

COLLEGE OF FORESTRY, WILDLIFE, & RANGE SCIENCES

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"A Quiet Rally for a Loud Subject."

by Terri Boyd

It was a few minutes past 5:30 p.m. on Tuesday, Sept. 15, 1998 when I arrived at "The River/Save Our Dams" Giant Outdoor Rally! All was quiet, except for the helicopter that landed just to the back of my pickup. The first thing that I saw was a Big, Blue, Blow-up of King Kong. It had a banner that read: "Don't Monkey with the Dams." To remain as unbiased as possible, I will not comment on the monkey at this time. The crowd consisted of mostly families and working class people. A variety of ages attended. People held signs that read: SAVE OUR DAMS, SAVE OUR GRAIN to MARKET TRANSPORTA-TION, and LET'S NOT START "TRIAL AND ER-ROR" FISH MANAGEMENT. Some bumper stickers given out state: Balance/Jobs for Families, Homes for Fish. Most everyone wore buttons that read: "Jobs & Fish, We Can Have Both!"

Speaker, Barry Barnes, stated that "they're trying to take away our boats, and our fun, and our money!" Barnes is a multi business owner, and owns one of the largest marinas in the Lewiston area. He also owns Barnes Inc. I wasn't able to pinpoint which marina, but Barnes Inc. is in the local yellow pages. Around 25 boats gathered down from the Quality Inn on the Clearwater River in Clarkston, 4 sailboats, 1 kayak, a couple of fishing boats, a party barge, and some ski boats. Barnes received applause when he said "the people that don't live here don't understand what taking the dams out would be like." He doesn't believe that people past Tri Cities think that they will be affected, so they don't get involved with issues concerning dams. Barnes did express feelings about extremist, and mentioned Earthfirst and Sierra Club as examples. To my surprise there weren't any responses from the audience. After Barne's speech, a citizen, who wished to remain anonymous, let Mr. Barnes know that not all people from good clubs are extremist!

I convinced the gentleman, who was speaking to Mr. Barnes, to tell me his name. Phil McKeirnan, a local from Pullman, told me that he wants to see fish return, but people have to come first. He tells me that I'm young and don't know how things used to be. A young man beside him, who I believe was McKeirnan's son, listened carefully as Mr. McKeirnan explained his concerns about local farms, and how there used to be orchards along the river. No Mr. McKeirnan, I don't know how it was, but I'm learning.

James Buchal, from Portland (author of a book that I didn't catch the name of), talked about "all the fish that are caught in the ocean." Buchal stated that "fish don't even make it to the dams, because they are harvested in the ocean." He believes that most misconceptions about dams are due to the media, referred to by Buchal as "Dam Lies." Buchal gave some statistics on fish fatalities. He said 5% are due to dam turbines, and didn't think that was significant. He went on to tell about successful barge programs and believes that this is a good solution. Past problems with introducing hatchery fish to wild streams were blamed on bad management of breeding procedures. Two key points that Buchal wanted to make about the media was that the media is lazy, bias, and don't bother to tell the truth, and he stated that "the law is dead." (continued on page 6)

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"The Systematic Dichotomy of Colloquial Vernacular: What's in a Name?"

By Jason Eaton

"Sticks and stones may break my bones, but words will never hurt me." This be-all-end-all statement of the playground days was an indispensable weapon in the youthful battle of words. Yet today, as a young person undertaking an education in the field of Forestry, I find myself at a loss for just such a maxim; "Sticks and Stones" doesn't quite have the professional ring to it that is expected at this level.

The field of forestry is undergoing a revolutionary change right now. But this is no simple metamorphosis. Not only is the language changing; so are the perceptions, values, and attitudes of the people involved at every level. From the Forest Service to the environmentalist, everyone is being carried by the currents of change into the 21st Century (some are surfing, some are drowning).

The evolutionary mechanics of speciation have been hard at work on the profession since about the middle of the 20th century, at which time there seems to have been the establishment of two divergent populations: homocentric and biocentric. Behavioral isolation of these populations within, and among, the larger field of natural resource sciences (by this I mean foresters, biologists, ecologists, environmental scientists, geologists, wildlife and fisheries experts, etc.) has lead to, at times, diametrically opposed viewpoints.

