CONTINUING EDUCATION PROGRAM FOR NATURAL RESOURCE PROFESSIONALS

Fiscal Year 2009

Calendar Year
October 2008 to September 2009
SCHEDULE OF WORKSHOPS
USDA Forest Service



"We can't solve problems by using the same kind of thinking we used when we created them."

~ Albert Einstein, Physicist

The Program

Mission: Serving the People Who Care for the Land
This continuing education program is sponsored by the USDA Forest Service
Watershed, Fish, Wildlife and Air staff (WFW). The Continuing Education program
(CE-WFW) goal is enhancing the productivity and effectiveness of professionals
working with management of watershed, terrestrial and aquatic habitats. Though
targeted for natural resource professionals, everyone is welcome. Be aware the
workshops are presented at a university graduate level.

The WFW Continuing Education program was initiated in 1987, and is the program described in this brochure. Consisting of graduate-level workshops hosted by universities, agencies and institutions, the workshops increase productivity and effectiveness of experienced natural resource professionals and technicians. The workshops provide knowledge and skills needed to become leaders in integrated resource management. These workshops are rigorous (e.g., interactive exercises, tests, pre-work and projects) and will require work. Instructors for each workshop are leaders in their fields and include university professors, experienced natural resource managers, researchers, and public sector.

For a detailed explanation of the Continuing Education WFW program see our web site (www.fs.fed.us/biology/education). There are two levels in the program. **Level I** is Technical Leadership aimed at GS 5-9 and those new to their career, but it is not exclusive. **Level II** is Program Leadership consisting of four workshops. You are welcome to repeat any of the workshops over your career, as the content will always be updated. In addition to the workshops, a completed project is necessary to graduate. A project can be either the Program Plan developed in *Program Management* or a project negotiated with the National CE-WFW Program Leader.

Who is eligible? Eligible candidates include wildlife, fisheries, botany, hydrology, watershed, recreation, timber and other resource professionals with an education in wildlife, fisheries, plant management or related fields and generally 3 years experience in resource management. A few workshops are applicable to Technicians. Line officers are encouraged to apply, as are resource specialists from State, Tribal, Federal and other agencies. The 'Leadership & Communications' and 'Plain & Simple! Document Writing' workshops are applicable to everyone.

Intelligence shows itself not so much in having the right answers but in being able to ask the right questions.

Anonymous

How to Apply

Forest Service Applicants. A 'call for nominations' goes out in May through each Region. Follow your Regional Coordinator's instructions. If your Region sponsors limited tuitions, supervisors should forward nominations to their Regional Coordinator, following the Region's nomination process. After selection by the Regional Office and confirmation by the Washington Office (confirmation is announced in October), candidates submit payment directly to the vendors (credit card or SF182). The host university or institution is the vendor. 'Landscape Ecology' is an exception; see web site for tuition payment details. **All Forest**

Service employees fill out a SF182. Self-funded individuals can register directly in AgLearn. AgLearn does **not** automatically process payment; participant must submit payment through the normal fiscal processes. Two workshops have selection processes; nominees are listed in the October confirmation letter being selected by the vendor in November.

Once confirmed, participants are obligated to pay the tuition. Confirmation will occur in October via letter or email from the Regional Office. If a confirmed participant needs to withdraw he/she must immediately contact his/her Regional Coordinator for assistance in finding a substitute. Trying to withdraw from a workshop with only a few weeks notice is difficult and is <u>not</u> recommended. Every effort will be made to assist participants with their individual needs.

Tuition. Workshop tuitions do **not** cover meals, lodging or travel. Limited tuition dollars are available through a few Regional offices during the nomination process. Most tuition dollars are currently allocated to individual Forests. Therefore, responsibility for payment of all costs (e.g., tuition, per diem and travel) rests solely with the nominating unit. If you miss the spring nomination period, contact your Regional Coordinator or National Program Leader for assistance.

Non-Forest Service Applicants. Candidates from other countries, agencies, States, Tribes, private industry, or the public interested in enrolling should apply directly to workshop vendors or contact the National Program Leader. Reduced tuitions are available for some workshops for Tribal Natural Resource Professionals. See our web site for additional information or contact the National Program Leader. www.fs.fed.us/biology/education

Accessibility. Contact the vendor upon registration for assistance with any special needs. Providing a quality learning experience is a priority - the sooner we know of any needs the better experience we can provide.



