WLF 697: National Assessment of State Comprehensive Wildlife Conservation Strategies (SCWCS)

Instructors: Brad Griffith and Abby Powell

A. Objective:

Gain a synoptic view of state activities related to wildlife habitat conservation in the U.S. and territories in order to identify emerging conservation priorities (what to conserve, where to conserve), new conservation approaches and tools, and examples of ongoing projects that demonstrate promising directions for accelerating habitat conservation.

B. Outcomes:

By the end of the course, student will have an understanding of wildlife conservation and the role of state plans across the U.S. including:

1. strategies used in developing objectives for both species and habitats
2. institutional changes stimulated by plan development
3. funding for wildlife conservation at the federal and state levels
4. “lessons learned” during the planning process
5. the role of public participation and the engagement of stakeholders through partnerships
6. how plans affect wildlife conservation activities at the local level
7. challenges to effective implementation
8. monitoring and accountability mechanisms
9. transboundary wildlife conservation and habitat connectivity

C. Specific activities:

1. Attend 15 lectures (90 minutes each).

2. Read assigned journal articles and participate in discussions.

3. Participate in practical assessment of State CWCS’ including interviews with State Coordinators
4. Prepare a short synthesis paper on a selected topic in wildlife habitat conservation.

C. Sources of information:

1. Library collection at UAF and other similar institutions and distributed seminar wiki.

D. Evaluation:

1. Reading comprehension and discussion participation (33.3%).
2. Practical assessment (33.3%).
3. Synthesis paper (33.3%)