Hi Folks:

Thanks for participating in the *Winter Ecology* field class at the Mountain Research Station. You can help improve the course through your feedback. To be anonymous, please give your completed questionnaire directly to Steve Seibold at the Station or send by mail to:  Dr. William Bowman, Director, MRS  
Dept of Ecology & Evolutionary Biology – CB 0334  
University of Colorado  
Boulder, CO  80309-0334

Note: I won’t see questionnaires until final grades have been posted. Any identifying information will be stripped before forms are passed along to me.

Many thanks,  
Tim

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**Part I  Course Content**

**A. Level of material and pace:** Mark to what extent you agree with the following statements:

1. Compared to other classes I’ve taken, the coursework has been more advanced:  
   a. strongly agree  
   b. agree  
   c. neutral  
   d. disagree  
   e. strongly disagree

2. I worked harder in this course than in most courses I have taken:  
   a. strongly agree  
   b. agree  
   c. neutral  
   d. disagree  
   e. strongly disagree

3. The pace of this course was O.K.  
   a. strongly agree  
   b. agree  
   c. neutral  
   d. disagree  
   e. strongly disagree

**B. The good and the bad**

4. What was the best part of the class?

5. What part of this course could use the most improvement?  

What changes do you recommend to make address this?

6. Are there topics on which you wish we had spent MORE time during this course?

7. On which, LESS time?

8. Would you have liked the course to have covered other topics?  
   Namely:

9. On a scale of 1-10 (10 is excellent), how would you rate your overall experience during the course?  ______
Part II  Components of the course

A. Daily lectures and exercises

1. Were lectures introducing the topic of the day clear and helpful in understanding course material?

2. Did they cover the topic at the right level and for the right amount of time? That is, did the lectures sufficiently introduce the topic for that day’s activity – or would you have liked to have seen longer lectures covering material more in depth?

3. Was there was a good balance between class and field time?

   What changes can you recommend to achieve a right-on balance between class and field, lecture and exercises?

4. Were the field exercises well organized?

   Did you know why you were doing what you were doing?

5. Can you recommend ways to structure the exercises to be more effective?

6. Did you feel that guest field instructors did a good job in helping you understand the day’s topic? Feel free to comment in general or on any of them in particular.

B. Evening lectures

7. Were the evening guest lectures a valuable component of the course, helping you understand topics in Winter Ecology in more depth? Or were they redundant?

   Can you recommend ways to improve on this component of the class?

8. Did the guest speakers do a good job in helping you understand their topic? Feel free to comment in general or on any of them in particular.

C. Field practical

9. Did you feel that the field & lab practical exam adequately evaluated your understanding of Winter Ecology?

10. Was the optional study session valuable?

11. Can you recommend ways to improve how the practical was implemented?
D. Individual Project

12. The purpose of the projects was to allow you to explore a winter ecology topic more in-depth. Do you feel that your project enabled you to get more out of the class?

13. Can you suggest ways to better structure this component of the course? That is, what changes would have improved what you got out of your project.

Part III. Course Materials

How useful were the following course texts and other materials? If you used them, please rate them on a scale of 1-10 (1=not worth it, 10=excellent, X = didn’t look at or use) and add any comments you have.


3. Course website – Resources made available (handouts, other pdf’s) on, or linked to from, the Winter Ecology course website? ___

Part IV. Logistics

A. Scheduling

1. Was the course the right length (5 weekends)?

   If shorter better, what topics or activities would you like to see dropped? If longer preferable, what would be the best use of this added time?

2. Did the format of Saturday day & eve + Sunday day work?

3. And the daily schedule?

   What changes would you like to see?

4. We had originally considered offering the class as a 9-day interterm course (over Winter or Spring break) – Which format – an interterm week or as is, midterm weekends – would you have preferred?

5. How did having group dinners on Sat’s, with different folks preparing them each week, work?
B. MRS facilities

6. How do you rate the new Lodge with respect to how it worked for the class?

7. For those who stayed overnight at the Lodge – Is there anything that would have made your stay more comfortable?

8. For preparing group dinners, did you feel that anything was lacking in the kitchen?

9. Do you have any suggestions for improving how the class made use of the Lodge and other MRS facilities?

C. Enrollment

10. How did you find out about Winter Ecology?

   What led you to enroll in the course?

11. Do you have any recommendations for getting the word out about the class for next year’s course?

D. Equipment list and orientation info?

12. On the ‘What to Bring’ list on the course website <http://culter.colorado.edu/~kittel/WinterEcology_Equip.html>, are there any items that should be added to the list?

13. Left off?

14. What additional course orientation information should be included on the website for prospective students (i.e. what did you wish you had known before coming)?

Part V. In Sum

1. What would you tell next year’s students about the course, in terms of what to expect and your overall experience?

2. Additional Comments (please use additional pages as needed):