

UNIVERSITY OF ALASKA FAIRBANKS
Student learning Outcomes Assessment Plan
MS, Natural Resources Management

College of Natural Sciences and Mathematics

Expanded Statement of Intuitional Purpose	Intended Objectives/Outcomes	Assessment Criteria and Procedures	Implementation (what, when, who)
UAF and the Department of Natural Resources and Environment is committed to providing quality graduate education through small classes, close student-faculty relationships and research and scholarly endeavor. Continuous self-examination, flexibility and openness to innovation enhance the quality of graduate education available to students. The hallmark of the graduate program in Natural Resources and Environment is its recognition of individual differences and interests of students, and responding to these individual needs. Goal Statement: MS NRE graduates will be professionals in the natural resources management field or continue to pursue a terminal degrees. They will make responsible	1) Graduates will have the skills to conduct research to support the decision making process about the use of natural resources. 2) Graduates are able to synthesize knowledge for both research purposes and decisions making as related to natural resource management. 3) Graduates are proficient in communicating their knowledge in oral and written format to scientists, agencies and private sector personnel at state, national, and international levels. 4) Graduates are prepared to pursue terminal degrees or enter/advance in careers in natural resources management.	1) Comprehensive exams and theses will be evaluated with the Critical Thinking Decision Making, Qualitative Analysis, NRE Concepts, Sustainability Science, Inquiry and Analysis, and written communication rubrics as appropriate. The rubrics range utilize a 4-point scale, where 1 = benchmark and 4 = capstone; scores => 3.0 will be taken as evidence of competence related to the goal. 2) Thesis defenses will be rated on the rigor of the student's research design/analysis, the soundness of the process used to reach their conclusions, and communication skills. This will be conducted via a set of questions passed out to attendees (see attached). Questions will be asked on a 5-	1) The graduate committee will assess comprehensive exams and theses with the appropriate rubrics. This will be done for each comprehensive exam and thesis presentation. Data will be compiled by the chair of the assessment committee. 2) This will be done via a set of questions passed out to attendees. The chair of the graduate committee will be responsible for administering questionnaires to attendees. The questionnaires will include the rater's affiliation (i.e., faculty, staff, student, and general public). This will be conducted at each thesis presentation. Data will be compiled by the chair of the assessment committee. Results will be presented separately for faculty, staff, and students. The oral

natural resources management decisions, implement successful long-term management for protection and maintenance of ecosystems while meeting the needs and values of humans. Those seeking terminal degrees will make a positive impact in advancing their field of study.		point scale where 1 = weak and 5 = excellent. A score of ≥ 4.0 will be taken as evidence of competence related to the goal. In addition, the oral communication skills will be evaluated by the committee chair. 3) Graduates will be tracked to assess career advancement.	communication skills will be evaluated by the committee chair. 3) The Department Chair will task the academic program assistant with the responsibility of tracking graduates. A qualitative report will summarize employment in the Natural Resources Management field.
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