

Jay Slack



- ✓What is NCTC
- ✓Youth Careers in Conservation
- ✓Structured Decision Making/
Adaptive Management

What is NCTC?



Where is it?

Shepherdstown, WV

1 ½ Hours West of Washington, DC



Our Campus



- 550 Acre Facility
- 4 Guest Lodges w/ 225 rooms
- Dining Facility, Lounge w/ Wireless internet
- Weight room w/ indoor basketball and volleyball courts

Our Facilities



- Variety of Classrooms w/ seating from 8 to 60
- Full Auditorium with seating for 250
- Science Laboratory Classrooms
- Computer Training Facilities
- Distance Learning Programs

Training and Conservation Workshops



- Over 15,000 Visitors annually
- National Park Service
- Bureau of Land Management
- Other Gov't Agencies
- States
- Non Profit Conservation groups

Youth Careers in Conservation

FY 2010 Programs – Summary (\$70M)

- \$20M Current Base for *Youth and Careers in Nature*
- \$50M Youth Conservation Corps Initiative
 - \$1M National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF)
 - \$1M National Conservation Training Center (NCTC)
 - \$20M New Funds for *Youth and Careers in Nature*
 - BLM, NPS, and USGS - \$12M
 - FWS - \$8M
 - \$28M *Educating Young Hunters and Anglers*
 - Wildlife Restoration Grants to the States - \$25.2M
 - Wildlife Restoration Grants to the Tribes - \$2.8M

National Conservation Training Center

- Interagency Coordination (+1,200)
- Capacity Building (+2,000)
- Career Awareness (+1,000)



Three Pronged Approach

- Build on CPWN initiative to engage youth in public service opportunities.
- Enhance science based programs offered through communities, schools and partners.
- Improve curricula of college education programs that are feeding our resource professional workforce.



Interagency Coordination

- Overall coordination and administration
- Comprehensive stakeholder needs assessment
- National strategic planning workshops
- Electronic collaboration tools
- Regular Council coordination meetings



Capacity Building

- YCCI and Mentoring programs
- Inventory of existing program, searchable database
- Conducting “train-the-trainer” course
- Develop training modules and courses
- Produce job aids
- Establish evaluation criteria and implement assessment tools



Career Awareness

- Summer career awareness institutes
- Coordination with college administrators
- Student work/internship conservation program
- Electronic field trip programs
- “Grab and Go” kits



Structured Decision-Making and Adaptive Management Curriculum

Four Courses

- Developed in collaboration with USGS
- Supports conservation decision making
- Applicable on multiple scales and multiple issues

CSP3171: Introduction to Structured Decision-Making

- Intro to structured decision-making in the context of natural resource management
- Foundational skills, theory and practices
- Outcome: Ability to develop structured approaches to make complicated decisions explicit, transparent and clear
- Target audience: Mid-level and above biologists and managers

CSP3176: Adaptive Management: Structured Decision Making for Recurrent Decisions

- Builds on principles taught in CSP3171
- Iterative learning process to improve understanding and natural resource management over time
- More technical with a focus on:
 - Model building
 - Formal methods of learning through monitoring
 - Principals of optimization
- Target Audience: Biologists, managers and scientists who understand SDM or have completed Intro to SDM (CSP3171)

ECS3149: Principles of Modeling for Conservation Planning and Analysis

- Introduction to the techniques and concepts of modeling in support of conservation planning and decision-making
- Target Audience: Biologists and Scientists

ECS3159: USFWS/USGS Structured Decision-Making Workshop

- Rapid prototyping workshop
- Four real works examples brought to the workshop
- Each are analyzed and recommendations are developed over the week
- Target Audience: Managers, Biologists and Scientists

Questions?



USFWS National Conservation Training Center
Shepherdstown, WV
<http://nctc.fws.gov/>