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"Today, wilderness is usually considered to be something good and in need of preservation. The beauty and awesomeness of it dominate our attention. We are attracted by wilderness, the Otherness of it, the sense it is something inevitably outside of us.

Always beyond us, it is what is ultimately real. We cannot adequately appreciate this aspect of nature if we approach it with any taint of human pretense.

It will elude us if we allow artifacts like clothing to intervene between ourselves and this Other.

To apprehend it, we cannot be naked enough.

In Wildness is the preservation of the world."

—Henry David Thoreau (1817 - 1862)

Art by Jeremy Collins
History of the Forestry Kaimin

The Forestry Kaimin originated in 1915 as a yearly newsletter. It largely consisted of a review of Forestry Club activities over the year, as well as work from faculty, students, and research papers from the regional Forest Service office. The Forestry Kaimin was published almost continuously from 1915 until 2000, except for several pauses during World War I and World War II, when the majority of the students in the School of Forestry were serving overseas. Over the years the content has varied greatly from a simple review of club activities, to a full blown yearbook for the School of Forestry. Two years ago, after a 12 year hiatus, the Forestry Kaimin was resurrected. Within the pages this year you can find an update about the year’s activities for all of the clubs within the College of Forestry and Conservation, as well as a smattering of other news and pieces written by students.

I hope these pages bring back fond memories of another interesting and eventful year in the College of Forestry and Conservation.

Lara Antonello
Forestry Kaimin editor 2015

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1Source: Magill, C. 2013. 100 Years of Forestry at the University of Montana, Missoula. Mansfield Library, Missoula, Montana, USA.
Ron Wakimoto has taught at the University of Montana since 1982 which began after six years teaching at Berkeley. He has taught hundreds of students in courses in wildland fire management, fuel management and fire ecology.

In May 2014, Wakimoto received the Biswell Lifetime Achievement Award from the Association for Fire Ecology. This award is given to people who have made a significant contribution to fire ecology and management in the U.S. and have inspired and mentored a generation of fire ecologists.

The College of Forestry and Conservation and its students have reaped the benefits of Wakimoto's passion and enthusiasm. He will be greatly missed. We would like to extend our most sincere gratitude and thanks to Dr. Ron Wakimoto for his effort and dedication. We wish you a happy and enjoyable retirement.
College of Forestry and Conservation Faculty

Affleck, David - Associate Professor of Forest Biometrics; Director of the Inland Northwest Growth & Yield Cooperative

Allred, Brady - Assistant Professor of Rangeland Ecology

Ballantyne, Ashley - Assistant Professor of Bioclimatology

Belsky, Jill M. - Professor of Rural & Environmental Sociology

Borrie, Bill - Professor of Park and Recreation Management

Bosak, Keith - Associate Professor of Nature Based Tourism and Recreation; Program Director, Parks, Tourism, & Recreation Management Major

Brown, Perry - Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs

Burchfield, James - Dean of College of Forestry & Conservation; Professor of Forest Social Sciences

Burke, Edwin - Professor of Wood Science & Technology; Chair, Department of Forest Management

Cleveland, Cory - Associate Professor of Terrestrial Biogeochemistry

Dawson, Natalie - Director of the Wilderness Institute

Dobrowski, Solomon - Associate Professor of Forest Landscape Ecology

Dodson, Beth - Associate Professor of Integrated Natural Resource; Program Director, Forestry Major

Dreitz, Victoria - Assistant Professor, Wildlife Biology Program; Director, Avian Science Center

Eby, Lisa - Associate Professor of Aquatic Vertebrate Ecology

Freimund, Wayne - Professor, Protected Area Management; Director, Wilderness Institute; Chair, Department of Society & Conservation

Goodburn, John - Associate Professor of Silviculture

Hebblewhite, Mark - Associate Professor of Ungulate Habitat Ecology

Jencso, Kelsey - Assistant Professor, Watershed Hydrologist

Keyes, Christopher R. - Associate Research Professor of Silviculture

Kimball, John S. - Research Professor

Krausman, Paul - Boone and Crockett Professor of Wildlife Conservation

Larson, Andrew - Assistant Professor of Forest Ecology

Lowe, Winsor - Associate Professor; Program Director, Wildlife Biology Program

Luis, Angela - Assistant Professor of Population & Disease Ecology

Lukacs, Paul M. - Associate Professor of Quantitative Wildlife Ecology

Metcalf, Alexander L. - Research Assistant Professor
Forestry Kaimin

Metcalf, Elizabeth Covelli - Assistant Professor of Recreation Management and Human Dimensions of Natural Resources

