We have lots of news in this issue, so I will keep my comments brief.
We start the school year excited by the addition of three new faculty. Two of them—Drs. Scott Bowe and Mark Rickenbach—are profiled in this newsletter. We'll feature the third, Volker Radeloff, in the next issue. Scott and Mark, together with the addition of several forestry educators who will be located in the heavily forested regions throughout the state, give us a stronger extension network than we've ever had. With half of the state in forests and an estimated 260,000 nonindustrial forestland owners, there is plenty of extension work to be done!

The number of undergraduate students who want to study abroad continues to increase, and we will feature some of their stories in the newsletter. Foreign study and travel stretch one's mind in ways that cannot be done in a classroom. The College is working to expand the number of opportunities available to students. UW-Madison has historically supplied more Peace Corps volunteers than any other campus in the country, so it isn't surprising that our students are interested in foreign travel and study.

The newspapers have been full of stories this summer about the forest fires in the West, and many are calling it the worst fire year in recent history. In Wisconsin we know all too well what fire can do. October 8, 1871, was the date of the Peshtigo Fire, the most deadly in U.S. history. And just this past April, the 600-acre Four-Corners Fire in Monroe County trapped and "burned over" three firefighters and several pieces of heavy equipment. Fortunately, nobody was injured, but we need to remind ourselves constantly that fire, like the chainsaw, can be a helpful tool or a deadly threat depending on circumstances and skill level of the people involved.

"The Photo"

Invitations to identify who it was that dropped the tree across the electrical wires at Kemp Station one summer camp (FOREST ECOLOGY & MANAGEMENT NEWS, Vol. 3, No. 1) drew several guesses. Bill Keenan (BS-79) thought it was Jim Birkemeier (BS-76). Sorry, Jim, but why would Bill think it was you! Bill is with the Land and Computer Graphics Facility that is located in Steenbock Library on campus and his address can be found in the campus directory. Jim currently resides in Spring Green and is the first SmartWood® certified resource manager in Wisconsin.

Dave Schumann (MS-60) didn't have a guess, but he reported that the photo brought back memories of his summer camp at the University of Michigan's Camp Filbert Roth in the Upper Peninsula. There was a major difference between the two incidents though. Dave said that when the tree hit the wire at his summer camp, the saw was still in the sapwood and the sawyer received a substantial charge of electricity!! Fortunately, he wasn't hurt.

Jeff Treu (BS-78) also contacted the department about the photo. He didn't know who the culprit was, but he did successfully guess that Ray Guries was somehow involved! Actually, John's real interest was in getting a copy of the photo for use in his safety education program for Wisconsin Electric Power Company in Waukesha. Jeff is Supervisor of Forestry Operations with WEPC.

The winner is John Rybarczyk (BS-79), who said he remembers such an event back in the spring of either 1978 or 1979 at Kemp Station, and that Ray Guries and then graduate student Bruce Michie (BS-73, MS-77, PhD-81) had a long discussion about how the tree would drop. In the end, it dropped just the opposite way. (Bruce got his degree anyway!) Chair Jeff Stier ran into Bruce at the IUFRO meeting in Malaysia in August and ribbed him about the incident. Bruce says that he remembers it well and is still embarrassed about it!

John Rybarczyk is living in Crawford County, Wis., working with the zoning office. His prize, a hard-to-get UW Forestry Club sweatshirt, is “in the mail.”
Alumni Update

Allison (Beach) Hellman (BS-91) wrote recently that she looked at the department’s web page and was amazed how few faculty she knew even though she hasn’t been gone that long! Allison is Supervisor of the Black, Buffalo and Trempealeau Team with the Wisconsin DNR in Black River Falls. She reports that she returned from maternity leave this spring after she and her husband Jim were blessed with the birth of their first child, Grace Beach Hellman.

Rebecca Prestigiacomo (BS-97) also joined the ranks of the married last October. Her name is now Lamphear and she has just taken a job in Georgia. She is the urban forester for Rockdale county, a small county just east of Atlanta. She is the county’s first forester. Her work has her reviewing plans, making inspections and lots of public education. Becky reports that the area is beautiful with lots of forests (pine and hardwoods), quite a change from her previous location in Park Ridge, Illinois. This spring, before her move to Georgia, she took a class with Mike Collins (BS-98).

