

FORS 481 Forest Planning

1. Instructor and course details

Instructor: Beth Dodson
Office: FOR 201B
Phone: 243-5542
Email: Elizabeth.dodson@umontana.edu
Office Hours: T/R 2:30-3:30, open door

Instructor: Tom Perry
Office: FOR 208/LEF
Phone: 243-4482
Email: Thomas.perry@umontana.edu
Office Hours: T/R 2:30-3:30

Class Times: T/R 3:40-5:00 pm; FOR 106

Text: Readings on Moodle

Prerequisites:

FORS 320 Forest Economics

FORS 349 Practice of Silviculture or FORS 347 Multiple Resource Silviculture

2. Course Description

Integrated multiple use planning at the forest-wide level: defining multi-resource management goals, generating management alternatives, projecting outcomes, assessing environmental impacts, and implementing preferred option.

3. Learning Outcomes

- Assess the planning processes used by a range of forest land owners, managers, and stakeholders and compare the role of foresters in each.
- Enhance technical skills through quantitative analysis of a forest inventory.
- Develop written and oral communication skills through the preparation of a forest plan for Bandy Experimental Ranch that incorporates management complexity.

4. Course Policies

- All assignments are due at the BEGINNING of class unless otherwise specified. Late assignments will lose 10% of the potential points per day late.
- All work must be neat, legible and complete.
- All work will be submitted on-line through the class Moodle unless otherwise specified. Graded assignments will also be returned electronically.
- While you are allowed to work with fellow students on individual assignments, all submitted assignments must represent your own individual work.

- All course communication (announcements, assignments, schedule with due dates) will be posted on the course Moodle, available through the UOnline home page. The course Moodle can be accessed from any computer with internet access.
- The University of Montana assures equal access to instruction through collaboration between students with disabilities, instructors, and Disability Services for Students (DSS). If you think you may have a disability adversely affecting your academic performance, and you have not already registered with DSS, please contact DSS in Lommason 154 or 406.243.2243. We will work with you and DSS to provide an appropriate modification.
- All students must practice academic honesty. Academic misconduct is subject to an academic penalty by the course instructor and/or a disciplinary sanction by the University.
- All students need to be familiar with the Student Conduct Code. The Code is available for review online at [Student Conduct Code](#).

Important dates:

| Date | Description |
|-------------|--|
| February 2 | Last day for students to add classes via CyberBear without consent of instructor. |
| February 12 | Last day to drop a course without a "W" recorded on your transcript. |
| March 28 | Last day to drop a course. Drops after this date will be allowed only <i>under very limited and unusual circumstances</i> . Not doing well in the class, deciding you are concerned about how the class grade might affect your GPA, deciding you did not want to take the class after all, or deciding you want to change majors are not among those limited and unusual circumstances. If you want to drop a class for these sorts of reasons, make sure you do so before 5 pm on March 28. |

5. Grading

Please note, this class is offered for traditional letter grade only, it is not offered under the credit/no credit option.

Grades will be based on both individual and group work assigned during the term. Grades will be based on points received out of points possible. The standard +/- grading scale will be used. All efforts will be made to return graded work within one week of when it is turned in. Posted grades will be updated continuously.

| Activity | Points Possible |
|---------------------|-----------------|
| Participation | 200 |
| Assignments | 100 |
| Resource Assessment | 250 |
| Management Plan | 250 |
| Midterm exam | 100 |
| Final | 100 |
| Total: | 1000 |

Participation

Each week, a planning document provided by the upcoming guest speaker will be posted on Moodle. All students are expected to read each of these documents. Multiple opportunities in a variety of formats will be provided within Moodle throughout the week prior to and after a guest speaker for students to interact with, interpret, discuss, and respond to course material. An opportunity to amass at least 250

participation points will be given throughout the semester. Up to 200 participation points will apply to final course grades.

Assignments

Lab-type assignments will periodically be assigned throughout the semester. These assignments will generally be given as part of a Thursday lecture period and be due one week from distribution. Points and assignment details will vary.

Bandy Plan

The culmination of the course will be the preparation of a management plan for Bandy Experimental Ranch that outlines the management principles by which Bandy shall operate. This plan will be completed in two parts, both within small assigned groups. Peer assessments of group members will take place for both resource assessment groups and planning groups. Group grades will be modified and assigned to individuals based on the results of these peer evaluations of effort and contribution.

Resource Assessment:

The first half of the semester groups will work on completing resource assessments for the various resources at Bandy. These assessments will provide the baseline data used by all planning groups.

