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Forestry grads stick to the West

University of Montana--Missoula. Office of University Relations

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MISSOULA--

One-third of the more than 1,400 graduates of the School of Forestry have taken jobs in Montana, where coincidentally one-third of the School's current student body originates.

Dr. Arnold W. Bolle, dean since 1962 of the 55-year-old forestry school, thinks the trend will be for more grads to stay because the renewable natural resource action is in Montana and the Northwest.

In the 1967-68 academic year, the school enrolled 336 regular, 98 pre- and 37 graduate and special forestry students, for a total of 471.

The student and alumni records indicate that 48 percent of the students originated in the Pacific and Northwest states, from California north and from Montana west. However, the same six-state area has employed 77 percent of the graduates.

Twenty-eight percent of the undergraduate foresters originated in the Midwest, but the same area has accounted for the destinations of only 10 percent of the school's graduates.

The New England-Eastern and South areas each account for the destinations of six and a half percent of the forestry graduates, but the same areas are providing 16 and two percent, respectively, of the current undergraduates. Foreign students and alumni were not considered in the survey.

Part of the attraction of the University of Montana forestry school to out-of-state students is its area studies covering the renewable natural resource fields, Dean Bolle said.

The area studies cover forestry-natural resource management, forestry-natural resource science, and forestry-natural resource business.

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