Naugle, Dave - Professor Large Scale Wildlife Ecology

Nelson, Cara - Associate Professor of Restoration Ecology; Program Director, Ecological Restoration Major

Nickerson, Norma - Research Professor; Director of Institute for Tourism & Recreation Research

Nie, Martin - Professor, Natural Resource Policy; Director, Bolle Center for People & Forests

Patterson, Michael - Associate Dean of College of Forestry & Conservation

Phear, Nicky - Climate Change Studies Instructor and Program Coordinator

Queen, Lloyd Paul - Professor of Remote Sensing; Director, National Center for Landscape Fire Analysis

Running, Steve - Regents Professor of Ecology; Director, Numerical Terradynamics Simulation Group

Scott, Dane - Associate Professor of Ethics; Director of the Center for Ethics

Seielstad, Carl - Associate Research Professor; Fire/Fuels Program Manager, National Center for Landscape Fire Analysis

Siebert, Stephen F. - Professor of Tropical Forest Conservation and Management

Six, Diana - Professor of Forest Entomology/Pathology; Chair, Department of Ecosystems & Conservation Sciences

Venn, Tyron - Associate Professor of Natural Resource Economics

Wakimoto, Ronald - Professor of Forest Fire Science

Woodruff, Carol - Adjunct Assistant Professor

Yung, Laurie - Associate Professor of Natural Resource Social Science; Program Director, Resource Conservation Major
College of Forestry and Conservation Staff

McWilliams, Sherri - Systems Support, QSG
Logan, Robert - Network Administrator, QSG
Adams, Jim - Budget Analyst
Arends, Lisa - Budget Analyst
Cho, Youngee - Program Director, NTSG
Ronald (Eidson), Lisa - Wilderness Information, Technology, New Media, and E-Learning Specialist at the Wilderness Institute
Franz, Jeanne - Academic Advisor, Wildlife Biology
Gerloff, Lisa - Citizen Science Program Director, Wilderness Institute; Executive Coordinator, Rocky Mountains CESU
Grau, Kara - Assistant Director of Economic Analysis, ITRR
Hoff, Valentijn - Fire Center, GIS Analyst
Maltonic, Wendy - Database Administrator & Federal Liaison
Maumenee, Niels - Fire Center - Systems Administrator
Maus, Frank - Manager, Lubrecht Experimental Forest
Smith, Kate - Program Manager, Grizzly Bear Recovery
Mildrexler, David - NTSG
Perry, Thomas - Forest Planner
Rowell, Eric - Fire Center - Image Programmer; Remote Sensing Analyst
Schelvan, Leana - Director of Communications
Sindelar, Jami - Fire Center - Program Coordinator
Sweet, Michael - Research & Information Systems Specialist, QSG/GIS and Montana Climate Office
Schultz, Megan - Project Manager & Research Associate, ITRR
Teske, Casey - Fire Center - Remote Sensing Image Analyst II
Trowbridge, Shonna - Director of Student Services
Weis, David - Bandy Ranch Manager
Redfern, Catherine - Budget Analyst
Rothell, Marie L. - Administrative Associate III
Nitz, Linda - Facilities Director - Lubrecht Experimental Forest
Belcher, Laurie - Director of Accounting & Fiscal Operations
Edington, Kit - Information Technology
James, Rachel - Assistant Director, Wilderness Institute
Hamilton, Robin - Administrative Associate - Wildlife Biology
Zdziebko, Devi - Manager of International Sustainability Fellows Program / Administrative Supervisor
Barkley, Samuel - Director of Development
Horvath, Marybeth - Administrative Associate
Fabro, William - Manager of the Wilderness Management Distance Education Program
Conroy, Deborah - Budget Analyst
Swaney, Ruth - Program Coordinator - Native American Natural Resource Program
College of Forestry and Conservation Student Scholarships