PROGRAM LEADERSHIP

Leadership and Communications (LAC). Objectives: explain and discuss personal preferences for mentally processing information, making decisions, approaching tasks and interacting with others, demonstrate essential communication skills (e.g., writing/speaking); practice negotiation techniques; discuss models of leadership and management; improve team function and leadership; facilitate and manage meetings; demonstrate managing issues and communicating through the mass media, and develop a list of actions that will increase effectiveness and influence in the organization. Everyone can be a leader, regardless of one's position in the organization, by improving leadership and communication skills. AgLearn Keywords: 2600 wo leadership communications

February 24 - March 5, 2009 Travel 2/23 & 3/5 March 26 - April 3, 2009 Travel 3/25 & 4/3

Kissimmee, FL **Tuition \$1,800** Missoula, MT **Tuition \$1,800**

Dr. Steve McMullin, Department of Fisheries and Wildlife Science, Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University, Blacksburg, VA 540-231-8847 smcmulli@vt.edu

VPI offers a traveling tailored version of Leadership & Communications. See "Workshops on Demand" for additional information

Leadership and Communications: Advanced (LAC/A). Objectives: increase participants' knowledge of Myers-Briggs psychological type, the many facets of each preference and how to apply this knowledge to improve personal effectiveness; develop understanding of self and others' perceptions of leadership behaviors exhibited by participants through use of a 360-degree assessment tool. Participants dig deeper into Myers-Briggs psychological type through analysis of the MBTI Step II instrument. Second half of the workshop uses 'The Leadership Challenge' 360-degree assessment tool providing participants with a comparison of their self-evaluations and the evaluations of supervisors, peers, and people they supervise of leadership behaviors the participants exhibit in five areas: modeling the way, inspiring a shared vision, challenging the process, enabling others to act, and encouraging the heart.

AgLearn Keywords: wo 2600 leadership communications

Virginia Polytechnic Institute & State University February 3 - 6, 2009 Travel 2/2 & 2/6

Albuquerque, NM **Tuition \$995**

Dr. Steve McMullin, Department of Fisheries and Wildlife Science, Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University, Blacksburg, VA smcmulli@vt.edu 540-231-8847

Natural Resource Policy, Values, and Economics (NRPVE).

Objectives: describe factors involved in policy making; explain the basic role of economics in natural resource management and ecosystem services; and demonstrate comprehension and appreciation of human value systems underlying policy making and economics. Discussion strongly relates to activities on National Forests via case study and interactive exercises.

AgLearn Keywords: wo 2600 policy values economics

University of Georgia **Georgia Center for Continuing Education** May 4 - 8, 2009

Athens, GA **Tuition \$1200**

Dr. John Bergstrom, University of Georgia, Department of Agriculture & Applied Economics, Athens, GA 706-542-0749 jberg@uga.edu

Registration, Lodging, and Meals Information:

Melanie Baer, GACTR, University of GA

www.gactr.uga.edu

706-542-6638

Melanie.Baer@georgiacenter.uga.edu

Portland State University will host the FY10 workshop. PSU and UGA offer workshops in alternate years.

Program Management (PMB). Objectives: demonstrate skills to effectively develop and implement a Program Plan on participant home units. Participants draft a Program Plan covering goals, objectives, elements, personnel development, budget, marketing, and tiering to Forest Plans. Draft plan handed in at end of workshop. Focus on motivating people to think programmatically. Target audience is journeylevel biologists responsible for program development. AgLearn Keywords: wo 2600 program management

Utah State University April 27 - 30, 2009 March 2 - 5, 2009

Tuition \$350 Logan, UT Eugene, OR

Shelly Witt and Dr. Brett Roper, WATS Department, Utah State University, Logan, UT 435-881-4203 (Witt)

One (1) graduate credit is available.

switt01@fs.fed.us

Program Management - Round II (PMII). Return to finish writing or update your document. Join in the 'original' PMB workshop per individual needs. April 27 - 30, 2009 **Tuition \$50**

Contact information same as for Program Management

TECHNICAL LEADERSHIP **Multi-disciplinary**

Endangered Species Act for Line Officers (ESAL). Objectives: explain policy, legal and administrative aspects of managing threatened, endangered and sensitive species across landscapes; describe the roles of all the players; explain agency and LO obligations for consultation and recovery; prevent listings proactively. Focus is on ESA and related statutes, regulations, and policies/procedures. Important emerging issues such as climate change, legal and administrative updates are also addressed. Interactive lectures, roundtable discussions, educational field trip, and panel of experts facilitate learning. Designed for line officers and decision makers; potential line officers may attend with supervisor's recommendation.

