Fall Forestry Camp 2002

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Fall Forestry Camp 2002
Centennial, Wyoming
September 15 - October 5

Every year Fall Forestry camp provides a great opportunity for students to gain experience in the forestry field by stepping out of the classroom and into the outdoors. It also allows ISU foresters to develop an understanding for the family-like nature of one of the oldest forestry programs in the nation. This year was no different. Fall Camp 2002 was a huge success. We learned a lot and had a great time. We gained knowledge and experience that will not only carry through our years at Iowa State, but into our professional careers as well.

Week 1

The first week of camp was filled with guest speakers and visits to mills. On Monday, camp started with a talk from U.S. Forest Service workers Clint and Sharon Kyhl, both of whom are ISU Alumni (Clint-1983). They provided information on our residence for camp, the Medicine Bow National Forest, and career opportunities with the Forest Service. Tuesday we spent the day learning about soils with University of Wyoming professor, Dr. Steve Williams. On Wednesday, we took a short trip into Centennial to visit Deerwood Log Homes and learn about their operation. The last part of the week was spent in Colorado, camping in Boyd Lake State Park in Loveland. Thursday was spent with Scott Stitch, Fire Specialist for the Rocky Mountain National Park, near Estes Park. Friday we visited the All Weather treatment mill in Loveland and also talked to Tim Buchanan, Forester for the city of Fort Collins. After a few ecosystem assessment exercises on Saturday, we all had the chance to relax for the weekend.
Week two began with a visit to the Lodgepole Products mill in Laramie. Tuesday we had the chance to hear from Scott Sims, one of the operators of Sims Cattle Ranch. He described Holistic Resource Management, which is their family's approach to land management on the ranch. Wednesday we journeyed to the mountains and observed a logging operation led by Jerry Heggie of Heggie Logging. Ev Elmendorf, a Region 5 Negotiator for the Forest Service, also spoke about collaborative land-use planning. Thursday, Jim Webster and Dan Perco, both Wyoming State Foresters, spoke to us about their organization and how they work with the people and environment of Wyoming. Friday, Steve Kozlowski and Sandy Pounder, both Forest Service recreation specialists, took us to the North Platte River Wilderness, where we learned about the value of wilderness areas in the region. After a brief discussion about disturbances and basal area on Saturday, we were set free for another weekend. Weekend activities usually included hiking, camping, fishing, resting, four wheeling, and trips to Laramie or other nearby towns.

Heggie Logging has a demonstration with their de-limber.

David Roth, climbing the mountain.

Brad, Chris, and Joe comparing notes at the LP Stud Mill.

Our beloved professors, Dr. Colletti and Dr. Ashjersen waiting to go see Heggie Logging in action.

Jacob Fulk, Tree Hugger.

Lunch time!

Andy, Nicky, Richard, Jesse, Eric, Jacob, Ben, and James enjoy lunch at the North Platte River Wilderness

Bret, Jacob, Richard, Nicky, Reid, Jesse, James, and Bekah gettin' down and dirty!!

Catch anything Reid???
Week 3

Our final week started off with a trip into the field to talk with Christie Schneider, Forest Service silviculturist, about the many silvicultural techniques used on government land. Tuesday we took a trip to Saratoga to visit the LP Stud mill and learn about their operation. Tuesday night we participated in an academic controversy exercise. We paired up and took sides on current forestry and land management practice issues, and then we debated these issues with each other. Wednesday we took a trip to Big Horn Lumber in Laramie. Dean Alexander of Big Horn was on hand to guide us through the plant, and we got to see the mill in operation. Later that day, we toured another mill in Laramie, Rocky Mountain Products. Thursday, our last day of class, was spent talking with the Bureau of Land Management in Rawlins. They outlined their organization and the role they play in land management. We got up Friday morning, did our final field exercises, and took the final exam. After packing up supplies, we loaded the vans and headed out for the long journey back to Iowa State.

- Andy Bartlett