

Staff: Brandon Barton, Thad Berrett, Matt Corsi, Travis Naillon, Adam Prazenica, Jen Szarkowski  
Editor: Eric Larson  
Advisor: Joseph Ulliman

## “Making Dust:” CNR Plans Major Redesign

Matt Corsi

Our institution has been called the College of Forestry, the College of Forestry, Wildlife, and Range Sciences, and most recently the College of Natural Resources. The CNR has expanded considerably through the years, adding program after program to grow into the college we now know it as. But what changes are in store for the future?

Rumors of college and department mergers, early faculty retirements, and budget cuts have resonated throughout the halls of the University of Idaho since the economic crisis hit our campus. Dean Steven Daley-Laursen wants to stay far ahead of these constraints by making changes here in CNR. “Make dust or eat dust,” he says. Dean Daley-Laursen initiated the CNR Redesign Process with his state of the college address in January, and the air is starting to get dirty. Every week, several subcommittees composed of staff, faculty, and students have met to brainstorm and discuss different scenarios for the curricular and administrative design of college. These ideas have been dubbed “strawmen” and they will serve as a pallet of colors from which the CNR of the future will be painted. Strawmen range from conservative to radical and include ideas such as consolidating departments, creating new majors,

creating a single degree for all majors in the college, and leaving everything as it is.

Since the Redesign Process began, several forums have been held to present college design ideas, department missions and visions, sets of values, and concerns about the current state of the college. One of these forums was held in the Ag Science lecture hall last Friday. A group of concerned undergraduates presented a set of values and ideas that need to be incorporated into any new design of our college.

Continued on Page 2



*The University of Idaho and its many programs, including the College of Natural Resources, have faced challenge and change due to the struggling economy and state budget cuts. CNR Dean Steven Daley Laursen is attempting to use these uncertain times to restructure the CNR as an institute that will endure and continue to be relevant well into the future.*



## CNR Redesign (Continued)

Following the undergraduates, a panel of leading natural resources professionals discussed the skills and capabilities of successful employees. Winston Wiggins, Director of Idaho Department of Lands, asked the CNR to produce on-the-ground, technically inclined professionals. Sarah Vickerman of Defenders of Wildlife, and John Olson of Potlatch Corporation, asked the College of Natural Resources to produce professionals capable of far more than technical proficiencies. Communications, interdisciplinary skills, ability to multi-task, and high levels of scholarship are becoming very desirable traits for competitive job applicants to have. College redesign committees use the forums and the ideas they produce to develop models for the future design of our college.

The redesign process has been complicated and difficult, but it is obvious design ideas are becoming more focused. The groups working on the redesign process will begin making strawmen into concrete models in the very near future. It is likely the final design of our college will incorporate components of many former models and strawmen. Right now the idea of redesigning the CNR may be frightening, but students, alumni, faculty, and interested employers can rest assured it is not a process that is without much thought and deliberation.

To become more informed about the redesign process, talk to professors and staff, and check the CNR redesign website regularly at <http://www.cnr.uidaho.edu/cnr/redesignprocess.htm>.

## Top Ten CNR Redesign Ideas as Imagined by *The Snag*

Brandon Barton and Eric Larson

10. "Strawman" teams up with Tin Man from Engineering and Dorothy from Family and Consumer Sciences. Together, they skip to Boise and battle the flying monkeys of the Idaho legislature.
9. Another basement is added to the CNR, allowing RRT to be moved into an even worse suite of offices.
8. CNR Building is painted "safety orange" to improve on-campus visibility.
7. To save money on memo paper, new dean is forced to use one last name, either "Daley" or "Laursen."
6. Fish and Wildlife Resources takes its four million dollars of external research funding and forms its own damn university.
5. CNR budget woes are temporarily resolved by paying J. Michael Scott with monopoly money on the assumption that he doesn't open anything until a year after he receives it.
4. State legislators and university administrators wake up one morning, realize that the CNR is the state's most nationally recognized and respected teaching and research institute, AND LEAVE US ALONE.
3. University to "trim the fat" by denying tenure to CNR professors students actually like.
2. CNR merges with the Moscow School of Massage.
1. Two words: Christopher Lowell