Frank Kirschling (BS-94) recently joined the ranks of the Wisconsin DNR. Frank was one of the dozen new foresters the DNR hired this summer.

Terry Droessler (BS-81, MS-83) reports that he is now President of Duck Creek Associates (DCA). DCA is a forestry consulting company located in Corvallis, Oregon. Terry provides forest biometrics assistance to forestry clients in the Pacific Northwest and beyond. Prior to taking the position with DCA, Terry was with Mason, Bruce & Girard, Inc., consulting foresters in Portland, Oregon, for six years. Terry can be reached at 541-753-4702.

We received a job announcement for the paper industry in July and noticed that the cover letter was signed by Jennifer Kielley (BS-99). It seems that Jennifer is living in Milwaukee and working as a Staffing Consultant with Apple One Employment Services.

Jeff Stier ran into one of our "lost" alumni in August while on the "deans' tour" in Idaho. Richard Taplin (B.S.-78) is Park Ranger for the Ponderosa State Park, one of the featured stops.

Student News

UW team takes part in Upper Midwest Capstone Report Award Competition

Judges recently selected the winners of the fourth annual Upper Midwest Capstone Report Award Competition. For the second year in a row, a Michigan Tech team took first place and the UW-Madison team placed second. Student teams from Iowa State University, Michigan Tech University and the UW-Madison submitted papers from their capstone courses to a panel of seven judges. The reports were evaluated on the basis of quality of writing, ease of comprehension by the educated layperson, technical rigor, and a sense of land stewardship. Student teams developed a land and resource management plan for a "client." Each team faced a different set of landowner objectives and worked on a different property.

The UW-Madison team of Cindy Karsten (BS-99), Kristen Romanowich (BS-00), Brian Tucker, Jedd Ungrodt and Eric Weiss (BS-99) developed a management plan for a 120 acre property in western Dane County that was recently donated to Dane County Parks and is being considered as a potential county forest. The students split the $250 prize.

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Congratulations to the following 2000-2001 Scholarship Recipients

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<tr>
<th>Name</th>
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<tr>
<td>Michael Amman (Sr.)</td>
<td>Forest Science</td>
<td>Helen Miller Forestry Scholarship</td>
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<td>Emily Duerr (Jr.)</td>
<td>Forest Science</td>
<td>Carroll D. Besadny Scholarship</td>
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<td>Daniel Behnke (Fr.)</td>
<td>Rec Res Mgmt</td>
<td>David N. Connor Scholarship</td>
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<td>James Griffin (Fr.)</td>
<td>Forest Science</td>
<td>Ferdinand Plaenert New Freshman Excellence Award</td>
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<td>Matthew Hansen (Jr.)</td>
<td>Forest Science</td>
<td>David N. Connor Scholarship</td>
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<td>Anne Hussa (Sr.)</td>
<td>Forest Science</td>
<td>Vicky Lee Hirsch Conservation Scholarship</td>
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<td>Amy Janke (So.)</td>
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<td>Stephanie Martorano (Sr.)</td>
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<td>Aaron Mielke (Jr.)</td>
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<td>Emma Radomski (Fr.)</td>
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<td>Vicky Lee Hirsch Conservation Scholarship</td>
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<td>Brian Schwingle (Jr.)</td>
<td>Forest Science</td>
<td>Cora I. Jayne Academic Merit Award and Earle D. Lyon Memorial Scholarship</td>
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<td>Jedd Ungrodt (Sr.)</td>
<td>Forest Science</td>
<td>Vicky Lee Hirsch Academic Merit Award</td>
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<td>Julia Watson (So.)</td>
<td>Rec Res Mgmt</td>
<td>Vicky Lee Hirsch Conservation Scholarship</td>
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The schools gratefully acknowledge the financial support for the program, which was provided by Georgia-Pacific Corporation, Menominee Tribal Enterprises and Steigerwaldt Land Services. The panel of seven judges is comprised of representatives of the sponsors, university faculty and state and federal foresters.