The two resulting species are classified variously

Homocentric
Traditional
Forest mgnt.
Old forestry
Sustained yield
Industrial forestry
Loggers

as:

Wise use I
A I
Forestry I
Old school I
Conservationist I

Biocentric
Contemporary
Ecosystem mgnt.
New forestry
Sustainable forestry
Ecoforestry
Tree huggers
Protection

Protection
B (Leopold, 1949)
Natural resources
New school
Preservationist

Herein lies the problem. With so many adjectives to describe one profession how do we communicate effectively? Words like "ecology" and "ecosystem" are used so loosely that the contemporary lexicon has broken down. Just as Linnaeus solved the problem of common names by developing a systematic taxonomy, we too are in need of clarification.

As individuals and institutions struggle to keep up with the latest jargon, we might be looking at fixes that fail. For example the College of Forestry, Wildlife and Range Sciences (CFWR), at the University of Idaho, is considering changing its name to the College of Natural Resources. Why? In order to reflect the more modern range of specialization which exists in the field of natural resources.

The title CFWR fails to recognize the Resource Recreation and Tourism (RRT) Department and the Natural Resource Ecology and Conservation, and Fisheries programs. It also does not reveal the modern paradigm of larger spatial and temporal scales, which is being incorporated in teachings. It does seem appropriate to use language that accurately describes the true nature of the college, but does changing a name do that?

My name is Jason. What does that tell you about me? Not much. Maybe that my language is English and my parents weren't very creative. You can't know what I am about based on my name.

Could you if I changed my name? Well if I introduced myself to you as: Animalia, Chordata, Vertebrata, Primates, Hominidae, Homo sapiens; originating from Anglo-Irish parentage; developing in a lowermiddle socioeconomic class; in small town, north eastern, North America; first generation college educated; scientist, liberal, and lover of nature, then you could say there is something in a name. But I'd rather just say: "Hi, I'm Jason."

Drawing from the CFWR's own recent attempts to stay abreast with the cutting edge of buzz words and the science behind them— the Forest ManageVol. 99 No.2 Page 3

"Dichotomy" (continued from page 2)

ment degree was changed to the Forest Ecosystem Management degree in 1993. This change in wording was appropriately accompanied by a curriculum shift reflective of the evolution of modern science. There has also been the recent addition of the Natural Resource Ecology and Conservation degree in 1994, which further complicates the vocabulary.

What this all boils down to is gibberish. The first time you read Louise Carol's "Jabberwocky" you are so busy trying to figure out the words that the poem escapes you. The same is occurring in the field of forestry as it redefines itself for the 21st century.

As scientists we are trained to employ reductionist strategies to complicated problems. This explains our diligent efforts to rename and add new classifications to the profession. But, perhaps we are missing the synergistic effect of the parts on the whole.

The seemingly appropriate task of renaming the CFWR may simply add to the systematic dichotomy, which is dividing forestry. If the CFWR becomes the College of Natural Resources what does that make the College of Agriculture or the College of Mines and Earth Resources? Aren't they natural resources too? And why isn't the Environmental Sciences Department within the CFWR? Aren't they studying natural resources?

Would the name College of Renewable Natural Resources be a better title? Well, the College of Mines and Earth Resources studies oil deposits. Oil is generally referred to as a finite natural resource. Fish and trees are generally considered renewable. Yet both are actually renewable. It takes about the same amount of time to respeciate the planet as it does to decompose more carbon into oil, somewhere on the order of 25 to 150 million years (Wilson, 1992).

This ambiguity is played out daily in the life of forestry students as they introduce themselves to new people. For instance: When I tell someone I am studying forestry I get a wide variety of responses. Depending on who I'm talking with, the word "forester"

is variable in definition. I find that to laypeople the word forester means logger. This definition is probably drawn from the context in which it is used by private industries, which refers to their harvest operations as 'forestry practices', and the traditional focus of forestry on trees, especially timber. Even when speaking with my fellow forestry students I find the word comes short of defining itself. There is a 'forestry hall' in the Wallace complex (a dormitory) at UI. Ask anyone in the hall what they're studying and you'll likely get the answer 'forestry.' Yet there are wildlife biologists, fisheries managers, timber harvesters, resource recreation and tourism majors, aquaculturalists, forest products specialists, forest ecosystem managers, natural resource ecology and conservation majors, and more. Go up one floor and you'll find yourself in the Natural Resources hall. Ask them what their studying and you'll hear all the above mentioned categories, and a few more. Including various agriculturalists, geologists and environmental scientists, even a sexual education major.

