

GREAT PLAINS Cooperative Ecosystems Studies Unit



Your Needs. Your Ideas. Your CESU. We can make it happen.

<http://gpcesu.unl.edu/>

The Great Plains CESU supports partnerships for research, education, and training focused on the ecological and cultural resources found on public lands within the Great Plains Region in the context of an agricultural landscape.

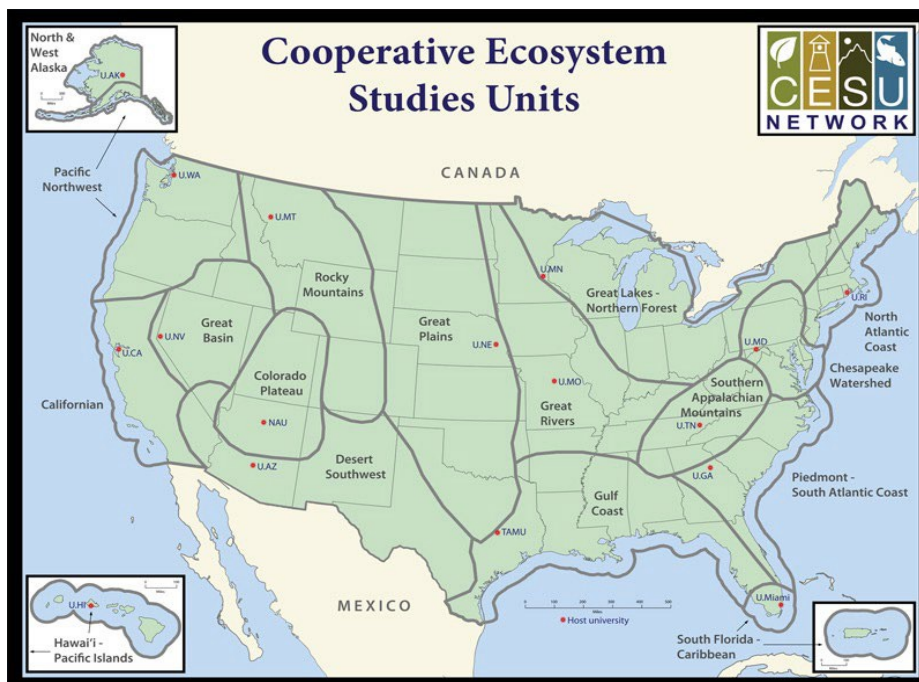
INTRODUCTION:

The Great Plains Cooperative Ecosystems Studies Unit (GP-CESU) is a network of 22 academic institutions, 12 federal agencies and two non-government organizations. The unit encompasses a broad geographical portion of the Great Plains and offers an outstanding group of scientists in grassland and ecosystems studies, natural and cultural resource management, technical assistance and educational opportunities. The heart of the GP-CESU is the guiding Cooperative Agreement that establishes simple and quick funding mechanisms between federal partners and non-federal partners.

The University of Nebraska-Lincoln serves as host to the GP-CESU, which was established in October 2000.

NATIONAL NETWORK:

The Cooperative Ecosystems Studies Unit (CESU) National Network was established to meet the challenges of managing federal lands and waters by using the skills and talents of scientist and scholars. The CESU is a national consortium of tribes, federal agencies, academic institutions, state and local governments, non-governmental organizations and other partners working together to support informed public trust resource stewardship. The GP-CESU is one of 17 CESUs located throughout the nation.



CESU Network

- Californian
- Chesapeake Watershed
- Colorado Plateau
- Desert Southwest
- Great Basin
- Great Lakes-Northern Forest
- Great Plains
- Great Rivers
- Gulf Coast
- Hawaii-Pacific Islands
- North and West Alaska
- North Atlantic Coast
- Pacific Northwest
- Piedmont-South Atlantic Coast
- Rocky Mountains
- Southern Appalachian
- South Florida and Caribbean

OBJECTIVES:

- Provide research, technical assistance and education to federal land management, environmental and research agencies and their potential partners
- Develop a program of research, technical assistance and education that involves the biological, physical, social and culture sciences needed to address resource issues and interdisciplinary program-solving at multiple scales and in ecosystems context at the local, regional and national level
- Place special emphasis on the working collaboration among federal agencies and non-federal agencies and their related partner institutions

IMPACT:

Advantages for Federal Partners

- Adds depth and breadth to the expertise of any federal agency
- Offers a simple, expedient cooperative agreement which is already approved
- Is a bridge of communication with other federal agencies and academic/NGO institutions
- Opens opportunities for training in professional development or resource specific issues
- 17.5% overhead rate

Advantages for Academic/NGO Partners

- Positions the partner into a long term collaborative relationship with several federal agencies
- Opportunities for graduate and undergraduate involvement in a federal agency project
- Enhanced ability to conduct research at multiple scales and sites
- Better access to federal resources to conduct projects of mutual interest

PARTNERS:

Academic Partners

- Black Hills State University
- Colorado State University
- Colorado State University-Pueblo
- Emporia State University
- Kansas State University
- Langston University
- New Mexico Highlands University
- North Dakota State University
- Oklahoma State University
- South Dakota School of Mines and Technology
- South Dakota State University
- Texas A&M University
- Texas Tech University
- University of Minnesota
- University of Nebraska-Lincoln
- University of Nebraska Medical Center
- University of North Dakota
- University of Oklahoma
- University of South Dakota:
- University of Wisconsin-Extension
- University of Wyoming
- Winona State University

Federal Partners

- US Army Corps of Engineers
- US Department of Defense
- Farm Service Agency
- US Fish and Wildlife Service
- US Forest Service
- US Geological Survey
- Bureau of Indian Affairs
- Bureau of Land Management
- National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
- National Park Service
- Natural Resources Conservation Service
- Bureau of Reclamation

NGO Partner

- World Wildlife Fund-Northern Great Plains
- Western Association of Fish & Wildlife agencies

Support for cooperative projects funded by federal partners

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