



# Haub School UPDATE

NEWS FROM OUR  
ACADEMIC PROGRAMS AND  
RUCKELSHAUS INSTITUTE

SPRING 2014  
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The Haub School of Environment and Natural Resources advances the understanding and resolution of complex natural resource challenges through interdisciplinary education, dissemination of information, and collaborative decision-making.

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## LETTER FROM THE DIRECTOR

Dear Friend of the Haub School,

It's always a challenge to distill our accomplishments into a one-page letter. We have so many new projects and people, events and publications to tell you about. This newsletter will introduce you to our new minor in sustainability, our new student advising coordinator, and several important documents produced by our Ruckelshaus Institute to help citizens and natural resource managers make informed decisions.

Amidst this growth, two activities have been keeping me especially busy: preparing for my international field course this spring and fundraising.

This year the Haub School offers environment and natural resources field courses that will take students to Spain's Canary Islands, Kenya's Laikipia Plateau, and Wyoming's Grand Teton and Yellowstone National Parks. Over spring break I will travel with my Ecogeography of International Rangelands students to Argentina's remote Patagonian rangelands. We'll partner with students from the University of Buenos Aires to explore challenges and opportunities for creating an environmentally sustainable future.

We believe that field and international courses greatly enrich student experiences, give them tangible situations to apply ideas from the classroom and help them engage with real-world issues to make them better thinkers and problem solvers. One of the reasons we can offer such rich experiences to our students is because of the generous private support we receive from people who believe in our mission and want to make a difference in the future of natural resource management.

Our programs are bursting at the seams, so I've been fundraising to help our budget keep up with our growth. I've been traveling the country meeting people who are enthused about our vision. Their support helps us train future leaders to be adept problem solvers and critical thinkers, and to apply scientific approaches and measure cultural and other values as they weigh in on natural resource decision making.

So much of our work is supported by dear friends of the Haub School. Special thanks go to Carl and Emily Knobloch of the Knobloch Family Foundation, which you'll read more about in a few pages, Liliane and Christian Haub, John and Mary Kay Turner, Gil and Marge Ordway, Dick and Mary Lou Taggart, and the Walton Family Foundation. We welcome contributions of any size to our programs. Please visit our website or give us a phone call for more information or to offer your support.

Read on to learn about all the exciting new developments at the Haub School of Environment and Natural Resources.

Sincerely,

Indy Burke, Director

On the cover: View south from Wyoming's Snowy Range in the springtime.  
 Above right: Wind turbines near Medicine Bow, Wyoming.  
 Right: Meghann Cranford

## ACADEMIC PROGRAMS

## Now Offering a Minor in Sustainability



Many organizations seek sustainability experts who can improve business models and customer relations by reducing waste, cutting pollution, implementing efficiency, and enhancing environmental stewardship. As time goes on, the need for the creative and systematic thinking behind sustainable solutions will only grow. Through its new minor in sustainability, the Haub School gives future leaders and problem solvers the skills they need to address

some of society's greatest challenges.

"Sustainability will be part of the future, and I want to be part of that," says Meghann Cranford, a freshman at UW and one of the first UW students to add the new minor in sustainability.

Meghann grew up in Evanston and loves living in Wyoming, so she was excited to learn that she could pursue her interest in sustainability at UW.



She is completing a double major in environment and natural resources and energy resource management with a minor in sustainability.

Undergraduate students pursuing any primary degree at the University of Wyoming can add the sustainability minor. They read such pivotal texts as *Cradle to Cradle* (McDonough and Braungart, 2002) and the Bruntland Report (United Nations, 1987). They also tackle a hands-on project that makes the UW campus more sustainable. And they take elective courses from one of three tracks: food systems, renewable energy, or social and business sustainability.

When they graduate, students like Meghann will have a solid understanding of what sustainability means, and they'll be able to critically analyze systems and identify ways to make them last into the future. Whether these grads seek work in business or engineering, agriculture or education, or any number of other fields, their sustainability training will make them stand out from other candidates.

And sustainability is fun. Meghann says these classes are her favorite part of being a UW student so far. She likes sharing ideas with her classmates as she learns about existing sustainability projects and the work that still needs to be done.



