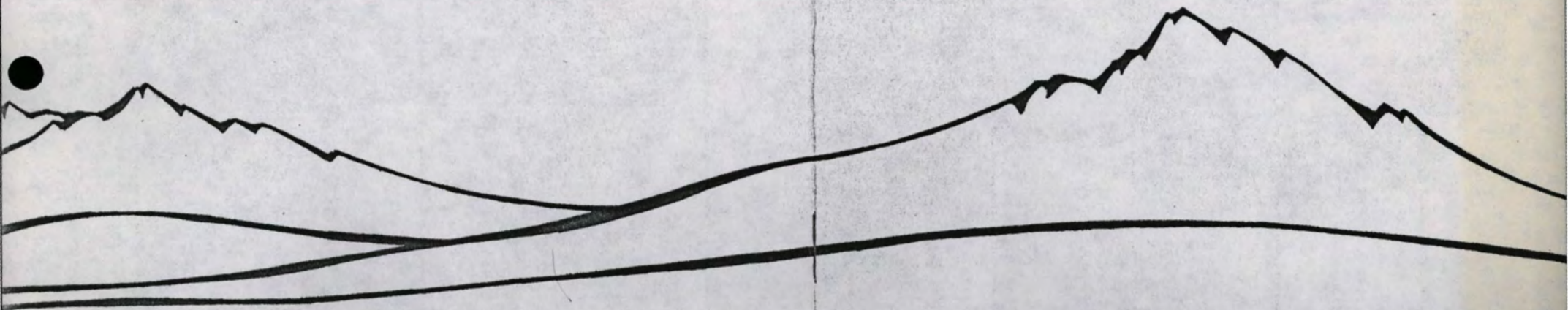


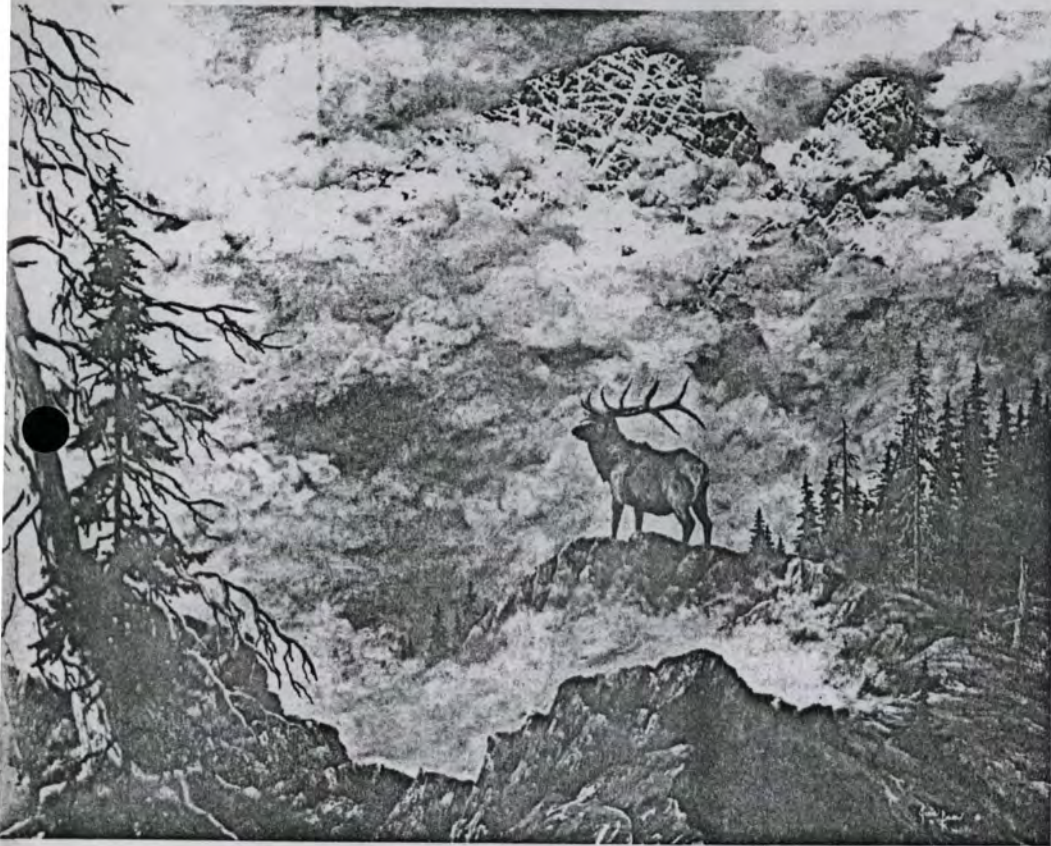
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# WILDERNESS INSTITUTE