AgLearn Keywords: wo 2600 endangered species line

Lewis & Clark College May 4 - 7, 2009

San Diego, CA **Tuition \$1,095**

Lin Harmon, J.D., Assistant Director, Environmental & Natural Resource Law Program, Lewis & Clark College, Portland, OR lhw@lclark.edu 503-768-6882

Administrative Contact: Linda D'Agostino

lindad@lclark.edu 503-768-6784



Photograph by Leighlan Prout; USFS Find-A-Photo



Policy and Legal Aspects of Endangered Species Management

(PLA). Objectives: explain policy and legal aspects of managing threatened, endangered and sensitive species; integrate into management practices with special emphasis on agency consultation and recovery obligations under Section 7 of the ESA, as well as available recovery tools beyond consultation. Focus is on the ESA and related laws, policies and administrative practices from the perspective of field biologists and other staff specialists. Course also addresses important emerging issues such as climate change and legal and administrative updates. Interactive lectures, roundtable discussions, and a diverse program faculty, including law professors, practicing attorneys, and representatives from the regulatory agencies facilitate learning. An advanced workshop may be scheduled for a group of 15 or more. PLA/Advanced is more in-depth and specific with application to home unit projects. If interested, contact vendor for details.

AgLearn Keywords: wo 2600 policy legal endangered species

Lewis and Clark College Intro: March 2 - 5, 2009

Portland, OR **Tuition \$930**

Janice Weis, J.D., Director, Environmental & Natural Resources Law Program, Lewis & Clark College, Portland, OR 503-768-6784 jweis@lclark.edu

Administrative Contact: Linda D'Agostino

503-768-6784 lindad@lclark.edu

Plain & Simple! Document Writing (PSDW). Objectives: write clear, concise analytical documents readily understood by the average reader; effectively communicate technical and scientific information to a variety of audiences. Participants use laptops simulating current editing practices. Designed for natural resource professionals writing letters, analytical documents, NEPA documents, biological assessments/evaluations and other types of documents, but open to everyone. During the workshop participants edit their documents, leaving with improved products. Bring a laptop.

AgLearn Keywords: wo 2600 plain simple writing In collaboration with the USFS Ecosystem Management Coordination staff.

Environmental Planning & Documentation Request in AgLearn for 2009

Tuition \$180 TBA

Dr. Jud Monroe, Environmental Planning & Documentation, San Anselmo, CA 415-453-6546 imonroe@pacbell.net

Innovative Approaches to Wildlife and Highway Interactions

(IAWHI). Objectives: explain how highways affect terrestrial wildlife; demonstrate tools to identify and reduce highway-related impacts to wildlife; explain the highway planning process, including large scale connectivity analyses; and develop interdisciplinary networking opportunities. Designed for both resource biologists and engineers, and taught by both. Topics include an overview of wildlife issues relative to pre-existing highways and future highway planning; differences in impacts and solutions between low volume and high volume roads; structural and non-structural solutions to wildlife mortality and habitat connectivity; and an introduction to current resources on wildlife/highway crossings and interactions. The Florida session includes field trips to many wildlife crossing structures. The California session includes ongoing long-term research, mitigation and local educational activities by the Highway 89 Stewardship Team.

