Message from the Dean

You may have heard USU was planning to merge CNR with the College of Agriculture or Science. I am pleased to report USU President Stan Albrecht has rejected the proposal and the S. J. and Jessie E. Quinney Foundation has pledged a $10 million gift to secure the future of CNR as a separate college.

After President Albrecht announced the gift and his decision, the Provost formed a planning committee to chart CNR's future and determine how the college will strengthen its role as a focal point for faculty across the University who are involved in research on environmental issues.

Now that the future of CNR is assured, I have announced my plan to step down as dean on December 31, 2011. Chris Luecke will serve as interim dean while the planning committee initiates its work and the college conducts the search for a new permanent dean. [see related article in this issue]

My six years as dean are among the most rewarding of my career. I certainly can’t take the credit for everything that CNR has done since 2006, but working together we’ve made some major accomplishments.

See MESSAGE FROM THE DEAN, page 2
We’ve hired 20 new faculty members, with eight of them filling entirely new positions. The new faculty add expertise and experience that broaden and deepen our teaching, research and extension programs.

We’ve strengthened our ties with state and federal agencies who manage natural resources, especially throughout the Great Basin. I’ve enjoyed representing CNR and USU as Chair of the Great Basin Research and Management Partnership’s Executive Committee and as a member of the Steering Committee of the U.S. Department of Interior’s Great Basin Landscape Conservation Commission. CNR now houses a permanent Utah Department of Natural Resources (DNR) employee and we’ve also placed a full-time CNR employee in DNR headquarters.

We’ve established two undergraduate distance education degrees, with new faculty positions in Moab and Price. We have also developed an on-line professional Master’s of Natural Resources degree (MNR). Even with no advertising, our MNR program has grown to become CNR’s largest graduate degree program, with over 70 students enrolled.

We’ve increased the number of endowed scholarships in the college and increased the endowments of several existing scholarships. CNR met or exceeded our goals during USU’s first Capital Campaign, raising over $7 million in private funding to support our students and programs.

I love teaching, but as dean I simply wasn’t able to accommodate all the professional MNR students who either wanted or needed my courses, and I haven’t been able to develop or teach undergraduate courses. I’m looking forward to teaching additional sections of my on-line courses in CNR’s professional MNR program spring semester. I also hope to develop additional undergraduate courses on sustainability—including a 2000 level USU general education course and a 3000 or 4000 level ENVS course for a new Sustainability minor. Beyond next semester, I’m exploring the possibility of taking a sabbatical in Washington, D.C., and increasing my involvement in campus-wide programs such as Sustainability, STEM education, and other initiatives.

Perhaps the most important thing I’ve done personally during my tenure as dean was invite the Quinney family to place Janet Quinney Lawson’s statue in the grove in front of CNR and the Quinney Library instead of up on the 7th North site they originally chose. With Janet as our sentinel, I’m confident the advances CNR has made recently will not only endure, but will be surpassed in the future.
Utah State University has named Chris Luecke, department head of Watershed Sciences, as interim dean of the College of Natural Resources beginning January 1, 2012.

Luecke will lead the strategic planning committee being formed and identify the path to continued success for the college before conducting a national search for the next dean.

The committee will comprise faculty members from CNR as well as faculty from other academic units on campus who are active scientists exploring topics related to natural resources, the environment and ecology.

“Over the next four months, this committee will define the intellectual footprint for the future of this college and present for the president’s review a clear plan that will ensure the continued strength of our academic offerings and programs of research in this important academic unit,” said Provost Raymond Coward.

“Dr. Luecke is the ideal person to serve as interim dean during this planning phase. He is a great research scientist, a fine teacher, and is thoroughly committed to CNR and USU. Furthermore, he was the overwhelming choice of the faculty and staff...I can think of no one I’d rather see guide CNR through the interim period,” said Dean Nat Frazer.

Luecke was head of the Department of Fisheries and Wildlife (F&W) from 2000-2002 and then head of the new Department of Watershed Sciences from 2002 to the present. He joined the faculty in the F&W in 1988 where he established research and programs in fish ecology.

