

April 14, 1993

To: Wilderness Research Center Advisor

From: John C. Hendee
CFWR Dean and WRC Director

Subject: NOTES FROM WRC ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING WEDNESDAY,
MARCH 31

The meeting was called to order as a quorum arrived.

1. River Odyssey West, Inc.: The first item of business was the proposal by River Odyssey West, Inc. (ROW) to enter into an arrangement with the Taylor Ranch Field Station (TR) whereby UI would provide environmental education for ROW clients at Taylor Ranch. Following a hearing of every member's views, a decision, supported by a majority of advisors, was made to decline the ROW proposal. Hendee will write a letter to ROW owner Peter Grubb informing him of the decision (letter enclosed).
2. Awards to 5th World Wilderness Congress: John Hunt, subcommittee chair, to select students for Bleak Endowment Awards to attend the 5th World Wilderness Congress, reported on the process the subcommittee developed. Competition will be held for 10 awards of \$1500 each. Hendee has purchased a block of 15 plane tickets at a special price to conserve resources of the endowment. Availability of awards will be advertised campus-wide and nominees presented to the NRC Advisory Committee in early May.
3. UI Wilderness-related Projects: Results from campus-wide appeal for information on wilderness-associated projects.

The printout from the University Research Office includes many listings not associated with wilderness, but three listings have wilderness/roadless components but none are designated as affiliated with the Wilderness Research Center.

There are a number of known wilderness-related scholarly activities on campus that are not listed, e.g., Dennis Geist, Geology—Geology of the Lower Middle Fork of the Salmon River; Marv Henberg, Philosophy—book on wilderness; Ed Krumpe & Laurie Matthews, RRT—information outreach for FC-RNRW; and Leon

Neuenschwander and Charlene Lendermann, For Res—fire mapping in Selway-Bitterroot Wilderness. There are probably others.

Clearly, we need a better mechanism for identifying and tracking wilderness research at UI. Jeff Yeo will develop a UI wilderness-related activity list from all known sources and the committee will proceed from that point.

4. Taylor Ranch Field Station Interns—Summer 1993: Interns for summer 1993 were selected (WRC committee of Bunting, Johansen and Yeo).
 - a. Field Station operations intern: Eight excellent applications were received. Sushan Han, sophomore majoring in pre-vet/wildlife resources was selected.
 - b. Wilderness research intern: 3 applications were received. There was a unanimous vote for the selection of Jason Karl, sophomore in wildlife resources.

5. Report on 1993 research/teaching at Taylor Ranch Field Station
 - a. Teaching:

WLF/RESRC 305 - Field Research in Wilderness ecology; offered jointly with San Francisco State University Wildland Studies Program (12 student limit for SFSU, 10 student limit for UI); 6 enrolled as of March 29 (first day of enrollment)

WLF/RESRC 396 - Wilderness Research Internship; research on coexisting accipiter nesting habitat
 - b. Research:

Kerry Reese (F&W), UI: forest grouse habitat selection and brood survival; 1st year

Jim Peek & Jeff Yeo (F&W), UI: bighorn sheep forage-based carrying capacity model for winter range

Jim Peek & Jeff Yeo (F&W), UI: nonforested habitat descriptions for Salmon River drainage

Jim Peek & Jeff Yeo (F&W), UI: annual monitoring of plant community composition and productivity

Chuck Peterson, ISU: survey, inventory and monitoring of amphibian and reptile populations

Trost, ISU & Yeo: avian community monitoring

Jeff Yeo: small mammal community monitoring

Wayne Minshall, ISU: stream response to fire

Holubetz, IDFG: chinook salmon population & habitat study.

All the above research is limited to UI - F&W or ISU. However, Steve Austad and Frank Rosenweig, UI Biology Department, are developing proposals for research based at Taylor Ranch and will visit the field station this summer. We need to encourage others as well.

6. Short courses at Taylor Ranch: Marvin Henberg described his experience visiting Taylor Ranch (evidence of a cougar fight was exciting) and his lecture to Washington & Lee University which had a wilderness theme. Marvin's lecture received an enthusiastic response, and a proposal from W&L to offer a field course at Taylor Ranch. Prospects for such courses are attractive, considering the ability of private university students to pay.

A subcommittee chaired by Marvin Henberg, with Ernie Ables and Art Smith as members, is charged with developing a Taylor Ranch short course policy. The subcommittee will report on this topic at the next meeting with recommendations for action, including invitations to other universities.

7. Frank Church-River of No Return Wilderness Symposium: Henberg, Hendee, Yeo and Krumpe reported on an outstanding symposium, a highlight of which was the performance of 12 CFWR graduate students as small group facilitators.
8. Wilderness Discovery Program with Job Corps. No time for discussion; summary enclosed.

The next meeting will be 3:30 p.m., Wednesday, May 12.

JCH/mp

Enc.