



# NCSR NEWS

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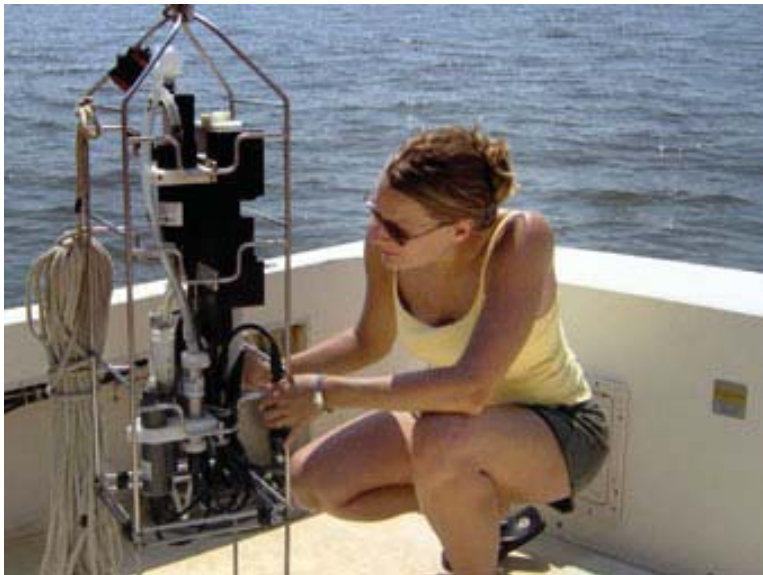
NORTHWEST CENTER FOR  
SUSTAINABLE RESOURCES

## Human Impacts on Marine Fisheries Summer 2009 Institute

NCSR has set the dates for its 2009 professional development institute entitled, *Human Impacts on Marine Fisheries*. The institute will be held August 2 thru 7 at the University of Oregon's Oregon Institute of Marine Biology (OIMB) in Charleston, Oregon. OIMB is the perfect location for the institute providing excellent laboratories and field sites. (For more information concerning OIMB visit [www.uoregon.edu/~oimb/](http://www.uoregon.edu/~oimb/)). The institute's program will focus on the impact of human actions on marine fisheries and their ecosystems ranging from overfishing to global climate change. The institute is structured to provide faculty with knowledge, skills and curricular materials designed for adaptation into a variety of biological science and natural resource technical courses.



The coastal environment at OIMB



Graduate student prepares a water quality probe

The institute will be restricted to 12 college faculty. NCSR will provide attendees with lodging, meals and a \$600 stipend. Participants must provide their own transportation to institute.

Individuals wishing to apply for attendance should request an application package via e-mail to [ncsradm@chemeketa.edu](mailto:ncsradm@chemeketa.edu). Application packages will be sent starting February 2009 and applicants will be notified of their acceptance status no later than May 22, 2009.



## New Curriculum Module Series - Fire Ecology and Management

NCSR's latest curriculum modules are now being prepared for dissemination via download from our website and in hard copy supported by CD. We expect all modules will be posted or available for mailing by the end of November.

The six-module series is designed to address both the general role of fire in ecosystems as well as specific wildfire management issues in forest ecosystems. The series contains the following classroom-ready modules:

- *Ecological Role of Fire*
- *Historical Fire Regimes and their Application to Forest Management*
- *Anatomy of a Wildfire - the B&B Complex Fires*
- *Pre-Fire Intervention: Thinning and Prescribed Burning*
- *Post-wildfire (Salvage) Logging - the Controversy*
- *An Evaluation of Media Coverage of Wildfire Issues*

The *Ecological Role of Fire* module is designed to introduce the role of wildfire to students in a broad range of disciplines. This introductory module forms the foundation for four of the other modules in the series. The module, *An Evaluation of Media Coverage of Wildfire Issues*, is an adaptation of a previous NCSR module designed to provide students the skills to objectively evaluate articles about wildfire-related issues. It can be used as a stand-alone module in a variety of natural resource course offerings.