Luecke has maintained an active and productive program of research at the Long-Term Ecological Research site at Toolik Lake in arctic Alaska and continues research on reservoir fishes in Utah. Luecke received his Ph.D. in zoology from the University of Washington in 1986.

Luecke said, “The faculty, staff and students in the college are an outstanding collection of young scientists. I am honored to serve as their leader during this dynamic time for the environmental sciences and for the management of our natural resources.”

Coward thanked Luecke for his willingness to once again step into this important leadership role. Luecke served as interim dean of the college during the fall semester of 2005.

Mark Brunson - ENVS Department Head

ENVS appointed its two-year interim department head Mark Brunson to officially fill the position starting July 2011. Nat Frazer the Dean of CNR said it was an easy decision. “I interviewed one-on-one with every faculty member in ENVS and asked them to name three people who...would be a suitable candidate to be the new head ... more than one person said, “Mark, Mark, and Mark.”

After earning his doctorate degree in forestry from Oregon State University, Brunson began his teaching and research career at USU in 1992.

While serving as interim department head, much of his focus has been on expanding the ENVS programs with distance education. "Probably a third of all of our majors are from some place other than Logan,” Brunson said.

With distance education as one of Brunson’s main focuses, he plans to keep the department moving forward in "a steady and sustainable pace," to get aboard the overall direction of the University.

"Part of what I’m trying to do is to find and maintain a balance of the three missions we have as a university: to provide outreach and information to citizens throughout the state, provide quality education and to do valuable scientific research to solve the environmental problems we have as a state and as a country," he said. ♦ To read full article by Kevin Mitchell please visit USU Statesman.
The growing population of African elephants and their impact on the savanna ecology has brought a Fulbright Fellow to the College of Natural Resources.

Dr. Stein Moe, professor in the Department of Ecology and Natural Resource Management at the Norwegian University of Life Sciences, received the Fulbright award to come work with Dr. Johan du Toit, department head of Wildland Resources. They are developing a book to discuss in-depth how elephants effect the savanna ecosystem. A century ago elephant and antelope populations in certain parts of African savannas were “severely decimated...and then recovered.” The content of the book will discuss how both the decline and return of elephants has influenced the ecosystem—with a focus on northern Botswana.

Stein explains, “In the book we will focus on elephants as drivers of ecological heterogeneity at multiple spatiotemporal scales, shaping animal and plant communities and determining savanna ecosystem functioning. We will compare the effects of elephants on the dystrophic savannas in Chobe [National Park in northwest Botswana] with those in the eutrophic Serengeti and the mixed savannas of Kruger [National Park in South Africa].”

The work will be a resource for both scientists and land managers. It is anticipated the book will be available in fall 2012. ♦
ENVS Geography Students Inducted into International Honor Society

Did you know, two years ago, a UCLA geography class proposed an 88.9 percent probability that Osama bin Laden was living in a city, in a large, walled dwelling, less than 200 miles from Afghanistan’s Tora Bora?

Sites within that area include Abottabad, Pakistan, where bin Laden was eventually found and killed by American forces May 1.

Not all geography projects are quite so dramatic, but the example illustrates the high-tech, scientific tools of geography’s trade, including satellite imagery, biogeographic theory and use of probabilistic models — technology and expertise studied by Utah State University geography students.

Three students from USU’s College of Natural Resources were inducted into Gamma Theta Upsilon, a prestigious international geographic honor society, an organization aimed at advancing the status of geography as a cultural and practical discipline for study and investigation.

Undergraduates MacKenzie Brown, Brooke Evans and Kenneth Howell joined the society in an April 29 ceremony hosted by Department of ENVS faculty members.

“Invitation to membership in Gamma Theta Upsilon is based on academic achievement and completion of at least three geography courses,” says Claudia Radel, GTU advisor and assistant professor in the ENVS Department.

“We’re excited to have these new inductees,” says Ann Laudati, assistant professor in ENVS, who opened the gathering. “Being a part of GTU helps to promote the study of geography and fosters scholarship among our students.”