Aaron Caplan Scholarship  
Hope Radford

American Indian Forestry & Conservation Scholarship  
Mateen Hessami

Anthony B. & Edna Helding Evanko Scholarship  
Aimee Kelley Dickinson

Barb and Ernie Corrick Forestry Scholarship  
Wyatt Trull

Bill Greenwald Memorial Scholarship  
Wyatt Trull

Blackfoot Forest Protective Association Joe Sieminski Award  
Jesse Bunker

Bob Kennedy Memorial Award  
Michelle Matthews

Burchenal Leadership Scholarship  
Rennie Winkelman

Castles Brothers Scholarship  
Stacey Allum  
Connor Kurz

Charles L. Tebbe Memorial Scholarship  
Samuel Scott

Chris Greene Memorial Award  
Andrew Brown

Christian Bowers Memorial Scholarship  
Emily Leonhardt  
Dan Pletscher Scholarship for Avian Science  
Gavan Borgias

Danny On Memorial Scholarship  
William Janousek

Don Bedunah Memorial Scholarship  
Jesse Hannifin

Doris & Kelsey C. Milner Memorial Scholarship  
Colin Maher

Drew van Teylingen Award  
Jasey Hendrix

Earl F. Clark Scholarship  
Caleb Schwartzkopf

Edward F. Barry Scholarship  
Philip Williams

Elenore H. Schofield & Donald J. Schofield Scholarship  
Kristie Weeks

Fay G. Clark Memorial Scholarship  
Mingzhu He

Forestry Alumni Memorial Scholarship  
Lauren Dunn

Fred H. Mass Scholarship  
Nico Matallana

Garrett Grothen Memorial Scholarship  
Josef Kase

George & Mildred Cirica Graduate Student Support Fund  
Theresa Laverty  
Sarah Sells

George E. Bright Memorial Scholarship  
Leila Cooper  
Jacob Jorgenson
Nima Madani
Megan Nasto
George R. Myers Scholarship
Nathaniel Robinson
GM "Monk" DeJarnette Scholarship
April Westberry
Graduate Scholarship in Natural Resource Conservation Policy
Leah Swartz
Hawkins Family Scholarship
Juan Alvarez
Korie Campbell
Connor De Angelis
Charles Early
Benjamin Rutherford
Herman William Gabriel Scholarship
Neil Moore
Howard C. Lee Memorial Scholarship
Kelsey Williams
James A. (Smokey) Alexander Memorial Scholarship Endowment
Hope Radford
James C. Salinas Scholarship
Caleb Schwartzkopf
John R. Milodragovich Scholarship
Martin Belden
Kenneth P. Davis Scholarship
Sydney Young
Lee Clark Memorial Scholarship
Kate Clyatt
Les Pengelly Scholarship
Devin Landry
Mary Cardell Moore Memorial Scholarship
Alexandra Anderson
Dylan Gumminger
Spencer Lachman
Sydney Young
Mary Jane Landt Memorial Scholarship
Zoe Leake
Melvin S. Morris Scholarship
Christine McManamen
Mike Barker Scholarship
Jenah Mead
Mollie Iler Excellence Scholarship
Jessica Hays
Mr. and Mrs. A.M. Mikalson Scholarship
Jessica DellaRossa
Shalynn Fernau
Hailey Hodge
Elias Imadali
Garrett Rhyne
Blake Snodgrass
Myrick-Hansen Scholarship
Lione Clare
National Smokejumpers Association Trail Maintenance Award
Amber Auld
Peter C. Kotte Memorial Scholarship
Steven Cross
Peterson Family Scholarship Endowment
Ruben Behnke
Phil Janik Graduate Scholarship
Peter Metcalf
Recreation Management Excellence Scholarship
Tracy Knapp
Richard F. Johnson Legacy in Forestry & Conservation Scholarship
William Janousek
Richard J. Hansen Scholarship
Erika Scofield

