Submit originals and one copy and electronic copy to Governance/Faculty Senate Office (email electronic copy to fysenat@uaf.edu)

PROGRAM/DEGREE REQUIREMENT CHANGE (MAJOR/MINOR)

SUBMITTED BY:

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<th>Department</th>
<th>Prepared by</th>
<th>College/School</th>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Stephen D. Sparrow</td>
<td>SNRAS</td>
<td>7620</td>
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Email Contact
stephen.sparrow@uaf.edu

See http://www.uaf.edu/uafprov/faculty/of for a complete description of the rules governing curriculum & course changes.

PROGRAM IDENTIFICATION:

DEGREE M.S., Natural Resources Management
PROGRAM

Degree Level (i.e., Certificate, A.A., A.A.S., B.A., B.S., M.A., M.S., Ph.D.)

A. CHANGE IN DEGREE REQUIREMENTS: (Brief statement of program/degree changes and objectives)

Drop the non-thesis option of the M.S. degree in Natural Resources Management.

A new degree program, Master of Natural Resources and Geography, which does not require a thesis, was recently approved and put in place. Thus, the non-thesis option of the M.S. degree is no longer needed.

B. CURRENT REQUIREMENTS AS IT APPEARS IN THE CATALOG:

Natural Resources Management
School of Natural Resources and Agricultural Sciences
907-474-7083
www.uaf.edu/snras/

B.S., M.S. Degree

Minimum Requirements for Degree: 30 – 35 credits

Downloadable PDF

Natural resources management is making and implementing decisions to develop, maintain or protect ecosystems to meet human needs and values. The core natural resources management curriculum provides students with a broad education in the various natural resources and their related applied fields. Programs can be tailored to enhance a student’s depth or breadth in a given field of interest. The program is designed for students desiring careers in resource management or in other fields requiring knowledge of resource management, students planning advanced study, as well as those wishing to be better informed citizens.

The School of Natural Resources and Agricultural Sciences offers an M.S. degree in natural resources management. The courses and curriculum for this program were developed in cooperation with groups and agencies that work professionally with resource management in Alaska.

The M.S. program offers both thesis and non-thesis options. The thesis option is designed for
those intending to pursue management careers requiring thorough familiarity with research procedures and techniques in one or more of the resources fields, to proceed to doctoral programs, and/or to conduct research in management problems. The non-thesis option is designed for those planning a management career involving largely non-research responsibilities such as general planning and administration, communication and public information, and impact assessment.

Thesis research in natural resources management is directed toward resource problems at high latitudes. Research by graduate students has centered on biological and physical aspects of land management in Alaska in relation to land ownership, land use planning, economic analysis and competing resources needs. Areas of emphasis have included forest management, land use planning, soil management, natural resource policy, parks and recreation management, horticulture, agronomy, and animal science.

State and federal agencies such as the Alaska Department of Natural Resources, Agricultural Research Service, U.S. Forest Service, Bureau of Land Management, Natural Resource Conservation Service, and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service contribute significantly to the instructional program by providing guest lecturers and internship and field work opportunities for students.

Graduate Program — M.S. Degree

1. Complete the following admission requirement:
   a) Submit GRE scores.

2. Complete the general university requirements.

3. Complete the master’s degree requirements.

4. Complete or have prior general familiarity with the major resource fields listed as concentrations under the B.S. degree requirements. Course requirements in any one field will depend on the needs of the candidate and the capabilities of the university.

5. Complete or have prior course work within the program in computer science, statistical methods and basic economics.

6. Complete the thesis or non-thesis requirements:
   Thesis
   a) Complete the following:
      NRM F601—Research Methods in Natural Resources—2 credits
      or an approved research methods course*—2 credits
      NRM F692—Graduate Seminar—3 credits
      NRM F699—Thesis—6—12 credits
      STAT course at the F400-level or above**—3 credits
      Additional approved courses—15—20 credits
   b) Minimum credits required—30 credits

   Non-thesis
   a. Complete the following:
      NRM F601—Research Methods in Natural Resources (2)
      or an approved research methods course*—2 credits
b. Minimum credits required—35 credits

* Requirement may be met with a research methods course in a discipline related to natural resources management.