USU established Zeta Pi, its Gamma Theta Upsilon chapter, in 1982. Society membership offers access to networking, scholarship, travel and research opportunities. For the full article by Mary-Ann Muffoleto please visit USU Geography Students.

ENVS Class Project Continues as Humanitarian Service

Heather Winegar is a Recreation Resource Management major at USU Brigham City. What started as her class project for ENVS 4000, Human Dimensions of Natural Resource Management, turned into a humanitarian service project that supports education opportunities for youth and the recipients of the Ronald McDonald House Charities.

Heather and her daughter, Sage, have been collecting aluminum cans for the past year and asking community members to donate their cans to spark awareness about recycling. Many hours were spent pulling 17,000+ tabs off the cans to donate to the Ronald McDonald House Charities which serves families of children with serious illnesses by providing a “home away from home” for the children’s parents.

The cans are recycled for revenue and 100 percent of the proceeds are donated to the Samburu Youth Education Fund, which provides educational opportunities to students in the Samburu District of Kenya, Africa. All recipients show a strong potential for success and at least 50 percent are girls.

This project has inspired children and other USU Brigham City students to act as the catalyst for environmental awareness and global change by creating a recycle program, encouraging connections with nature and their community.

For more information about this service project, please contact Heather at heatherwinegar@live.com.
ENVS Welcomes Three New Faculty Members

Dr. Roslynn Brain

As concern for sustainability deservedly grows in the state, country and world, the College of Natural Resources proudly welcomes one of its newest faculty members, Dr. Roslynn Brain, who will serve as the Sustainable Communities Extension Specialist in the Department of Environment & Society.

Brain’s concern for land conservation began as a teenager when she witnessed the large Canadian cities of Toronto, Cambridge and Hamilton encroaching on her favorite hiking areas.

Her expertise is well-founded in the areas of education and communication on conservation issues. Brain completed her Ph.D. at the University of Florida where she concentrated on extension and environmental education.

Serving as a naturalist instructor during the summer of 2011 for the Yellowstone Association, Brain taught participants ages 12 months to 85 years about the Park’s natural, geologic and cultural history.

Her interests and experience in educating the public will be a valued asset to the college. ♦ Welcome, Roslynn!

Dr. Robyn Ceuvorst

Growing up on the Mississippi River and reading Mark Twain books about floating rivers, traveling around, and getting into mischief got into Dr. Robyn Ceuvorst’s blood.

As a child, she cultivated an affinity for environmental management issues playing in the backyard forested creek and frequently asking her parents ‘why’ questions about natural resource management problems. Since then, she has traveled the world to run over 10,000 whitewater miles, skied many peaks and biked hundreds of trails.

This experience and passion for the outdoors will serve her well as she begins her work as an Assistant Professor in the Moab Education Center in Moab, UT.

Ceuvorst will be teaching courses in Recreation Resource Management which are offered statewide through USU’s Regional Campuses and Distance Education program.

Ceuvorst comes to CNR from Oregon State University where she earned her Ph.D. in Human Dimensions of Forest/Terrestrial, Coastal and Marine Resource Management; Recreation & Tourism. ♦ Welcome Robyn!

Dr. Adam Gibson

The diverse ways humans impact the environment are the focus of Dr. Adam Gibson’s work and research.

His work includes researching the impact transportation noise has on wildlife in Rocky Mountain National Park, surveying land, creating and implementing plant management strategies, applying planning frameworks in national parks and protecting the natural sounds in national parks. Gibson has also worked to “promote and preserve rock climbing in Northern Colorado through the development of education and outreach projects.”

Gibson’s graduate work focused on the “Effects of Group Encounters on Visitor Experiences: A Case Study of the Yosemite Institute in Yosemite National Park.”

This research experience benefits CNR students as Gibson serves as a Temporary Assistant Professor in CNR. He teaches the ENVS undergrad courses Natural Resources & Society and the Human Dimensions of Natural Resources.

