



Association of Natural Resource Extension Professionals Newsletter

Summer 2005

August 2005

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From Our President

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Dear friends:

It's hard to believe that the summer is already coming to a close. We are swiftly moving into one of extensions busiest times of the year, with state and county fairs just over the horizon, as well as the beginning of the fall semester for many of our land-grant institutions. Our collective plates are full, to be sure, but I would like suggest the addition of one more item—something for you to consider over the next year.

I recently had the opportunity and the immense pleasure of attending the 22nd IUFRO World Congress in Brisbane, Australia. For those of you unfamiliar with IUFRO, the acronym stands for the International Union of Forest Research Organizations. Now you may ask yourself: "What is a former wildlife extension specialist, with a recent foray into the human dimensions of natural resources, doing at an international forestry conference?" Apart from the most obvious reason, (did I mention it was in Australia?), the conference provided me

the opportunity to meet natural resource professionals from all over the world, and to learn what issues and problems my international colleagues were facing. What I discovered was a unity of concerns, both in the types of natural resource issues we face and in the frustrations of researchers, managers, and extensionsists to address these issues with limited resources. I was amazed and somewhat alarmed at the number of natural resource problems shared on a global scale; such as invasive species, water quantity, landscape fragmentation, fire, forest health, and the loss of habitat, to name a few. While different countries may respond to these issues in different ways depending on cultural norms and social institutions, there exists the opportunity for identifying new approaches to solving of these problems here at home, providing natural resource extension profes-



sionals and ANREP members in particular, a whole new avenue for collaboration. The most important element that the extension system has to offer is the link between research and the dissemination of information and knowledge to those who need it the most—the local community. This transfer of working knowledge appears to be missing in many countries, yet is considered a crucial component towards community viability and well-being. In other words, the cooperative extension model is the perfect fit.

Extension is unique to the United States and is a system admired by many other countries. However, it appears to me to be valued higher in other countries than it is in the United States. Funding is becoming scarcer, support on both state and federal levels is waning, and all this during a time in which our natural resources are at the greatest risk. Ironically, this may

(continued on next page)

Thinking Out-loud



I want your feedback! ANREP has grown greatly in its brief time, but there are many more things we can and should do as an organization. Maybe you have some thoughts you would like share and maybe you would like to comment on the fol-

lowing two topics from me. Let's talk.

Yesterday I got to sit right in the middle of about 2000 students at my university's commencement. Incredibly bright and enthusiastic they are and what an asset many of them could be if they

chose Extension for a career. Problem is that being an Extension professional does not show up on the radar screen for many of them. I would guess many have never even heard of Extension (Actually I did a little survey to vouch for this!).

From the President Cont.

be a period in which Cooperative Extension is needed more than any other time in our nation's history.

Given the declining resource conditions here at home, can extension add a global perspective to our mission and still fulfill our primary objective of providing research based knowledge to our own local communities? I would say that in this world, which is getting smaller and smaller, we really don't have any other choice. Our own local communities are linked to local communities across the globe, in terms of markets, environmental degradation, education and technology, and human health. We need to find a way to incorporate an international component into the standard practices of the extension system. ANREP members know that natural resource issues have local and global dimensions that are not easily separated. We see the big picture in terms of how our resource use and

management impacts other countries and visa versa.

My challenge to the ANREP membership is to explore the prospects of internationalizing your extension work, or at least incorporating a small component into your current program, and this is certainly a place where ANREP can take the lead. Talks are currently taking place between ANREP, IUFRO, CSREES, and Canada to collaborate on a conference focused on strengthening the natural resource extension partnership between the United States and Canada.

In addition, I would like to see the creation of a standing International Extension committee whose charge is to explore opportunities for ANREP members to become more involved on an international level. I know that many ANREP members have made international work an important part of

their professional careers. These individuals can provide the rest of us with guidance by serving on this committee.