School of Forestry • University of Montana • Missoula, Montana • 598





## STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

### NAME

The name of this organization shall be the Wilderness Institute.

### OBJECTIVES

To promote the development and dissemination of factual information about wilderness and similar resources.

To assist the public, agencies, universities, and private landowners in allocating and managing wilderness and similar resources.

To develop professional expertise for application to wilderness-related problems.

To promote research and public education concerning wilderness resources and a wilderness ethic.

### FUNCTIONS

The Institute will undertake a variety of functions in order to fulfill the objectives listed above. It will have broad educational responsibilities, not only to the University student, but also to management agencies and to the general citizenry. Short courses, seminar series, lectures, publications, and other such activities can help fulfill these responsibilities. It will strive to promote public understanding of wilderness, and will press for increased professionalism in the management of this resource.

The Institute can play a major role in supplying needed information about the state's existing, but as yet unclassified, wilderness acreage. This information will be useful to the management agencies, and collecting the data will provide valuable field training experience for students.

The Institute will attempt to coordinate and integrate the burgeoning amount of information about wilderness and similar resources through the development of a centralized information storage and retrieval system. Information would be systematically catalogued within this system to facilitate its review and retrieval by interested parties.

"That one can rediscover one's self in the wilds is a great and fundamental truth. There remain no new peaks or basins to discover; but to understand in more detail the workings of these great wild systems is perhaps the greatest frontier of all. To cross it is to know that greatest resource . . . wildness."

—William (Bud) Moore



The Institute will coordinate, facilitate, and conduct research on wilderness and similar resources. Using available information, in addition to information generated through field studies and research activity, the Institute will develop criteria and techniques for measuring and describing the characteristics and values of the wilderness resource.

## SCOPE OF ACTIVITY

The primary focus of the Institute will be on wilderness and similar resources. This would include classified Wilderness acreage under the 1964 Wilderness Act as well as back-country zones of the National Parks, and undeveloped roadless tracts of National Forests and other public lands. It would also include rare and endangered species and their habitat, undeveloped portions of rivers, and similar resources.

First priority will be given to problems in the state of Montana, however, as the abilities and resources of the Institute expand, other geographic settings may be included. The Institute will not assume a political or advocacy role on any wilderness issue.

The Institute will focus attention on issues affecting the future of the resources outlined above. Although recreation is a major use of these resources, and is responsible for much of the interest in them as well as many of the problems occurring there, the Institute will not restrict its activities to the study of recreation-related problems. The Institute will assist the public, universities, and land managing agencies in a joint attack on the most urgent tasks facing the wilderness resource in the next ten years. These tasks appear to be:

1. Develop a wilderness ethic to promote the appreciation and wise use of the wilderness resource by the public, within agencies, and by educational institutions.
2. Assist in evaluating the wilderness resource during land use planning for those roadless areas which are not presently designated wilderness candidate study areas.
3. Study the wilderness candidate areas.
4. Study Montana's rivers for possible inclusion in the Wild and Scenic Rivers system, which includes those rivers designated in the National Wild and Scenic Rivers Act.
5. Achieve a high level of professional management for

Wilderness, Wild and Scenic Rivers in Montana, and those areas to be managed for near-pristine conditions. Examples of these areas include National Forest high area zones, pioneer areas, and natural areas.

6. Assist private landholders in determining the feasibility of managing some private lands for public use as wilderness, wild, or scenic areas.