## NEW ENDOWED FACULTY POSITION

# Knobloch Chair for Conservation Economics and Finance

The Haub School is launching a major campaign to endow a suite of interdisciplinary chairs at UW. These faculty positions will enhance the university's prominence in environment and natural resources expertise, provide invaluable educational opportunities for Haub School students, and conduct research to develop critical new understanding for sustainable natural resource management.

The Knobloch Family Foundation has made a significant investment in Wyoming's future by funding an endowed chair position in conservation economics and finance at UW. Liliane and Christian Haub, John and Mary Kay Turner, and the state of Wyoming provided additional support.

"Wyoming has one of the largest and wildest assemblages of wildlife as well as vast functioning ecosystems, permeable landscapes where animals can move freely, and what is arguably one of the greatest migration landscapes left on earth," says Steve Sharkey, a member of the Knobloch Family Foundation board. "In addition, Wyoming has had intensive energy development that is likely to continue into the future. How do you mitigate its impacts? How do you

maximize wildlife populations and allow that energy extraction? Carl [Knobloch] believes UW should work on these issues."

The Knobloch Excellence Chair for Conservation Economics and Finance will teach and conduct research for the Haub School of Environment and Natural Resources and the College of Business Department of Economics and Finance. Conservation economics and finance is an emerging field with potential to shape the future of landscape management. The position will teach undergraduate and graduate students about the value of natural capital—robust, functioning ecosystems as foundations to human economies and experiences. In addition, the chair will conduct research to understand how natural processes and resources interact with economic systems.

Fundraising efforts continue to endow additional environment and natural resources faculty positions at the University of Wyoming. For more information, please contact Director Indy Burke at [indy.burke@uwyo.edu](mailto:indy.burke@uwyo.edu) or (307) 766-5080.



RUCKELSHAUS INSTITUTE

# Collaboration Program in Natural Resources

## Governor's Task Force on Forests

Governor Matt Mead has asked the Ruckelshaus Institute to facilitate a task force of 20 Wyoming citizens that will address impacts of the bark beetle outbreak and other disturbances to the state's forests. The task force members represent ranching, conservation, the timber industry, communities and counties, the U.S. Forest Service, the Wyoming Game and Fish Department, and other constituents.

They will meet five times this year and produce recommendations that the governor can apply to improve forest conditions and address wildfire risks in Wyoming.

Meetings are two days each and are open to the public. The next meeting takes place March 19 and 20 in Lander. Visit the Ruckelshaus Institute website for meeting agendas, summaries, and other documents related to the Task Force's work.



The Ruckelshaus Institute's first Collaboration Program in Natural Resources class will graduate in March. These 15 natural resource professionals have attended training sessions and undertaken collaborative problem solving projects.

Jessica Clement, research scientist in human dimensions of natural resources, directs the program. Steve Smutko, Professor and Spicer Chair in Collaborative Practice, is an instructor.

"Through collaborative approaches we can discover solutions that we might not have otherwise found," says Clement. "When people collaborate, they buy into solutions and see them through to fruition."

The participants attend training sessions on negotiation, collaboration, public participation, and environmental decision-making. They hear from such experts as Bob Budd, Wyoming Wildlife and Natural Resources Trust; Tara Kuipers, community development for UW Cooperative Extension Service; and Buddy Green, deputy state director for resource policy and management at the Bureau of Land Management in Wyoming.

Participants also initiate a real-world project such as establishing a community forum to address land management issues, protecting sage grouse habitat surrounding energy development, or partnering with private landowners to dismantle old well infrastructure. These are just a few examples of projects from the first Collaboration Program class.

The graduates, who earned certificates in March, will now take new skills and experiences back to their communities across the state and will contribute to inclusive, effective decision-making for difficult natural resource questions.

The Ruckelshaus Institute seeks applicants to the second Collaboration Program cohort. The program will run from April 2014 to March 2015 and will include six sessions. To apply, visit the Ruckelshaus Institute website.