AgLearn Keywords: highway, transportation, wildlife

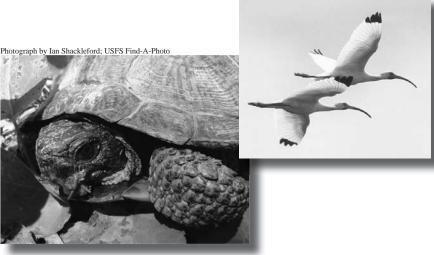
US Forest Service and US FWS
March 3 - 5, 2009
US Forest Service, UC Berkeley, US FWS
Tuition \$800
July 20 -24, 2009
Sagehen Creek Field Station, Truckee, CA

Sandra Jacobson, PSW Research Station, Arcata, CA 541-678-5240
Terry Brennan, Tonto National Forest, Phoenix, AZ 602-225-5375

sjacobson@fs.fed.us

tbrennan@fs.fed.us





Photograph by Steve Metz; USFS Find-A-Photo

Planning for Environmentally-Sensitive Highway Projects

(EcoHWYS). Objective: streamline and improve delivery of an environmentally-sensitive highway project using the context-sensitive planning approach in an interdisciplinary and interagency planning team. Instructors are an interdisciplinary team (transportation ecology specialists: wildlife biologists, engineers, hydrologists, soil scientists, botanists, and recreation planners). Target audience: interagency, interdisciplinary team and line officers working together on a multi-year project including highway project planning. Topics include agency differences in NEPA, time lines, funding mechanisms and policy. Course structure might allow some disciplines to participate for less than the entire week.

AgLearn Keywords: highway, transportation, wildlife

US Forest Service

April 5 - 9, 2009

Tuition \$800 Bend, OR

Sandra Jacobson, PSW Research Station, Arcata, CA 541-678-5240 Terry Brennan, Tonto National Forest, Phoenix, AZ 602-225-5375

sjacobson@fs.fed.us

tbrennan@fs.fed.us

GIS and Remote Sensing (GIS).

Visit www.fs.fed.us/biology/education/workshops/gis/index.html for a vendor list.

Landscape Ecology (LE).

Objectives: examine landscape ecological relationships by defining the spatial scale (grain and extent), thematic content and resolution of the landscape in the context of specific objectives; explain how patterns develop on landscapes; characterize landscape patterns; quantify landscape dynamics; explain the ecological implications of landscape pattern; explain how humans manage complex landscapes to achieve management objectives, including conservation biology and ecosystem management. Focus on the interplay between spatial pattern and process; specifically, how to characterize spatial pattern, where it comes from, why it matters, how it changes through time, and how we manage it. Project-based and place-based learning techniques focusing on applying to management situations.

NOTE: Vendor payment handled through USFS Washington Office. AgLearn Keywords: 2470 2600 landscape ecology Hosted in collaboration with the USFS National Advanced Silviculture Program.

University of Massachusetts Proposed: January 5 - 16, 2009 Missoula, MT Tuition \$1500

Dr. Kevin McGarigal, Associate Professor of LE, Department of Natural Resources Conservation, University of Massachusetts, Amherst, MA Admin/Silviculture Certification Contact: Glenda Scott, USFS, R1 406-329-3122 glscott@fs.fed.us Registration Contact: Shelly Witt, USFS, CE-WFW

435-881-4203 switt01@fs.fed.us

Vegetation Monitoring (VM)

The Nature Conservancy-Florida offers a Vegetation Monitoring workshop. Register at nature.ufl.edu/registration.htm. Visit our website for additional information.





Water Resource Management for Line and Staff Officers (WRMLO).

Objective: explain legal and administrative aspects of water resource management; describe the demands, values, tensions and opportunities related to water issues and the management of NFS lands; provide effective leadership of Forest Service water resource issues and activities. Focuses on providing Forest Supervisors, District Rangers, Staff Officers and Program Managers with foundations of law, philosophy and insight to strategically guide water resource and watershed management issues. Interactive lectures, discussions, activities and field trips are used to facilitate learning. Participants will be selected by the training cadre to achieve diversity and nation-wide distribution of management experiences.

AgLearn Keywords: wo 2500 watershed management

USDA Forest Service February 23 - 27, 2009 Sedona, AZ Tuition \$500

Cadre Coordinator: Ranotta McNair, Forest Supervisor, Idaho Panhandle NF

Information Contact: John Potyondy, USDA Forest Service, Stream Systems
Technology Center
970-295-5986 jpotyondy@fs.fed.us

Terrestrial

Wildlife Conservation & Management (WCM). Objectives: explain habitat issues and concepts that shape resource management at national, regional and local levels; apply habitat concepts and management in light of recent theory, technology and research findings; and apply new knowledge to situations and actual problems encountered in resource management. Teaching methods are a 'blend' of online and on site: the first part is taught online over an 11 week period; the second part is taught on site for 1 week.

