Cooperative Ventures

An update of activities from the Pacific Northwest Cooperative Ecosystem Studies Unit Winter 2004

Co -Leader's Corner

The PNW CESU Co-leaders are anticipating the five-year CESU renewal process that will occur in FY 05. The first CESUs to be renewed are now undergoing their evaluations and we have been asked to participate in reviewing the Rocky Mountain CESU. This experience should be good preparation for our own review next year. The five-year renewal processes will be a focus of discussion with our Management and Executive Committees at this year's PNW CESU annual meeting in the fall of 2004.

Speaking of the PNW CESU annual meeting, in addition to the renewal process, our intention is to devote part of the agenda to substantive presentations from CESU projects on the theme of H*uman Dimensions in Public Land Management*. We anticipate this to be a topic of great interest to all our partners. If the idea of devoting part of the meeting to presentation of papers and discussions around a theme of mutual interest succeeds, we will repeat it with alternate topics in future years. Watch for more communication on annual meeting plans coming in the next few months.

Project numbers and dollars obligated under the PNW CESU Cooperative and Joint Venture Agreement have seen steady growth since its signing in October of 2000. We are pleased to say that project activity this year suggests that this the trend will continue. The final project numbers for FY 03 put our activity to-date at just over $6 million with a total of 108 projects. Last year's project funds alone totaled over $2.75 million; a 30% increase over previous year's activity.

Two important events related to the CESU goals of facilitating interdisciplinary and interagency cooperation occurred this past quarter. One was a successful collaborative meeting between Forest Service Supervisors and National Park Service Superintendents on Social Science research. Participants expressed great interest in

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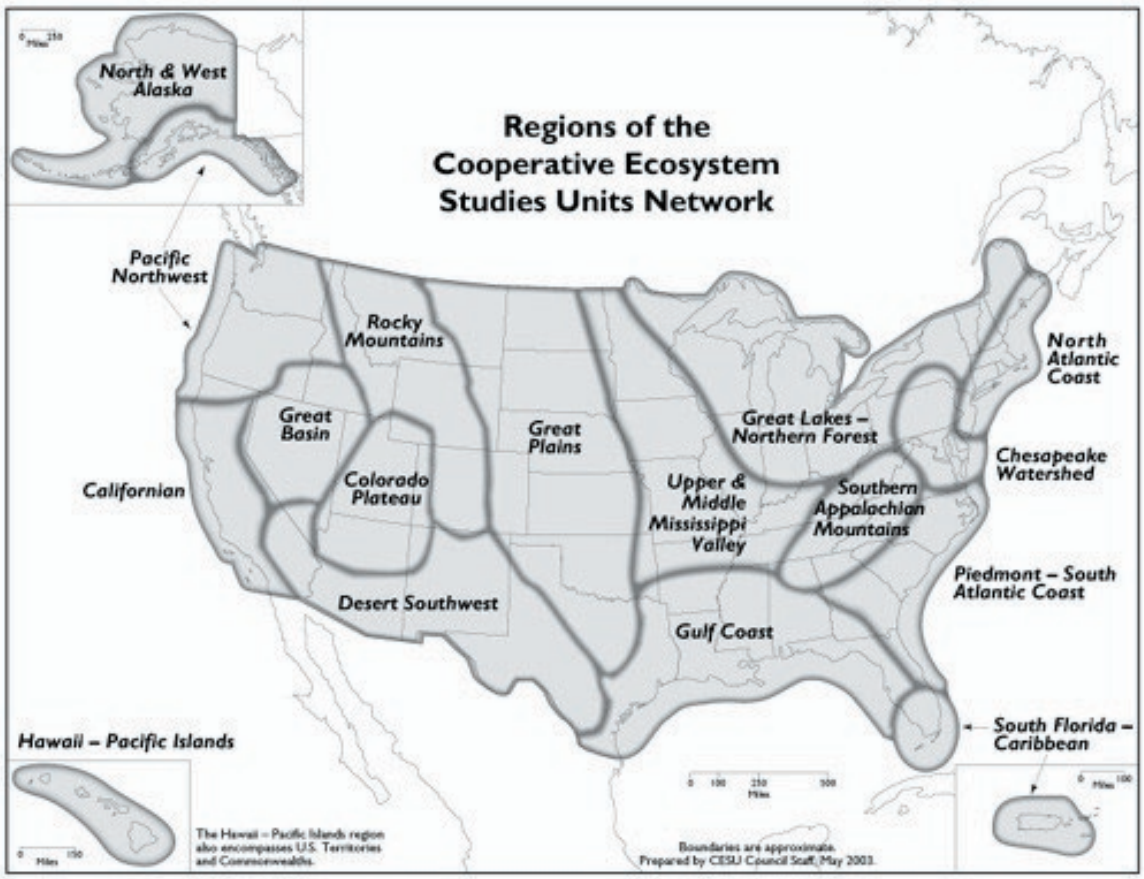
Mission Statement

