, management approaches, and policy implications

Oct. 4 — 5, 2010

UW Conference Center & Hilton Garden Inn



Board members Dave Palmerlee, Pete Jorgensen, and Gary Collins with ENR's Indy Burke and Courtney Carlson, and WCC member Amelia Lauenroth at Sinks Canyon State Park, near Lander.

William D. Ruckelshaus Institute

The Ruckelshaus Institute completed the first training in its 2010 series for natural resource professionals on "Decision-Making in Natural Resources and Communications." Nearly 30 people from industry, conservation organizations, and local and state agencies attended the one-day training on Facilitating Controversial Public Issues, which was held in June in Lander. The next training is "Negotiations Skills in Natural Resource Management," scheduled for Aug. 18-19 in Sheridan. The final training in the series is "Media and Communications Skills," scheduled for Oct. 13-14 in Jackson. Please register online at www.uwyo.edu/enr/ienr.

52 presentations by scientists who were selected to share their research on the management, treatment, protection, and use of water associated with energy development. The keynote address was given by John Veil, manager of the Water Policy Program at Argonne National Laboratory in Washington D.C. Videos of the presentations are online at www.uwyo.edu/enr/ienr/pwc.



Wyoming Open Spaces Initiative

A new report by the Ruckelshaus Institute, titled "Improving Big Game Migration Corridors in Southwest Wyoming," is now available to the public. The publication details the efforts of the Corridor Conservation Campaign, an initiative to address fencing barriers that big game species such as pronghorn, mule deer, elk and moose encounter on their historic migration corridors connecting their winter and summer ranges. This

project is in partnership with the Green Valley Land Trust. A pdf of the report is available online at www.uwyo.edu/enr/ienr.



Pronghorn pass under a wildlife-friendly fence. Photo courtesy of Joe Riis.

Dr. Steve Smutko leading the workshop on Facilitating Controversial Public Issues.

Produced Waters Conference

The Ruckelshaus Institute and the School of Energy Resources partnered for the "Energy Resources and Produced Waters Conference," held in May at the UW Conference Center and Hilton Garden Inn in Laramie. This international event drew more than 300 people and featured

Staff News

Ruckelshaus Institute Associate Director, Diana Hulme, will be leaving the ENR Program on July 9th after 10 years of service. She has accepted a position with Trihydro Corporation, an environmental engineering consulting firm based in Laramie. Hulme has exemplified outstanding leadership and dedication in her role with ENR, and will be sincerely missed.

ENR has restructured its leadership positions, and plans to hire additional staff in the fall to enhance its education and research efforts. Nicole Korfanta has been appointed Associate Director of ENR, Jill Lovato has been appointed Assistant Director of the Ruckelshaus Institute, and Courtney Carlson has been appointed as the permanent Assistant Director of the Haub School.

Class of 2010!

At the close of the 2010 — 2011 academic year, we celebrated 52 new Haub School graduates. Twenty-one graduate and 31 undergraduate students earned ENR concurrent majors or minors. The 2010 ENR graduates came from four colleges (College of Agriculture, College of Arts & Sciences, College of Business, and College of Education) and represent a cross-section of 27 concurrent majors.

Also during this past academic year, 38 ENR students were recognized with academic honors.



ENR graduate students Amanda Losch (left) and Jeminie Shell during the graduation ceremony at the University of Wyoming, Spring 2010.

Helga Otto Haub School

ENR Announces Plummer Scholarship Winners A faculty committee awarded 15 Plummer Scholarships for academic year 2010-2011. Awards range from \$1,000 to \$5,000 and are made in three categories, including Plummer Excellence, Achievement, and Merit. Scholarships are offered to students demonstrating commitment to and innovation within interdisciplinary environment and natural resource studies. Highest honors go to Plummer Excellence winners. Richard Vercoe is one such standout. Vercoe (MA Geography/ENR '11) has been captivated by the dynamics of environment, agriculture, and society in Northern Patagonia for at least a decade. In 2000, Vercoe co-founded the first environmental high school in Chile. He was awarded a United Nations Development Program Poverty Eradication Award for Latin America in 2002, recognizing his engagement of local

stakeholders in an effort to balance conservation interests with community development needs. With support from the Plummer Scholarship, Vercoe will return to Chile for summer fieldwork. He remains interested in the efficacy of participatory resource management processes and his latest research, a study of the social and ecological implications of potato-forest barter trade routes in the Chiloé region, calls for significant leadership from within the local community. Other recipients include: Plummer Excellence, Brie Richardson (MA American Studies/ENR '11), Nick Haderlie (JD/MA ENR '11), Jarod Waite (MS Natural Science/ENR '11), Lindsey Maritz (MS Natural Science/ENR '11), Tshering Dema (MS Natural Science/ENR '11); Plummer Achievement, Darlington Sabasi (MS Agricultural and Applied Economics/ENR '11), Nadia Kaliszewski (MA Geography/ENR '11), Kit Freedman (MA

Anthropology/ENR '11), Ryan Anderson (BS Political Science/Honors/ENR '11), Diem Pham (MS Zoology and Physiology/ENR '12), Joe Evers (JD/MA ENR '13), Paula Wright (MA English/ENR '12), and Jingwen "Amy" Kang (BA Undeclared/ENR); Plummer Merit, Rhiannon Marshall (BA Music/Honors '13).

