Conservation Bill Passes House Committee

By Christy Shumway

The Conservation and Reinvestment Act (CARA), a groundbreaking push towards preserving the environment, passed the house committee this month and is now headed to the House and Senate. If passed, this bill will put 2.5 billion dollars annually into federal and state conservation programs.

Here in Utah, wildlife conservation funds would increase by 4.6 million dollars annually if CARA becomes law this spring.

CARA would redirect fifty percent of all offshore oil tax revenue towards three separate programs: (I) Coastal Impact Assistance, (II) Land-based Recreation, and (III) Wildlife Conservation and Recreation.

Title III of CARA may be the lifeline protecting wildlife diversity into the 21st century. For years, nonnative species have been on the decline, with many species putting out and dropping one by one onto the endangered species list. Cost of recovery programs soars into the millions, and many programs have been reactive, aimed at small remaining populations of endangered species.

In an effort to proactively address the decline in species diversity, Title III of CARA allocates 569 million not only to direct wildlife conservation, but also to related recreation and education. Supporters believe a combination of wise management and increased public involvement will be key to finding and implementing programs which will benefit wildlife diversity in the future.

Despite an overall positive outlook after CARA passed the House Committee, CARA still has a long way to go. It must be passed by both the House and Senate, and then return to a committee who will iron out differences between House and Senate versions. The re-worked bill will then return to the House and Senate for a CARA continued on page 3

Range Department

By Angie Burke

The Mission and Vision of the Rangeland Resources Department, as well as other interesting information, are found on the department's attractive web-site at www.cnr.usu.edu/range. Their mission is, “Improving our understanding of the ecology and management of rangelands for the state of Utah and the world.”

The Range Department offers the degree of Rangeland Resources with emphasis in Rangeland Ecology, Rangeland Restoration, Rangeland Resource Specialist, or Rangeland Stewardship.

As with other majors in the College of Natural Resources, Rangeland Resource majors who graduate are choosing more and more to go after higher degrees. Careers pursued vary from research and teaching to extension and even international range management.

Many of our rangelands are not in good condition and must be improved. This means that rangeland managers are increasing in demand. In the past, range managers RANGE continued on page 3

By Tricia Ashby

Dashing to and fro,
A final I must take,
Over the mounds of snow,
When is Christmas break?

I stayed up late to cram,
My eyes are bloodshot red,
I can't miss this exam,
But I'd rather be in bed.

Oh, testing smells, testing smells,
Not more tests today!
Make them stop, please make them stop
Just make them go away, Hey!
Testing smells, testing smells,
Finally, I'm through.
Christmas time is almost here,
And I have much to do.
Mo - Money, Lots and Lots of Money !!!

By Megan Curtis

Money. Everyone wants it, but only a few select people have it. Odds are, you’re not one of those select few. Luckily for us income-challenged people, someone came up with a really nice idea; scholarships. How do you go about getting one of these scholarships? Does the scholarship fairy come to you at night and give you money if you leave your tax return under your pillow? Unfortu-
nately not, but there is someone in the NR College who can help you out.

In the main arboretum, you’ll see a nice office of windows; this office belongs to Maureen Wagner and she should be considered your new best friend, or at the very least your hero. Any scholarship information you want will come straight from her.

The problem with scholarships is that the money is there, but you need to put out the effort. There was actually a scholarship last year that went unawarded. Can you believe it? Free money didn’t go to anyone! As for the rest of the scholarships, the application pool was very low! C’mon people! Go into Maureen’s office and very nicely ask for some scholarship applications. The CNR scholarship applications will hopefully be out by Christmas so you can work on the paperwork over Christmas. The due date for these applications has been tentatively set for February first. So get the applications and turn them in; what’s a little pen ink when you have the chance to get some free money?

New CNR Teacher

By Esther Yardley

Nicole Haynes, the newest member to CNR faculty, is going to be teaching the economics part of NR 4000 and RLR 5700 and sometime a graduate level class.

Haynes started out as a NR recreation major at the University of Idaho, in Moscow. During a general education class she got her first taste of economics. Enjoying the class she wanted to see if economics applied to natural resource issues. It did, so she developed her own degree program and graduated in five years with a bachelor’s and minors in botany and Spanish.

After she received her bachelor’s she continued her education at Colorado State University, Fort Collins, where she received her Doctorate degree. Her project addressed the trade-offs that occur in the production of recreation and wildlife. She specifically looked at bald eagles and grizzlies in her research.

The Stokes Nature Trail is visited often by Haynes and her yellow lab, Chester. She starts at the bottom and runs up the trail about 3 miles and Chester loves to swim the distance. Haynes has a very professional appearance, yet is really easy to talk to.
CNR COUNCIL
Council had its annual soup social, where everyone who came had to make an ornament in order to get fed! Council has a Christmas tree set up in the TSC that will be donated to a needy family after the break (It's cool so go check it out). Some time this week there should be a Christmas tree set up in the atrium with ornaments you can have if you buy the gift for the person it tells you to (deliver the gifts to the club office NR 212 above the elk.) Also Marni is thinking about doing a time capsule soon; we'll keep you posted on that. Finally, the Dean's office is having its Christmas party social on December 8th from 3-5 and Council is having a dessert making contest so bring your favorite concoction and win a gift certificate to the book store.

GTU
Nothing coming up. Relax, study and do good in finals and take a B-R-E-A-K!!!!

FORESTRY CLUB
On November 20th all those flannel-clad foresters went out and attacked the forest with chainsaws cutting down 200 Christmas trees which will be sold starting on the 30th out in front of the Quinney. Cost is 2.50 to 3.00 per foot. Logger sports is coming up so get pumped. If you want to get involved e-mail Sandra@SLsnm@cc.usu.edu

RANGE CLUB
Just preppin up for the big range contest on February 13th-17th where Plant ID teams and URME will be heading to the tropical local of Boise, ID. Members don't forget you bikinis and suntan oil!

WILDLIFE SOCIETY
Get ready for conclave March 15th-17th wait, that's spring break!!! Well wildlifers don't plan on going anywhere this spring break or face the wrath of Kim..

CARA
final vote. If passed, the president will have to sign the bill if it is to become law. Final voting in the legislature is expected mid-May.

The CNR could have an impact on whether or not CARA becomes a reality. Writing a letter, making a phone call, or planning a visit to Senators Orrin Hatch or Robert Bennett, or House Representative James Hansen will let them know how you feel about CARA and enable them to represent you in their votes.

For more information go to www.teaming.com. Legislators addresses are: The Honorable Orrin Hatch or Robert Bennett /US Senate/ Washington, DC 20510 or The Honorable James Hansen /US House of Representa-

Jumps from page 1
RANGE
have been hired mainly by federal land management agencies, but these days environmental consulting firms, large ranches, real estate firms and other groups are seeking them.

Students who are interested in or are already majoring in Rangeland Management may take their questions to Lisa Hutchinson in Room #210 on the second floor of the College of Natural Resources. Lisa can also be reached at 797-2471 or at rangesci@cc.usu.edu. She can help students find an advisor catered to the range emphasis of their choice.
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**MERRY CHRISTMAS TO ALL AND TO ALL GOOD FINALS!!!**