The Pacific Northwest Cooperative Ecosystem Studies Unit (PNW CESU) is a partnership for research, technical assistance and education to enhance understanding and management of natural and cultural resources.

Cooperative Ecosystem Studies Units

The PNW CESU and the CESU National Network



The **Pacific Northwest Cooperative Ecosystem Studies Unit** encompasses a region extending across 5 states (Washington, Oregon, Northern California, Western Idaho and South East Alaska) and is hosted by the University of Washington. As a member of the National CESU Network, the PNW CESU is a working partnership among leading academic institutions, federal, state and non-governmental organizations.

The CESU National Network is organized around biogeographic regions across the United States. Each Region is served by a distinct CESU, with all CESUs linked together in the National Network. The goal of the Cooperative Ecosystem Studies Unit Network is to improve the scientific base for managing federal lands by providing resource managers with high quality scientific research, technical assistance and education through their working partnerships.

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PNW CESU Member Profile

University of British Columbia's Faculty of Forestry

Since its beginnings in 1951, the Faculty of Forestry at the University of British Columbia has been a leader in forestry education and research throughout the world. The Faculty has always been recognized as a leading unit within a university considered to be one of the best in Canada. One of our key strengths is sheer size and linkages with other units on campus; the faculty offers both breadth and depth in forest science, forestry, wood science, and natural resource management.

Our 55 full-time faculty members provide academic support for our 442 undergraduates in five undergraduate programs (Natural Resources Conservation, Forest Sciences, Forest Resources Management, Forest Operations or Wood Products Processing). The research enterprise supports 180 graduate students in Masters and Ph.D. programs as well as 21 postdoctoral fellows. Research grants of more than $11 million are held by faculty.

In July 1999, the UBC Faculty of Forestry moved into its new $47.5 million accommodation in the Forest Sciences Centre on the Point Grey Campus. For the first time in 25 years, all members of the faculty and their research laboratories are under one roof. The building has four components: a four storey concrete/steel laboratory block, a wood framed office wing, a four story atrium (see photo) where students can gather and study, as well as a Centre for Advanced Wood Products Processing with high head research space and a $3.5 million state of the art machining workshop. The whole of the first floor is dedicated to teaching including computer labs that are open for students 24/7.

Now that our faculty are all based in the Forest Sciences Centre we have been able to create some very interesting interdisciplinary groups. The Genetic Data Centre and the BC Genome Treenomix Centre provide a full array of opportunities to address molecular challenges. Riparian studies on the Malcolm Knapp Research Forest involve researchers from across campus and a US Federal agency. New appointments have revitalized our soils group in conjunction with Agricultural Sciences. Our Centre for Applied Conservation Research addresses a wide range of conservation issues, the details of which can be found at http://cacr.forestry.ubc.ca/research.asp . Land use issues are brought into focus in the Collaborative for Advanced Landscape Planning (CALP) laboratory where high-powered computers can move the observer across a landscape or project scenarios of management options and environmental concerns ahead for one or more centuries (See photo of simulated 1 ha clear cuts across a hillside). This latter approach is very useful for discussions of proposed management plans and their potential impacts with stakeholders. See further simulations at http://www.calp.forestry.ubc.ca .

