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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

A center for natural resources and outdoor recreation development has been established as a division of the University of Montana Foundation, University President Robert Johns has announced.

The center, administered by University faculty and interested Montanans, will work with state and federal agencies involved in outdoor recreation to develop Montana's recreation potential and protect and coordinate established resource uses, Pres. Johns said.

Several University departments, including forestry, business administration, geography, economics, chemistry, health and physical education, botany and zoology, are conducting research in outdoor recreation. The development center will coordinate various approaches to the study of outdoor recreation.

The University has been active in conserving Montana's resources since 1897 when Dr. Morton Elrod was appointed to the staff.

Dr. Elrod, a naturalist and an ecologist, won national recognition for his work in helping establish the National Bison Range at Moiese, Glacier National Park and the University Biological Station at Flathead Lake, all of which preserved natural resources.

An objective of the new development center will be to provide well-trained personnel to manage Montana's resources in the future.

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