Introducing Yourself

(note card)

- First & last Name
- Campus address
- E-mail address
- Phone number
- Favorite Outdoor Recreation Activity

Introducing Yourself

(BACK OF NOTE CARD)

- Your BEST outdoor recreation experience.
- Your WORST outdoor recreation experience.

Course Goals

- Introduce the discipline of CSS
- Understand role of amenity resources in multiple-use management.
- Understand land classifications & agencies.
- Understand physical, environmental, and behavioral points of view.
- Have fun learning about outdoor recreation & how people interact with the outdoors!

Introducing your Professor

- Pennsylvania native
- Park Superintendent—McConnell’s Mill State Park
- Indiana State Outdoor Recreation Planner
- Northern Colorado Nature Center
- Wilderness Research Center/former Director
- U of I since 1979
- Specialize in Wilderness and Wild & Scenic River management and public involvement

Course Requirements

- Attendance & Participation 10%
- Mid-term Exam 20%
- Two quizzes or exercises 05%
- Analysis of a Recreation Behavior 20%
- Research Literature assignment 25%
- Final Exam 20%
- 100%
Why focus on Resource Recreation & Tourism?

- Everybody is doing it!
- We need to understand:
  - the settings where people recreate...
  - the social and psychological experiences they seek...
  - their impacts on the natural environment
  - the manager’s role of both provider &
    protector of wildland recreation
    opportunities

What’s the Problem?

- We often want things that are at cross purposes with other users of the landscape.
- We often want things that are incompatible with conservation of the resource.
- We are loving the outdoors to death!

Our Society is Changing

- U.S. Population – 316,542,283
- 82+ % urban
- Bi-modal population growth
- Ethnic pop. increasing &
  concentrated
- Income disparity increasing
- More free time for some
  (young & old)

Population Growth

- One birth every 8 seconds
- One death every 12 seconds
- One international migrant every 44 seconds
- Net gain of one person every 13 seconds

Implications for Natural Resource Mgmt?
Where People Live
- Rural = places with <2,500 inhabitants
- Americans have little opportunity to connect with the land…

Trends Affecting Resource Recreation & Tourism
- Open space is becoming scarce
- Growing economy (wealth, time & mobility)
- Information & Mass Marketing
- Use is shifting, as society changes: population, mobility, traditions (hunting, fishing), backcountry -- day trips, technology, activities

Almost one in five adults had some type of disability and the likelihood of having a disability increased with age.


Understanding our roots--What has shaped our viewpoint?
- Cultural Universals
- A History of Interaction with Wildlands

LESSON TWO – CSS 287
Cultural Universals

- Agriculture/food production
- Commerce
- Government -- authority, law, defense
- Education
- Religion/ceremony
- RECREATION & Sport

Understanding our roots--What has shaped our viewpoint?

We have a history of interacting with wildlands:
- Manifest Destiny
- Deism & Primitivism
- Natural Resource Values

American Culture was shaped by our interaction with wildlands

Manifest Destiny & the Puritans
- Resource economy
  - conquer, tame,
  - subdue, exploit
- Religion -- from ungodly savages to
  - Deism & Primitivism...
- Un-ending abundance (Go West!)

Religion’s Changing Role

Wildlands were ungodly & savage
- Deism -- 18th & 19th centuries
  - Associated nature with religion
  - Nature was untouched by evil of humans
  - In unspoiled places we are closer to the Creator
- Primitivism -- romantics -- “Happiness decreases in direct proportion to civilization.”
- The “Noble Savage” and Nationalism

Abundance/Scarcity/Usefulness

“Myth of Superabundance”
- Slash & Burn mentality
- Govt. give-away programs to promote westward settlement
- Couldn’t imagine ever running out of natural resources!

Scarcity is the root of value

- What is a Natural Resource?
- Natural Resources are those things defined to be useful to humans.
- What about water? or Scenery??
- Resources are not--They become.
Vision & Natural Resource Biases

- Vision -- 65 to 70% of information about our environment is obtained visually.
- Prehistoric importance of vision (Nash):
  - 15 million years ago pre-humans left the forest,
  - Relyed upon good vision for competitive edge,
  - We feared what we couldn’t see.
- Vertical vs. horizontal vision illustrates one developmental bias.
The Role of Vision & Natural Resource Biases

- We loathed the wilderness because in it we feared what we couldn’t see (huddled around the campfire in the forest primeval).
- Alternately, we love the wilderness because of how our sense receptors evolved!
- For millions of years our sense receptors were flooded by natural stimuli.
- Only recently -- fluorescent lights, honking horns, crowded streets, jumbo flat screens...

Vision & Natural Resource Biases

Do you prefer this?

The Battle for the Landscape

- We manage our scenery as “viewsheds.”
- Landscape development vs. preservation.
- Free-flowing rivers
  - Preservationists vs. recreation utilitarianisms
- Mass Recreation vs. Personal contact with undisturbed nature.
- National Park Service vs. US Forest Service vs. private enterprise?