My South African Experience
by Matthew Hansen

My name is Matthew Hansen and I am a fourth year Forest Science major here at the UW-Madison. This past spring semester I had the opportunity to study abroad in South Africa through one of the CALS study abroad programs. I spent six months in South Africa which allowed me to study at the University of Pretoria and travel both before and after the university was in session. I lived in one of the university's international houses with students from the UW, Oklahoma and Amsterdam.

At the University of Pretoria I had a chance to study the culture, history and environmental conditions in the country. The South African professors gave me a unique perspective on the subjects I studied. My Pre-Colonial Africa and Segregation in South Africa courses gave me insights into the reasons for the current political and social situations occurring there. My Environmental Management and Agro-Forestry courses also gave me a chance to look at the unique environmental and social factors that control natural resource management in other countries. The problems and solutions of an arid developing country that were discussed in my classes impressed on me the wide scope and flexibility required for resource management to be successful.

Along with what I learned through the university and my professors, I also learned a lot through the traveling I did and the people I met, both from South Africa and other countries. One of the best parts of my study abroad experience was being able to interact and become friends with people from all over the world. The different backgrounds of the people I met gave each person a unique way of looking at life and the situations that were discussed in my classes. By traveling around South Africa I got a first hand view of the beauty and the problems of the country I was living in.

The experience of studying abroad was one of the best I have ever had. I hope to keep the friends I have met for life and I know I will always cherish my memories of South Africa.

Pictured are Wilson Ximpolla on the left and Forest Science major Matthew Hansen. Wilson, a public relations major, and Matthew became friends during Hansen’s semester at the University of Pretoria.

Aussie visitor here during fall semester

We welcome Professor Geoff McDonald who is a sabbatical visitor in Forest Ecology and Management for the fall semester. Back in his home country of Australia he is chair of the Department of Geographical Sciences and Planning at the University of Queensland in Brisbane.

Geoff’s research field is environmental planning, especially multiple use planning in forests and watersheds. He is teaching Forestry 530, a graduate seminar course titled “Natural Resource Management in Australia.”

Poplar Field Day October 10

Forest Ecology and Management and the College of Ag and Life Sciences is sponsoring Poplar Field Day October 10, 12:30 p.m. at Arlington Agricultural Research Station. The field day will include a tour and discussion of poplar experiments at Arlington Ag Research Station with visits to a 20-year-old planting and nursery. Other highlights are visits to new poplar clone test plots and examples of various poplar cultural practices, such as plastic mulch, soybean intercropping and no weed control. For further information, contact Jill Calabro (608) 265-9832, E-mail: jnc@plantpath.wisc.edu. Web site: http://www.plantpath.wisc.edu/poplar

Faculty Honors

Professor Raymond Young and Drs. Frank Denes and Sorin Monolache, were presented with the Annual Award of the Japan Photopolymer Society for their work on Plasma Modification of Materials in a special ceremony at Chiba University in Japan on June 29, 2000.

Professor Glen Stanosz, Departments of Plant Pathology and Forest Ecology and Management, received an Excellence in Teaching Award from the American Phytopathological Society at the 2000 annual meeting in New Orleans in August. Stanosz also received this year’s Jung Excellence in Teaching Award. He was presented the award at the Gamma Sigma Delta banquet on campus this past April.
On July 1 the Board of Regents appointed **Joseph Buongiorno** to the John N. McGovern Professorship. This professorship was awarded by the Research Committee of the Graduate School, with funding from the Wisconsin Alumni Research Foundation. The Professorship is named after John N. McGovern, who was a distinguished Professor in our department for many years and whom several alumni may remember fondly.

**John Kotar**, Senior Scientist in the Department of Forest Ecology and Management, received this year’s Wisconsin SAF John Macon Award. This is the highest award given by the Wisconsin Society of American Foresters and recognizes an outstanding member for his or her contributions to forestry in Wisconsin. The award is funded by an endowment from the estate of John W. Macon, a former Timberlands Manager for Consolidated Papers Company. John was presented the award at the SAF annual meeting in Eau Claire in March.

**Scott Bowe** joins Forest Ecology and Management faculty

It is an exciting challenge to serve as the Wood Products Extension Specialist in the Department of Forest Ecology and Management. In my short time here since August 1st, I have had the opportunity to meet with people from across the University. I have also cooperated with wood products personnel from the DNR, the Forest Products Lab, industry groups, and other universities. It is reassuring to find this type of cooperation directed at a common goal.