Robert Frederick Herring Memorial Scholarship
Clare Vergobbi

Robert L. Dennee Scholarship
Michael Schaedel

Robert S. Morgan Memorial Scholarship
Justin Crotteau

Roger Buckhahn Memorial Award
Jacob Hickey

Ron Barger Memorial Scholarship
Philip Williams

Russell M. Gates Memorial Award
Boston Wakeham

Russell Nagle Scholarship
Nicholl Kapp

Samuel Cooper Howell Sylvester Memorial Scholarship
Philip Williams

SCIF Sables Susan & John Monson Hunting Heritage Scholarship
Emily Burkholder

Scott Woods Memorial Scholarship
Mariah Bell

Silas R. Thompson Memorial Scholarship
Charles Early

Soka’piiw Spirituality Scholarship
Lily Harrison

Stacie Ann DeWolf Memorial Scholarship
Kaitlin Martin

Susan Churchill Scholarship
Alexis Tate

Systems for Environmental Management Scholarship
Eryn Schneider
Haley Wiggins

Thomas H. Leik, Sr. Wildlife Biology Scholarship
Claire Bayer

Tom Spaulding Memorial Scholarship
Luke VanderZanden

Wesley M. Dixon Graduate Fellowship
Andrew Boyce

Wesley M. Dixon Scholarship for Montana Students
Kaitlyn Reintsma
Dakota Vaccaro

Wesley M. Dixon Scholarship for Out-of-State Students
Rachel Grabenstein

William G. Kohner Memorial Scholarship
Caleb Schwartzkopf

Wyman & Patricia Schmidt Family Endowed Scholarship in Forest Ecology and Silviculture
Michael Schaedel

Zuuring/MAGIP GIS Scholarship
Matthew Metz

98th Foresters’ Ball Awards - Amber Auld, Zack Bashoor, Andrew Brown, Charles Early, Joe Kase, Eli McFarlane, John Parcell and Beatrice Powers
Student Clubs and Organizations
With another year in Forestry Club winding down, we look back to what was an exciting year that brought in many new faces and opportunities. We began the year running the fire pits on the oval that welcomed the freshman from all majors to the University of Montana. With an excellent job in recruiting this year, the club has new eager and hardworking members to take part in our proud traditions. Once into October, we held our annual Fall Smoker that included taking new club members to the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation, the Smoke Jumpers Center, and the Garnet Ghost Town. During the rest of fall semester, we held work days at Lubrecht and the Lumberjack in Lolo, splitting wood and teaching newcomers how to operate a chainsaw properly. The spring semester began with our club helping build a successful 98th Foresters’ Ball. We continued through the semester having two more work days, again at Lubrecht and the Lumberjack. The Club also hosted several guest speakers throughout the year to share their various careers in forestry and natural resources. As we look towards next year’s club, we will have Lara Antonello and Charles Early as the fall and spring president respectively. Club has seen its underclassmen step into early leadership roles, promising lots of good things on the horizon! Foresters Once!!

Luke VanderZanden
Forestry Club President
It's just a Ball. Or is it?

About one year has passed since last year's 97th Foresters' Ball, and let me tell ya, it's been a whirlwind. There were unexpected obstacles, soaring successes, feelings of being a mile low and feelings of being a mile high. As I write this, I sit with a smile on my face because every second is and always will be worth it.

It honestly is asinine to voluntarily put yourself through the stress of being part of a student run nonprofit organization with 98 years (now 99) of history and through-the-roof expectations. Meetings with higher ups, hours of technical writing, blood, sweat, and real tears are just some of the finer points of it all. But then you look at the five hours of magic on a cold Friday and Saturday night in Missoula, MT I can't help but think that nothing is better than gettin' down in a logging town with some of my best friends.

At the end of the day you might ask yourself, "Why do we do this? Why do we put ourselves through the stress and the cuts and the scrapes and the bruises and the sleep deprivation? What actually is the Foresters' Ball and why does it effing matter?"

The answer is simple. It's the best experience you will ever have in college. I haven't heard of anything else in the world where a bunch of passionate and ambitious students come together and put on an event of such complexity and magnitude. We build a town! We run a nonprofit organization designed to get people real work experience, set aside a loan fund for students to get through college and provide scholarship to those who go above and beyond the call of duty.

If that's not worth it, then I don't know what is.
98th FORESTERS' BALL
To put it simply, it has been an amazing year for University of Montana Chapter of The Wildlife Society. We had an ambitious group of officers this year who worked tirelessly to serve club members, but more than that, we had lots of wonderful members contribute to the club’s success. We had an average of 30 or more members attend our Tuesday evening meetings throughout the year and their participation in events, volunteering, and fundraising was astonishing. We had great speakers for our meetings who gave of their time to encourage, teach, and motivate our members.