Haub School International Travel Opportunities

Ecosystem Services in Panama is the latest international academic offering from the Haub School. This 2-credit graduate course, offered during late summer, allows students to participate in the Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute (STRI) Agua Salud ecosystem services project in the Republic of Panama. Students will interact with scientists studying botany, geochemistry, shallow subsurface hydrologic processes, above- and below-ground carbon storage, habitat fragmentation,

etc. Five graduate students and one undergraduate will pair with STRI mentors to work in the field, live in STRI housing in a Panamanian community, and gain firsthand experience with environmental issues in a developing country.

Eight students who took the *Course Cloud Forest Ecology in Ecuador* in June received significant financial support from the Haub School. The upper division University Honors Program course is a journey to Quito, Ecuador, where students have the opportunity to straddle the equator and investigate an ancient colonial city. Classes and extensive field experiences at the station immerse students in the ecology of the region. Shane Sims (International Studies/Honors/ENR '13) and Rhiannon Marshall (Music/Honors '13) were chosen from among the eight to receive full scholarships to cover the cost of tuition and travel.

WCC Making An Impact!

The WCC carries out the highest caliber of service for Wyoming's public lands. As an AmeriCorps program, WCC requires 450-900 volunteer hour commitments that start in the classroom and end in the field. Members earn a monthly stipend as well as upper-division college credits while receiving extensive training in leadership, civil engagement, and natural resource ethics.

THE 2010 FIELD SEASON

31,000+ projected hours of service on public lands: 48 students, 36 projects, including trail building, pine beetle mitigation, wildlife habitat enhancement, historic site restoration, and more.



In June, Board Chair John Turner met with members of the Wyoming Conservation Corps at The Murie Center in Moose, Wyoming. Turner discussed his philosophy on conservation and the importance of the work by the WCC, its members serving Wyoming's public lands, as well as the efforts of The Murie Center to engage people in conserving wildlife and wild places. ENR and The Murie Center will be partnering in the future to provide students with educational opportunities focused on Grand Teton National Park, and securing The Murie Center as a meeting place and venue for stakeholder engagement on natural resource collaborative decision-making by the Ruckelshaus Institute.

Wyoming Conservation Corps

WCC has thus far completed 18 different projects with seven different agency partners. A sampling of the projects include:

Crew 5 (Darrin Lutz, Amber Wilson, Asher Rosenfeld, Joshua Zeeb, David Cummings, Autumn DeMers, Madison Gaulty, Emily Erickson) worked with the Wyoming Water Development Commission (WWDC) to transplant over 3,000 willows at the High Savery Reservoir near Saratoga. This is the third project in which the WCC has partnered with the WWDC. The progress is noticeable in the newly formed willow stands that were planted by the WCC in 2007.

Crew 4 (Maxim Lowry, Caitlin Grandjean, Brent Pease, Matt Carlson, Luke Stricker, Claire Wayman, Katie Fields, Kaitlin Healy) were in the Jackson area working with three different land management agencies. Collaborating with the National Elk Refuge, the crew

replaced a dilapidated buck and rail fence that surrounds and protects a historic homestead. In Grand Teton National Park, in partnership with The Murie Center, the crew worked on restoration and trail improvement in the Jenny Lake area and near the Craig Thomas Discovery and Visitor Center in Moose, Wyoming.

Crews 1 and 2 (C1: Phil Byrne, Ali Fleck, Mike Nielson, Patrick Harrington, Maxwell Lasky, Mia Lauenroth, Sarah Boman, Amy Healy; C2: Jake White, Emily Peters, Chris Jolovich, Will Muessig, Kathryn Osgood, Ali Osgood, Laura Holthus) are working in two state parks (Sinks Canyon and South Pass City State Historic Site, respectively) on historic restoration and fire mitigation tasks.



Members of the Institute Board on tour of WCC's work sites at Sinks Canyon State Park.

WCC is currently working with the Bureau of Land Management's Rawlins field office on a project sponsored by Devon Energy. For this project, crew members are tearing down old barb wire fencing around riparian habitat known as Little Robber Reservoir and replacing it with a wildlife-friendly enclosure. The crew has been able to see first-hand how industry and land management agencies can work together to enhance habitat for wildlife. The crew also took a tour of one of Devon Energy's natural gas wells while onsite.

Indy Burke
ENR Director
Nicole Korfanta
ENR Associate Director
Courtney Carlson
Haub School Assistant Director
Jill Lovato
Ruckelshaus Institute Assistant Director
Steve Smutko
Spicer Chair
Fred Ogden
Cline Chair

Chamois Andersen
ENR Communications Director
Tim Sowecke
WCC Senior Project Coordinator
Ben Bump
WCC Senior Project Coordinator
Kendall Peacock
WCC Senior Project Coordinator
Nancy Hoffer
Office Associate Senior
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Maureen Morrison
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Abigail Mellinger
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Amber Wilson
Project Support
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Joe Evers
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Emily Robinson