** Requirement may be met with a statistics course in mathematical sciences or in a discipline related to natural resources management.

C. PROPOSED REQUIREMENTS AS IT WILL APPEAR IN THE CATALOG WITH THESE CHANGES:
(Underline new wording, strike-through-old-wording and use complete catalog format)

Natural Resources Management

School of Natural Resources and Agricultural Sciences
907-474-7083
www.uaf.edu/snras/

B.S., M.S. Degree

Minimum Requirements for Degree: 30 – 35 credits

Downloadable PDF

Natural resources management is making and implementing decisions to develop, maintain or protect ecosystems to meet human needs and values. The core natural resources management curriculum provides students with a broad education in the various natural resources and their related applied fields. Programs can be tailored to enhance a student’s depth or breadth in a given field of interest. The program is designed for students desiring careers in resources management or in other fields requiring knowledge of resources management, students planning advanced study, as well as those wishing to be better informed citizens.

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Graduate Program — M.S. Degree

1. Complete the following admission requirement:
   a) Submit GRE scores.

2. Complete the general university requirements.

3. Complete the master’s degree requirements.

4. Complete or have prior general familiarity with the major resource fields listed as concentrations under the B.S. degree requirements. Course requirements in any one field will depend on the needs of the candidate and the capabilities of the university.

5. Complete or have prior course work within the program in computer science, statistical methods and basic economics.

6. Complete the thesis or non-thesis requirements:
   - Thesis
     Complete the following:
     NRM F601 — Research Methods in Natural Resources — 2 credits
     or an approved research methods course*
     NRM F692 — Graduate Seminar — 3 credits
     NRM F699 — Thesis — 6 — 12 credits
     STAT course at the F400-level or above** — 3 credits
     Additional approved courses — 15 — 20 credits
     Minimum credits required — 30 credits

   - Non-thesis
     a. Complete the following:
        NRM F601 — Research Methods in Natural Resources (2)
        or an approved research methods course* — 2 credits
        NRM F692 — Graduate Seminar — 3 credits
        NRM F698 — Research — 3 credits
        Research methods course at the F400-level or above* — 2 credits
        STAT course at the F400-level or above** — 3 credits
        Additional approved courses — 22 credits
b. Minimum credits required—35 credits

* Requirement may be met with a research methods course in a discipline related to natural resources management.
** Requirement may be met with a statistics course in mathematical sciences or in a discipline related to natural resources management.

D. ESTIMATED IMPACT

WHAT IMPACT, IF ANY, WILL THIS HAVE ON BUDGET, FACILITIES/SPACE, FACULTY, ETC.

None. A new degree program will replace the non-thesis option

E. IMPACTS ON PROGRAMS/DEPTS:

What programs/departments will be affected by this proposed action?
Include information on the Programs/Departments contacted (e.g., email, memo)

None (see above)

F. IF MAJOR CHANGE - ASSESSMENT OF THE PROGRAM:

Description of the student learning outcomes assessment process.

The outcomes assessment plan for the M.S. degree in natural resources management will not change.

JUSTIFICATION FOR ACTION REQUESTED

The purpose of the department and campus-wide curriculum committees is to scrutinize program/degree change applications to make sure that the quality of UAF education is not lowered as a result of the proposed change. Please address this in your response. This section needs to be self-explanatory. If you drop a course, is it because the material is covered elsewhere? Use as much space as needed to fully justify the proposed change and explain what has been done to ensure that the quality of the program is not compromised as a result.
## APPROVALS:

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<th>N/A, applicable to all depts.</th>
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<td>Signature, Chair, Program/Department of:</td>
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## ALL SIGNATURES MUST BE OBTAINED PRIOR TO SUBMISSION TO THE GOVERNANCE OFFICE

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| Signature, Chair, UAF Faculty Senate Curriculum Review Committee |