

FORESTRY PROFESSIONALS AND HUMAN DIMENSIONS: BMPS OF EDUCATION, COMMUNICATION, LEADERSHIP AND PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT

A McIntire-Stennis supported project



STEPHEN F. AUSTIN
STATE UNIVERSITY

Arthur Temple College of
Forestry and Agriculture

Through an ongoing study of the state of forestry education in the United States, researchers at Stephen F. Austin State University are identifying and assessing research-based best management practices that develop foresters and natural resource professionals capable of meeting the challenges of an evolving society.

An overarching communications model will be tested to identify the best practices of training for leadership and communication across diverse communities. Furthermore, researchers will utilize transformative research experiences in outdoor recreation to help prepare students for leadership roles as managers/researchers of natural resource systems and the humans who interact with those systems. An example of such opportunities include measurement of human engagement and impact on resources of the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem, as well as the development, implementation, and evaluation of programs to help decision makers and the general public better understand coastal resiliency and necessary stewardship.



About McIntire-Stennis

The McIntire-Stennis program, a unique federal-state partnership, cultivates and delivers forestry and natural resource innovations for a better future. By advancing research and education that increases the understanding of emerging challenges and fosters the development of relevant solutions, the McIntire-Stennis program has ensured healthy resilient forests and communities and an exceptional natural resources workforce since 1962.



COLLABORATION

Partners include, but are not limited to, the National Park Service, U.S. Forest Service, Texas A&M Forest Service, Texas Forestry Association, Texas Parks and Wildlife Department, National Association of University Forest Resource Programs.



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graduate and
undergraduate researchers
supported through this
project.

IMPACT

This research illuminates the current state of forestry education, as well as the direction forestry education needs to take in order to best prepare society-ready natural resource professionals.



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Society of American
Foresters accredited
forestry programs in North
America.



\$44 trillion
Estimated worth of
ecosystem services
worldwide



329 million
Individuals depend on
healthy ecosystems in the
U.S.