

## Academic Personnel Report – May 2026

### A. Items for Action Recommended by the President and Interim Provost

#### 1. Promotions

College	Unit	First Name	Last Name	Action	Recommended Rank
<b>Research and Economic Development Division</b>	WYNDD	Paige	Copenhaver - Parry	Promote to	Senior Research Scientist
	WYNDD	Ellen	Whittle	Promote to	Associate Research Scientist

#### Supplemental Information: Promotion of Non-Tenure Track Faculty on Fixed Terms to Associate or Senior Rank

##### Research & Economic Development Division

*Wyoming Natural Diversity Database (WYNDD)*

##### **Copenhaver-Parry, Paige**

Senior Research Scientist

Dr. Paige-Copenhaver Parry earned her PhD. in Ecology from the University of Wyoming in 2016 and was appointed Assistant Professor at George Fox University in the same year. She ascended to the Holman Endowed Associate Professor of Biology in 2021. Dr. Copenhaver-Parry was hired as Lead Ecologist (Associate Research Scientist) at the UW-Wyoming Natural Diversity Database in 2022. She has been awarded over 27 grants and fellowships totaling over \$2,198,000, is an Elected Member of the Ecological Society of America Vegetation Panel, serves as Faculty Advisor for one UW graduate student, served as Faculty Mentor for two UW post-doctoral researchers, and supervises one PhD. level Assistant Ecologist. Her past supervisees include 14 undergraduate researchers and >30 field technicians and data assistants, with those totals growing each year. She is widely known as a leader in vegetation ecology, and especially in the application of LiDAR imagery to high-resolution mapping of vegetation structure, throughout the Rocky Mountain region.

*Wyoming Natural Diversity Database (WYNDD)*

##### **Whittle, Ellen**

Associate Research Scientist

Ellen Whittle began working for the Wyoming Natural Diversity Database (WYNDD; University of Wyoming) in 2016 as a zoologist and remained an integral member of the WYNDD zoology team throughout her MS degree program. She completed her MS in Zoology and Physiology from the University of Wyoming in 2022 and was hired full time by WYNDD as an Assistant Research Scientist in that same year. Ms. Whittle is a consummate field biologist and ecologist, with rare expertise in conceptualizing, planning, and completing field research projects addressing the ecology of bats in the Rocky Mountain region. Her recent collaboration on the vaccination of free-ranging bats against noted fungal pathogens in Wyoming has garnered special accolades for UW. WYNDD now relies on her to acquire and manage externally funded projects as full PI, and to produce technical reports and other synthetic information products as lead author. She now serves as direct supervisor/mentor of junior staff and is relied upon by the WYNDD Director to be the primary point-of-contact between WYNDD and a range of important state and federal partners.