### WILDLAND ISSUES COLLOQUIUM

*"Wilderness and Wildfires:  
Suppression in the Backcountry."*  
April 15th, 7 pm, CNR Room 010

*"The Politics of Breaching the  
Lower Snake River Dams, Social  
and Biological Concerns"*  
April 22nd (Tentative) - Social Concerns  
7 pm, Law Courtroom  
April 23rd (Tentative) - Biological Concerns  
7 pm, Law Courtroom



## Controversy in the Desert: Glen Canyon Dam Water Management has Repercussions for Native Fish, Local Communities

Travis Naillon

The Glen Canyon Dam, located on the Colorado River near Page, Arizona, has stood for four decades. This dam has been causing trouble downstream in the Grand Canyon. Glen Canyon Dam has altered sediment flow and the temperature regime of the water in the Colorado River, which has caused declines in the populations of four native fish. One of these fish, the humpback chub, is disappearing. In response to these problems in the Colorado River, congress passed the Grand Canyon Protection Act.

An attempt was made to restore some of the chub habitat by opening the floodgates of the dam, but all this did was move sand from one bank of the river to another. There is a new proposal to open the floodgates for two days. The Sierra Club claims that this attempt, like the first, will not succeed in restoring the chub's habitat. The Sierra Club, along with the group Living Rivers, claim that only removal of the dam will allow for the restoration of the native fishes.

The 710 foot-tall dam took ten years to build and seventeen years to fill, forming a 186 mile-

long lake. The Sierra Club is currently running televised ads in Arizona in efforts to drain the lake and remove this dam. The town people oppose the draining of the reservoir due to its contribution to their economy; the presence of the reservoir attracts many tourists, and corresponding revenue, to the area.

Before Glen Canyon Dam was built, water downstream in the Colorado would reach eighty degrees in the summer and

around freezing in the winter.

Now it maintains a year-round temperature of forty six degrees. This is not ideal for the native fish. The water is perfect for trout, which were introduced by the state fish and game department. The trout feed on the native chub and occupy their habitat. By opening the floodgates, managers hope to bring more sediment down stream to create sandbars for the chub to hide in. They also propose to electro-shock the river and remove some of the trout to reduce their numbers in the river to around 100,000. For more information about this article, visit: [www.loggers.com/news](http://www.loggers.com/news).

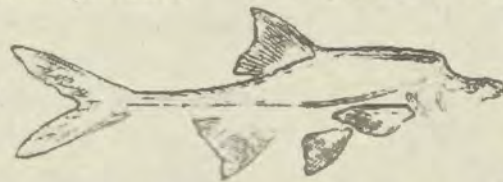


Image Insert: Humpback chub *Gila cypha*

### Upcoming Lectures and Presentations:

#### Nez Perce Tribe Fisheries Program

The American Fisheries Society and the Aquaculture Club will host Ed Larson and Joseph Oatman from the Nez Perce Fisheries Department on Tuesday, April 15th at 7 pm in CNR 108. They will discuss the Nez Perce Tribe's fisheries programs, including a new, technologically advanced hatchery on the Clearwater River.

#### "Speaking Western" - Dr. Richard Knight

Dr. Richard Knight of Colorado State University's Department of Forest, Rangeland and Watershed Stewardship will speak at 7 pm on Wednesday, April 16th in the Ag Science Auditorium. Dr. Richard Knight is interested in the ecological effects associated with the conversion of the Old West to a New West. He has written widely on the ecological challenges of maintaining biodiversity and ecosystem health on our western lands, and promotes the use of "working landscapes" through adaptive, community-based conservation efforts.



