



February 15, 2010

Charles H. Butterfield PhD
Chair, Department of Applied Sciences
Professor of Ag and Rangeland Management
223 Burkhiser
Chadron State College
Chadron, NE 69337

Dear Dr. Butterfield:

I fully support the enhancement of Chadron State Colleges Range Program with the expansion of their laboratory equipment and capabilities. I graduated from Chadron State College with a degree in Environmental Biology in 2002. Although I did not graduate with a degree in Rangeland Science from Chadron State the experience that I had while taking several classes in the department led me to pursue a masters degree in range science. Currently I am working at RESPEC Consulting as a Rangeland Scientist in Rapid City, South Dakota. I work extensively with the Belle Fourche River Watershed Partnership which is a group in western South Dakota that promotes water conservation and sustainable agriculture serving as their watershed coordinator.

The Ag and Range Department at Chadron State College is led by progressive open minded professors who put the students first and foremost. This type of attitude influenced me greatly while taking range courses at Chadron State. The faculty and staff do an excellent job in applying the sciences in a practical sense interacting students with both public and private land and resource managers outside of the class room. Much effort is made to expose students to conservation issues they will be encountering in their careers and the department stresses professional development and problem solving skills. This topped with a rigorous and thorough curriculum set the stage for success in today's job market. I truly feel that I began developing the skill of tying the sciences with practical knowledge to solve problems at Chadron State and it has led me to a successful career in resource management.

Additional resources to enhance the already excellent Range Department at Chadron State College would be a wise investment in producing future top notch natural resource managers.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Matt Stoltenberg". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "M".

Matt Stoltenberg
Rangeland Scientist
RESPEC Consulting