

UNIVERSITY PARTNERS

The University of Montana
(Host University)

University of Idaho
College of Natural Resources

Montana State University

Salish Kootenai College

Utah State University
College of Natural Resources

Washington State University
Department of Natural
Resource Sciences

University of Wyoming

FEDERAL PARTNERS

National Park Service

USDA Forest Service Research Branch
Rocky Mountain Research Station

Bureau of Land Management

US Geological Survey

RM-CESU

The University of Montana

School of Forestry

Missoula, MT 59812

(406)243-5346

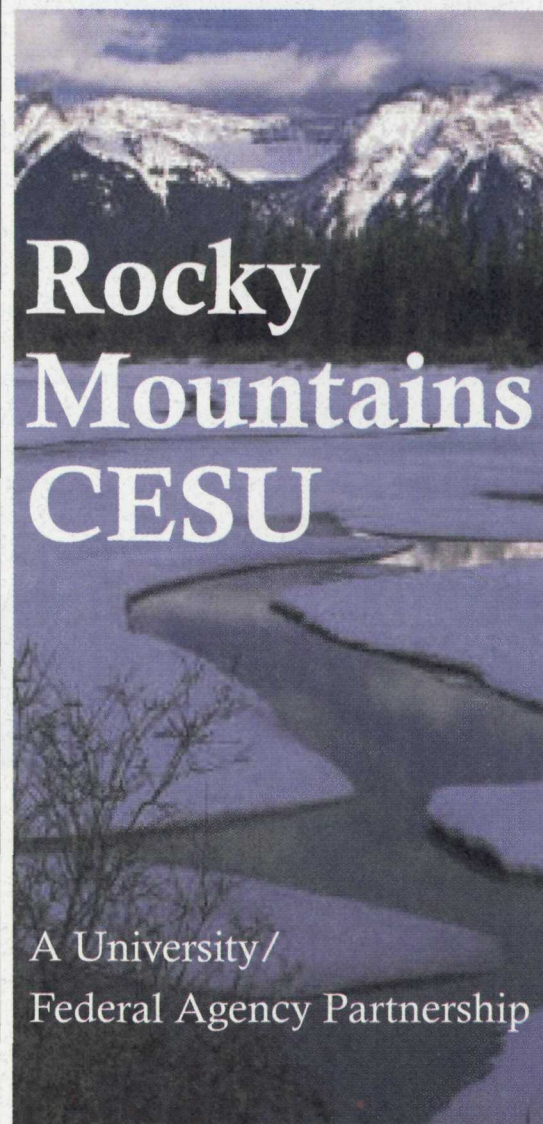
rmcesu@forestry.umt.edu

www.forestry.umt.edu/research/cesu



Cooperative
Ecosystem
Studies Units

Research, Education & Technical Assistance



Rocky Mountains CESU

A University/
Federal Agency Partnership



Rocky Mountains CESU

The mission of the Rocky Mountains Cooperative Ecosystem Studies Unit is to improve the scientific base for managing ecosystems in the rapidly changing social, cultural, and environmental landscape of the Rocky Mountain Region, and to extend its expertise to national issues where appropriate.

VISION

With rapidly growing and urbanizing populations the Rocky Mountain Region presents opportunities for innovative and creative resource management informed by science. The Rocky Mountains CESU brings the best scientific talent of the region to bear on solving resource problems across social, cultural, economic, political, and environmental arenas. It is visualized as a partnership to aid in the development and transmission of scientific information to land managers through research, education and technical assistance.



Photo courtesy of the US FWS.

THEMES

- ◆ Understanding ecosystem and social change.
- ◆ Improving university and agency interaction and collaboration.
- ◆ Enhancing dialogue between and among scientists and managers.
- ◆ Understanding, addressing and educating about the national importance of the legacy of the wild Rockies and wilderness.
- ◆ Assisting with the training of effective land managers.



Ann Mayo Kelly



Photo courtesy of the USGS.

PROJECTS

A goal of the RM-CESU is to facilitate research, technical assistance, and education to accomplish the partnership mission. These projects are partnerships between the regional institutions and federal agencies, rather than being contract agreements. In the first few years of operation, the RM-CESU has facilitated many research projects, regional workshops, and agreements for technical assistance. Some examples include:

- ◆ Lynx workshop.
- ◆ Workshop on the effects of snowmobiles on wildlife.
- ◆ Technical assistance with the assessment of mining impacts on soils and vegetation.
- ◆ Technical assistance with the development of a backcountry video.
- ◆ Technical assistance in evaluating visitor use levels and impacts.
- ◆ Research on recreation impacts.
- ◆ Research on fire ecology.
- ◆ Research on invasive weeds management and technical assistance with developing public education materials.
- ◆ Research and technical assistance with archeological inventories.
- ◆ Development of a Landscape Fire Analysis Center.
- ◆ Student internships and graduate research with federal land agencies.