Those who know me know that I can rarely write an article or give a speech without quoting *somebody*. For this article I relate the words of H.G. Wells: "*Human history becomes more and more a race between education and catastrophe.*" The meaning applied to this article suggests that education can keep us ahead of the global environmental crises that are breathing down the neck of humanity. Extension is well-positioned in this particular race and may well be the best hope for a successful finish.

See you in Park City Utah in 2006!

Janean H Creighton

Thinking Out-loud cont.

This experience was the latest reminder for me that we could take the lead in involving college students in Extension natural resources programming. Many possible approaches exist. One concept that fits nicely would call for more of our involvement in the "service learning" focus now popular at many universities. A second and more direct approach would be to allow student membership in ANREP. Benefits to them could be student awards, presentations at meetings, and others. The benefit to us would be the increased influx of a new generation of excellent

Extension educators.

Over the years I have worked with natural resource professionals from other countries, namely India and China. They have come to us in search of developing an effective educational infrastructure to educate their citizens about sustainable use of their resources. What a noble goal and I have always been thrilled to help. At least one of our JCEP partners has a program helping their members find opportunities to become more involved in international educational efforts. Seems like a great idea for us to look at. Also, a

program to attract international membership in ANREP might be in order too.

We will consider more topics in the next newsletter. To keep you interested, I'm thinking about at least two: ANREP in Spanish and Donors/Sponsors for awards and events. I do look forward to hearing from you. My email is bjack@uga.edu

Ben Jackson, President Elect

University of Georgia

What has 34 legs and got its start at the ANREP conference in West Virginia?

ANREP Conference

What has 34 legs and got its start at the ANREP conference in West Virginia? The National Network for Sustainable Living Education, of course. Fourteen faculty from 6 land grant universities and 3 CSREES staffers are working on the linkage between declining well-being and careless consumption of natural re-

sources. You'll be seeing and hearing more about our adventures at the next ANREP conference in Park City. In the meantime, check out the info about us on the CSREES website:

http://www.csrees.usda.gov/nea/nre/in_focus/susdev_if_living.html

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Lake Home and Cabin Owners Get Answers from U of MN Extension Service Natural Resources and Environment Educators

The 25' banner that hung down from the ceiling of the Minneapolis Convention Center announced "*Trusted Answers For Your Lake Home and Cabin Questions*". It pointed into the middle of a Natural Resources and Environment exhibit staffed by Extension Educators along side interactive displays named *Trees & Woodlands*; *Shoreland Education*; *Septic Systems and Housing Technology*.

Sometimes if you build it, they will come.

More than 15,000 show-goers attended the 1st Annual **Lake Home and Cabin Show** on April 29- May 1, 2005, expecting to find vendors selling the amenities of lake home living. They

where surprised to also find educators from the University of Minnesota Extension Service.

"People in Minnesota care deeply about our state's lakes and forests. They want to do what's right for the environment," said Bob Stine, Associate Dean College of Natural Resources. "That's why Extension (was) at this show. We want to help people learn what they can do to keep Minnesota's natural areas healthy. We also want everyone to know that when they have questions about these issues they can find their answers from Extension."

Being on the exhibit floor and answering questions as 3000 people passed through

the Natural Resources exhibit was the culmination of a huge effort by the educators and staff. Six months of planning went into preparation for the event including the launch of several new consumer products, building displays, creating new consumer websites and marketing Extension's presence at the Show. However, for the educators the time spent along side their colleagues, making contact with that many people was worth the price of admission.

The results? The plan is to do it again next year! To find out more, go to <http://www.extension.umn.edu/cabin/>

Sometimes if you
build it, they will
come.



New Firewise Landscaping Booklet Targets Interface Homeowners

Utah State University Extension Forestry just published a booklet titled *Firewise Landscaping for Utah* that attempts to educate home and cabin owners in the wildland-urban interface how to help protect themselves from wildfire. Too often interface homeowners are either totally unaware of the fire hazards facing them and their home, or they assume that firefighters will be able to save their home in the event of a fire. This 34 page publication teaches them to assess their fire situation before they build or even before they buy property, how to plan and implement a landscape with wildfire in mind, how to maintain such a landscape, and specific plants that can be used in firewise landscapes.