Atrium inside the Forest Sciences Center

British Columbia is a highly diverse province. It has been

mapped into more that 13 biogeoclimatic zones that range from the boreal forests of the north through the sub-boreal spruce, interior cedar-hemlock and interior Douglas-fir zones to the highly productive coastal western hemlock forests on the western side of the coast ranges. All of the ecozones within the mandate of the PNW CESU are located in British Columbia and studied by members of our Faculty. We have two research forests, the Malcolm Knapp Research Forest in Maple Ridge (coastal Douglas-fir/hemlock forest) and the Alex Fraser Research Forest in Williams Lake (a drier, more montane forest area in the interior). In addition, we co-manage the Aleza Lake Research Forest (a boreal and sub-boral forest), 35 miles east of Prince George with the University of Northern British Columbia.

The Collaborative Advanced Landscape Planning (CALP) Laboratory uses high-powered computers to move the observer across a landscape and project scenarios of management options and environmental concerns ahead for one or more centuries. This photo simulates one hector clear cuts across a hillside.

We look forward to further involvement with PNW CESU researchers across the 49th as well as coastal Alaska. For further details on UBC Forestry activities please visit our web site at http://www.forestry.ubc.ca/ . If you would like a hard copy of our Annual Report please E-mail John McLean (john.mclean@ubc.ca) or Bruce Larson (blarson@interchange.ubc.ca). Any general enquiries or guidance towards contacts with researchers at UBC Forestry could be directed to Bruce or John as well.

PNW CESU Partners

Federal

US Bureau of Reclamation
US Forest Service (PNW Research Station)
National Park Service
Environmental Protection Agency
Bureau of Land Management
US Geological Survey
US Fish and Wildlife Service

University

University of Washington (host)
Oregon State University
Southern Oregon University
AK Native Science Commission
University of Vermont
Tuskegee University
Heritage College
University of British Columbia
University of Alaska - SE
University of Alaska - Anchorage
Washington State University
Western Washington University
University of Oregon
Alaska Department of Fish and Game
University of Idaho

Contact information for all our representatives can be found on our web site:
www.cfr.washington.edu/research.cesu

PNW CESU Featured Project

Las Flores Adobe Ranch House Restoration

By Jake Barrow (NPS), Douglas Porter (UVM), Thomas Visser (UVM)

Under the terms of a Cooperative Ecosystem Studies Unit (CESU) task agreement, graduate students, faculty and staff of the University of Vermont (UVM) Historic Preservation Program are currently participating in the stabilization and restoration of Las Flores National Historic Landmark, a project conducted by the National Park Service (NPS), Historic Architecture Program, Intermountain Support Office-Santa Fe (IMSF-HAC). Las Flores is located on Camp Pendleton, near Oceanside, California. The United States Marine Corps (USMC), which has jurisdiction over this property, retained the National Park Service to assist with the multi-year restoration effort.

In 2001, the NPS Intermountain Support Office-Santa Fe initiated a cooperative agreement with the Historic Preservation Program at the University of Vermont, accessing that institution through the Pacific Northwest Cooperative Studies Unit. Simply stated, this venture is a capacity building effort. Limited resources as well as reduced internal staffing have stimulated NPS professionals to seek innovative methods to accomplish cultural resource stewardship while maintaining consistently high standards. Relationships such as the one with the Graduate Program in Historic Preservation at the University of Vermont prove the efficacy of this kind of partnering.

Recently, this collaborative effort between the National Park Service and the University of Vermont involved the restoration of historic doors and windows at the Las Flores National Historic Landmark. Because the work required primary documentary research, analysis of surviving fabric, and expertise in restoring period millwork, it was decided to involve students and staff from the UVM Historic Preservation Program in all aspects of project development, including actual hands on restoration processes. Research at UVM focused on a determination of the construction sequence and the development of treatment recommendations for Las Flores millwork. Results of the research project were presented in the form of a workbook containing general information on site and project history, a delineation of millwork types found on the property (including architectural drawings depicting construction details), a millwork construction chronology, as well as in-depth survey data, photo-documentation, and construction history for each window and door unit at the site.