Gibson earned his Ph.D. in Human Dimensions of Natural Resources at Colorado State University. ♦ Welcome Adam!
Dr. Sarah Null (WATS)

Sarah Null brings to CNR an expertise in the re-operation of water systems for improving efficiency, river restoration and climate change impacts on water resources.

Null received her B.A. in economics from UCLA and moved to the eastern Sierra Nevada to work as a naturalist at Mono Lake and ski patroller at Mammoth Mountain. While at Mono Lake, she developed an interest in California water management and returned to school to study water resources. She received her master’s and Ph.D. degrees in Geography from UC Davis, then worked as a post-doc at UC Davis’ Center for Watershed Sciences.

Her research includes evaluating water supply changes from removing O’Shaughnessy Dam in Yosemite’s Hetch Hetchy Valley, managing environmental water quantity and quality for coho salmon in California’s Shasta River, and evaluating the vulnerability of Sierra Nevada watersheds to climate change. Her research on removing O’Shaughnessy Dam was awarded ‘best paper’ in the Journal of American Water Resources Association (with co-author Jay Lund), and was the basis for the Pulitzer Prize winning series of editorials in the Sacramento Bee by Tom Philip.

Sarah lives in Logan with her husband, Curtis, and has been enjoying her bike commute to work each morning. She is looking forward to testing out the ‘greatest snow on Earth’ this winter. ♦ Welcome Sarah!

Dr. Dan MacNulty (WILD)

Dan MacNulty brings to CNR his research experience in ecology, evolution and behavior of predator-prey interactions.

In 2009 his research was spotlighted in 15 popular media outlets, including The Economist, National Geographic and New York Times. These articles and broadcasts highlighted MacNulty’s research in wolf predator-prey interactions.

MacNulty not only addresses the current research of wolves and their prey, but he also investigates the myths and folklore of the wolf hunt. One presentation that summarized these findings was entitled, “Group hunting behavior in wolves: Myths and realities.”

MacNulty completed his Ph.D. at the University of Minnesota, then served as a post-doc research scientist at the Michigan Technology University until 2010. Before coming to USU he worked at the University of Minnesota for one year as a research associate.

CNR students benefit from his research experience in his class Wildland Animal Ecology & Identification. ♦ Welcome Dan!

Dr. Kari Veblen (WILD)

Kari Veblen comes to CNR from USGS in Corvallis, Oregon where she researched BLM monitoring of livestock grazing effects in sagebrush steppe, as well as ecosystem effects of livestock grazing in the Mojave Desert.

Veblen received her Ph.D. from the University of California at Davis, in the area of cattle-wildlife interactions.

Kari brings to the college a deep interest in natural resource issues in the western U.S. and sub-Saharan Africa. Veblen has spent most of her life living in the west. For the past fourteen years she worked and lived in sub-Saharan Africa, first as an agroforestry Peace Corps volunteer in Ghana, and then as a researcher in the savannas of central Kenya.

She fills her free time with traveling, food-related activities, running and outdoor activities. Kari is excited to join CNR and take advantage of the opportunities Logan has to offer. Along with her husband, and especially her two kitties, Jua and Ziggy, she is thoroughly enjoying the warm, dry sunshine. ♦ Welcome Kari!
Wildlife biologist Mike King, who served as interim president of the College of Eastern Utah (CEU) as the institution prepared for its July 2010 merger with Utah State University, couldn’t wait for fall semester to begin.

“We’re launching the USU Department of Wildland Resources’ four-year wildlife science degree program here at USU-CEU,” says King.

“These are busy times for wildlife managers,” he says. “Utahns have many different ideas about how the state’s wildlife resources should be managed. We want to accommodate varied societal needs while preserving habitat for as many species as possible.”

“In eastern Utah, in particular, we’re seeing increasing interest in energy development of wildlife habitat, along with growing industrial and residential development,” he says. “These are issues students will be dealing with as they move into the workforce.” King and his colleagues are coordinating student internship opportunities with regional offices of the UDWR, the U.S. Forest Service, the Bureau of Land Management and the Natural Resources Conservation Service in Price. To read full article by Mary-Ann Muffoletto please visit Utah State Today.

