

HUMBOLDT STATE UNIVERSITY  
Academic Senate

**Resolution on New Natural Resources MS Option in Forest, Watershed, and Wildland Sciences**

#15-10/11-ICC – November 30, 2010

**RESOLVED:** That the Academic Senate of Humboldt State University recommends to the Provost that the new Natural Resources MS Option in Forest, Watershed, and Wildland Sciences (as described in curriculum proposals listed below) be approved.

**Curriculum Proposals:**

**10-026: Natural Resources (Grad): Forestry** Combine the Graduate Natural Resources Forestry, Watershed Management and Rangeland Resources and Wildland Soils into one program: NR: Forest, Watershed, and Wildland Sciences. Add FWWS 501: Research Methods in Forest, Watershed, and Wildland Sciences\* as a new required course. All other coursework for the degree (other than the thesis) is electives chosen through extensive advising. *\*The original proposal was for this course to be numbered as FOR 501. In discussion with the ICC, the course number was changed to FWWS 501.*

**10-026 to 10-028 Attachment** includes catalog copy. This is the best summary of the core program changes, although it does not reflect the change to the FWWS course code, which is summarized in the department's curriculum memo.

**Department of Forestry and Wildland Recourses Curriculum committee Memo** – reflects the final set of changes to the proposal as negotiated between the ICC and the program.

**10-027: Natural Resources (Grad): Watershed** Combine the program with Forestry and RRWS (see 10-026).

**10-028: Natural Resources (Grad): Rangeland Resources and Wildland Soils** Combine the program with Forestry and Watershed (see 10-026).

**10-029: FWWS 501: Research Methods and Planning** new course proposal

**10-030: WSHD 430: Water Rights and Water War** suspend course because of lack of faculty to teach it, and less student interest in this topic as opposed to other WSHD courses

**10-031: WSHD 520: Watershed Analysis** suspend course because of lack of faculty to teach it, and less student interest in this topic as opposed to other WSHD courses

**10-032: WSHD 524: Watershed Hydrology** change title to "Advanced Watershed Hydrology" to reflect the difference between the undergrad and grad versions of the co-scheduled course.

**10-033: WSHD 530: Water Rights and Water War** suspend course because of lack of faculty to teach it, and less student interest in this topic as opposed to other WSHD courses

**10-034: WSHD 558: Land Use and Climate Change** title change to "Advanced Land Use and Climate Change" to reflect the difference between the undergrad and grad versions of the co-scheduled course.

**10-035: RRS 550: Advanced Study of Rangeland Resources** title change to “Advanced Wildland Resources,” and new course description to reflect course emphasis on “wildland resources as related to rangeland resources and wildland soils.”

**10-255: FWWS 690: Thesis Research** - new course, to replace existing versions of this course in RRWS, FOR, SOIL, WSHD

**10-256: FWWS 695: Field Research Problems** - new course, to replace existing versions of this course in RRWS, FOR, SOIL, WSHD

**10-257: FWWS 699: Directed Study**- new course, to replace existing versions of this course in RRWS, FOR, SOIL, WSHD

**10-258: FOR 690: Thesis** - delete course, will be replaced by FWWS 690

**10-259: FOR 695: Advanced Field Problems** - delete course, will be replaced by FWWS 695

**10-260: FOR 699: Independent Study** – delete course, will be replaced by FWWS 699

**10-261: RRS 690: Thesis** – delete course, will be replaced by FWWS 690

**10-262: RRS 695: Research Problems in Rangeland Resources** - delete course, will be replaced by FWWS 695

**10-263: RRS 699: Directed Study** - delete course, will be replaced by FWWS 699

**10-264: SOIL 690: Thesis** - delete course, will be replaced by FWWS 690

**10-265: SOIL 695: Research Problems in Wildland Soils** - delete course, will be replaced by FWWS 695

**10-266: SOIL 699: Directed Study** - delete course, will be replaced by FWWS 699

**10-267: WSHD 690: Thesis** - - delete course, will be replaced by FWWS 690

**10-268: WSHD 695: Research Problems** - delete course, will be replaced by FWWS 695

**10-269: WSHD 699: Directed Study** - delete course, will be replaced by FWWS 699

***RATIONALE:*** *Following the Prioritization process, the Provost recommended that the low-enrolled NR Grad options in RRRWS and Watershed be eliminated. ICC consideration of this recommendation resulted in the realization that very little money would be saved because graduate programs in Natural Resources are largely individually designed, with coursework selected by student and advisor to best meet the student’s needs. So long as the appropriate courses have sufficient enrollment to be offered, graduate students in this program can focus on whatever area of specialization they wish, no matter what their option is titled. The ICC realized that “Watershed” students would be able to earn identical degrees under the title “Forestry” if the Watershed option were eliminated.*

*Thus, the ICC was receptive to the proposal to combine the Forestry, RRWS, and Watershed options into one new option: Forest, Watershed, and Wildland Sciences. The new program includes one required research methods course that will help create some cohesion in the program of study for all students in the option. In addition, the program has demonstrated that they should have sufficient enrollment in appropriate courses to be able to support the various needs of students in this option.*