Taylor King who was the Vice President of the club this year, worked tirelessly behind the scenes. She is a master of logistics and she coordinated all of our trips. She found rides, accommodations, and sustenance for our TWS National Conference trip, our TWS State conference trip, along with our trips to the National Bison Range, Blackfoot Clearwater Game Range, and all of our get-togethers. All of our events have been an adventure but in the end Taylor’s thoughtfulness, enthusiasm, and organization pulled them all together.

We were able to accomplish the majority of our goals this year starting with ramping up our education outreach program. Jenah Mead, the club’s Education Outreach Officer, went above and beyond our wildest dreams with her tireless work ethic. She is absolutely one of a kind. Club members rallied behind her ideas and her creativity. Education outreach put on a number of events including: 10 “Be Bear Aware” events reaching 308 children and 70 adults in the Missoula Community; “Wild Jobs” presentations for elementary and high school students; Girl Scouts events which reached 125 children; the “Flagship ‘Animal Lovers’ Program”; an educational hike for international students from Japan; the 2nd Annual Expanding Your Horizons Conference, which encourages middle school girls towards science; the MEA-MFT Educators conference, where we helped table with The Montana State Chapter of The Wildlife Society; and the Wildlife Extravaganza. All of these events were coordinated by Jenah as she encouraged TWS members to volunteer and give back to the community.

We were also able to raise quite a bit of money this year which allowed us to provide opportunities for our members. Spearheading our fund raising efforts was our Treasurer, Joel Contreras. Although Joel can be
quiet at times, when it came down to getting it done, he always came through. Our annual Rifle Raffle was our biggest fundraiser of the year. Joel helped build a relationship with Cabela’s and they donated a rifle for the Rifle Raffle. Cabela’s was so pleased with our efforts in helping with some of their events, they donated a fly rod for us to raffle at our end of the year cookout in which 50 people attended.

Our Section 13 officer Sophie Patton stepped in for the spring semester and she hit the ground running. Sophie collaborated with Montana Fish, Wildlife, and Parks, and wildlife professionals to put together our annual Job Skills Weekend. Sophie’s efforts provided an opportunity for our members to gain outdoor skills essential for field work, such as radio telemetry, orienteering, vehicle maintenance, horsemanship, four wheeler operations, pulling and backing up trailers, and wildlife forensics. Her efforts really paid off as members had a wonderful experience.

Of course our members would have no idea what was going on in TWS without the selfless efforts of Jessie Lindsay, our club secretary. Jessie was instrumental in our efforts to inform, and encourage our members to show up and get involved. Weekly, and often daily, she used technology and social media to reach out to our members in an effort to hold their attention. And what do you know, it worked. She is truly an unsung hero and an excellent club officer.

And last but not least, we had an ambitious, excited, enthusiastic group of students this year. Our members showed up in numbers at many of our events and activities. The freshman class was as impressive as there has ever been and a couple of them will even be officers next year. How awesome is that! One last thing, we set a goal as a club to construct a box of bones; actually it was a Gray Wolf. And we did it! Our members invested over 300 hours so that the wolf could have another chance at life. The wolf skeleton is in many ways, an expression of our passion for wildlife and of our joy in being members of The Wildlife Society.

Jason Hanlon
UM TWS President
Over the 2014/2015 school year, the UM SAF student chapter served its primary purpose by providing extracurricular forestry opportunities by giving students chances to educate the community in which it serves and connecting students with professionals. Eight students got the opportunity to attend the National SAF convention, which was a special convention as SAF partnered with the Canadian Institute of Forestry and the International Union of Forest Research Organizations World Congress. This exceptional convergence brought several thousand forest scientists and managers from more than 100 countries together in Salt Lake City, Utah.

The Marshall Canyon project is a first of its kind collaborative between the city of Missoula and the University of Montana. The parcel is approximately 21 acres and was adopted by the student chapter from the City of Missoula Conservation Lands Division through the “Adopt-a-Park” program. Students donated over 450 hours, which include taking Sentinel high school students and showing them how it feels to actively manage a forest.

The student group also held an Arbor Day celebration with the Kindergarten class of Lewis and Clark Elementary School. We hosted 85 students and planted 4 fruit trees. This celebration included ecology stations that incorporated bugs, trees, seeds, and birds. In addition the Future Farmers of America will be holding its annual event on the University of Montana campus and the student chapter will be helping host the event for over 100 high school students from across the state.

