I plan to deliver the course in a modular form with one module each week. The materials will be posted on the Canvas website. Each week we will have a short video summarizing the material, a reading or two, and often a writing assignment. We will get together once a week at a time that is generally agreeable to the students for a video conference. During this period we can have group discussions on the week’s material, assignments, and progress in the class. Below is an outline for the 15 modules. We will use selected readings from the text book: Natural Resource Administration; Wildlife, Fisheries, Forests and Parks by Donald Sparling. You can purchase the book from Amazon or download selected chapters from the internet. I will post the supplemental readings at least one week prior to the module date.

**Weekly Schedule**

**Module 1 – Foundations of Natural Resources**  Week of Aug. 26  
**Reading**  Chapter 1, pp. 3-26

View the power-point discussion of this reading.

**Supplemental readings**  – Pp. 165-226 in A Sand County Almanac, Aldo Leopold

**Writing assignment**  – Describe the differences between natural resources management under concepts of Sustained Yield and Ecosystem Services. Which concepts do you think provides a better framework for management decisions today? Use the two readings to bolster your discussion.

**Module 2 – Historical Perspectives of Conservation**  – Week of Sept 2  
**Readings**  – p. 27-51

View Power-point on historical perspectives

**Supplemental readings**

  Conservation Conundrum: Is focusing on a single species a good strategy. Yale 360.  
Writing assignment - Summarize the critique of single species conservation efforts in the Yale360 and Ecologist readings. Do you agree with the authors’ assessments of single species management?

Module 3 - Week of Sept 9 – Wildlife Management
Chapter 3, pp. 55-74
View Power-point

Writing Assignment – What are the major success stories and failures of protected areas in conservation planning?

Module 4 – Week of Sept. 16– Key Environmental Laws
Chapter 4, pp 75-102
View power-point
Supplemental reading - California’s mighty predator, the mountain lion, faces extinction vortex. LA Times, June 25, 2019.

Writing assignments – How has the concept of “evolutionarily significant unit” influenced the legal standing of endangered species? OR
- Should GMO techniques be used to eliminate a species?

Module 5 – Week of Sept. 23 - Department of Interior
Chapter 6, pp127-172
View power-point
Suplementary reading - Brett Roper commentary on Wild Horse and Burro issues.

Writing assignment – How do we balance local interest versus national sensibilities in environmental management?

Module 6 - Week of Sept. 30 – Department of Agriculture
Chapter 7, pp 173-198

Writing assignment – How should genetically engineered organisms be used in natural resource management?
Module 7 Week of Oct. 7 – State level administration
Chapter 8, pp. 199-215
In American West, Big Game need unbroken migration routes. US Public Lands and Rivers Conservation, May 31, 2019.

Writing assignment – What are the challenges and opportunities of state versus federal management of natural resources in the Western US?

Module 8 – Week of Oct. 14 - Take Home Exam
Due Oct. 21

Module 9 – Week of Oct. 21 - Non-governmental Agencies
Chapter 9, 219-243

Writing assignment – How has citizen science assisted in the conservation of natural resources?

Module 10 – Week of Oct. 28 - Stakeholders, Clients, Cooperators
Chapter 10, pp 245-275
Supplemental Reading – TBD

Writing assignment – Describe the tension between stakeholder groups and government agencies. Does this relationship help or hurt the conservation of natural resources?

Module 11 – Week of Nov. 4 - Public Relations
Chapters 11, 277-300
Supplemental Reading – TBD

Writing Assignment – Describe how public relations has harmed the management of natural resources.

Module 12 – Week of Nov. 11 - Funding, Budgeting, Planning
Chapter 12, pp 301-323

No writing assignment – begin preparation for student presentations.

Module 13 – Week of Nov. 18 - Take home exam
Due Nov. 29
Module 14 – Week off for Thanksgiving
   Work on exam – Due Nov. 29

Module 15 – Week of Dec. 5 - Student presentations

Grading –
Weekly assignments – 10 assignments - Total points 100
Midterm exam – 100 points
Final exam – 150 points
Student presentation – 50 points
Total points for course – 400 points

Plagiarism -
   Recently a number of cases of plagiarism have been reported where a student turned in a
   paper in which the student simply cut and pasted passages from a series of web pages. In our new
   information age it is worthwhile to remind everyone about the sections of the student code that
deal with cheating and plagiarism.

“Acts of academic dishonesty.
   Cheating includes intentionally: (1) using or attempting to use or providing others with any
   unauthorized assistance in taking quizzes, tests, examinations, or in any other academic
   exercise or activity; (2) depending upon the aid of sources beyond those authorized by the
   instructor in writing papers, preparing reports, solving problems, or carrying out other
   assignments; (3) substituting for another student, or permitting another student to substitute
   for oneself, in taking an examination or preparing academic work; (4) acquiring tests or other
   academic material belonging to a faculty member, staff member, or another student without
   express permission; (5) engaging in any form of research fraud.
   It also includes the unacknowledged use of materials prepared by another person or agency
   engaged in the selling of term papers or other academic materials. “USU Student Code:
   Article V”