Results of the research project were presented in the form of a workbook containing general information on site and project history, a delineation of millwork types found on the property (including architectural drawings depicting construction details), a millwork construction chronology, as well as in-depth survey data, photo-documentation, and construction history for each window and door unit at the site.

Repairs to Las Flores woodwork were made during a series of hands on workshops. Door and window repairs were substantially completed in the NPS woodshop in Santa Fe, NM in May-June 2003. Repaired units were shipped to the site for glazing, painting, and installation in a series of workshops conducted in July-September 2003. Workshops were organized in one-week modules and were open to NPS personnel, students in the UVM Historic Preservation Program, and other preservationists on a limited basis. Workshops paired incoming volunteers with core crew members and introduced participants to the philosophic and technical issues involved in the restoration of historic doors and windows spanning a period from the 1860s to the 1930s.

The repair and installation workshops took place over a period

Workshops were focused on hands on training and exposed students and volunteers to methods of project documentation and the use of traditional tools and techniques in the development of treatment strategies.

of approximately twelve weeks. During that time, four UVM student interns received invaluable hands-on training and satisfied program requirements for a graduate-level course. Twelve volunteers participated in the one-week training modules, and have returned to their jobs better qualified as a result. NPS and UVM staff improved their conservation skills as a result of cross-mentoring opportunities created by the workshops.

In addition, construction goals were substantially met. Windows and doors were repaired according to very conservative guidelines, protecting building integrity. As a result of repairs, historic fabric has been preserved for decades to come, the building envelope has been restored, building security and ventilation are improved, and project documentation has been completed. An interpretive exhibit describing the stabilization and restoration project was constructed and installed in one of the rooms of the ranch house, for use by USMC docents. Understanding of the architectural history of Las Flores has been advanced as a result of this project, which will positively impact future restoration efforts, and the buildings at Las Flores have been moved one step closer to re-use.

Cooperative projects such as these that include research, training, and field pilot treatment components are selected for developing agreements. Essential to the process is a close and well-developed understanding between the principle parties responsible for the project agreement. It is also essential that the institutions get rewards for their involvement. These are not one-way contracts established only to accomplish projects in parks. Instead, projects are organized to provide field school opportunities and to satisfy graduate-level program requirements for participating students. Often these students may be hired as temporary staff, which further enhances their training while also offering an important outreach opportunity for the National Park Service.

Not only do graduate students get valuable hands on experience in the conservation of our American patrimony, but they also become emissaries for this mission and may be recruited for employment. The National Park Service is able to advance research agendas necessary for responsible heritage management. This provides additional training opportunities for both students and NPS personnel. These agreements also provide specialized model treatments in the field that later may be contracted out or accomplished by "in house" staff. As such, this can be a situation where all parties win. The cooperative agreement model is one in which both parties play substantive roles all the way through the process. The Las Flores case study is a prime example of this capacity building through cooperation.

For more information about this project contact:
Jake Barrow: jake_barrow@nps.gov
Douglas Porter: doug.porter@uvm.edu
Tom Visser: thomas.visser@uvm.edu

Visit the UVM Historic Preservation web site: http://www.uvm.edu/~histpres/

CESU Program News and Announcements

New CESU Indirect Cost Rate Increase Effective May 1, 2004

From the official CESU National Council communication regarding the upcoming indirect cost rate change:

Indirect Cost Rate Increase : *As the CESU Network approaches its five-year anniversary in 2004, the CESU Council has approved an increase in the indirect cost rate from 15% to 17.5% beginning 1 May 2004. Please note that projects and activities conducted under CESU agreements with modifications (also identified as task orders, task agreements, or other equivalent federal agency funding vehicles) to the agreement that are executed prior to 1 May 2004 must apply the existing indirect cost rate of 15%. The date of the last signature on an executed modification determines the indirect cost rate for the funds allocated under the specific modification.*