AgLearn Keywords: wo 2600 wildlife conservation management

Northern Arizona University On line: January 26 - April 10, 2009 Flagstaff, AZ **Tuition \$1,300**

On site: April 13 -17, 2009

Dr. Carol Chambers, Northern Arizona University, School of Forestry, Flagstaff, AZ 928-523-0014

carol.chambers@nau.edu

Dr. Christina Vojta, USFS National Wildlife Ecology Unit, Flagstaff, AZ 928-556-2182 cvojta@fs.fed.us

Asking & Answering the Right Monitoring Questions (AARMQ).

Objectives: matching management goals to clear management and monitoring objectives; crafting the right monitoring questions for the management context. Any organization conducting biological monitoring has management goals that articulate what the organization wants the land to look like. Monitoring is the measurement of land condition relative to these goals. This course discusses tools for the design of monitoring programs that assess ecological systems relative to management actions. Topics include (1) how conceptual modeling can help craft effective monitoring questions and (2) effective design and analysis tools for creating sampling designs and analyzing data. This workshop is meant to help craft effective monitoring programs and is not a workshop in field techniques.

AgLearn Keywords: wo 2600 monitoring

Sound Science, LLC January 28 - 30, 2009 Salt Lake City, UT **Tuition \$750**

Dr. David Maddox, Sound Science-LLC, Boise, ID www.sound-science.org 202-255-1124

david@sound-science.org

Aquatic

Aquatic Ecosystem Monitoring & Evaluation - Western (NR16).

Objectives: demonstrate skills to effectively monitor and evaluate aquatic/riparian restoration projects; and develop an effective aquatic ecosystem monitoring program. This western workshop focuses on building successful aquatic ecosystem monitoring programs: FS monitoring responsibilities and legal mandates for agency monitoring; priority development, including levels and intensity of monitoring; introduction to sampling design - basic statistical principles necessary for designing effective aquatic monitoring strategies; development of clear monitoring objectives based on management objectives; sampling techniques & field equipment; data analysis - displaying a variety methodologies used for analysis; evaluation, interpreting and reporting monitoring data.

AgLearn Keywords: R6 2600 NR16

USDA Forest Service Proposed: June 1 - 4, 2009 TBA (western US) **Tuition \$500**

Deb Konnoff, USDA Forest Service, PNW Region, Natural Resources, Aquatic Training Program, Portland, OR www.fs.fed.us/r6/water/fhr/training 503-808-2676 dkonnoff@fs.fed.us

Aquatic Monitoring–Eastern (AM E). See "Workshops On Demand" provided by Dr. Brett Roper. Same content as NR16, but with eastern perspective. Tuition dependent on location.

AgLearn Keywords: 2600 aquatic monitoring

Dr. Brett Roper, USFS National Aquatic Monitoring Program Leader; WATS Department, Utah State University, Logan, UT 435-755-3566 broper@fs.fed.us



Stream & Watershed Restoration Design & Implementation (NR20).

Objective: develop and implement stream and watershed restoration programs at the district level. Restoration in watershed analysis context, and effective stream restoration programs. Topics include: The watershed context for planning stream habitat and watershed restoration projects; identifying existing habitat condition, desired future habitat conditions, and limiting factors; formulating watershed, habitat and channel objectives; developing alternative approaches to restoration in an interdisciplinary manner; general overview on designing and implementing restoration projects; required NEPA analysis and documentation; necessary permits; contract preparation and administration; physical and biological monitoring and evaluation; implementing projects through partnerships; how to plan successful projects. Feedback/help on your current watershed restoration projects is available. Part of the USDA Pacific Northwest Aquatic Training program.

AgLearn Keywords: R6 2600 NR20

USDA Forest Service

Proposed: May 18 - 22, 2009

TBA (western US)
Tuition \$500

Paul Powers, USDA Forest Service, PNW Region, Deschutes NF; Crescent RD www.fs.fed.us/r6/water/fhr/training 541-552-2913

ppowers@fs.fed.us





Advanced Concepts in Aquatic Ecosystem Analysis (ACAEA).

