

Haub School of Environment and Natural Resources Report to the UW Board of Trustees May 2024

The Haub School of Environment and Natural Resources supports students as well as citizens, stakeholders, and decision makers by giving them the skills and tools they need to build durable, inclusive solutions to our most pressing environment and natural resource challenges.

Spring Advisory Board Meeting

The Haub School Advisory Board is holding its spring meeting in Rock Springs on May 2nd and 3rd. We are grateful for 6 years of service from advisory board members Karen Kemmerer, Leslie Mattson, and Beth White who will be leaving the board.

Tobin Memorial Award and Rosemarie Martha Spitaleri Award Nominees

The Haub School is proud to have three finalists who were honored at an awards ceremony on April 29th

Kellyn Chandler, BS in Wildlife & Fisheries Biology & Management; Double major in Environment & Natural Resources; Minors in Sustainability and the University Honors Program. Co-Leader – Sustainability Coalition. Hometown: Dubois, WY

Emma Jones, BS in Environment & Natural Resources; Double major in Political Science; Minors in Creative Writing and the University Honors Program; Certificate in Remote Sensing; President – ENR Club. Hometown: Papillon, Nebraska

Griffin Willard, BS in Environmental Systems Science; Double major in Environment & Natural Resources; Minors in International Studies and the University Honors Program; Vedauwoo Volunteer Firefighter. Hometown: Palo Alto, CA

First Year Student Programming

Our vision for high-impact first-year programming continues to provide unique and meaningful learning experiences for incoming students. As we welcome the class of 2028 this coming fall, Assistant Lecturer Richard Vercoe will again lead the Haub School's version of UW-wide "Saddle Up" programming in the week prior to the semester, and we will offer many local field trip and guest speaker opportunities to engage students in ENR, ESS, and ORTM 1000-level courses.

We are reimagining our introductory course building from our previous first-year seminar: Thinking Like a Mountain (ENR 1010). As a large-scale active learning course, Associate Lecturer Maggie Bourque will teach 80-100 students in a mix of large and small group, field- and classroom-based, discussion-driven and activity-rich learning environments. Open to any students interested in the topic and required for those earning an ENR major or minor from the Haub School, we have also partnered with faculty and advisors in the College of Agriculture, Life Science, and Natural Resources to serve their programs; all incoming first-year students pursuing the Wildlife and Fisheries Biology and Management undergraduate degree will enroll in ENR 1010 this fall, advancing our goal of increasing interdisciplinary thinking and environmental literacy across campus.

Ruckelshaus Institute Updates

In August 2023, the Bureau of Land Management released its Draft Resource Management Plan (RMP) for the Rock Springs Field Office in southwest Wyoming. In response to public outcry, Wyoming Governor Mark Gordon assembled a task force to develop consensus recommendations for revising the Draft RMP to meet the needs of Wyoming stakeholders. The RI facilitated the task force meetings and a series of interactive public workshops to help inform task force deliberations. Public meetings held in Rock Springs, Green River, and Farson—highlighted key values like access to the land, multiple use, listening to locals, and protecting livelihoods and quality of life in southwest Wyoming. The final report submitted to the BLM as a public comment and to the governor—contains >100 recommendations for specific management actions as well as 24 agreements in principle. More information and documentation at uwyo.edu/rmp

3rd Annual Wild and Working Lands Film Festival. More than 200 people attended our third annual festival on Thursday, March 28, at the Gryphon Theatre in Laramie. A second screening was held in April 12th at the Cody Theater in Cody, Wyoming. Award-winning conservation photographer Michael Forsberg provided the keynote address in a mixer before the festival screened in Laramie.

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The Collaboration Program in Natural Resources (CPNR) graduated its largest class of 19 on April 19. Some of the collaboration projects included:

- Partnerships between USDA, the State of Wyoming, and Tribes to protect big game habitat on Tribal lands
- Developing a micro-internship cooperative between Casper College, Natrona County, and the UW Worth Initiative
- Developing collaborative approaches to launching and sustaining a community garden in Buffalo
- Gender diversity in the WY Game and Fish Department - focusing on recruiting, hiring, and retention practices
- Educational programs to cultivate shared knowledge of federal environmental planning and relationships between County Commissioners, state officials, and federal officials
- Pathways to secure access for Eastern Shoshone and Northern Arapahoe Tribal members to off-reservation Treaty hunting rights post-Herrera decision
- Collaborative development of guidance documents for DEQ Land Quality Division permitting specific to Trona solution mining

The **2024 Collaboration Symposium**, held April 19 in Jackson, explored the many shades and shapes that collaboration takes in the real world. More than 60 participants learned from each other's successes and failures, in conversation and workshops. A keynote address from former Bears Ears Intertribal Coalition Co-chair Regina Lopez-Whiteskunk focused on collaborative stewardship with tribes, as it played out in the creation and now management of Bears Ears National Monument.

Wyoming Outdoor Recreation, Tourism, and Hospitality (WORTH) Initiative Updates

The 2024 Outdoor Recreation Summit was held in Casper April 18-20th with over 175 people attending. The summit included a half day of outings and a full day devoted to Wyoming Search and Rescue teams.