

NATURAL RESOURCES AND SOCIETY (M.S.)

Master of Science. Major in Natural Resources.

Thesis, non-thesis, and course-based options are offered.

1. Thesis programs are research oriented, and the student is required to conduct independent research and present the results as a thesis, which must be approved by the candidate's supervisory committee.
2. Non-thesis programs are concentrated more heavily on coursework. Though research may be conducted, the candidate is not required to present the results in a formal thesis. A final report, professional paper(s), or other terminal project agreed upon in advance by the advisory committee is a normal requirement under this plan. This program lends itself to projects such as recreation master plans, regional plans, area management plans, historical reviews, and the development of professional interpretive media.
3. The course-based program is designed for practitioners with a focus on coursework that will prepare professionals for leadership careers in conservation.

For both the thesis and non-thesis options, after a research or other scholarly project is selected, the student must prepare a formal work plan for their committee and make an oral public presentation of the proposed project. The purpose of this requirement is to:

1. help structure and sharpen the student's thinking and approach to the project,
2. obtain the views of various knowledgeable persons that may lead to constructive modifications in the work plan,
3. gain experience in making professional presentations, and
4. increase communication within the academic community.

Please see the College of Natural Resources graduate handbook (<https://www.uidaho.edu/-/media/UIDaho-Responsive/Files/cnr/grad-programs/cnr-grad-student-and-faculty-advisor-handbook.pdf?la=en&hash=0278D84660B4A60E266E591BB5F18A7DBA2A9E1F>) for details and program requirements on earning the Master of Science in Natural Resources and Society degree.

Graduates will be able to:

1. Conduct innovative and high-quality research in natural resources by:
 - a. Demonstrating fundamental disciplinary knowledge, principles, and a mastery of the scientific method;
 - b. Identifying knowledge gaps and/or management or social challenges, designing and proposing a research project, analyzing data, and interpreting results.
2. Communicate effectively in written and oral formats.
3. Exhibit practices and behaviors conducive to developing a career in natural resources science and/or management.