Greetings from the Wildlife Society...
If you were unable to attend The Wildlife Society's annual trip to Yellowstone this year you really missed out. We had more students attend then ever before, filling up four 15 passenger vans with folks! It was truly a trip to remember. Our adventure started out a bit rocky with an unexpected snowstorm and road closure in Yellowstone (which resulted in ten people crammed into each West Yellowstone hotel room). But everyone kept their spirits high and the next three days were enjoyed by all. Traveling through Yellowstone in November is a unique experience that most people are not privileged enough to have. Contrasting with the regular Yellowstone crowd experience, our vans were often the only vehicles in usually booked parking lots. Granted, Yellowstone in November is a chilly experience, but the cold temperatures kept away the crowds and we hardly TWS members had the privilege of enjoying the park in a somewhat more natural atmosphere. Some of our activities this year included Wolf Watching (this means one is up and at them before sunrise) with wolf biologists, touring the park (learning about the ecology and the geology of the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem), hiking in the park's northern and less traveled section, soaking in the Firehole river, and most importantly making new friends with fellow CNR students. The Wildlife Society would like to offer a special 'thanks' to Dr. Robert Schmidt for being the faculty representative on our trip, and also for his involvement with The Wildlife Society throughout the year. Also, 'thanks' to the College of Natural Resources administration who support this annual trip! If you missed out this year, circle your calendars for next year!!! And, since we had a great experience in Yellowstone TWS is planning a spring backpacking trip to Southern Utah. If you are not a member of The Wildlife Society you can contact Olivia Lester at o Lester@ee.neu.edu to sign up. Not only do we have great field trips, we also focus on getting more fieldwork experience by volunteering with local biologists in the field. We have some excellent activities planned for spring so don't miss out!!!
The Forestry club welcomes everybody back to yet another semester at Utah State University. The New Year comes with a list of traditional activities and some new ideas that will be integrated into the club. For starters, the annual Loggers Ball and game dinner will be held March 2nd, all club members are invited to participate in its arrangements and processes. The grill’s conclave will be held in Montana this year and the club is planning on sending as many students as want to attend. Plus, in early April the Forestry club will host the Utah Chapter Society of American Foresters and The Utah State University Student Chapter in our biennial highway

Finally, the Forestry club would like to thank everyone who participated in last semester’s activities. The Loggers Breakfast and Christmas tree cut both went well and we hope turnout will be even better in this spring’s activities. The club is currently filling to receive official club status at the university level. The reason for this is to take on activities required by the university in order to promote participation by a larger range of students. The club currently meets at 4:00 PM on Tuesdays in the NR atrium. Any questions, comments, or ideas can be directed to the club president, Justin DeRose. rjderose@cc.usu.edu

Obsessed With Management

Instead of actually listening to what the professor in NR 3000 or FR 4000 says, try counting the occurrences of the word “manage” or a variant thereof.

“Management,” we are told, is the Holy Grail of natural resources professionals. Considering the multi-billion dollar budget of natural resource agencies, the cost of living on this Earth has risen considerably since the Pleistocene, when hand-eye coordination and well-calloused feet sufficed. Nowadays, one who questions the wisdom of redesigning the natural world to our specifications, is an eco-radical, Luddite, or worse.

Our obsession with meddling in the ecological affairs of others derives from a larger cultural impulse that demands immediate gratification. Nothing is off-limits to being packaged, marketed, and presented to us as The Answer to life’s inconveniences. For $24.95/month, you can manage your anger, personal finances, emotions, time, organs, marriages, and human resources (what does THAT term tell you?). The word is also a euphemism for more insidious activities. Boise Cascade proudly points to its massive stump-scapes as “responsible management.”

The public relations industry spends $30 billion/year to screw with your brain by, in its words, “managing the information and perceptions that bring business results.” And when, by miracle, a corporation is held accountable for the blood on its hands, it initiates another round of lies, known as “crisis management” or “damage control.”

Control has become the byword for modern urban life, and I suspect it is no coincidence that many people feel profoundly without meaning. A keen observer once remarked to a natural resources field class, "We have taken the chaos of out nature and put it into our own lives."

Our species is in desperate psychological need of non-management. The Wilderness Act is the most profound natural resources law ever passed. The Forest Service insists upon a pathetically small Wilderness designation in the Wasatch-Cache, as elsewhere, preferring instead a "roadless prescription," because Wilderness is radically visionary. It asks that we confront nature on its own terms.

It recognizes that, no matter what our models say about the benevolence of our "management," we possess no right to screw with nature, because it is a non-consenting object of moral standing. Ironically, a deliberate hands-off policy toward nature may become perfectly utilitarian.

The frontier has had a profound effect on the American mind. But what becomes of our mind when the frontier is gone? When the last spark of mystery, intrigue, and wilderness vanishes from our collective experience?

What effect is had on the human psyche to know that nothing defies our presence, or that of a child who learns that looking skyward is hazardous? When we succeed in "managing" the last scrap of rainforest, tundra, and desert, we will have lost more than is measurable in board feet, visitor days, or AUM's. We will have ceased to be fully human.
GET A JOB!!