Liam Hassett was also actively involved in the Montana Forest Products week and University of Montana Arboretum committee’s. Projects included tree tags that were displayed around campus that showed us the multiple benefits that trees provide us. This is just short list of the things we do. It’s been a great year and we look forward in continuing our services to the community and the students of the University of Montana.

- Montana Forest Products week
- Forest Discovery Days
- Arbor day
- National SAF Convention
- State SAF Convention
- Sustainaganza
- FFA Meeting
- Marshall Canyon
  MCC
  Highschoolers
- Forestry Days BBQ
- Leadership Conference
- Arbor Day Committee
The Montana Trails Recreation and Parks Association Student Chapter (UM MTRPA)

It was a busy, productive year for the Montana Trails Recreation and Parks Association student chapter. This pre-professional club is a space for recreation students to gain career-related experience, meet professionals, and give back to the Missoula community. Club members have the privilege of becoming members of MTRPA, our parent organization, which gives them access to a vast amount of resources, connections, and future jobs.

The main focus of this club is to prepare recreation students for their careers. We spend long hours planning trips, programming, volunteering, meeting recreation professionals, and getting outdoors! Members of this club gain valuable skills for the job market, learn from experts in the field, and forge lifelong friendships.

This year the chapter was very active, both in the classroom and out in the community. Some of our meeting topics included trip planning, guest speakers, volunteer coordinating, community outreach, and event programming. Along with having regular meetings each week, we also spent countless hours volunteering our time and effort to improve recreation opportunities in the Missoula area. Some notable events we attended were the Clark Fork River Cleanup, the Fall Family Fest, the Griz 5k Glow Run, and Public Lands Day at Milltown State Park. We also made some great connections with recreation professionals working in and around Missoula. We met park managers, game wardens, nonprofit coordinators, private business owners, and municipal recreation specialists.

One particularly special event we attended this year was the MTRPA Annual Conference. This was our first year at the conference and we were overwhelmed by the support of the MTRPA members. Our attendance and participation in the conference will continue next year and we can't wait to contribute further to this event's success and strengthen our relationship with our parent organization.

As club president, it has been my honor and privilege to work with such a great group of motivated and empowered students. The amount of growth they have shown over this past year is tremendous and I couldn't be more proud. As the year comes to a close, I am excited to hand over my leadership role to the next generation. We have grown into a successful, meaningful club and I can't wait to see what next year has in store.

Emily Brine
Chapter President
2014-2015
The Montana Druids was established in 1923 as an honors society committed to serving the College of Forestry and Conservation community. We strive to bring the student body, student groups, faculty, and alumni of the college together in unity. Today, nearly a century later, we do our best to continue to honor the Montana Druids tradition to always "give full measure of service regardless of compensation received" by working behind the scenes often without recognition for our deeds.

Over the course of the last year, the Druids have continued our long term project of renovating the high wheels which are located on the north side of the college. This structure is an important and iconic symbol of our tradition and forestry heritage. Due to the cost of the extensive restoration needed, we have made strides toward establishing a donation fund to collect money for the project. We will see the results of this dedicated work in future years with the completion of the renovation.

Thank you to all members of the College of Forestry and Conservation who continue to make this college an exemplary pillar of conservation and a welcoming home to us all.

Kelsey Hay  
Druids President, 2014-2015

Druids’ Outstanding Professor Award: Martin Nie  
Druids’ Senior Service Award: Taylor King
This year for the woodsman team has been quite the learning experience. The UM Woodsman Team hasn’t had this green a crop of kids in years, but, they put in more hours of practice and dedication than I’ve seen in a long time. Their efforts showed for it when our A team took 1st place and our B team took 3rd place our first CANAM international competition held this year at Fort Missoula. Besides practicing, the team spends a lot of hours cutting, splitting, and delivery fire wood to help pay for our trips. This year we traveled to Humbolt State University where along the way we got to see Crater Lake and the Redwoods. This year has been such a fun and adventurous year I wouldn’t trade it for anything. Remember, it’s all about that axe. Hang steel.

