

HOW TO BEGIN RESEARCH

- **Compile a list of subject key words.** You will use them when researching.
 - Think of *synonyms* (words that mean the same thing)
 - Check the spelling! Searching in the library catalog or databases won't correct your spelling. ☺
- **Start small.** Find between 5-10 resources that match your subject. Analyze these sources for your paper before gathering more.
- **Create a rough outline.** Based on the information you have already collected, write down a summary of what you want to cover in your paper.

WHERE TO LOOK FOR INFORMATION

When should I use books?

- For in-depth overviews or historical background on a subject.
- Look for books using the **Catalog** on the Library website.

When should I use a database?

- For scholarly research articles that give specific case data or recent developments in an area
- Access databases from the **Online Research** tab on the Library website.

When should I use the Web?

- For demographic statistics or VERY current information that has not yet been published academically

NATURAL RESOURCES WRITING HELP

Handbook of Scientific Proposal Writing
Q 180.55 .P7 O78 2012

Making Sense: A Student Guide To Research and Writing in Geography and Environmental Sciences
G 70 .N67 2005

Preparing Literature Reviews: Qualitative and Quantitative Approaches
Q 180.55 .E9 P36 2008

Scientific Style and Format: The CSE Manual
In-Library Use Copy: Reserve Shelf

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Want to set up a research appointment with a librarian?

Call the Library! (406) 275-4874

D'Arcy McNickle Library
<http://skclibrary.skc.edu/>

Salish Kootenai College
58138 US Hwy 93
P.O. Box 70
Pablo, MT 59855-0070

Phone 406-275-4875
Fax: 406-275-4812

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Research at the
D'Arcy McNickle Library

NATURAL
RESOURCES

Books

The following are Library of Congress Call Numbers for possible Natural Resources research topics.

GB : Physical Geography

GB 400-64 Landforms, Terrain

GB 651-2998 Hydrology, Water

GE : Environmental Sciences

QE : Geology

QH : Natural history – Biology

QK : Botany

SD : Forestry

SD 388 Forestry machinery and engineering

SD 390-390.43 Forest soils

SD 390.5-390.7 Forest meteorology

SD 391-410.9 Sylviculture

SD 411-428 Conservation and protection:
Including forest influences, damage by elements, fires, forest reserves

SD 430-559 Exploitation and utilization:
Including timber trees, fuelwood, logging, transportation, valuation

TD : Environmental Technology

TD 169-171.8 Environmental protection

TD 172-193.5 Environmental pollution

TD 419-428 Water pollution

TD 429.5-480.7 Water purification,
Water treatment and conditioning

TD 481-493 Water distribution systems

Want to Browse Print Journals?

• *Forest Science* SD 1 .F655

• *Mountain Geologist* QE 79 .M6

Periodical Guide of additional titles available at the Library

Databases

EbscoHost – Environment Complete

- Recommended place to begin database research.
- Covers agriculture, ecosystem ecology, energy, renewable energy sources, natural resources, marine & freshwater science, geography, pollution & waste management, environmental technology, environmental law, public policy, social impacts, urban planning, and more
- Some top full-text journals are:
 - Environmental Research Journal*: 2009-present
 - Forest Science*: 2009-present
 - Forestry: International Journal of Forest Research*: 1996-present
 - Ground Water*: 2005-present
 - International Journal of Environmental Studies*: 1990-present
 - Journal of Environmental Hydrology*: 2007-present
 - Journal of Water Resource and Protection*: 2009-present
 - Water and Environment Journal*: 2006-present

EbscoHost – Academic Search Complete

- A comprehensive full-text database.
- Some top full-text journals are:
 - Nature*: 1997-present
 - Canadian Journal of Forest Research*: 2001-present
 - Forest Pathology*: 1971-present

Students: Want home access to Library databases? Call the Library for the username and password.

Websites

Montana Data

- Montana Natural Heritage Program: Published reports on Montana environmental research studies
<http://mtnhp.org/reports.asp>
- Montana Department of Natural Resources and Conservation
<http://www.dnrc.mt.gov/>

National Data

- TreeSearch: Searchable database of US Forest Service Research Publications
<http://www.treesearch.fs.fed.us/>
- EPA Science Inventory: Searchable database of Environmental Protection Agency sponsored research
<http://cfpub.epa.gov/si/>
- Science.gov: Searches over 55 databases and over 2100 selected websites from 15 federal agencies, including research and development results
<http://www.science.gov/>
- U.S. Geographical Survey Publications: USGS Quadrant Maps and other publications for download
<http://www.usgs.gov/pubprod/>

Tribal Data

- Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes – Natural Resources Department
<http://www.cskt.org/tr/nrd.htm>
- Intertribal Timber Council
<http://www.itcnet.org/>
- National Tribal Water Council
<http://nationaltribalwatercouncil.org/>