The focus of this booklet is both to create defensible space that might give firefighters a chance if fire approaches the home, but also to landscape and maintain the home in such a way that the home has a good chance of survival even in the event that firefighters can't be there. It explains how fire spreads into the "home ignition zone" by both flame front movement and by flying firebrands and therefore the importance of both reducing fuel in zones out from the home, but also careful maintenance especially near the home to remove fuel that might be ignited by firebrands.

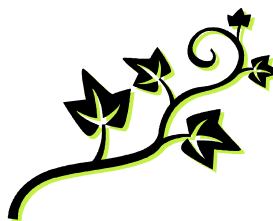
Extension in Utah has been an educational resource in several capacities relating to the topic of wildland-urban interface fire,

capitalizing on the expertise of Darren McAvoy in forest management, Mike Kuhns' in community forestry, and Morgan Mendenhall in wildland plants. Educational programs have been conducted in conjunction with the Utah Living with Fire multi-agency coordinating committee, the Utah League of Cities and Towns, and others. These efforts also have included a firewise plants fact sheet, web pages, and newsletter articles.

To obtain a copy
of the **Firewise
Landscaping in
Utah** booklet
contact **Mike
Kuhns** at

mike.kuhns@usu.edu

[usu.edu](http://www.usu.edu)



TECHNOLOGY INCORPORATED INTO COACHED STEWARDSHIP PLANNING CURRICULUM

Kevin Zobrist, Rural Technology initiative, University of Washington and

Andy Perleberg, NW Area Forest Stewardship Educator, Washington State University Extension

Washington State University Extension and the Washington State Department of Natural Resources deliver an outstanding series of weekly classes, in cooperation with other resource management agencies that are aimed at benefiting owners of small-scale family forests. These Coached Forest Stewardship Planning short courses now include a new topic provided by the Rural Technology Initiative (RTI) that teaches participants how to use the Landscape Management System (LMS) as a management and planning tool for their property. LMS is a computer program that simulates the growth and development of a forest over time and describes how things will change because of management activities. LMS can generate a number of useful outputs, including measures of stand structure, such as basal area and stand density index; hazard variables, such as wind firmness and fire risk; financial measures, such as cash flow and soil expectation value; and other measures, such as habitat quality and carbon sequestration. LMS can also generate images of a forest and users can view visual depictions of the results of a management activity, or what they can expect their forest to look like in the future.

LMS was first developed in the early 1990s at the University Of Washington College of Forest Resources. The system's broad capabilities have made it a powerful management tool for large, complex landscapes. Now there is growing recognition of the usefulness of the system for smaller, family forest ownerships. Landowners can use LMS to simulate and explore the outcomes of a variety of different management choices. If the landowner is not satisfied with the results or wishes to explore other options, a click of the mouse puts the trees back on the stump, ready for a new simulation. This gives landowners the unique opportunity to experiment with their forest and can lead to more informed decision-making.

Once a landowner has mapped out a management plan that they would like to pursue, LMS can help support that plan by providing expected outcomes. Predicted harvest volumes, cash flows, and rates of return can be tracked over time. Predicted stand structure and habitat quality can be assessed, relative to landowner goals. The landowner can also see how their forest will grow and change over time through visual models.

LMS cannot only help landowners develop management plans, but it can help communicate management plans and objectives. LMS visualizations and other outputs can be a focal point for dialog between a landowner and a state or consulting forester. Landowners can use LMS to share their ideas with foresters, and foresters can likewise use LMS to share additional ideas and options with land-owners. LMS can also facilitate communication with family, friends, and neighbors, as landowners can show others what their forest will look like overtime in response to management activities. In many cases, younger family members get excited about the technological aspects of LMS, and thus LMS can potentially facilitate better communication about forest management between generations.