Assemblages of cattle and large herbivore wildlife may be more compatible than traditionally believed.

The editors of Science magazine invited Johan du Toit, department head of the Wildland Resources “to write a perspective article framing the ecological context of the paper by Odadi et al. on wildlife cattle interactions in an East African savanna.”

Why some habitats produce more plant and animal species than others is the focus question of an international research team which includes CNR’s own Ecologist Peter Adler.

In a September 2011 issue of the Science magazine an article outlines the research team’s findings which contradict theories that have been taught for decades.

In a press release Adler says, “It’s time to remove outdated modes from our textbooks and concentrate on more sophisticated approaches. That will improve our ability to predict the effects of environmental change on biodiversity.”

To read more please visit: Coexisting with Cattle

Want Fatter Cows? Bring In a Zebra

To read more please visit: National Science Foundation Press Release
No Child Left Inside: Annual Natural Resources Field Days

Four grade students who participate in Utah State University’s Natural Resource Field Days each year have a great time splashing in the Logan River, catching water bugs and dressing up as strange, aquatic critters.

The question is, asks USU graduate student Tiffany Kinder, are they learning anything?

“Our findings point to a resounding ‘yes,’” says Kinder, a master’s student in watershed science who conducted an assessment of the field days in 2010. “And, not only are they learning, they’re remembering what they learned more than six months after their field day experiences.”

USU has coordinated natural resource field days for youngsters, in various forms, for more than 30 years. Since 2000, Kinder’s faculty mentor Nancy Mesner, head of USU Water Quality Extension and associate dean for the College of Natural Resources, has led Utah’s Cache County Natural Resource Field Days for Cache County and Logan City school district fourth graders each fall. This year on Sept. 12-23, more than 1,300 children from more than 50 classrooms ventured to Logan Canyon’s Guinavah-Malibu Campground to learn about the soil, plants, water and wildlife of the tri-state Bear River Watershed. To read the full article by Mary-Ann Muffoletto’s, please see USU Today. More information can also be found at Herald Journal.

Mississippi Mud: More Water Behind Sediments Rise says USU Scientist

For decades, agencies have spent millions on conservation efforts to prevent the Upper Mississippi River from filling with mud, waste and excess nutrients. Yet the waterway, which winds through prime agriculture lands, has seen a ten-fold increase in sediment since the early 1900s.

Fingers point to intensive farming practices and new-fangled farm implements. Critics charge that soil conservation, updated tillage practices and drainage solutions aimed at fixing the problem aren’t working.

That’s not the case, says Utah State University watershed scientist Patrick Belmont, who, with a team from multiple universities and research groups, recently completed a four-year study in the region.

“Conservation practices are decreasing agricultural soil erosion,” he says. “But the decreases are being offset by accelerated erosion of stream banks and bluffs.” The cause? More water.

“While we haven’t reduced the amount of mud in the river, our study shows that the source of river sediment has profoundly shifted due to a significant increase in river discharge,” he says. “It’s just gotten wetter and we’re routing more water to the river more quickly than ever before.”

To read the full article by Mary-Ann Muffoletto please visit: Mississippi Mud
This year’s NR Week (Oct 17-20) included the traditional Logger’ Breakfast, a Basketball Shoot-Out, the Reduce Reuse & Rock Concert and a service project to clean a section of Logan Canyon.

Professor Emeritus Fred Wagner Edits Book


The publisher gives the following summary of the book. “Western North America is a unique area to use as a laboratory for climate change. Aridity makes it highly sensitive to changes in precipitation and the majority of its water resources come from mountain streams fed by snowfall. Water availability in the West is dependent on both precipitation and evapotranspiration loss. Any change to water availability has a direct affect on agriculture and livestock ranching throughout the region.