7. Assess the needs of rare and endangered species under the 1973 Rare and Endangered Species Act.

## RATIONALE

The University of Montana, located in Missoula, is ideally situated for establishing a Wilderness Institute. The northern Rocky Mountains contain the largest concentration of wilderness in the contiguous 48-state area. There are 20 established Wilderness or Primitive Areas in National Forests, three major National Parks with wilderness lands, and a substantial area of still undeveloped roadless land in Montana, Idaho, Wyoming, and Utah. These 20 established Wilderness and Primitive Areas in the National Forests represent about one-fourth of the designated areas in the nation, and total almost 7 million acres, nearly half of the national acreage. The areas vary in size, type of use, and problems; thus they provide a good outdoor laboratory. Three areas are within 50 miles of Missoula, including the Selway-Bitterroot and the Bob Marshall, two of the largest Wilderness areas in the country. There are hundreds of roadless areas on the National Forests in the northern Rockies, comprising around 20 million acres. Montana alone has 10% of the nation's 56 million remaining roadless acres, in 211 different units.

Missoula is the headquarters for the Northern Region of the Forest Service, the Wilderness Research Unit of the Intermountain Forest and Range Experiment Station, and the Wilderness Fire Management Project of the Northern Forest Fire Laboratory. The School of Forestry and many departments at the University of Montana can provide a strong diversity and depth necessary to the success of the Institute. A strong interest in the wilderness resource has been shown by faculty and students, as well as the citizens of Montana.