My interests center on wood products marketing; however, a general knowledge of wood products and the wood products industry is essential for this position. In the past, I have been involved with projects examining the needs assessment of the forest products industry. Such work is important as an extension specialist and will be relied upon in the future.

My most recent work involved a nationwide study of the hardwood sawmill industry. Timely market and planning information for this industry is difficult to pinpoint, given its fragmented nature. This project examined hardwood sawmill demographics and examined the use of advanced scanning and optimizing technology. Such technology will play an increasing role in future hardwood lumber production. Not only does this technology offer production and financial incentives, but it also utilizes the hardwood resource in the most efficient manner. Efficient utilization is critical given the growing demand for wood products and the future sustainability of our natural resources.

I am not new to Wisconsin or the Department of Forest Ecology and Management. I was raised in the city of Chippewa Falls, three hours north of Madison. I came to Madison in the late 1980s and enrolled in what was then the Department of Forestry. It is good to be reacquainted with old faces and meet the many new faces in the Department. After graduation, I worked for the Department as an extension outreach specialist. This was my first exposure to forestry and wood product outreach activities.

I went back to school for a masters degree at the University of Minnesota in the Department of Wood and Paper Science. Here, I made a shift from forest management to wood products. This was a logical step based on my experience with wood as a building material. Starting at an early age, I worked in the residential and commercial construction industries gaining over ten years of experience. This is where my interest in forests and wood products is based.

After completing my degree in Minnesota, I moved to Blacksburg, Virginia and enrolled in the Department of Wood Science and Forest Products at Virginia Tech. Probably known more for Hokie football, Virginia Tech has the top wood products program in the nation, and I was fortunate to study there. My studies and research allowed me to work closely with the hardwood sawmill industry and state and federal agencies from the eastern states. After completing a PhD in wood products in June of 2000, I moved back to Wisconsin.

Wood products aside, I was happy to return to Wisconsin to be closer to my family and to enjoy all of the outdoor activities Wisconsin has to offer. I look forward to real winters with the possibility for snow. I enjoy outdoor activities such as canoeing, fishing, and cross-country skiing. Virginia’s mild winters made training for the Birkebeiner difficult. Keep your fingers crossed for snow.

**Mark Rickenbach is Forest Ecology and Management’s new extension forester**

On April 24, 2000, a group of tireless friends spent a cool Corvallis morning loading a truck with all our possessions. It was a sad good-bye, but Madison awaited. I was leaving to start a new job the next week as an Assistant Professor of Extension Forestry at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. I kissed my wife, Zoë, good-bye and hit the road in our 1991 Ford Escort. My wife was taking a
more leisurely ride to Madison by way of Nevada. I, however, rushed across the West to meet a moving truck at our new home. The weekend before I was to start, a new, but smaller, group of old friends and new acquaintances unloaded the truck and my life in Madison began.

Madison is my first stay in the Midwest. I grew up just outside of Reading, Pennsylvania. I finished high school unsure of my direction, so I decided to "see the world" by enlisting in the US Air Force. In four short years, I traveled to Texas; Monterey, California; and was overseas for 2 1/2 years in the United Kingdom. I left the military to continue my education and try something new.

In fall 1990, I started as a student at the Pennsylvania State University. After quickly changing from mathematics to forest science, I got my first taste of extension work. As an undergraduate, I was hired by Jim Finley and Steve Jones to stuff binders for a series of workshops across the state. Luckily, they had the resources and opportunities for me to participate in the full slate of extension activities. I also met my wife to be. 1994 was an important year. In May, I graduated from Penn State. In June, Zoë and I were married. I also found something I enjoyed doing and wanted to make a career of it: extension forestry.

The following fall I began as a Master's student at the University of Massachusetts-Amherst. I also was the interim Extension Forester, while my advisor, Dave Kittredge, was on sabbatical. Along with taking courses and planning a thesis project, I managed the state's forestry extension program. It was a learning experience on all fronts. Dave and I studied landowner attitudes toward ecosystem management and thought about ways we might capture the concept for use in extension programming. In Spring 1996, I defended my thesis. In seeking a doctoral program, Dave advised me to go West.