Climate change is a subject of extreme breadth and complexity. This book focuses largely on climate change during the twentieth century and the associated environmental effects in western North America. It also uses models based on twentieth-century changes to project twenty-first-century changes. The scientific evidence presented here does not engage in policy advocacy, but provides policy makers useful information in planning for the future.” ♦
Wildlife Delights and Dilemmas, the 5th wildlife book by Neil F. Payne (Ph. D. Wildlife, ’75) is about the success and frustrations of the Newfoundland and Labrador Wildlife Division, and amusing, historical, dangerous and fascinating short stories from early wildlife workers in research and management. The publisher is DRC Publishing (3 Parliament St., St. John’s, NL A1A 2Y6, Canada); www.drepublishingnl.com.

Neil F. Payne was the first furbearer biologist for the Newfoundland and Labrador Wildlife Division, 1967-71. He is professor emeritus of wildlife, University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point (1975-98) until retiring. He also worked at the University of Washington in Seattle. Born in 1939, he grew up in Sheboygan Falls, Wisconsin, obtained a B.A. in biology from the University of Wisconsin-Madison (captain of fencing team), a master’s in wildlife from Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University, and a Ph.D. in wildlife from Utah State University.

He was a captain in the U.S. Marine Corps and served in the Vietnam War. Among his publications are three comprehensive books on techniques of wildlife habitat improvement for wetlands and uplands in North America. He is a Certified Wildlife Biologist, and is listed in Contemporary Authors and The Writers Directory. He is married and has three children and three step-children. The license plate number of his car is NFLD.

Dr. Joseph Tainter’s New Book on Energy Crisis

On April 20, 2010, a blast aboard The Deepwater Horizon offshore oil platform killed 11 workers, critically injured others and caused a leak that spewed thousands of barrels of oil into the Gulf of Mexico for over three months.

Cited in a government report on September 12 as one of the worst environmental disasters in history, the deadly catastrophe forms the context of this new book by ENVS professor Joseph Tainter and co-author Tadeusz “Tad” Patzek of the University of Texas-Austin that explores society’s current energy crisis and calls for discussion on future energy solutions.

Drilling Down: The Gulf Oil Debacle and Our Energy Dilemma, details the specific causes of the Deepwater calamity and offers commentary on energy and society, energy and history, as well as energy in the future. The book was released in September by Copernicus Books, an imprint of global scientific publisher Springer.

“The book is written in two parts,” says Tainter. “My co-author, Tad, is a petroleum engineer and provides a detailed explanation—moment by moment, in some parts—of how the Deepwater disaster unfolded. I discuss the broader implications of our dependence on fossil fuels and the challenges and risks we face as we look to the future.”

To read the full article by Mary-Ann Muffoletto please visit: Drilling Down
Daniel Cabin Restoration

One summer in the 1950’s a group of CNR graduate and undergraduate students cut lodgepole pines from the college forest (now T.W. Daniel Forest) and built “Doc’s Cabin” under the supervision of Dr. Ray Moore. The cabin served as a home for forestry students in a day when commuting from Logan was difficult. As the roads improved the commute became easier, and by 1980 the cabin was no longer used by students working on the forest.

In 2010, CNR students joined together to see if the Cabin was worth restoring. Before the renovations began students removed two truck loads of junk from the cabin. Then they obtained and installed a large wood-burning stove, put in a new chimney, fixed the leaky roof, repaired the broken windows and re-caulked the logs—to keep the rats out. The cabin now stands sturdy, tight and ready for the next 60 years.

CNR Students Clean up Logan Canyon

Logan Canyon & Stokes Nature Center were both recipients of donated service hours from CNR students. The students pulled down old trees, emptied fire pits, picked up garbage and performed other miscellaneous tasks to help the sites maintain their rustic beauty.
In Memory

Robert Kirby of the Salt Lake Tribune remembers easy-going cowboy killed in Price.

I got to know Tate Jensen in a hailstorm two years ago. We were pushing a herd of cows into Range Creek when the sky suddenly went dark.

What started out as a flurry of ice pellets soon graduated into an avalanche of ball bearings. Everyone scrambled for rain slickers. There’s very little shelter in Range Creek and none atop a horse. But we had a herd to move. We kept riding while the hail grew in size.