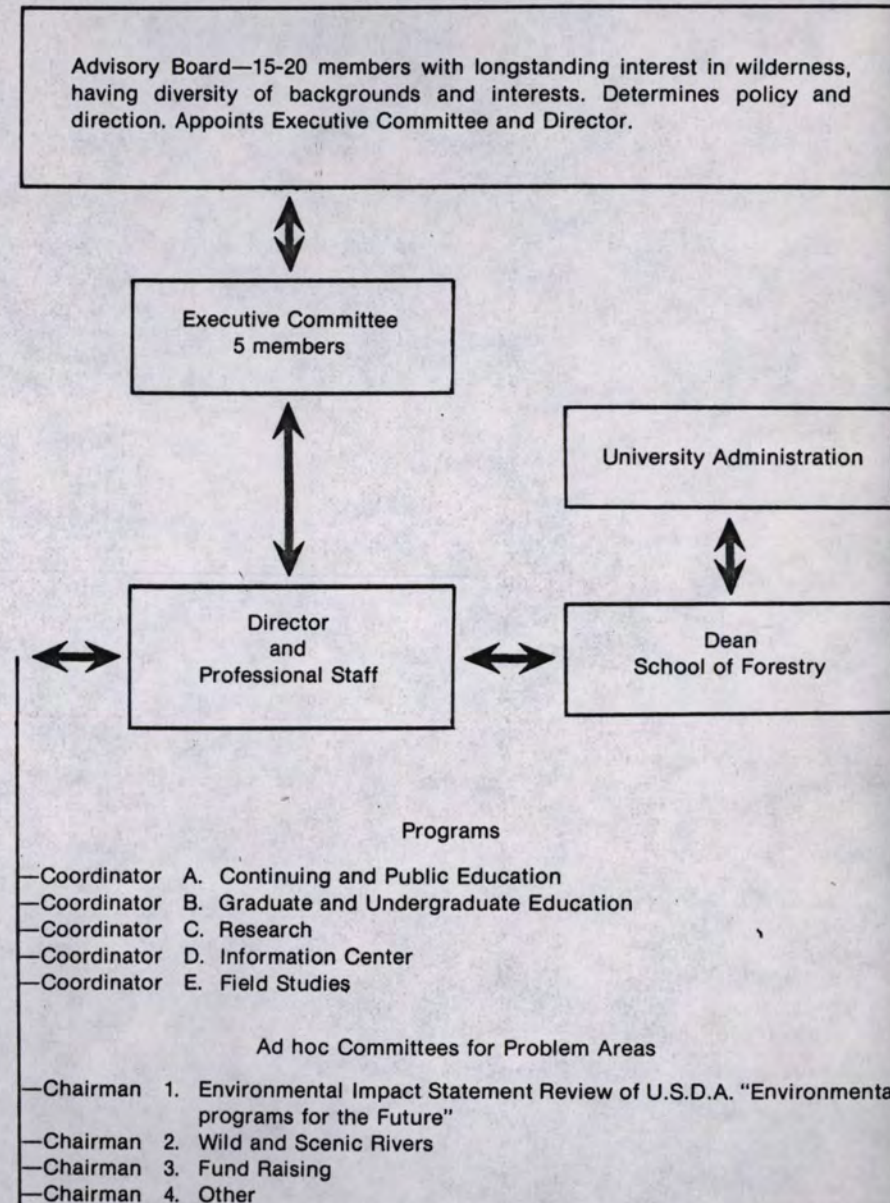


## ORGANIZATION

The Institute is presently an informal organization within the School of Forestry, University of Montana. At such time as seems appropriate, the organization will be elevated to a formal level.

The Institute is headed by a Director. A five-person Executive Committee, with the Director serving as Chairman, will meet regularly to develop programs for the Institute. In addition, an Advisory Board will meet quarterly to determine policy and will review programs formulated by the Executive Committee. The Advisory Board shall consist of individuals concerned with wilderness and similar resources and representing a diversity of interests. Review of programs will also be solicited from other interested parties. A professional staff will be retained to administer needed programs as funding permits.

## ORGANIZATION







Only a mountain has lived long enough to listen objectively  
to the howl of a wolf.

—Aldo Leopold



## WILDERNESS INSTITUTE PROGRAMS

To accomplish the objectives and functions set out in the Statement of Purpose, five major program areas have been identified: A. Continuing and Public Education, B. Graduate and Undergraduate Education, C. Research, D. Information Center, and E. Field Studies. For each, the target group, program thrusts and program content have been identified.

### A. CONTINUING AND PUBLIC EDUCATION

#### TARGET GROUP

1. Personnel presently engaged in managing wilderness or near-wilderness.
2. Individuals, agencies, and organizations interested in the wilderness resource.
3. Commercial and individual users of wilderness.

#### PROGRAM THRUSTS

1. How to manage wilderness in a high-quality manner.
2. How to participate effectively in multiple use planning, wilderness studies, and wild and scenic river studies.
3. How to use, share, and conserve the wilderness.
4. Enhance awareness of wilderness values.

#### PROGRAM CONTENT

1. Wilderness management
  - a. Social and ecological basis for management.
  - b. Wilderness economics.
  - c. Perpetuating primitive crafts.
  - d. Explore the role of returning fire to a near-natural role.
  - e. Enriching the user's experience.
  - f. Managing impact on the wilderness resource.
  - g. Other.
2. How to participate effectively in multiple use planning, wilderness studies and wild and scenic river studies. (These would usually be workshops aimed at local land allocation problems.) Topics might include:
  - a. Economics of wilderness vs. other options.
  - b. Wilderness defined.
  - c. Area suitability for wilderness.
  - d. Local vs. regional and national benefits.
  - e. Social vs. commercial benefits.
  - f. Wilderness resource inventory systems.
  - g. Importance of informed statements.
  - h. Legal and administrative processes.
  - i. Other.

3. How to use, share, and conserve wilderness.

- a. Outfitter workshop.
- b. Wilderness traveller training.
  - (1) Wilderness defined.
  - (2) Wilderness use techniques.
  - (3) Other.

4. Enhance awareness of wilderness values.

- a. Wilderness ethic and philosophy.
- b. Wilderness values in relation to the total resource picture.
- c. Social values of wilderness.
- d. Other.

### B. GRADUATE AND UNDERGRADUATE EDUCATION

#### TARGET GROUP

1. Potential wilderness manager.
2. Potential wilderness research scientists.
3. Potential educators.
4. Others interested in study of wilderness or lands managed for pristine conditions.
5. Journeymen interested in advanced study of wilderness.

#### PROGRAM THRUSTS

1. How to manage wilderness and similar areas in a high quality manner.
2. Provide specialized options for research scientists and educators.
3. Enhance awareness of wilderness values and issues for general student body.