## The 2003 CNR Awards Banquet

Eric Larson

The annual College of Natural Resources Awards Banquet was held April 5th at the University Inn-Best Western. The event seemed more reserved than that of the past few years, possibly attributable to the tense state of world affairs as well as the relocation of the banquet from the unique environs of the Moscow Moose Lodge to a more formal atmosphere. While the University Inn-Best Western is a dignified venue in which to recognize students, staff and faculty that are among the absolute best at the University of Idaho, it still seemed strange to not eat dinner beneath a shaggy, decades-old moose head.

However, Chuck Harris, in his driven campaign to win this year's "Kiss the Fish Competition," provided more than enough character, humor, and fish puns to compensate for the somber surroundings. The race for the CNR's most inglorious recognition was initially close between Dean Steven Daley Laursen and Harris. However, Harris ultimately triumphed and rewarded his supporters, who helped raise approximately \$700 dollars for the CNR Student Affairs Council, with a prepared acceptance speech that will remain among the most memorable ever recited at a CNR event. It's not every day your economics professor sings Madonna.

Concluding the night, the Student Affairs Council announced the winners of their CNR photo contest. Jeff Braatne won the faculty competition, and his picture of the scablands of Washington will appear on the cover of the calendar, which will be released this fall.

The College of Natural Resources is fortunate to have a community of faculty, staff, and students that are doing distinguished work on local, national, and international scales. While it is not possible to recognize the accomplishments of everyone at the CNR, this year's award winners, listed here, have represented our institution well during their academic careers. If you pass them in the hall, don't hesitate to offer congratulations—they

all deserve it. And if you pass Dr. Michael Scott, ask him how the fishing's been. He deserves to tell his Boot in the Butt Award story more often, too.

### Resource, Recreation, and Tourism

Outstanding Senior - Jennifer Sobiech-Pariseau  
Outstanding Graduate Student - Erik Nielsen

### Rangeland Ecology and Management

Outstanding Senior - Marika Kearsley  
Outstanding Graduate Student - Curt Yanish

### Natural Resources Ecology and Conservation Biology

Outstanding Senior - Amy Campbell

### Forest Resources

Outstanding Senior - Emerald Coler  
Outstanding Graduate Student - Rebecca Ganley

### Forest Products

Outstanding Senior - Dan Mottern  
Outstanding Graduate Student - Jeff Halbrook

### Fish and Wildlife Resources

Outstanding Fisheries Senior - Matt Corsi  
Outstanding Fisheries Graduate Student - Darin Jones  
Outstanding Wildlife Senior - Rob Baden  
Outstanding Wildlife Graduate Student - Kath Strickler

### College Awards

Outstanding Instructor - Kerry Reese  
Outstanding Researcher - Lisette Waits  
Outstanding Advisor - Christine Moffitt  
Outstanding Staff Member - Delaine Hawley  
Outstanding Graduate Student in CNR - Erik Nielsen  
Outstanding Senior in CNR - Matt Corsi  
Boot in the Butt Award - J. Michael Scott  
Outstanding Student Club - American Fisheries Society



## College Cancels Summer Field Ecology Course, Begins Planning Replacement

Eric Larson

Last week, College of Natural Resources students received an e-mail notifying them that CNR 302 - Wildland Field Ecology, a two-week summer interdisciplinary course that was required for graduation, would no longer be offered. Students graduating this May will have their 302 requirement waived, as some students take the course in the summer following their graduation.

Since the earliest days of the University of Idaho's College of Forestry, a summer course has been an integral part of the curriculum. Initially, summer forestry camp was a longer, more arduous experience than the more recent Wildland Field Ecology. Wildland Field Ecology aspired to teach students interdisciplinary concepts by pairing them in diverse groups of majors that worked together on projects in the field. Students in Wildland Field Ecology would rotate between the National Bison Range in Montana, Ft. Spokane in Washington, and the UI's Clark Fork Field Campus, spending four to five days at each location.

The recommendation to cancel 302 was made by a faculty task force that was reviewing the manner in which the course was taught. After a review of the existing course, the task force concluded that the most prudent action was to cancel the course altogether. The faculty council voted to discontinue Wildland Field Ecology last week.