Objectives: explain and discuss the aquatic biologist's role in the watershed/ecosystem analysis process; apply specific analysis methods relating to current issues. **Emphasis in this year's workshop is climate change and aquatic systems.** Participants integrate information from conservation biology, community ecology, and the physical sciences, into class exercises designed to simulate field problems. Exercises simulate aquatic issue analyses performed during effects analysis. Presented blended as online and onsite. Target audience is **journey-level fish biologists and aquatic ecologists**.

AgLearn Keywords: 2600 aquatic ecosystem analysis

Utah State University May 2009 Distance Delivery Tuition FREE

Dr. Brett Roper, USFS National Aquatic Monitoring Program Leader, WATS Department, Utah State University, Logan, UT 435-755-3566 broper@fs.fed.us





WORKSHOPS ON DEMAND

Host a workshop at your home unit. Prices vary by workshop, facilities, location and desired complexity. Hosting units assist with facility coordination. Special requests are welcome.

Contact: Dr. Brett Roper

435-755-3566

broper@fs.fed.us

- **Data Analysis using Excel**TM Objectives: design Pivot Tables; use ANOVA and Regression Analysis; interpret data.
- **Technical & Scientific Writing** Objectives: analyze data; write professional quality technical documents and scientific articles to be disseminated broadly to the public.
- Sampling Amphibians Objective: explain and demonstrate sampling methods for a variety of amphibians and associated habitats.
- Aquatic Monitoring Eastern: Twin to NR16. See NR16 description/objectives and perspective.

Contact: Dr. Steve McMullin

540-231-8847

smcmulli@vt.edu

• Leadership and Communications Traveling workshop modules -

Dr. Steve McMullin and other instructors from the popular Leadership and Communications workshop will bring any piece of LAC to your district or forest. This is a cost-effective way to provide high-quality training to your employees. The most popular modules have been Myers-Briggs psychological type as a basic building block for interpersonal communication and team building. Other workshops that have been offered or that can be offered include leadership and management, conflict resolution, working effectively with the media, and effective writing and speaking for natural resource professionals.

Contact: Mark Hudy

540-568-2704

hudymx@jmu.edu

- Aquatic Passages road-stream crossing structure inventory and assessment determining barrier status (e.g., FishXing). Aimed at Program and Inventory project leaders. Cooperatively hosted by regional Fisheries, Water and Engineering Program Leaders.
- **Geo Spatial Photomonitoring** enhancing spatial data with digital photography. Applications for aquatic or vegetation monitoring.

USDA Forest Service

National Continuing Education/WFW

Program Leader

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John Curnutt

Region 9 414-297-4149 jcurnutt@fs.fed.us





WEB SITE & ONLINE TRAINING

Visit our web site (<u>www.fs.fed.us/biology/education</u>) for detailed workshop information (e.g., agendas, readings, travel). Other information relevant to natural resource professionals is available.

USDA employees can register through AgLearn: www.aglearn.usda.gov

Register for (or Request) workshops in AgLearn.

Other Training Opportunities:

For other agency and university training opportunities visit www.fs.fed.us/biology/education and select the 'Resource Center' or 'Other Training' link.

The BLM, FWS, NOAA, and NPS all offer training.

USFS GSTC: Live and online ("e") Training http://fsweb.geotraining.fs.fed.us/oc.php?courseID=22

The Natural Resource Distance Learning Consortium: http://nrdlc.iddl.vt.edu/index.php

US Department of Interior registration web site: https://doilearn.doi.gov

NEW COURSES

Coming in the next year...



Herpetology:

Multiple herpetology courses - learning about species identification, inventory and monitoring protocols, habitat management guidelines, life history, and diseases. Blended delivery methods including online and on site. In partnership with PARC.

Look for updates at:

www.parcplace.org www.fs.fed.us/biology/education

Introduction to Climate Change: online through AgLearn In partnership with Utah State University/Utah Climate Center

Climate Change and Aquatic Systems: online through AgLearn

To Do List:

Read brochure
Read Letter from Washington Office and Region
Visit CE-WFW website: www.fs.fed.us/biology/education
Fill out Region Funding/Registration form - if your Region has one
Register in AgLearn - be aware that a couple workshops have a selection

process. Most workshops are 'first come - first served'. Contact National CE Program Leader if need help with AgLearn.

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