New PNW CESU Forest Service Representative

The Forest Service has appointed David Peterson, Research Biologist at the Pacific Northwest Research Station, as their new Technical Representative to the PNW CESU. Dave can be reached at:

USDA Forest Service - Pacific Northwest Research Station
400 N. 34th St, Ste. 201 Seattle, WA 98103
(206) 732-7812 peterson@fs.fed.us

Annual Meeting Preview: *Human Dimensions in Public Land Management*

The PNW CESU will organize it's 2004 annual meeting around the theme of *Human Dimensions in Public Land Management.* University and Federal Agency representatives will be asked to participate in the meeting's planning in the coming months. The meeting will be held in the fall of 2004; place to be determined.

Please watch for communication about the annual meeting and respond appropriately. In the mean time, if you have a topic of interest for the annual meeting agenda please contact Co-leaders Gordon Bradley (gbradley@u.washington.edu) or Darryll Johnson (darryllj@u.washington.edu).

From The CESU National Council: All of USGS can use CESU agreements

We have learned from USGS that CESU projects are not limited to the BRD (or working through the BRD). According to USGS: "Language in the FY 03 Appropriations Act, USGS (P.L.108-7) under Administrative Provisions gives **all of USGS the ability to use the CESUs -** not just biology - as the CESUs are cooperative agreements. The language doesn't specifically address CESUs but does address cooperative agreements."

Direct questions to Colleen Charles, USGS/BRD (colleen_charles@usgs.gov).

Anthropogenic Prairies Conference: an interdisciplinary and interagency success

Whether you call them prairies, meadows, or grasslands, these landscapes have been an integral part of the Pacific Northwest environment throughout history. Today, we are witnessing their transformation into forests, lakes, pasture land, and cities. Given the geologic, biotic, climatic, and human dimensions of prairie systems, an interdisciplinary approach is imperative to understand and manage them.

On November 14, 2003, the NPS PNW CESU program and the NPS Pacific-West Cultural Resources Division sponsored a conference to promote discussions centering on climate reconstruction, ecology, genetics, anthropology, and prairie restoration. The number of participants greatly exceeded expectations, with 120 people from six universities, thirteen state and federal agencies, three non-government organizations, and six Pacific Northwest tribes. The large number of conference participants by itself indicates a strong network of people and institutions with knowledge and interest in prairies. Presentations were given from a diverse set of backgrounds to spark new approaches for understanding prairie dynamics. In addition, participants formulated goals for future prairies research. There was a consensus that we need to communicate the urgency of studying, conserving, and restoring prairies to educators, policy makers, and funding agencies. One of the immediate needs identified by participants is the compilation of data from multiple disciplines into a GIS database. The effectiveness of the conference as a catalyst for interdisciplinary cooperation was immediately seen in the following weeks, as participants began to share digitized data through the internet.

Overall, the conference demonstrated that collaboration between disciplines and agencies is not only necessary, but also possible. We anticipate that new partnerships will develop between tribal, academic, government agencies, non-government organizations and private landholders to continue working on this important topic. For information about the Prairies Conference contact:

Prof. Linda Brubaker lbru@u.washington.edu (206) 543-5778
Prof. Julie Stein jkstein@u.washington.edu (206) 616-7519

Two new NPS Inventory and Monitoring Program Support offices to be established on University campuses

Southern Oregon University and the NPS Klamath Network Inventory and Monitoring Program are partnering to establish a satellite office on the SOU campus in Ashland, Oregon. In a similar project, The University of Idaho and the Northern Semi-Arid Network Inventory and Monitoring Program are creating a support office on the UI, Moscow campus. Specific research and inventory and monitoring projects under these cooperative programs will be developed jointly and carried out by NPS and partner university personnel. For more information about these new Inventory and Monitoring support offices contact:

Daniel Sarr
NPS I&M Coordinator
Klamath Network
Dan_Sarr@ nps.gov

Lisa K. Garrett ‘
NPS I & M Coordinator
Northern Semi Arid Network
lgarrett@uidaho.edu

