



Haub School of Environment and Natural Resources Report to the UW Board of Trustees July 2024

The Haub School of Environment and Natural Resources supports students as well as citizens, stakeholders, and decision makers by giving them the skills and tools they need to build durable, inclusive solutions to our most pressing environment and natural resource challenges.

Student Success:

Our efforts to emphasize and invest in student success have resulted in several recent gifts and matches that will have significant continued impact in perpetuity due to the match that has been made available by the state. Following the success of investment in career services and internship coordination, the Haub School will now look to hire a new recruiter as well as a marketing & communications specialist (in partnership with the Honors College) to further support the success of our students.

Degrees Awarded through the Haub School in May 2024 (68 unique students)

Undergraduate Degrees

Environmental Systems Science (ESS) Major: 13
Environment and Natural Resources (ENR) Major: 20
Outdoor Recreation and Tourism Management (ORTM) Major: 15
Outdoor Leadership minor: 4
Sustainability minor: 5
ENR minor: 2

Masters Degrees

JD/MA: 4
Environment Nat Res & Society (ENRS) Masters: 10
Graduate Student ENR major: 10, minor: 0
Collaborative Practice minor: 3

WORTH Summary of Key Accomplishments in 2024

(details at: <https://www.uwyo.edu/worth/files/worth-annual-report-2024.pdf>)

1. Applied Research: WORTH produced impactful studies, notably the 2024 report on outdoor recreation, revealing a 33% increase in the industry's contribution to Wyoming's GDP. Collaboration with the Jackson Hole Travel and Tourism Board resulted in comprehensive visitor satisfaction and responsible visitation studies, vital for Teton County's tourism strategy. Additionally, the Initiative awarded seven faculty research grants totaling \$432,000, benefiting 20 researchers across UW colleges and schools, and Wyoming community college faculty.
2. Educational Services: The Initiative empowered students and professionals through various programs. WORTH increased student scholarship funds and hosted the Outdoor Guide Certification Course. The Western Hospitality Certificate, developed in collaboration with the Center for Principle-Based Leadership and Ethics, and the highly attended Hospitality and Tourism Fair are notable highlights.
3. Outreach Efforts: WORTH hosted the 2024 Wyoming Outdoor Recreation Summit, fostering statewide collaboration with over 180 participants. Free hospitality training programs in Johnson and Teton Counties enhanced service quality. The Initiative also supported agritourism education and the Wyoming Walks program, promoting local tourism and wellness.
4. Economic Impact Studies: WORTH's research extended to specific economic contributions, such as the Museum of the Mountain Man's impact on Sublette County, and the establishment of monthly lodging and economic forecasts for Teton County, providing crucial data for local stakeholders.

Losses:

Dr. *Steve Smutko*, Spicer Chair, has retired and we will look to find his successor in the coming year. We also want to recognize the untimely passing in late May of *Tom Spicer*, a long-time supporter of the Haub School through the Spicer Chair but also a wonderful supporter of all things brown and gold. His smile and passion will be missed but his impact will continue in perpetuity.