Midyear Report: CEJS Research Fellowship

## Whiteness: Implications of Anti-Racism for Social and Ecological Healing

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## PROGRESS MADE:

This fall I began work with my research advisor Dr. Rachel Luft and joined the Sociology Departmental Honors Cohort facilitated by Dr. Julie Harms Canon. This gave me the support I needed to solidify my research questions and methodology. In investigating my question "what are the connections between the ideology of white supremacy and land attitudes?" I have completed my reading objectives from the start of the project as well as the necessary background reading and literature review that emerged throughout. In the fall I completed Wendell Berry's book *The Hidden Wound* and bell hook's book *Belonging: A Culture of Place*, which I identified as the key voices of my project. I now have a grasp of their theories around the connections between racial violence and environmental violence, and I'm working through integrating their work with theories of racial formation, racial projects, and the diversity of environmental attitudes. My second objective upon beginning this project was to give the theory grounding in practice or current events. I have also done this in my selection of two case studies: "Ammon Bundy and the Land-Use of Malheur National Wildlife Refuge," and "Wendell Berry and the Agrarian Model." With these case studies I am currently completing content analysis in order to compare environmental attitudes, representations of race and whiteness, and social movement figures.

## **FUTURE PLANS:**

Moving forward I will complete the first case study of the "Bundy Militia" for my Senior Capstone project, which will be presented in March. This will mean detailed content analysis of interviews and press conferences statements made by Ammon Bundy and supporting characters. I will then delve into the case study of "Wendell Berry and the Agrarian Model" more fully. My plan is to finish my first draft by April, and continue the editing process through spring quarter. I will also apply to present this paper at the Seattle University Undergraduate Research Associations' annual research conference.