Reinventing Our Educational Models to Train the Next Generation of Environmental Leaders

9th Biennial Conference
University Education in Natural Resources

Session Organizers:

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Evolution of Leadership Programs
& National Environmental Leadership Literature and Curriculum

— Outcomes two environmental leadership books
— None on environmental leadership
— Many books on business, military, and political leadership, but

Research National Environmental Leadership Programs

First book described... second book builds on insights from first book... 
(1993) Environment Leadership: Essential Skills for Egal Environmental Leaders and advice of career paths, experiences (2006) Environment Leadership: How and Who Leads... First and new leadership and differences between organizational leadership with a focus on context, insights from first book...
Why Environmental Leadership Is Different

Central Premise: Environmental Leadership is different from other leadership because of the unique characteristics of environmental problems.

- Long Time to Solution
- Complexity
- Emotionally Charged Situations
- Uncertainty and Unintended Consequences
- Incomplete and Scattered Science Base
- Integration Across Disciplines

Environmental leadership is different from other leadership because of the unique characteristics of environmental problems.
Leadership Hypotheses

CONTRIBUTING FACTORS

Several hypotheses noted in the book affect the nature and style of environmental leadership.

Leadership is a set of skills that can be learned.

Leaders are not born; leadership is a set of skills that can be learned.

Successful leadership requires diversity of skills and styles.

Everyone learns to lead depending on circumstances.

There is no single leadership model; however, there are commonly identified traits and characteristics.
Definition of Environmental Leadership

The ability of an individual or group to guide change toward a vision of a more positive future.
Critical Skills and Styles

- Vision
- Proactive problem solving
- Action oriented—take calculated risks
- Adapt to change
- Broad base of knowledge
- Value diversity
- Excellent relation building skills
- Common ground
- Communication with a broad-range of stakeholders to find common needs
- NR management links to those needs
- Understanding societal needs and the ability to articulate how

2004 Survey Results...

Environmental Leadership—what are they?

Personal Characteristics Describe Skills and Styles
Leadership in Environmental and Natural Resources Science and Management

Yale Leadership Course: "Leadership in Environmental Curriculum Development

Course Components

- Observation and interaction with diverse leaders; real life
- Leadership organization prescription exercise; current status,
- Examples of leaders & leadership
- Problem or challenge, options for solving problem; indicators, to track success/problem solved
- Identify and examine leadership skills and styles; develop list of most common traits

Curriculum Development
Elements of Personal and Lifelong Leadership

Leadership Tree

Roots:
- Self-Knowledge
- Character
- Values
- Ethics

Trunk:
- Substance
- Style
- Skills

Crown:
- Application
- Skills
- Self

Fruit:
- Sustainable Solutions
- Relationships
Environmental leadership has never been more important than it is today. Environmental leadership is more complex today than in the past. Environmental leadership is more complex today than in the past. Environmental leadership is more complex today than in the past. Environmental leadership is more complex today than in the past. Environmental leadership is more complex today than in the past.

Contemporary Conditions: Two Overriding Conditions:

21st Century Global Leadership