That is how we ended up in Corvallis where I spent 3 1/2 years working on my doctorate under Scott Reed at Oregon State University. Along with greatly enjoying the Pacific Northwest, I studied the participation of woodland owners in local, collaborative forums charged with restoring imperiled salmon runs. Through interviews with owners and others, I was able to hear how owners see the salmon issue and understand its implications for policy. I also continued my involvement in extension programming and became interested in forest sustainability.

Since May, I've been getting to know the people and landscapes of Wisconsin and learning how my skills and interests will fit here. As with my experiences elsewhere, society is showing greater interest in the management of Wisconsin's private land. I see my extension and applied research occupying three broad areas within this trend. First, I want to foster thoughtful decision-making about natural resources both by individuals and groups. Second, I hope to aid landowners in considering the spatial and temporal aspect of managing land. Third, I want to understand how and why individuals and families manage private forestlands. Together, I see these three areas as providing a productive knowledge base that will help owners, the state, and others better understand and manage Wisconsin's forests.

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Private forest landowner study funded

Two Forest Ecology and Management faculty (Ray Guries and Mark Rickenbach), in collaboration with Dr. Daniel Schmoldt, USDA-Forest Service, have recently received funding to study opportunities and barriers to private forest landowner participation in “sustainable forestry cooperatives” in Wisconsin. Guries, Rickenbach and Schmoldt want to develop recommendations for the Wisconsin DNR regarding socially motivated forest stewardship activities. This project is part of a larger USDA-Forest Service effort coordinated by the Wood Education and Resource Center in Princeton, WV.

Most cooperatives involve geographically clustered ownerships that may provide opportunities for coordinating landscape scale “ecosystem management” activities. Cooperatives are of particular interest because of their potential to facilitate landscape scale management opportunities. However, little is known regarding incentives or actions that might facilitate multiple-owner stewardship activities in a coordinated fashion. Understanding private landowner motivations and willingness to undertake various forest management activities will help with the development of education and extension programs to facilitate landscape scale management practices for forests and wildlife.

This study is being conducted in partnership with Cooperative Development Services, a Wisconsin-based NGO providing organization skills and business assistance to small cooperatives in agriculture and natural resource management.
Remote sensing useful tool for natural resource management

Two projects at the Environmental Remote Sensing Center (ERSC – see http://www.ersc.wisc.edu/), both led by Prof. Tom Lillesand of the department, are examining new ways that resource managers in the public and private sectors can use remote sensing for forest management and natural resource analysis. The Affiliated Research Center (ARC) project, started in 1996 and recently renewed until 2005, focuses on short-fused prototype research projects to encourage the commercialization of remote sensing and other geospatial information technologies. The Regional Earth Science Applications Center (RESAC) project seeks to bring the next generation of satellite data and techniques to private and public sector end users.

With ARC commercial partner George Banzhaf and Company (Milwaukee, WI), ERSC researchers examined the use of space shuttle radar imagery for forest volume estimation. The results suggest that for some forest types (e.g., red pine and aspen), the radar data could be used to model volume-related structural characteristics. An ARC project with Allison Tree Care Company (Madison, WI) considered a different application at a different scale – how high resolution remote sensing, image processing, and GIS could help in the planning and evaluation of urban tree resources. The conclusion here was that future high resolution satellite sensors were still insufficient for individual tree discrimination, but there may be other related technologies (e.g., digital photogrammetry or collection of small-format imagery from aerial platforms) that may be more appropriate.

Within RESAC, Ph.D. candidate Jonathan Chipman is investigating radar interferometry to unravel the relationships among topography, forest ecosystem characteristics, and long-wavelength radar response from forests. With colleagues from the University of Minnesota and Michigan State University, future research will examine “K nearest neighbor” techniques for using satellite imagery to extrapolate plot-level forest inventory data to larger areas where no inventory data are available, and will also look at natural resource dynamics within land transformation models.

Working with commercial firms, interested public sector researchers, and colleagues around the Midwest has enabled ERSC to better examine a broad range of applications for research projects. As Lillesand puts it, “We are attempting to translate years of long-lead research into day-to-day practice. This isn’t always easy, but the human, hardware, and software infrastructure is finally in place to transform the potential of geospatial technologies into reality.”