NPS CESU Task Agreement Workshop
March 30-April 1 2004

A three-day course, presented by Northwest Procurement Institutes, Inc. (NPI), will provide participants with extensive information on subjects related to the formation and administration of federal cooperative agreements. It emphasizes proper administration, monitoring responsibilities, and closeout procedures. Time will be provided to discuss procedures and issues specifically related to the region's Cooperative Ecosystem Studies Units. Personnel in natural resources, cultural resources, administration and others who are involved in drafting and administering task agreements or cooperative agreements are encouraged to attend. The workshop will be held in Reno, Nevada. Contact Linda Whitson, CESU Agreements Coordinator 206-220-4259 linda_whitson@nps.gov for more information about this training.

FY 04 NPS Task Agreements
due by July 15, 2004

All new NPS task agreements and modifications to existing agreements must be submitted to the Oakland office for processing by the July 15th deadline to avoid possible loss or delay of funds. Please make every effort to get your task agreements in early to Darryll Johnson, NPS Research Coordinator Tel# 206 685-7404 or darryllj@u.washington.edu.

Note that all TAs or Modifications processed after May 1, 2004 will be subject to the new 17.5% CESU overhead rate

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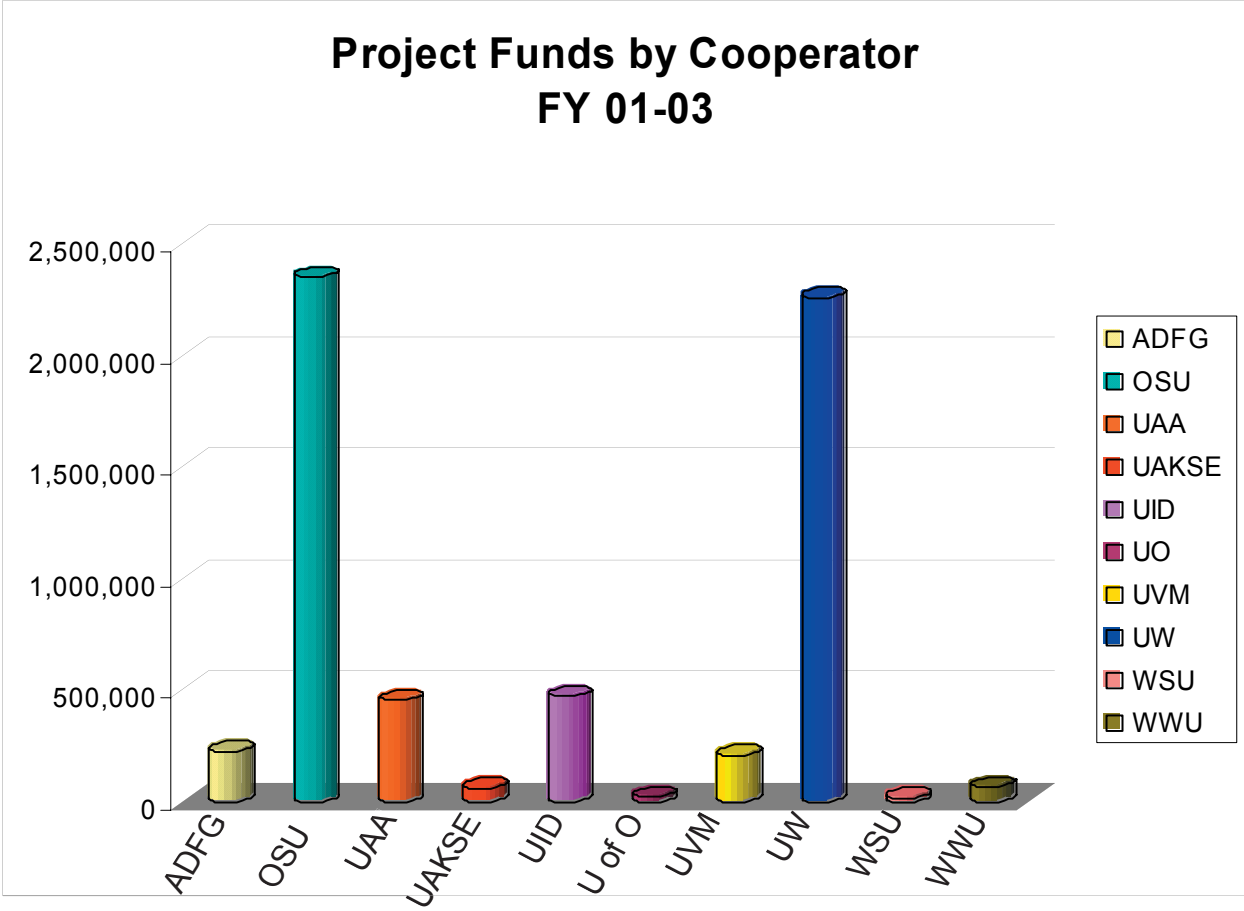
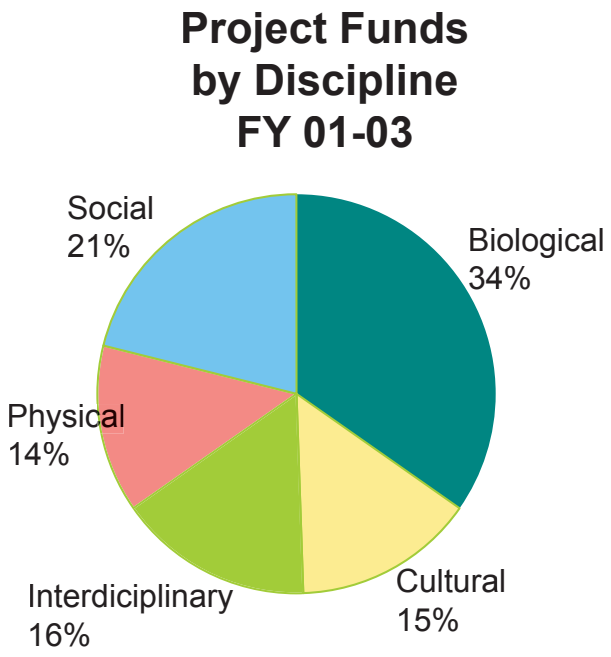
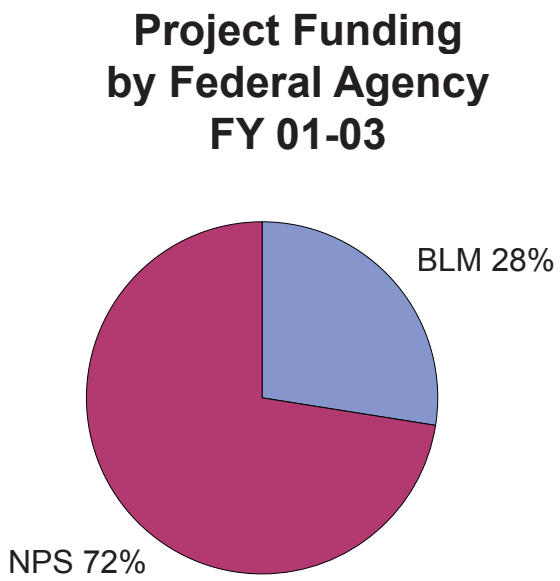
pursuing collaborative social science research and follow up meetings have already taken place to further conceptualize how best to pursue jointly sponsored social science activities. The second event of note was the Anthropogenic Northwest Prairies conference held at the University of Washington in November. This topic drew a wide range of participants, including representatives from 13 different state and federal agencies. Refer to the full article in the announcements section of this newsletter for more information about this successful event.

We look forward to another busy year working with our partners and building the capacity of the PNW CESU. Feel free to contact us with any questions about the CESU program.

Gordon Bradley and Darryll Johnson
PNW CESU Co-leaders

Visit our web site at

www.cfr.washington.edu/research.cesu

Browse our on-line project library, download the project summary form and find helpful materials for initiating a project through the PNW CESU

PNW CESU Project Activity