Range

| First name | Last name |
|------------|-------------------|
| Caitlin | Bailey |
| Chad | Hiett |
| Michael | Schaedel |
| Rodolfo | Soares de Almeida |

University and Community Interests

| First name | Last name |
|------------|-----------|
| Eric | Goddard |
| Evan | Neal |
| Katherine | Shank |
| Nicholas | Vial |

Recreation (including hunting)

| First name | Last name |
|------------|-------------------|
| Fellipe | Cardoso Fernandes |
| Keefer | Hokanson |
| Kipp | Schoenleber |
| Madison | Stolte |

Water and Fish

| First name | Last name |
|------------|-----------|
| Danielle | Goddard |
| Brian | Lodato |
| Samuel | Scott |
| Flavia | Tussulini |

Timber

| First name | Last name |
|------------|-----------|
| Jeremy | Akin |
| Jacob | Hickey |
| Meredith | Owen |
| Aaron | Shay |
| Philip | Williams |

Wildlife

| First name | Last name |
|------------|-----------|
| Geoffrey | Clark |
| August | Kramer |
| Erika | Scofield |
| Wyatt | Trull |

The following products will be required as part of the resource assessment:

- In-class peer review of resource assessments, 50 points. Grades will be given for quality of constructive feedback given to three resource assessments. (3/3)

- Second drafts incorporating peer review due, 100 points. (3/10)
- Comments returned on second drafts. (3/17)
- Final drafts of resource assessments due, 50 points. (3/24)
- Presentations of resource assessments in class, 10 minutes per group, 50 points. (3/24)

Bandy Experimental Ranch Plan:

Separate planning groups will incorporate resource assessments into management plans for Bandy.

Group 1

| First name | Last name |
|------------|-------------|
| Jeremy | Akin |
| Chad | Hiett |
| Kipp | Schoenleber |
| Wyatt | Trull |

Group 4

| First name | Last name |
|------------|-----------|
| Geoffrey | Clark |
| Brian | Lodato |
| Katherine | Shank |
| Philip | Williams |

Group 2

| First name | Last name |
|------------|-----------|
| Caitlin | Bailey |
| Keifer | Hokanson |
| Erika | Scofield |
| Flavia | Tussulini |

Group 5

| First name | Last name |
|------------|-----------|
| Danielle | Goddard |
| Evan | Neal |
| Aaron | Shay |

Group 3

| First name | Last name |
|------------|-------------------|
| Fellipe | Cardoso Fernandes |
| August | Kramer |
| Samuel | Scott |
| Nicholas | Vial |

Group 6

| First name | Last name |
|------------|-------------------|
| Eric | Goddard |
| Meredith | Owen |
| Rodolfo | Soares de Almeida |

Group 7

| First name | Last name |
|------------|-----------|
| Jacob | Hickey |
| Michael | Schaedel |
| Madison | Stolte |

The following products will be required as part of the management plans:

- In-class peer assessment of management plans, 75 points. (4/21)
- In-class review of second drafts of management plans, revised per peer review comments. (4/28)
- Presentations of final plans, 75 points. The scenario: present your plans as if you were presenting to interested community members (of which there are many) at a Blackfoot Challenge meeting held at the Ovando Community Center. (5/3, 5/5)
- Final management plans due by the beginning of the final exam period, 100 points. (5/12)

6. Schedule

| Tuesday | Description | Thursday | Description |
|----------------|---|-----------------|---|
| 1/26 | Course introduction – What is planning? Why plan? | 1/28 | Introduction to Access, RIP |
| 2/2 | Common forest plan components | 2/4 | Resource assessment, data sources |
| 2/9 | (Blackfoot Challenge) | 2/11 | Access, continuous forest inventory |
| 2/16 | Paul McKenzie, Lands and Resource Manager, F.H. Stoltze Land and Lumber | 2/18 | Access, FVS, sustained yield |
| 2/23 | Gary Ellingson, Helena Area Forester, Northwest Management, Inc. | 2/25 | Stand-level information |
| 3/1 | Angela Mallon, Stewardship Program Manager, DNRC | 3/3 | In-class peer review of resource assessments |
| 3/8 | Jason Parke, Forester and Scott Eggeman, Wildlife Biologist, FWP | 3/10 | Second draft resource assessments due, Management philosophy, goals, objectives, and priorities |
| 3/15 | Sonya Germann, Forest Management Bureau Chief, Trust Land Management Division and Amy Helena, Forest Management Supervisor, Missoula Unit, DNRC | 3/17 | Mid-term exam |
| 3/22 | George Hirshenberger (retired), BLM | 3/24 | Resource assessment presentations, final resources assessments due |
| 3/29 | Jim Durglo, Department Head, Tribal Forestry Department, Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes | 3/31 | Management flexibility, markets, and other issues to incorporate into planning |
| 4/5 | Spring break | 4/7 | Spring break |
| 4/12 | (USFS/Fire) | 4/14 | Monitoring and plan revision |
| 4/19 | (USFS/Fire) | 4/21 | In-class peer review of management plans |
| 4/26 | Bob Harrington, Montana State Forester, DNRC | 4/28 | In-class review of second draft of management plans |
| 5/3 | Final Bandy management plan presentations | 5/5 | Final Bandy management plan presentations |
| | | 5/12 | Final exam: 1:10-3:10, Final management plans due |