Suffering is an inescapable part of life. I get that. But when suffering involves me, I refuse to keep quiet about it. Riding along in the slop of mud, manure, ice and torn leaves, I complained at length about cows, the weather and the grudge Mother Nature seemed to bear us.

Tate looked over at me. On his wet face was the same easy-going expression he wore when the sun was shining on it 10 minutes ago. “It can’t last forever,” he said.

He had a point. I’d never seen weather that lasted forever. Five minutes later the sun was out. It was the first of many things I learned while pushing cows with Tate, including:

• Never feed another man’s working dog.
• You’ll always lose a fight with a mule.
• Bear poop is a good sign that it’s time to go the hell somewhere else.

But it was Tate’s common-sense observation about the weather that stuck with me. Some things simply cannot be reasoned with, so don’t bother.

From a life spent in the open, Tate had learned what some people never do: Everything in life is temporary, and when you have no say about it, the only thing you can do is put your head down and ride it out. Human beings have a tendency to live entirely in the moment. That’s why misery seems like it will last forever. So, too, do the things we take for granted. But nothing in this life lasts, including us.

Tate died on Sunday, [August 28th, 2011].

My own grief is barely tolerable. It pales in comparison to what Tate’s family is going through. The mere thought of what his parents, Butch and Jeanie, are going through is almost more than I can stand.

Tate was laid to rest on the high plateau he loved. Meanwhile, life hasn’t stopped for the rest of us. There’s still a herd to move, a ranch to winterize and a thousand other things that need doing despite the emotional weather.

Grief can’t last forever, either. The paralyzing sorrow will lessen over time, becoming more manageable. Eventually, the storm will lift a bit and we’ll be able to smile again when we miss him. Until then, we keep moving. Tate Jensen. 1980-2011. Ride out.

Reprinted with permission from the Salt Lake Tribune.
A pair of wooden decoys of every migratory bird species in North American have been carved by CNR Alumnus Henry "Milt" Reeves. Reeves worked with these species throughout his career with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS), where he specialized in the management of migratory bird populations.

After serving in the U.S. Navy from 1945-46, Reeves enrolled at USU (then known as the Utah State Agricultural College) with a record number of veterans. He earned his bachelor’s degree in wildlife management. Upon graduation he went to work for the State of Utah for just over $2,000/year. He was put to work on the Dingle Marsh which is adjacent to Bear Lake in the south east corner of Idaho. The marsh was used for water storage, irrigation and electricity.

The management methods of Dingle Marsh were hazardous to wildlife. In the spring migratory bird nests would be flooded and when the Marsh was drained other populations were in danger such as the muskrat.

Reeves was assigned to research the problem. He saw this as an opportunity to return to school and use the Dingle Marsh as his thesis project. With the support of his supervisors, he returned to Utah State University and earned his master’s in wildlife management. Reeves said, “I did my field work before my academic work which was unusual.”

Reeves research work on the Dingle Marsh was instrumental in the formation of the Bear Lake Nation Wildlife Refuge which stretches over a 19,000-acre area and includes most of the Dingle Marsh.

After working for the State of Idaho, Reeves went to work for the FWS where he continued to focus on migratory birds and their habitat.

Reeves is now enjoying retirement after 30 years with the FWS. Reeves is dedicating his time to writing a book about commercial taking (trapping & shooting) of North American migratory birds. This book will cover the commercial taking in the whole continental U.S., not just individual regions.

Another interest of Reeves is researching old archives of natural history. He has searched the collections of libraries throughout the continental U.S. Although retired since 1983 Reeves has continued to research and study.

Milt makes his home in Amity, Oregon with wife Merilyn who is also an alum of USU.

CNR would like to thank Milt who donated a significant portion of his personal library to the Quinney Library. His donation, which will supplement and enhance the library’s current collections, consists of hundreds of books and reports on ornithology, fish & wildlife management, conservation and natural history.

CNR Alum Joins Montana State Senate

NR alum Art Wittich ’82 (environmental studies and economics) says his new role as a Montana state senator reminds him of his undergraduate days. “There’s a meeting a minute and the learning curve is steep,” he says.