LMS is a user-friendly program that is designed for a range of skill levels from novice to advanced. A new companion called the LMS Inventory Wizard is now available that makes it quick and easy for landowners to get their forest data into the system. The Inventory Wizard helps landowners collect and organize the information about their forest that is needed to run the program. This information can then be entered into the computer through easy-to-use on-screen forms to quickly get up and running in LMS. More information about the Inventory Wizard is available in WSU Extension Bulletin EB 1983 (available for free download at:

<http://cru84.cahe.wsu.edu/cgi-bin/pubs/EB1983.html>

LMS and the Inventory Wizard are already being used with great success as part of extension outreach programs in Pennsylvania. Washington State University Extension, in partnership with the University of Washington through RTI, is working to promote broader use of the system by Washington landowners. Demonstrations of the system were held for landowners at the Family Forest Field Day in Frances, WA in September 2004 and at the Fall Education Seminar in Eatonville, WA in November 2004. A segment on LMS and the Inventory Wizard is now included in Coached Forest Stewardship Planning short courses throughout the northwest.

Coached Planning participants in Friday Harbor and Deming, WA learned



about how they can use LMS to help develop stewardship plans and how to get started with the Inventory Wizard. These participants also learned about common tree measurement tools and basic plot sampling procedures so that they can go to the field to collect the forest inventory information needed to run the system. Each participant received a copy of LMS and the Inventory Wizard on CD-ROM, and had the opportunity to practice collecting inventory data during the field day portion of the course and during one-on-one site visits with a DNR Stewardship Forester. The LMS portion of the course will be expanded this spring so that it is taught directly in conjunction with the field day. Participants will collect data using the Inventory Wizard as a guide, and at the end of the field day, they will have the opportunity to practice entering the data into a computer and running LMS.

Utilizing management and planning tools such as LMS will improve landowner understanding and confidence in the practices they elect to execute for achieving their objectives. To learn more about the Landscape Management System and training opportunities, contact the Rural Technology Initiative at 206-543-0827 or visit www.ruraitech.org on the web. To learn more about the WSU/DNR Coached Forest Stewardship Planning Short course, visit this website: ext.nrs.wsu.edu.

ANREP Past-President Scott Reed – New Dean and Director of Oregon State University Extension Service

Scott Reed, Past President and one of the pioneers for ANREP, has been named as the Dean and Director of Oregon State University Extension Service.

Scott had an early role in the creation of ANREP. The first inklings of ANREP began with a National Extension Foresters Meeting hosted by Scott and the Oregon State Forestry Extension Faculty in 1991. At that meeting it was decided that Extension Natural Resources faculty needed a stand-alone professional organization to advance a national natural resources agenda. To get things moving, the assembly caucused, by Extension Regions (NE, S, NC, and W), and elected a representative from each of the regions to serve on a National Planning Team. Scott was chosen as the Western Representative for the planning team and was later elected to be the first Western Region representative to the ANREP Board of Directors/Executive Committee. In addition to the early leadership role for ANREP, (Originally the National Association of Forest Resources Extension Professionals), Scott was a behind-the-scenes supporter via various National Extension Committees - most notably ECOP's Program Leadership Committee.

Scott is currently the Executive Associate Dean of the College of Forestry and the Extension Forestry Program leader. He will begin his new duties September 1. As Dean and Director, Scott will oversee an Extension Service that has OSU faculty and programs in every Oregon county - and an organization that is serving a state contending with changes in politics, demographics, and economies.

"Our challenge is to match our knowledge base to the issues of Oregon's people and to use Extension's mission of education to apply research to solving the state's problems," Scott said. "Extension best serves Oregon when we utilize OSU's education and research to help empower people and communities to make better decisions that ultimately lead to a better future."

The OSU Extension Service has more than 550 faculty and staff located on campus and throughout the state and an annual budget of about \$40 million. Forestry is one of five Extension program areas at OSU. The others are Agriculture, Family and Community Development, 4-H Youth Development, and Ocean and Coastal Resources (through Oregon Sea Grant).