Kate Page & John Parcell
Captains 2014-2015
The Student Recreation Association had a unique experience with our officers this last year. Instead of having one awesome president, we split the year between two great leaders: Anna Cressler and Sarah Fink. Anna started the year off strong with multiple cabin trips and our annual volunteering with the Missoula Parks and Rec at the Fall Family Fest. Unlike some past years, Anna planned cabin trips for almost every weekend in the semester. SRAers had opportunities to go to Glacier, Douglas Creek Cabin (near Drummond), Hells Canyon Guard Station, Turquoise Lake, and many other places! Fall semester also included helping one of our awesome alumni clean up his property near the Continental Divide!

Besides all the amazing trips, SRA had some fun potlucks and holiday gatherings. A highlight of the semester was our annual Halloween party. This year all members drew their costume idea out of a hat! This twist made for some hilarious outfits and an all around good time.
Spring semester started off with a bang with the 98th Foresters’ Ball. Although we were not as strong in numbers, SRA still came through with an awesome chow hall. The rest of spring semester consisted of cabin trips, day hikes, and volunteering with the Missoula Parks and Recreation. A highlight of the semester was the annual spring break trip. This year SRA headed down to sunny Escalante! Adventures included backpacking, hiking through slot canyons, swimming in rivers, and getting nice sunburns. Lastly, SRA finished the year strong with our spaghetti feed. Members worked hard at gathering donations and brought in a pretty decent haul. The event itself ended up being a great fundraiser and transitioning in for the new officers.

Sadly the year is at a close. Our senior members are graduating and moving on to their next adventures while the ones who remain are still going strong. The new officers have big shoes to fill, but I’m sure next year will be filled with equally fun adventures and opportunities to bond with the great outdoors!
The UM Fire Club had another successful year getting students hands on wildland fire experience. The Club started in the fall by preparing a unit in Lubrecht Experimental Forest for a prescribed burn in the spring and worked on an ongoing fuels reduction project by making and burning slash piles. Over the break students attended the Rx Fire Practicum in Georgia and spent two weeks burning with The Nature Conservancy. During the spring students helped write a burn plan and get equipment ready for the planned prescribed fire in Lubrecht and finished the semester off with a great 23 acre broadcast burn. The club also helped construct the museum at foresters ball and hosted fall and spring mixers for students interested in a career wildland fire to meet and speak with professionals from around the area.

Thanks to all the members, faculty, grad students and professionals for all the help this year.

Have a safe summer and we will see you in the fall.
President: Shale Pagel
Secretary: Michelle Matthews
Treasurer: Alex Vanhorn
As I prepare to graduate from the University of Montana this semester, I can't help but reflect on the last four years I have spent as an officer with the UM American Fisheries Society student sub-unit (UM AFS). I gained so much from this experience, and am so proud of all that we have accomplished.

UM AFS is subunit of AFS, the oldest fisheries research organization. During my time at UM, we have seen our membership diversify to include not only fisheries students, but biology, restoration, journalism and wildlife students as well. Our bi-weekly meetings have included visits from fish, restoration, and other natural resource professionals from all over Montana. In addition, each year we have sent 8 – 15 students to the Montana Chapter AFS meetings, where students have presented research, volunteered, and hosted student-professional mentoring events.

One of the highlights of my time with UM AFS was last year, when (then) Vice President Katie Rayfield and I traveled to Mazatlan, Mexico to attend the Western Division AFS meeting. There, we were presented with the 2014 WDAFS Outstanding Student Subunit of the Year award. This was the first time the University of Montana's AFS group won this award. We were acknowledged for our outreach to students in other disciplines of study, efforts to promote fisheries science through education and outreach, and community involvement.

This March, UM AFS teamed with Save Our Wild Salmon to bring the award-winning documentary, DamNation, to the University (damnationfilm.com). The film was followed by a question and answer session with a panel of experts that included a Snake River wheat grower, an author, the executive director of Save Our Wild Salmon, and a former employee of the US Army Corps of Engineers. This event was well-attended by students and community members, and raised money for UM AFS.
UM AFS participates in the Clark Fork River Clean Up each year, helping remove tons of trash from the river in UM's backyard. We also host a Fish Trivia night and a pizza feed/introductory meeting each fall. We're on Facebook at UM AFS. Email us at umfisheries@gmail.com if you'd like to receive periodic emails about activities, AFS information, jobs, volunteer opportunities, and more.

Lastly, I'd like to welcome the 2015-16 officers: Rennie Winkelman (President), Ian Anderson (Secretary-Treasurer) and Ben Rich (Outreach Coordinator). These three students have already contributed so much to UM AFS, and will make amazing leaders for the club next year!