The uncertainty even runs into the specific majors. What's the difference between Forest Ecosystem Management, and Natural Resource Ecology and Conservation? Names this similar result in confusion for everyone.

There is undoubtedly a need for further clarification within the field, and the college. The individuals within the scientific community need to clearly define, and stick to, proper names. CFWR needs to have a name that accurately reflects its progressive stance, a name which is inclusive of all aspects of the program and adds greater clarity and distinction in the names of specific disciplines within the larger field.

Clearly an aquaculturalist, a timber harvester, and a geologist are not studying the same thing. Yet each is inextricably linked to the functional roles of the others. If the timber harvester and the geologist are overly focused on their own disciplines, their harvest and mining operations may cause severe sedimenta-

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tion, thus killing all the aquaculturist's fish and reducing the supply of fish in the market, which drives up the price of dinner for the harvester and the geologist.

Currently the taxonomy of my major reads: The University of Idaho (a Land Grant University); College of Forestry, Wildlife, and Range Sciences; Department of Forest Resources; Natural Resource Ecology and Conservation. The title uses 14 significant words, but still leaves me feeling like I have to explain my major.

So what would encompass the full spectrum of diversity within, and among, the fields of study now housed in CFWR? To what extent must we consider the other disciplines falling outside of that domain? In the future will they be more distinct or more coherent? Is it okay to change names often? How important is the attractiveness of the name, does it have to have a nice ring to it? If you change the usage of a word in one area, does that mean the word no longer fits its other usages?

The profession of forestry is finally making the long awaited shift to practices based on more complete knowledge of ecological processes. Few will find fault in the cause of the transition. The scientific developments of the past few decades have given us the evidence we need to change the way we manage landscapes. Yet for institutions making the transition, structural reorganization is a daunting task. Further complicating the matter is the challenge of defining a profession whose definition is changing. The traditional focus of forestry on timber is fading out. More and more, forestry must incorporate a multitude of interdisciplinary expertise. The need for specialized knowledge limits the breath by the requirement of depth in education. Perhaps the future will require teams of specialists to collaborate on projects, fully integrating informed decisions. But what do we call this new structure? How does one call the collective parts of a system by their proper names when the parts are interconnected, constantly adapting, and inextricably linked?

So many questions, for which, I do not have the answers. But I do have some suggestions:

Don't keep changing the names. Even though Americans love new and improved, we all know if we ask for a Kleenex we'll get a tissue.

Look far into the future and try to anticipate the direction of change. That way we won't be going through this every couple of years.

Involve seemingly unrelated specialist in the discussion, for example, a librarian or an etymologist could help define words. A marketing expert could help consider the appeal of certain language.

Keep it simple. Prospective students have a limited amount of information on which to judge a school as desirable or undesirable. A few clearly defined words may go further than a collage of buzzwords.

Keep it in perspective. It's just a name. It doesn't make you who you are. People define an institution, not names.

Consider new words that haven't been corrupted by loose usage.

Remember the implications of a name change: new publications, Web Pages, t-shirts, letterheads, business cards, etc. All these would have to be redesigned and that would cost money.

Consider keeping the current name but clarifying the definition.

Look at systematic taxonomies that work well and learn from them, i.e. biological nomenclature. How do medical doctors distinguish between their unique specialties within the larger medical field?

The word system means the sum of parts, or the whole. Consider this.

REFERENCES

Leopold, Aldo. 1949. A Sand County Almanac. Oxford University Press. pp 295 Wilson, E.O. 1992 The Diversity of Life. W.W. Norton & Company Inc. NY. pp 424

Club Reports

American Fisheries Society

The American Fisheries Society, in coordination with Idaho Fish and Game, will be sponsoring a "Handicap Fishing Day" with the local Stepping Stones group on September 26th at 1:30pm out at Hordeman Pond.

We will be putting on another Salmon Bake on October 2nd-further details to be posted.

There will be a Bull Trout Redd Survey workshop hosted by Bruce Reiman on October 17th and 18th. .

Meetings are held biweekly so watch for posters and emails. Our next meeting will be October 1st at 6pm at CFWR.

Student Affairs Council

The next SAC meeting will be Wednesday, September 23rd at 5:30 pm in FWR 200.