By Ben West

As a student in natural resources, you probably are concerned about finding a job after graduation. Besides, it’s difficult to get a job in natural resources, especially one that pays enough to survive...right?? Not in my experience. The idea that one can’t find a job, or at least a good-paying job, in natural resources is akin to that of lemmings committing suicide by hurling themselves off cliffs; both are myths but have been around so long that people now believe them to be true. In reality, right now is a great time to be a student in CNR. In a recent discussion with a U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service manager, I learned that 50% of that agency’s managers are expected to retire during the next 5 years. Other agencies will experience similar attrition. So, what do you need to do to take advantage of this situation and actually get a job? What are employers looking for? Here’s a list of things you should consider in preparing yourself for employment:

- **Grades.** Natural resource agencies aren’t looking for bookworms, but they do expect some basic level of competency and knowledge. In my experience, a grade point average of 3.0 is the threshold that employers use to separate the wheat from the chaff. This doesn’t mean that you can’t be employed with a GPA less than 3.0, but it does make the process more difficult. If your GPA is much below 3.0, you’d better hit the books.

- **Experience.** Real-world for jobs. Quite simply, level position are almost teer, intern, or seasonal student, state or federal ploy some seasonal workers takes to get this experience. pay his way through school but worked construction He’s still pumping gas at take.

- **Be willing to move.** If you are determined to live in a specific place, you may find it very difficult to get a job. I know, I know...there’s no other place like Utah or Idaho or California or (insert state here). There are jobs out there, but you may have to move to get one. Besides, you may find that you like a different region, and your job there may be a stepping stone to bigger and better positions.

- **Contacts.** Whether you like it or not, your network of contacts (or lack thereof) will be a major factor influencing your employment. As a student, you may find it daunting be begin networking, so start small. Make sure your advisor here in CNR knows you and your interests; he/she can be instrumental in helping you get your first job. Get to know local biologists or land managers. When you attend professional meetings or functions, introduce yourself to professionals. Most importantly, make a good impression when you are given the chance, especially as an employee. If you build a good network of contacts, your job search will be a short process.

I’ve been in natural resources for 10 years, and I don’t know a single individual who followed the above advice and failed to find a job. What’s more, most of them have a good job. An example: I went to school with a fellow (we’ll call him Bob) who did all the above, made good grades, got experience, was willing to work anywhere, and developed a network of contacts. After graduation, he was hired immediately by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service as a manager. Since his hiring, he has been a competent employee, continued to network, and was willing to move to other regions of the country. To make a long story short, Bob now (5 years after graduation) is an assistant project leader at a wildlife refuge in the eastern U.S. and is a GS-12 on the federal pay scale (look it up)...that’s a competitive salary regardless of your profession. Don’t believe the lemming myth; jobs do exist in natural resources, and you can have one with proper planning and preparation.

**GET A SUMMER JOB, DEADLINES ARE APPROACHING. GO TO JOB FORUM TONIGHT AT 5:45 in NR 217!!!!!!**
Greetings from the Academic Council.
Here is an update regarding the issues we have been working on:

**The Faculty Senate will be voting** on the Honor Code on the 3rd of February. If they pass it, it will then go to the ASUSU Executive Council. We’ll keep you posted as those events unfold.

**The Academic Opportunity Fund** is now available. It is a scholarship awarded to undergraduate students who have been picked by a reputable organization to present an academic achievement or to be part of an academic competition. If you are interested, contact Andy Haws, your Academic VP, at ahaws@cc.usu.edu, or visit room 326 of the TSC. Also, look for flyers posted around the NR building. We are also working to make it a requirement for all teachers to have 1 textbook on reserve in the library for every 100 students enrolled in their class.

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**Attention Geographers!**

The GTU/Geography Club is looking for people interested in attending the Association of American Geographers (AAG) 98th Annual Meeting.

This is an excellent opportunity to get to know other people and what they are doing in the field of geography. It is held March 19 - March 23, 2002 in Los Angeles, California. Those interested should contact an officer of the club ASAP or email bpmeisman@cc.usu.edu subject: AAG.

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**Speaking of libraries, how about those hours?**

Right now the libraries are open on Saturdays from 11:00am to 7:00pm. We want to extend the hours.

**Have any of you ever had a professor** that does not understand the concept of no-test week? Well, we are striving to eliminate that problem. We are working to ensure that no-test week is enforced campus-wide.

**Are you preparing** to take the GMAT, GRE, or LSAT? We are in the process of getting Kaplan preparation courses taught here at USU.

Please let me know what you think of these issues. Also, if you have any questions regarding these issues, or if there is anything else you would like to see us address, let me know. You can contact me, Rob Chatterton, at RBC@cc.usu.edu.

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**Meet Your New Editor**

Her name is Kyle Peterson, she is a freshman. Majoring in Environmental Writing. (at least this month anyway). She loves chocolate, reading, backpacking and sledding down her driveway (when weather allows). If you want to help out with the newsletter or have some suggestions, Email her at Kylea@cc.usu.edu.

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**UpComing Events!**

- **Washington & Lincoln Day** Feb. 18
- **Olympic Break** Feb. 19-22
- **Loggers Ball** Mar. 2
- **Wildlife Conclave** Mar. 11-16
- **Loggers Conclave** Mar. 17