A 1985 graduate of the University of Montana School of Law, he heads Wittich Law Firm in Bozeman, a busy practice of five attorneys. “Some have asked why I would take the time away from managing a successful law firm serving clients,” Wittich says. “Simply stated, serving the public is central to good citizenship.”

Wittich served in the U.S. Coast Guard from 1975 to 1979 and was a forest firefighter for the U.S. Forest Service and the Bureau of Land Management from 1980 to 1983. Prior to starting his own legal practice, he was employed as counsel for the Montana Power Company and for former Montana Gov. Stan Stephens. He practiced environmental law for the U.S. Coast Guard in Washington, D.C. from 1992 to 1994.

To read full article by Mary-Ann Muffoletto please visit: Montana State Senate
In Memory

1938  Harold B. Scholes, Forestry
1938  Marcus C. Nelson, Ecology-Fisheries & Wildlife
1938  Raymond C. Roberts, Forestry
1941  Harry D. Grace, Forestry
1941  Henry J. Skidmore, Range Management
1942  Arthur A. Lusher, Range Management
1942  William Lewis Mathews, Range Management
1943  Frell Zink, Forest Management
1943  Warren Giauque, Forestry
1943  Max C. Green, Range Management
1943  Laurence Aubert, Forest Management
1948  Carl Ray Stoddard, Ecology-Fisheries & Wildlife
1948  Reuben Hoffman, Forest Management
1949  Lowell J. Udy, Range Management
1950  Russell Ralph Graham, Ecology-Fisheries & Wildlife
1950  William J. Fleishman, Forestry
1950  Todd Y. Purcell, Ecology-Fisheries & Wildlife
1950  Lester Moncrief Jr., Range Management
1950  Leo Rosko, Game Management
1951  Paul L. Sjoblom, Range Management
1951  Leonard J. Peyton, Fisheries & Wildlife
1951  Wayne L. Roelof, Timber Management
1952  Minoru Hironaka, Range Management
1952  Don E. Lewis, Fisheries & Wildlife
1952  Alan R. Middaugh, Range Management
1953  James S. Cochrane, Forest Management
1954  Russell H. Murray, Range Science
1955  Richard W. Payne, Forest Management
1955  Mr. Junior B. Hilmon, Range Science
1956  Dan McFadden, Forest Range Management
1956  Donald E. Lougee, Forestry
1958  James L. Murphy, Forest Management
1958  David D. Brockmann, Forestry
1959  Thomas H. Strunk, Wildlife Management
1959  Hugh G. Pangman, Forest Management
1959  John J. Donovan, Fisheries & Wildlife
1960  Robert D. Morrow, Range Management
1960  Robert L. Jacobsen, Forest Management
1961  Gordon Vernon Reid, Range Management
1961  Larry M. Weeks, Forestry
1962  John E. Nagel, Game Management
1963  David J. Somerville, Range Management
1964  Jerome D. Musselman, Game Management
1964  Norman H. Dey, Ecology-Fisheries & Wildlife
1965  Clyn S. Bishop, Forest Recreation
1965  Lewis O. Martindale, Range Management
1966  Belden B. Durtschi, Forestry
1967  Charles W. Ebersole, Game Management
1967  Clifford E. Elsmore, Forest Recreation
1969  Herbert J. Poston, Wildlife Science
1970  Jim F. Sazama, Game Management
1970  Robert Wayne Volkman, Fisheries & Wildlife
1972  Douglas B. Johnston, Game Management
1972  Frank D. Eaton, Forestry
1972  William R. Terrill, Forest Management
1973  Jeffery William Clark, Forest Watershed Mgmt.
1975  Scott Losee, Geography
1978  Brent G. Laws, Forestry
1982  Steve Fitzwater, Range Science
1982  Glen G. Ith, Fisheries & Wildlife
1985  Alice P. Wywialowski, Fisheries & Wildlife
1990  Mohale Gabriel Sekoto, Range Science
2003  Timothy A. Franklin, Watershed Science

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