"Scott Reed has the right blend of leadership, vision and experience at many levels to help the OSU Extension Service become a model program for the 21st century," OSU President Ed Ray said.

"Extension is evolving to meet the changing needs of Oregon communities. The state's population is aging and becoming more ethnically diverse, which leads to changing demands for educational services. Oregon is becoming more urbanized and at the same time that creates new opportunities, it results in even greater needs for rural communities that lack the political and economic clout of more populated areas.

"These are challenges that Extension can meet," Ray added, "and Scott Reed is the ideal person to help us reach those goals."

Scott came to OSU from the University of Minnesota in 1990, when he was named Assistant Dean of the College of Forestry

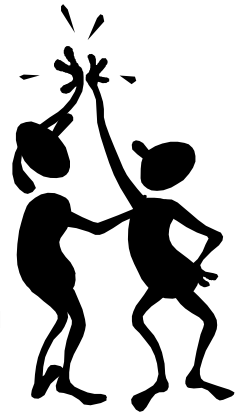
and took over Program Leader for Extension's forestry program. Five years later, he was promoted to Full Professor and Associate Dean, and in 2000, he was named Executive Associate Dean of Forestry.

"The support for Scott Reed in this critical position was very impressive," OSU Provost Sabah Randhawa said. "He has demonstrated his effectiveness not only as a manager, but as an advocate for Extension who can work with community, business and education leaders to create more effective programs to help Oregonians at a variety of levels. He has the ability to listen to concerns and then find creative solutions."

Scott is a 1975 graduate of Michigan State University, where he also earned a master's degree - both in forestry. He has a Ph.D. in forest economics and policy from the University of Minnesota.

Thanks to Larry Biles (retired) and Eric Norland (current) National Program Leaders for Forest Resource Management, and Mark Vodak, Extension Forestry Specialist at Rutgers for helping to fill in some of the history, and Scott's role, in the developing days of ANREP.

Jim Reeb
College of Forestry



Water and Watershed Discovery: Web-Based Watershed Tools for the Classroom

Tabitha Madzura, Ph.D., Director, Missouri Watershed Information Network (MoWIN), Wanda Eubank, Information Education Specialist, Robert Broz, Water Quality Program Director,

University of Missouri Extension, 205 Agricultural Engineering Building

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Background

We all live in watersheds: they are natural habitats for people, animals and plants. We have a responsibility to safeguard watersheds' future to ensure long-term sustainability for us and future generations. Water plays a crucial role in most of the activities we do, agriculture, industry and human settlement – it is one of the most important resources available for human survival. People can survive without food for several weeks, but not without water.

There is need to address water resource issues of surface runoff, groundwater, sediment, in-stream nutrients, wildlife and fish populations from the perspectives of youth audiences. Environmental challenge lies in designing relevant programs. Various instructional methods that integrate school and communities are available to meet the need for disseminating environmental and watershed information.

With the advanced use of technology, the Internet is increasingly playing a vital role by providing access to widely scattered environmental information.

One approach being used in target watersheds to bolster environmental education is Web-Based Watershed Tools for the Classroom a Pilot 319 Project for Grades 4-8 in Southwest and Northeast Missouri.

Objectives include planning, designing, developing and/or providing

relevant interactive web sites

mini-Internet research quizzes based on local watershed activities

instructional workshops/demonstrations for science educators to demonstrate use of materials

Interactive web site information is being offered to teachers and students in grades K-8 regarding watershed management, nonpoint source pollution and relevant demographic and natural resource facts. Local professional and community specialists facilitate hands-on demonstrations, assist to plan, implement and evaluate project impact and to determine if results can be replicated statewide (in Missouri). We expect young people to begin to take interest in and act to protect, and preserve natural resources also ask questions that may help enhance watershed restorative and management of local communities.

