August 4, 2016

TO: Char Hulsebus, Records & Registration

FROM: Charles V. Schwab, Chair – College Curriculum Committee

RE: Changes to NREM 504 course

Cc: Timothy Stewart

This memo conveys the wishes of the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences curriculum committee that supports the requested change of NREM 504 from 4 credits (3-3) in the current catalog to 3 credits (2-3). The effective date for these additions should before October 2016.

Currently NREM 504 is not being offered for fall 2016 so there are no students being impacted by this change.

The second part of this request is update the fall 2017- summer 2018 catalog to reflect the same credit adjustment identified above for NREM 504 and to make the other changes to the description and offering semester as outlined in the NREM curriculum chair’s memo (attached).

If you have any questions please contact me at 4-4131 or cvschwab@iastate.edu.
Date: July 7, 2016

To: CALS Curriculum Committee,
    C/O Charles Schwab, Chair
From: Timothy Stewart, Associate Professor
       And NREM Curriculum Committee Chair

Sue Blodgett, NREM Department Chair

Richard B. Hall, Professor of Forestry (NREM 504 course instructor)

RE: Proposed changes to NREM 504: Forest Landscapes, Wildlife, and Silviculture

The Department of Natural Resource Ecology and Management seeks approval for modifications to NREM 504 (Forest Landscapes, Wildlife, and Silviculture). Specifically, we request changes to the course description, prerequisites, and a reduction from three to two lecture hours per week. Therefore, the revised offering would be equivalent to 3 credits instead of 4 credits.

Current Catalog Description:

NREM 504: Forest Landscapes, Wildlife, and Silviculture
(3-3) Cr. 4. F.
Prereq: NREM 301
Detailed analysis of factors and processes underlying forest and stand growth and development. Applications of this knowledge to forest culture to support a diversity of use and protection objectives. Discussions of regional silviculture, tropical forests, and experimentation in forest biology.
Requested Revised Course and Catalog Description:

NREM 504: Forest Landscapes, Wildlife, and Silviculture

(2-3) Cr. 3 Alt. S., offered odd-numbered years

Prereq: Permission of instructor

Desired forest habitat conditions for fish and wildlife. Silvicultural approaches to protecting/improving such habitats. Focus on key forest elements related to animal species, groups and overall diversity. The lab focuses on team observations and discussions of diverse habitats including one weekend field trip.

The justification for revising this course is to take advantage of both wildlife and forestry expertise of a new co-instructor, Dr. Robert Klaver, and the original instructor, Dr. Richard B. Hall. The one credit reduction and the narrowed/strengthened focus on wildlife habitat management should lead to increased enrollment from graduate students in Ecology and Evolutionary Biology, Fisheries Biology, Forestry, Sustainable Agriculture, and Wildlife Ecology. Upper class undergraduates in these areas of interest should also be attracted to the course.

Graduates of the course will be able to enroll in a section of NREM 596, a travel course to Montana ISU facilities to study fish and wildlife habitat and forestry practices. NREM 596 is intended to be an extension of the laboratory approach used in NREM 504.