

The UAF Faculty Senate passed the following at Meeting #203 on December 1, 2014:

**MOTION:**

The UAF Faculty Senate moves to approve a new minor in Forest Management, housed in the School of Natural Resources and Extension.

Effective: Fall 2015

Rationale: This new minor will effectively prepare students for careers in forestry. See the program proposal #80-UNP on file in the Governance Office, 312B Signers' Hall.

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President, UAF Faculty Senate

APPROVAL:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Chancellor's Office

DATE:

12/4/14

DISAPPROVED:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chancellor's Office

DATE:

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**Overview:**

The Natural Resources Management degree was restructured and three concentrations were lost, including one in forestry which was accredited by the Society of American Foresters (SAF). Providing the accredited degree had allowed our students to obtain forestry positions in state government and with private companies that require a bachelor's degree from an accredited institution. To enable future students to learn the essentials of forestry in our new degree structure (the elimination of the three concentration areas) and be eligible for professional certification by SAF, we propose a new minor in Forest Management. The minor will be available to students in any major that have satisfied course prerequisites. In combination with the NRM major, the Forest Management minor will prepare students for application for professional certification by SAF. This credential identifies individuals with the training and knowledge required to manage the state's forest resources.

This minor will allow our students to apply to take the SAF accreditation exam. The accreditation exam is a key hurdle in the professional development of a Forestry Professional throughout the country. The potential for a Natural Resources Management major to take the exam will allow them of obtain jobs that do require a Forestry Degree. It will have a minor effect on Faculty resulting from

potentially larger class sizes or the need to restructure a class as independent study for potentially smaller class sizes. In one case (NRM F453) an adjunct faculty will have to be located when the course is offered, but this need will exist even in the absence of the minor. There are no anticipated changes in the school's budget or facilities/space requirements as a result of development of this minor degree program.

In addition this Forestry Minor will give us the opportunity to gauge the interest in developing a Forestry Major in the future.

### **Proposed Minor Requirements:**

#### **Forest Management Minor\***

1. Students must complete the following courses (cannot count toward major): \*\*  
NRM F375-Natural Resource Ecology-3 credits,  
or BIOL F371-Principles of Ecology-3 credits  
NRM F240-Natural Resources Measurement and Inventory-3 credits  
NRM F251-Silvics and Dendrology-4 credits
2. Complete at least 6 credits from the following (cannot count toward major):\*\*  
NRM F370-Introduction to Watershed Management-3 credits  
NRM F440-Silviculture-3 credits  
NRM F450-Forest Management-3 credits  
NRM F452-Forest Health and Protection-3 credits  
NRM F453-Harvesting and Utilization of Forest Products-3 credits
3. A student must complete at least 16 credits dedicated to the minor. If the student has taken courses from group 1 in order to complete major requirements, the credits must be made up from additional courses in group 2. \*\*

*\* Potential accreditation as a Certified Forester by the Society of American Foresters will require completion of the following Natural Resources Management courses: F251, F440, F450, F452, and F453 in combination with the Natural Resource Management BS degree. Prerequisites required for the courses listed are part of the Natural Resources Degree Program but students from other programs will be required to complete the prerequisites specified for individual classes. NRM F452 also requires the completion of either BIOL F239 or NRM F211 as a prerequisite. These two courses are not required for the general Natural Resources Management program. The prerequisites will not apply to the number of credits for the Forest Management Minor.*

*\*\* Student must earn a C grade or better in each course.*

### **Relationship to Purposes of the University:**

State Division of Forestry, USFS, native corporations, etc. will all need trained forestry professionals to fill the need for vital forest management tied to various resource uses (e.g. fuelwood, lumber, biomass, wildlife management, park management, etc.).

This minor will help to support the NRM program by attracting students that are interested in the forestry profession. The minor will help to prepare NRM students for the certification exam that is conducted by the Society of American Foresters.

The minor will fill an important existing gap in our ability to meet the employment needs of the state.