Ongoing outreach and awareness efforts that include web-based tools are:

Target MAP – teaches skills targeted to the Missouri Assessment Program (MAP) through in-class activities and lessons. Approximately 500 children reached each year

Concepts and Curriculum Review – provided 30 youth educators with knowledge and resources related to watersheds during a week-long workshop with optional college credit

Mark Twain Lake Environmental Education Day and Water Festival – Utilizes exhibits and learning stations to demonstrate best management activities related to watershed management. Reaches approxi-



mately 1000 teachers and children each year

Youth Honors Retreat – 36 children (7th and 8th graders) and 14 leaders took part in lessons and activities that taught watershed concepts and built leadership skills

Snack Sessions – 40 adults participated in after-school sessions demonstrating content and use of web-based instructional tools

4H Youth Camps – approximately 250 youth involved in hands-on computer activities to learn about watershed concepts

Clover Kid Day Camps – 70 preschool-3rd graders went “Splashing on the Web” to learn about water and watersheds.



Conclusion

Outreach efforts must go beyond education and information. Our guiding principle for this project is that if students can see, feel, experience and recognize their local and natural environmental conditions, they will be better equipped to a) understand the basic ecological relationships and concepts they are taught through formal education, b) relate concepts to their environments, c) learn to appreciate and value local community resources and d) view watershed preservation as an important aspect of life at early ages

Teachers and youth leaders can access these sites at:
<http://outreach.missouri.edu/mowin/Project31903/interacmowin.html>

Acknowledgements

This project is a collaboration of state and federal agencies, non-governmental organizations, business and industry. Entities directly involved in this youth project include:

- University of Missouri Extension (MU Extension)
- Bryant Watershed Atlas Project volunteers
- James River Basin Partnership
- Watershed Committee of the Ozarks
- Clarence Cannon Wholesale Water Commission
- Missouri Department of Natural Resources



Review of Internet Resources Targeting NIPF Owners

The internet is becoming increasingly important as a medium for Extension programming. The University of Minnesota Extension Service has initiated a review of existing internet resources targeting this audience. This review is an initial step in the development of new internet resources targeting non-industrial private forest (NIPF) landowners.

The purpose of the review is to learn from the experiences and experiments of those already engaged in innovative Extension programming using the internet. The primary output will be a series of recommendations for the development of internet resources that effectively reach and engage NIPF owners.

Full results of the review, including a



nal report, will be presented at AN-REP 2006 in Park City, Utah. For more information, contact Eli Sagor at esagor@umn.edu or (612) 624-6948

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Up-coming Events

2005 Invasive Workshop: Forest Out of Balance: The Impact of Invasive Plant Species
August 22-24, 2005
Shepherdstown, WV

National Land Conservation Conference: Rally 2005
October 14-17, 2005
Madison, WI

Human Dimensions of Natural Resources in the Western United States Conference
October 27-29, 2005
Park City, UT

Rivers Run Through Them - Landscapes in Environmental History
March 29-April 2, 2006
St. Paul, MN

2006 National ANREP Conference
May 14-17, 2006
Park City, UT

Position Announcements

Communication Specialists
USDA Forest Service - Southern Research Station- SGSF
Asheville, NC
Deadline: August 31, 2005

Forest Management Outreach Specialist
North Carolina State University
Coastal Plain Area, NC
Deadline: December 31, 2005

Green Infrastructure and Forestry Urban Interface Associate
North Carolina State University
Central Piedmont Area, NC
Deadline: December 31, 2005

Wood Products Manufacturing Associate
North Carolina State University
Asheville area (TBD), NC
Deadline: December 31, 2005

Forest Management, Utilization and Harvesting Associate
North Carolina State University
Central Coast Plain area (TBD), NC
Deadline: December 31, 2005

Rural Tourism Development Outreach Specialist
North Carolina State University
Northwest North Carolina area (TBD), NC
Deadline: December 31, 2005

Natural Resource Manager
Environmental and Extension Services Department
Charlotte County, FL
Deadline: December 31, 2005

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