Concerns with the class included securing instructors to teach it, the cost of the course for students, and the lack of depth offered in teaching field skills. Additionally, the university's decision to sell its Clark Fork Field Campus was a factor in the course's cancellation.

However, while Wildland Field Ecology has been discontinued for this year, a field ecology component will continue to be a part of the CNR's curriculum. Currently, the task force is considering three options for a future field ecology course. These include offering field ecology in the fall at the

field campus in McCall, at the Flathead Lake Biological Station, or using a "semester-integrated" field ecology class that would expose students to interdisciplinary concepts through field trips and 1-credit skills-based courses. Many details remain to be worked out concerning how the field ecology component of the natural resources curriculum will be met now that Wildland Field Ecology has been terminated. CNR students should continue to follow this issue, and discuss their 302/field ecology status with their advisor to make certain that they are on task to graduate.

Student response to the announcement of Wildland Field Ecology's cancellation was largely favorable. For years, students protested the high cost of attending the mandatory course, and also argued that the class made scheduling for summer employment difficult. To keep their summers open, many CNR students chose to attend an alternate field ecology course held over Christmas break at the Teton Science School in Jackson Hole, Wyoming.

Additionally, this summer's field ecology course at the Taylor Ranch was cancelled due to a lack of enrollment, most likely a result of students waiting to see what will be required of them to graduate in the future.

### VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY!

The Natural Resources Ecology and Conservation Biology Club is sponsoring a trip to the Zumwalt Prairie Nature Preserve in Oregon to help the Nature Conservancy make fences wildlife-safe. They will also meet with managers to discuss grazing, fire, and invasive species issues. The trip is on the weekend of April 18th to 20th, and anyone is welcome to attend. If interested, contact Kit Moffitt at [moff6171@uidaho.edu](mailto:moff6171@uidaho.edu). Space is limited!



## Club News and Events

Jen Szarkowski

### Logger Sports

The Logger Sports Club recently returned from conclave at Oregon State University.

### Wildlife Society

The newly elected Wildlife Society officers are:

President - Troy Hinck  
Vice President - Jen Szarkowski  
Secretary - MacKenzie Shardlow  
Treasurer - Amanda Richardson  
SAC rep. - Suzi Harrington  
Webmaster - Bill McFall

Club Seniors of the Year: Katie Gillies,  
Rob Baden

Club Members of the Year: Jen Szarkowski,  
Rob Baden

The Wildlife Society has a trip planned for either the weekend of April 26th or May 3rd to volunteer with the Nature Conservancy. The club will be helping to dig line for a PVC water pipe.

The Wildlife Society will have a table outside the Commons on Earth Day to educate students on the importance of wildlife management to the environment. The Earth Day celebration will be taking place between 10 am and 4 pm on April 22nd.

The next Wildlife Society meeting will be held Thursday, April 24th at 6 pm in CNR room 108.

To have your club news or events posted in *The Snag*, contact Jen Szarkowski at [dashawaybay@hotmail.com](mailto:dashawaybay@hotmail.com)

### Student Affairs Council

The College of Natural Resources Field Day will be held Thursday, April 17th and will start at 9 am with Logger Sports putting on their show for area 5th graders. From 10 am to noon each club will host a table with fun educational activities.

Those who entered the CNR photo contest can pick up their pictures in the Dean's Office. The calender is being designed, and will be available at the beginning of next semester.

### American Fisheries Society

The Palouse Unit of the American Fisheries Society is sponsoring a kids' fishing clinic on Saturday, April 26th from 10 am to 2 pm at Hordemann's Pond. Children 13 and are encouraged to attend and fish for free. AFS volunteers will teach fishing basics while the kids catch IDFG-stocked rainbow trout. Fishing poles and tackle will be available for use. Parental supervision is required. If interested in attending, please register at the Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources in the College of Natural Resources, or at our boxes at Wal-Mart, Tristate, and Husky Sports.