As in the past, NCSR curriculum modules are designed as comprehensive instructions for students and supporting materials for faculty. The student instructions are designed to facilitate adaptation in a variety of settings. In addition to the instructional materials for students, the modules contain separate supporting information in the "Notes to Instructors" section. The modules also contain other sections, which contain additional supporting information such as a "Glossary" and "Suggested Resources".

Individuals looking for additional information on these modules should visit the "Instructional and Educational Materials" section of the NCSR website [www.ncsr.org](http://www.ncsr.org). Descriptions and copies for review should be available by the end of November 2008. Requests for hard copies with CD should be sent via e-mail to [ncsradm@chemeketa.edu](mailto:ncsradm@chemeketa.edu).

B&B Complex Fire, Sue Stewart - BLM



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## Summer 2008 Land Use Impacts on Environmental Quality Institute

The NCSR 2008 summer institute, held at Chemeketa Community College in Salem, Oregon, was a great success. Sixteen faculty members from nine states participated in a week that examined the relationship between land use and environmental quality. Specific activities included an analysis of land use change from digital imagery and the use of remote imaging sources as a prelude to student field work and to identify potential non-point source pollution in a watershed. Based on the post-institute survey, participants rated the activities from 5 to 4.5 on a five point scale with five being excellent.



Participants evaluate water quality from canoes.

As a measure of the long-range impact of the institute, a minimum of 14 participants indicated they had plans to use the various materials presented at the institute in their courses. All indicated they planned to share the materials with their colleagues.

Typical comments by participants --

*Loved all of it – especially the correlations of aerial photos / Google Earth and NASA with our field experience! I will do something similar with my class. Wonderful!*

Meg Riestenberg  
College of Mount St. Joseph

*The activities we performed and modules we covered were of excellent quality and very complete. These are the most complete units ready to incorporate into my curriculum that I've ever seen. I intend to incorporate everything I've learned at this institute. Thank you!*

Terri Rogers  
Hawkeye Community College



Testing water quality from simulated wetlands



## The Future of NCSR

NCSR has received funding from the National Science Foundation's Advanced Technological Education (ATE) program to continue its resource center activities in support of natural resource education. The grant continues NCSR's work until 2011 with a focus on curriculum and professional development as well as dissemination of current and new curriculum materials.

Over the next three years NCSR will develop materials that support courses in the environmental and biological sciences and natural resource technical programs. Topics will include the mitigation of wetland loss, the construction of new wetlands, and recovery of marine ecosystems that support restoration of fish populations. The materials will be adaptable to programs in fisheries, forestry, wildlife and environmental science as well as secondary education science programs.

Plans call for NCSR to develop a series of comprehensive "classroom-ready" curriculum modules with integrated supporting visuals for college natural resource faculty. The Center will also develop, test and publish a natural resource lecture module suitable for on-line delivery.

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Additionally, the NCSR staff will identify and develop a series of user ready graphic statistical profiles of key natural resource data supporting ecosystem-based instruction. NCSR will offer faculty professional development summer institutes covering adaptation of newly published wetlands and marine ecosystem curriculum products.

As part of the Center's high school curriculum development effort, a *Community-Based Procedure and Product Manual* will be produced. The manual will include instructional modules developed by high school science teachers using the community-based education approach to instruction. The Center will also conduct regional workshops for high school teachers that integrate the community-based education model using natural resource topics.

### New Instructional Module Being Developed

A new module *Illustrations of Interconnectedness in Ecosystems* is in final draft. The module describes a number of scenarios that illustrate the concept of interconnectedness among ecosystem components. Interconnectedness is a fundamental ecological concept, a common theme in natural resource/environmental science programs and a foundational component of ecosystem-based management of natural resources. Two introductory activities require students to diagram ecosystem interconnections. Brief descriptions of 13 additional scenarios are provided, along with references to and descriptions of supporting video, print and web-based resources. This module is scheduled for publication in January 2009.



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