**Above right:** CPNR participants meet at the Wyoming Game and Fish office in Lander.

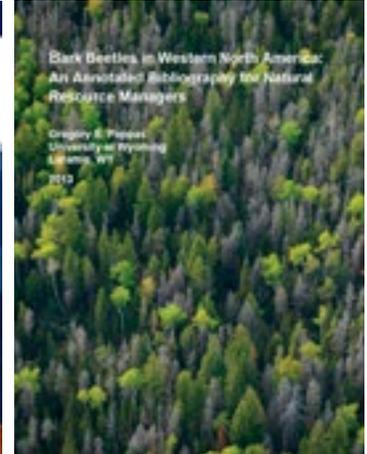
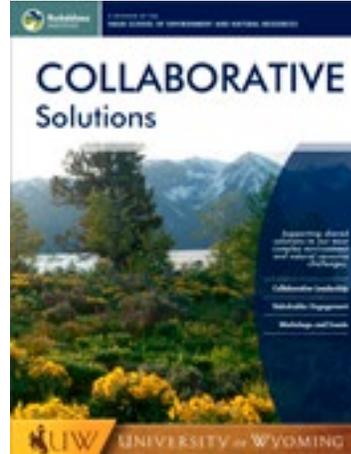
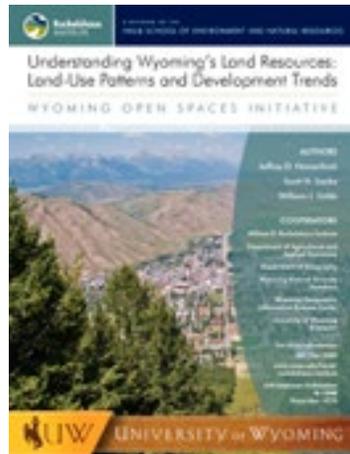
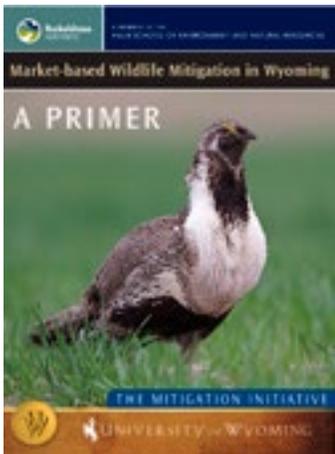
**Above:** Yellowstone's forests 25 years after the 1988 fires.

**Left:** Participants from the Ruckelshaus Institute's Conservation Finance Forum inspect a proposed mitigation bank on the Pathfinder Ranch.



## NEW PUBLICATIONS

# Outreach Materials Inform Natural Resource Management



### Market-Based Wildlife Mitigation in Wyoming: A Primer

The latest publication of the Energy Mitigation Research and Outreach Initiative covers the basics of mitigation banks, conservation banks, and habitat exchanges and describes how these markets are emerging or might be used in Wyoming. The primer untangles the terminology and components of these sometimes-complex systems and provides concrete examples of existing and proposed wildlife mitigation markets in Wyoming and the West.

### Understanding Wyoming's Land Resources: Land-Use Patterns and Development Trends

This publication provides a basis for citizens to design intentional futures for their communities. This latest publication of the Wyoming Open Spaces Initiative outlines the characteristics of land use and land-use patterns in Wyoming. This report is the first in a series that will describe how Wyoming's citizens can create and maintain communities where people want to live, work, and conduct business.

### Collaborative Solutions

The Ruckelshaus Institute contributes to collaborative solutions for natural resource challenges in several ways. The institute offers professional trainings to give natural resource professionals skills in collaborative decision-making. We also facilitate collaborative decision-making processes and offer workshops, roundtables, conferences, and speaker series to provide citizens and decision makers with information so they can make sound, informed decisions for natural resource management.

### Bark Beetles in Western North America: An Annotated Bibliography for Natural Resource Managers

Produced in partnership with the Medicine Bow-Routt National Forests, this annotated bibliography of peer-reviewed scientific literature identifies, organizes, and summarizes useful bark beetle literature with an emphasis on resources that cover the human dimensions of the epidemic, including social and economic impacts of forest disturbance and community responses.



### JUST LAUNCHED Western Confluence

*Western Confluence* is a new bi-annual magazine published by the Ruckelshaus Institute. The magazine reports on natural resource research and management in the West and will become a reliable source of science and policy information for natural resource decision makers. By telling the stories of difficult natural resource decisions, and of the scientific and collaborative problem solving that helps overcome those challenges, *Western Confluence* aims to engage a wide audience to think about and work on responsible, well-informed natural resource management.