#### PROGRAM CONTENT

1. Wilderness management.
  - a. Defined wilderness resource.
  - b. Evaluation of the wilderness resource.
  - c. Social and ecological basis for management.
  - d. Relationships of urban, rural, recreation and wilderness areas in the American culture.
  - e. Wilderness carrying capacities. (Social and/or ecological)
  - f. The Wilderness ethic.
  - g. Wilderness economics.
  - h. Perpetuating primitive crafts.
  - i. Enriching the user's experience.
  - j. Wilderness management planning.
  - k. Other.
2. Specialized options.
  - a. Managing fire in wilderness ecosystems.
  - b. Using wilderness for scientific purposes.
  - c. Wilderness or pristine land management for the private landowner.
  - d. Other.
3. Seminar series and occasional lectures to increase awareness of wilderness values and issues.



## C. RESEARCH

### TARGET GROUP

1. Scientists involved in wilderness-related research.
2. Land managers involved in management of wilderness and similar resources.
3. The public.

### PROGRAM THRUSTS

1. Determine the significant elements of the wilderness resource and provide techniques and criteria for measuring the quality of these elements.
2. Implement research programs on management-related problems.
3. Provide technical advice and service to clients.
4. Store and disseminate research information to clients.

### PROGRAM CONTENT

1. Design criteria and analysis framework for evaluating the wilderness resource.
2. Design comprehensive, integrated wilderness inventory systems that fit into total land unit inventories.
3. Design processes to measure wilderness carrying capacity.
4. Design cost-benefit approaches for weighing wilderness and other limited development management options against other management strategies.
5. Develop procedures for conducting research in wilderness without damaging the wilderness resource.
6. Provide centralized reference service.
7. Provide consultant service to clients.
8. Study the lesser known wilderness ecosystems.
9. Coordinate with related research scientists and institutions.
10. Interface with existing on-going wilderness research.
11. Strengthen knowledge of natural fire regimes in near-natural ecosystems.
12. Strengthen knowledge of insect and disease role in near-natural ecosystems.
13. Other.

## D. INFORMATION CENTER

### TARGET GROUP

1. Scientists involved in wilderness-related research.
2. Land managers involved in management of wilderness and similar resources.
3. The public.

### PROGRAM THRUST

1. Provide a wilderness information service center or clearinghouse for Institute participants and various clients.
2. Provide central information on the qualifications, availability, and costs of specialists with capability and desire to participate in wilderness and similar wildland management and research.

### PROGRAM CONTENT

1. Roadless area information center.
2. Depository for unit plans involving roadless areas or Wilderness.
3. Depository for other wilderness related proposals, documents, management plans, etc.
4. Provide searches for information indicated above.
5. Provide referral service for clients, i.e. resource, social, economic, legal, specialists.
6. Seminars for specialists to discuss research, development, and study needs and opportunities.
7. Other.

## E. FIELD STUDIES

### TARGET GROUP

1. Students and faculty.
2. Scientists involved in wilderness-related research.
3. Land use planners and managers involved in the planning and management of wilderness and similar resources.
4. The public.

### PROGRAM THRUSTS

1. Assist land managing agencies, interest groups, and private landowners in identifying and evaluating the resource of wildness in roadless areas, wild rivers, and similar wildlands.
2. Provide opportunities for students and faculty to strengthen their capabilities through participation in cooperative studies.

### PROGRAM CONTENT

1. Collect data on existing and potential wilderness areas.
2. Store data for use by interested people, organizations and agencies.
3. Provide training for faculty, students, agencies and citizen groups in criteria analysis and data collection techniques.
4. Evaluate scope, validity, and reliability of past and present study efforts concerning the wilderness resource.
5. Provide expertise in wilderness evaluation upon request to agency, organization or private citizen efforts.
6. Other.



“ . . . in the process of designating America's few remaining roadless areas, the government planners and the citizens must be mindful that trees; even big fast-growing trees, do not grow for boards and paper plates alone. The process of forest land management must husband trees and shrubs for watershed, animal shelter, bird habitat, scenery, hunting quality, wilderness and primitive shelter for man as well as commercial timber products.” “. . . all these must be given equal consideration.”

—William (Bud) Moore

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Timber Jack

The humanness of life depends above all on the quality of man's relationship to the rest of creation.

—Rene Dubos