"Quiet Rally" (continued from page 1)

He believes that politicians are afraid to do or say anything for fear of the media. Buchal mentioned "fish worshiping" a couple of times, and I guess that's where he started to lose me. I guess I don't understand, being a fisheries biology student and all! Mr. Buchal does believe that science and technology can work together. That's what most people at the rally want.

A hot dog and soda snack was provided after the speakers. Clyde Nicely of the Pulp and Paperworkers' Resource Council, reported that donations would go toward the expenses of the rally, media coverage, and for future promotions and rallies. The Joint Natural Resource Task Force was also involved in the rally set up. I asked Mr. Nicely if he was surprised that there were no extremist groups at the rally. He was, but expressed that it was a nice rally with families and he was glad that there were no demonstrations. Some signs announcing the rally were vandalized, but for the most part it was a mellow rally.

Are you a Writer, a Poet, or an Artist?

Are you interested in Layout and Design?

What about Advertising and Sales? Or Photography?

If so, the Idaho Forester Magazine for Natural Resources NEEDS your help.

A small group of dedicated students and faculty are trying to revive the Idaho Forester, but we can't do it without YOU.

We MUST show a clear interest from the student body of the College of Forestry, Wildlife and Range Sciences in making this publication a success before we can realistically hope to receive any funding from the college.

If you are interested in helping out and renewing an 80 year tradition in publishing excellence contact Gina Mueller at 885-7295 or by email at muel9531@novell.uidaho.edu.

You CAN make a difference!

"Student Interview Jitters?"

by Diane Holick

There are certain times of the year when you begin to see your fellow students walking around campus obviously overdressed for class. If you are graduating soon you know that these are the signs that employers are on campus interviewing. They may be considering students for entry level jobs as well as internships.

How does this process work? Generally it begins by an application or resume being submitted by you. Employers may come on campus to talk with students in a formal setting or may choose to interview you over the phone. A phone interview is relatively low stress, because prior arrangements are generally made to talk over the phone at some prearranged time. You will have the freedom to dress comfortably with a glass of water handy. Occasionally employers on the east coast will forget the time difference and get you out of bed or catch you in the shower. They may want to ask you some questions at this inopportune time, but you definitely have the license to suggest a better time.

An on-campus interview takes more involvement by you. The employer has already determined that YOU are the person they want to interview. The interview process is to determine whether you will be a good member of the team. Ideally you will have had some experience in your chosen field from summer jobs, assisting professors with projects, or graduate level research. The reality is that the experience you have as an undergrad might be more in the way of fast food jobs, cutting lawns, volunteering at a summer camp, or working on the family farm or ranch.

I want to stress that this is appropriate for your age and experience. If you are coming back to school after working for a number of years, your experience might be in your field or you may be changing fields.

The employers are looking at your potential and are interested in "transferrable skills" which may be communication and writing skills as well as general responsible behavior in your experience to date.

You should ALWAYS dress up for an interview. Suits or sports coats for men and suits with skirt or dark dress with a jacket and low heeled shoes for women. You may not have these items if your are not in the interview mode. Dress up as much as your wardrobe will allow. Long sleeve plain colored or white shirt with tie and slacks with dark shoes for men and conservative dress or pants suit for women. Take a copy of your resume with you as well as any information you might like to share with the employer. A special paper for class that you got an "A" for should be brought along if the information pertains to the job. You should always do research on the company. Most corporations have home pages. Your professors might have knowledge of the company or there might be special processes unique to the company's operation. If you do your "homework" before the interview you will have some questions for the employer as well. This first interview is not usually a time when you negotiate for pay or make final decisions to work for an employer. You can, however; ask about things such as benefits, job description or when they hope to make their final decision.

Be sure to talk slowly. When nervous, most of us talk faster and faster. Take a deep breath and enjoy the experience. The employer will guide the interview. Be sure to use proper business etiquette—shake hands and look the person in the eye both at the beginning and end of the interview. Get the interviewer's card and write a thank you note immediately. With the advent of e-mail, you can thank the employer by e-mail. That way the message goes directly to the employer who may be tapping into the internet at the motel.

We all enjoy the informal professionalism of the CFWR natural resource areas. In prior years I have had a difficult time convincing College of Forestry students to NOT wear hiking boots, jeans and casual shirts to interviews. Last year an employer said it so well when he told me, "I have a whole sawmill full of people who wear jeans and flannel shirts. I'm looking for someone who knows how to dress in a business situation and can represent my company well with other professionals."