Visit [www.westernconfluence.org](http://www.westernconfluence.org) to download the magazine, read articles, or add yourself to the mailing list. The first four issues will be free. Comments, questions, and story ideas can be sent to [editor@westernconfluence.org](mailto:editor@westernconfluence.org).



**Our Staff Grows**

**Melanie Matthews** joined the Haub School staff in October as an academic advisor. Melanie’s addition to our team will ensure that all 150-plus undergraduate students get individual attention to design fitting programs of study. She shares this task with Maggie Bourque, who has advised our undergraduate students since 2011.

Melanie earned a M.S. in rangeland ecology and watershed management with environment and natural resources from the Haub School in spring 2012. Her thesis project was an analysis of terraced agricultural systems in Central America related to landslide hazard mitigation and land use change.

Melanie brings GIS skills, Spanish fluency, and experience wrestling with complex natural resource issues like sustainable food production.

**Fred Schmechel** joined us last summer as our marketing coordinator, a role he also performs for the university's business incubator, the Wyoming Technology Business Center. Before working with the University of Wyoming, Fred advised many non-profit organizations on their branding and marketing needs, using knowledge and expertise he picked up while in the printing industry.

He grew up in Cheyenne, Wyoming, and earned his B.A. in art and his master of public administration from UW. Fred's visual work has appeared in the National Wildlife Museum in Jackson, Wyoming. In addition, he has studied under acclaimed graphic designer David Carson, and he has served as director of photography for a producer from "The Daily Show with Jon Stewart."

**HAUB SCHOOL COMMUNITY**  
**Farewell to a Cherished Friend**

We, at the Haub School, are deeply saddened by the loss of our friend Beverly Spicer on January 26th.

In 2002, Bev endowed the Spicer Chair of Collaborative Practice in honor of her late husband, Eldon. That endowment has enabled the Ruckelshaus Institute to facilitate collaborative solutions for many of Wyoming’s biggest natural resource challenges.

“We were ranchers interested in multiple land use and conservation as well as in protecting the rights of private property owners,” Beverly Spicer said in 2002. “The chair seemed a far-reaching way to help in all these areas. We hope that this chair will benefit not only UW, but also the state of Wyoming and all its residents.”

Bev’s generosity, combined with her strong commitment to developing collaborative solutions that resolve natural resource challenges, continues to benefit the lives of residents of Wyoming and the west.



Left to right: Haub School Board Chair John Turner, Spicer Chair of Collaborative Practice Steve Smutko, Beverly Spicer, and Haub School Director Indy Burke

**SUPPORT THE MISSION OF THE HAUB SCHOOL**

My gift/pledge to the University of Wyoming Haub School of Environment and Natural Resources:

- \$100
- \$250
- \$500
- \$1000
- Other \$

This gift is designated for:

- Haub School General Fund
  - Academic Programs
  - Ruckelshaus Institute
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**ALUMNA SPOTLIGHT**

Amy Sherwood, M.A. International Studies and ENR, '11

After receiving a B.A. in biology at Doane College, Amy pursued an M.A. in international studies and environment and natural resources from the University of Wyoming. As a graduate student, Amy studied community capacity to adapt to climate change by examining drought-coping mechanisms used by small-scale farmers in rural Kenya. Amy currently works at Nuru International, a U.S.-based social venture that equips poor people living in remote, rural areas to end extreme poverty in their communities. She has also worked for the Jane Goodall Institute as a project and volunteer coordinator for their Roots & Shoots program in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania. Amy previously worked as a university research assistant, Wyoming Conservation Corps crew leader, and in small-scale organic agriculture.



The Haub School helped to prepare me for my work with Nuru International by funding my thesis research on small scale farmers in Kenya, but more importantly by linking my science background from my undergraduate work to a human element.

This has allowed me to take skills, expertise, and knowledge that I gained through quality education and transfer those to a part of the world where people aren't quite as lucky.

-Amy Sherwood

**HAUB SCHOOL OF ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES**

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