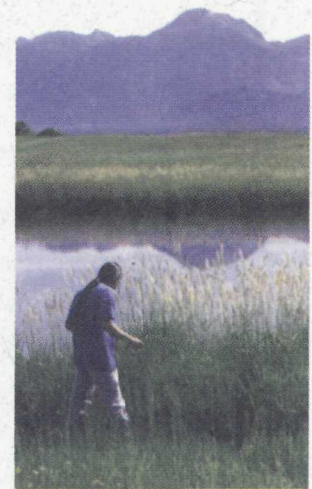
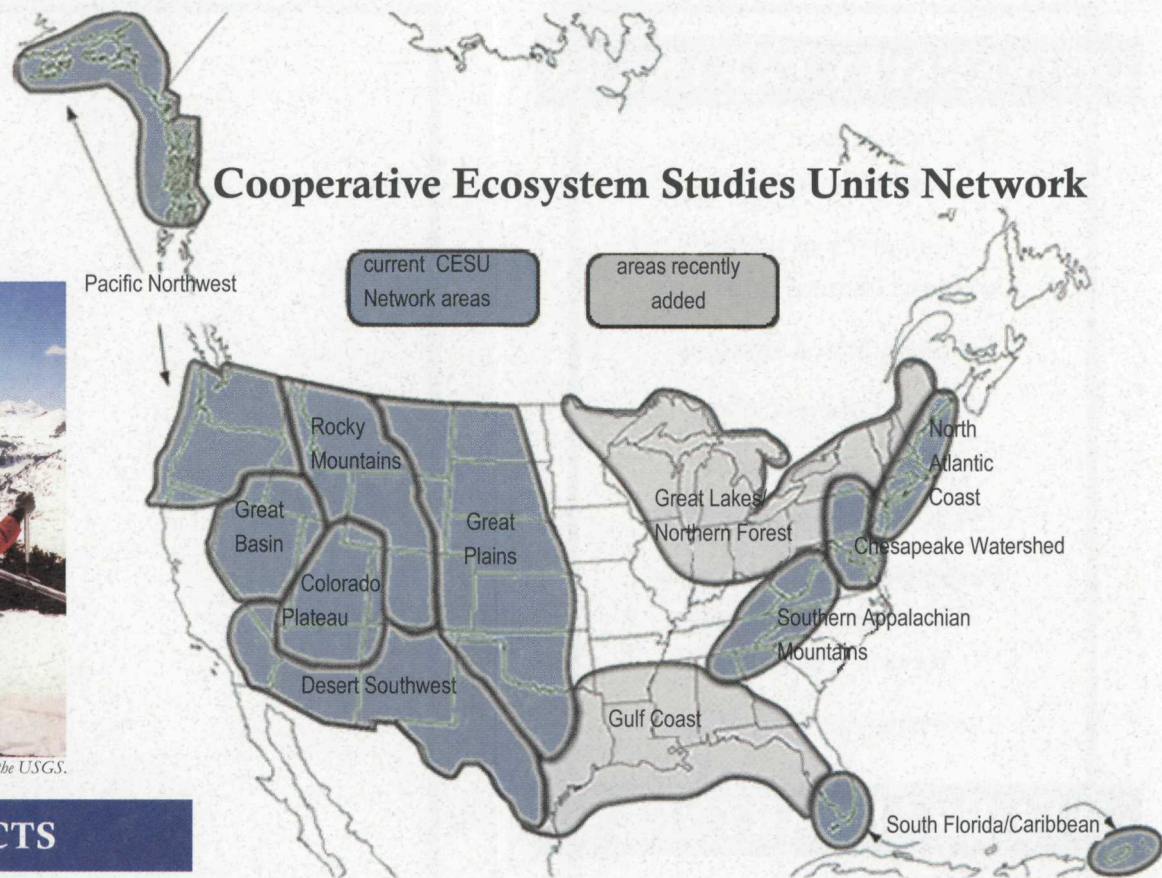


Photo courtesy of Salish Kootenai College.



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