Tracy Wendt
UM AFS, President 2013-14, 2014-15
Outreach Coordinator 2011-12, 2012-13
By the middle of my senior year of high school in little ol’ Lead, South Dakota, I hadn’t even had a trickle of a thought to go to school in Montana. I was pretty convinced that I was going to school in SD with the vast majority of my classmates. My last semester as a high school student hit me like a wall and suddenly I wasn’t so sure about going to school in SD. I realized I didn’t want to be stuck for the next four years of my life with the same people, the same places, and doing the same old boring thing.... “Well now what?” I started applying to schools in the North West and finally landed on Montana. The more I read about UM the more I wanted to get out of South Dakota and move to Missoula. I chose to attend in fall of 2014 as a Biology/Pre-PT major.

The first month was rough. Classes were boring, I didn’t have any friends, and the only person I knew was my roommate who had her own friends. My luck was soon to change. One day a pair of girls clad in overalls and plaid shirts came into my chemistry class. I don’t remember a word of what they said, only that I should come to forestry club. My only thought at this point was “why not?”. So there I was on Wednesday evening at 7pm in FOR 206 with a bunch of wild haired, Hawaiian shirt wearing foresters standing on a desk and announcing my stripper name for everyone to hear.

Going to club that 1st meeting turned out to be the best decision I made. I was shy and a little afraid at first but eventually got involved in Woodsman’s Team and Foresters’ Ball and then Druids. I attended the annual fall Smoker trip and started to fall in love with the amazing atmosphere and with the people I met. I joined the 98th Can-Can girls where I was the only freshman. It was terrifying. I was the only one who didn’t have a clue what I had gotten myself into; at least that’s how it felt at first. As it turned out Can-Can was one of the bigger steps in bringing up my confidence and making me feel involved. Forester’s Ball was the final set of the hook. The whirlwind of drama and activity reeled me in and I knew I was in club to stay.

The shyness and fear that I had experienced my first semester had vanished. I began to open up and come out of my shell; contrary to popular belief foresters really aren’t that scary. I got really involved in team. We went on road trips to faraway lands and I had the time of my life. I felt accepted as a member of this strange and wonderful family of timber-glittering, bearded, carhartt-wearing people; and I wouldn’t have it any other way.

What’s my advice to you as incoming freshman? Get out of your room. Join a random club just because you can; I mean... why not? Don’t be afraid of anything or anyone. Don’t worry about being the only freshman at an event. Don’t be afraid to look silly. Don’t be afraid to get made fun of because I’ve found that my best memories from freshman year are then ones of me doing something dumb and being made fun of for it. They are the memories I had the most fun making and the ones that I will cherish for a lifetime.

Yours Truly,
Amber Auld
Wildlife Biology/Pre-PT
Senior Letter

When you can see the light at the end of the tunnel, and you know exactly what you’re doing for a career after you’ve been handed your degree and moved your tassel, it’s hard not to just focus on the future. At the same time though, it’s hard to not retrace every step to see how you got to where you are today.

My experiences, in and out of the classroom, at the CFC have shaped and molded me into who I am today—Where else in the world can you sit in class and discuss how to build the proper plan for a forest, and then an hour later help lead fellow students build an 1800’s style logging town?

Where else in the world can you discuss historic land practices, and an hour later hop in a van with your buddies, travel to OSU and compete in antique logger sports?

Where else in the world can you finish your semester, and then two weeks later run into a professor on a fire somewhere in Montana?

Where else in the world can you go fly fishing over your lunch break, and then come back and have famous wildlife biologists lecture your class?

I can tell you this; all other Forestry schools have professors, some may have a moose, but no other school in the world has a Foresters’ Ball.

The student groups, classes, involved faculty and staff, and heritage of the CFC are what makes me proud to have been a part of it.

As I write this I have 9 days, 21 hours and 18 minutes until I am graduated. I’m ready for my next big experience in life, and I’m glad that I’ve become ready because of the countless number of people who have helped me achieve where I am today.

Thanks CFC, and remember...
All Hail Bertha!

Julian Robinson
A SPECIAL THANKS TO...

The College of Forestry and Conservation
Everyone that made this University a home and community as well as everyone who made continuing the Forestry Kaimin possible.