

FORESTS AND SALMON: RESOURCE MANAGEMENT IN THE PACIFIC NORTHWEST
Group Contract, Fall, 1987

This program studied the biology, management and social-political-economic issues of the two most prominent natural resources of the Pacific Northwest: moist coniferous forests and Pacific salmon. A major focus was the impact of use and management of both resources in the forested watersheds. The present-day situation and the past history of these resources were examined, including their importance for Native American culture. The primary modes of learning were lectures, seminars, and field trips; in addition, each student undertook research on selected topics.

Topical Research and Seminar--As a principal assignment, each student, individually or in teams, undertook research on two topics for oral presentations in seminar and for written reports. The research was based on library resources, public-agency documents, and interviews. The papers are to be compiled into a joint report about "forests and salmon."

Lectures, Texts, and Films--Lectures were presented by the faculty on the ecology and physiology of Pacific Northwest trees, and about the ecological life histories of the Pacific salmon. Nine invited speakers presented lectures on commercial logging, forest management, forest ecology, salmon management, and salmon ecology. Recommended texts were Introduction to Forestry (Sharpe, Hendee, & Sharpe 1986) and Forest Ecosystems: Concepts and Management (Waring & Schlesinger 1985), in addition to many references on library reserve. Films shown were The Renewable Tree, Natural Timber Country, To Touch the Sky, The Redwoods, Life of the Sockeye Salmon, and As Long As the Rivers Run.

Book Seminar--Seminars were conducted on the following books: Mountain in the Clouds: A Search for the Wild Salmon (Brown 1982), Treaties on Trial: The Continuing Controversy Over Northwest Indian Fishing Rights (Cohen 1986), I Heard the Owl Call My Name (Craven 1973), and Sometimes a Great Notion (Keseey 1964).

Field Trips and Field Studies--A four-day field trip to the Quinault River sector of the Olympic Peninsula during the second week provided an intensive introduction to the program and included tours and presentations by representatives of the Washington Department of Natural Resources, U.S. Forest Service, and the Quinault Indian Nation. The tours and hikes included salmon habitats, wilderness, old growth forest, commercial timber sites, and clear-cut areas.

Day trips were made to the Weyerhaeuser Company's Tree Regeneration Center, the Washington Department of Fisheries George Adams Salmon Hatchery, a juvenile salmon stream-research site and a wild chum salmon run.

TESC Forest Survey--Students also did a brief ecological survey and timber cruise of a 70-acre forested site on the Evergreen campus, including understory and overstory vegetation analysis, tree diameter and height measurements, and volume calculations.

Faculty--Richard Cellarius (forest biology and management); Peter Taylor (salmon biology and management).