Abstract (Poster Only):

CAMBIO: ADAPTING TO A CHANGING STUDENT DEMOGRAPHIC WITH EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING AND RESEARCH OPPORTUNITIES RELATED TO FORESTS, RANGELANDS, AND WATERSHEDS.

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Hispanics are rapidly increasing demographic of the United States population but are an underrepresented group in the natural resource fields as students and professionals. This poster describes a project with the main goal of providing educational opportunities to increase the skillsets of Hispanic students in critical natural resource management professions as identified by the USDA. An additional goal of this project is to provide education and training experiences focused on climate change issues related to the natural resource fields. As a result the combination of education and professional experience will promote placement of students into positions to improve the representation of Hispanics in the natural resources field and to provide them with the necessary skills to address climate change related issues. Humboldt State University, Reedley College and Bakersfield College, will offer scholarships to pursue degrees in forestry, range or soils at Humboldt with an emphasis on climate change impacts. Undergraduate students will be selected from students graduating from the two-year colleges who have proven academic performance and interest in natural resources. Ten graduate students will receive two-year scholarships for $10,000 a year. Ten undergraduate students will receive three-year scholarships for $5,000 a year. Undergraduates will receive two $2500 stipends for internships with USDA agencies and funds to attend conferences. Peer-mentoring and close faculty advising will boost student success.

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