Forest Certification Publication available


Mark Rickenbach, Assistant Professor of Forestry Extension, along with two colleagues at Oregon State University and the Sustainable Forestry Partnership, have recently completed an 8-page publication that outlines the basics of forest certification and compares several systems. If you’d like to improve your certification IQ, this is a place to start. The publication is available on-line at <http://eesc.orst.edu/agcomwebfile/edmat/EC1518.pdf> or contact the Department for ordering instructions.
Forest Ecology and Management “Rec” program featured in CALS Quarterly

The Summer 2000 issue of the CALS Quarterly includes a feature article on “Leadership in Outdoor Recreation,” a course taught by Chris Lupton, instructor in Forest Ecology and Management. The complete article can be found on the CALS web site at: <http://www.cals.wisc.edu/media/news/09_00/rec_res.html>. The course is designed for students majoring in Recreation Resources Management (RRM), a major administered by Forest Ecology and Management. However, students from outside of the major are lining up to take the course which focuses on training students to be leaders in the use and management of natural resources for recreation. Weekend field trips to nearby recreation areas give students a first-hand view of the challenges and practicalities of a career in RRM. Included in the course requirements is a turn at leading fellow classmates both in the classroom and on field trips. For more information about the class or the RRM major contact Chris Lupton, tel. - (608) 265-2229, E-mail - CLupton@facstaff.wisc.edu. Or you can log on to the RRM web site at <http://forest.wisc.edu/rrm/>.

Forest habitat type classification publications now available

Analysis of the 1996 Wisconsin Forest Statistics by Habitat Type (USFS North Central Research Station General Technical Report NC-207) is now available. The authors are John Kotar (Forest Ecology and Management), Joseph Kovach (Wis. DNR) and Gary Brand (USFS). The publication is an application of the forest habitat type classification system, useful in managing forests in Wisconsin and adjacent states. The work examines the Forest Inventory and Analysis (FIA) data and shows the relative abundance and volumes of forest types and major tree species across 80 habitat types organized into six northern and six southern habitat type groups. To order a copy, contact: Publications, USFS Forest Products Laboratory, One Gifford Pinchot Dr., Madison WI 53706. Tel. (608) 231-9200.

A major revision and expansion of the Field Guide to Forest Habitat Types of Northern Wisconsin is in progress. With over 1,000 copies sold, the first edition (1988) is now out of print. The updated edition should be available by Spring 2001. A publication covering the central and southern portions of the state is currently available. Copies of this publication titled, Field Guide to Forest Communities and Habitat Types of Central and Southern Wisconsin, can be ordered through the Department of Forest Ecology and Management (Tel. 608-262-9975).

Also available is a Field Guide for North Central Minnesota by John Kotar and Timothy Burger. To order a copy call 608-273-0649 or e-mail John Kotar at jkotar@facstaff.wisc.edu. Work is in progress on a publication for Michigan. A Field Guide for Northern Lower Peninsula will be available in the Summer of 2001 and for the Upper Peninsula in 2002.

Two articles focus on census data and satellite imagery as ecosystem management tools

“Exploring the Spatial Relationship Between Census and Land-Cover Data,” by Volker Radeloff, Alice Hagen, Paul Voss, Donald Field and David Mladenoff, was published in the September issue of Society and Natural Resources (Vol. 13, No. 6, pages 599-609). Radeloff, Field and Mladenoff are all faculty in the Department of Forest Ecology and Management. Hagen and Voss are in the Department of Rural Sociology at UW-Madison. The article describes a study in which U.S. Census data on housing density is integrated with satellite land-cover classification data in the Pine Barrens region of northwest Wisconsin. Combining these two data sets could have many applications for facilitating broad-scale ecosystem management.

A second article, again combining census data and satellite imagery, is forthcoming in Forest Science. The article is titled “Human Demographic Trends and Landscape Level Forest Management in the Northwest Wisconsin Pine Barrens.” Article authors are Volker Radeloff, Roger Hammer (Rural Sociology), Paul Voss, Alice Hagen, Donald Field and David Mladenoff. The article is expected to be published later this year.

Nick Wilkes, takes a turn at rock climbing during a class field trip to Devils Lake State Park. Photo by Wolfgang Hoffmann.