2022 CESU National Meeting

June 21st-23rd

June 23rd

* Round Robin of All CESUs and their updates
	+ Pacific Northwest – Teresa Bresee
		- Focus mostly on building their identity – created new logo
		- Two co-leaders
		- Revising front page and website – added pins to the network map
		- Have a project database
	+ Californian – Nick Mills
		- Nick Mills ending his term in the C-CESU and a new director – Dennis Baldocchi
		- 59 partners and 13 federal agencies and 18 other partners
		- Since 2019 = eight new partners
			* Two museum partners
		- 124 projects funded in 2020
		- Project highlights
			* Rocky intertidal monitoring analysis
			* National monument museum and archive
			* Geomorphic assessment of Tuolumme River
			* Historic trail public history
			* Mexican Period and WWII resources
		- Encouraging greater student participation and revitalizing website
	+ Cheasepeak Watershed – Matt Fitzpatrick
		- One of the largest – 81 partners
		- More historically black colleges and university partners than any other CESU
		- 8 new partners since 2020 and 43 since 2016
		- Data request from partners since renewal
		- Recently published new strategic plan
		- 4 major goals
		- Revamping website
		- A lot of projects based on cultural development
	+ Colorado Plateau – Yeon-Su Kim
		- 50 partners
		- Building database platform
		- ~60 projects since 2020
		- Five strategic goals
			* Improve communication
			* Broad engagement in info to federal partners
			* Increase tribal and minority institution involvement
			* Facilitate student research education and internships
			* Maintain effective and efficient organization
	+ Great Basin – Carrie Busha
		- 25 partners
			* 12 academic, 10 federal, and 3 NPO
			* 89 projects since 2016 and 32 in 2021
			* Strategic plan building
			* Videos for lightning talks, project highlights, quarterly and annual meetings
	+ Great Lakes Northern Forest– Ben Findlay
		- 41 university partners, 9 NPOs and 11 federal
		- New website in 2021
		- Challenges
			* Member engagement
			* Project tracking – lacking standard procedures
	+ Great Plains – Paul Hanson
		- Updated website and have a twitter and facebook
		- 13 federal partners and 25 non federal partners
		- 3 new partners in the past year
		- Student award for someone who has worked on a project in the parklands – find better ways to highlight these awardees
	+ Great Rivers – Pat Market
		- In a rebuilding phase
		- New NPS Research Coordinator
		- New director
		- Website updated this year
		- 24 institution and 8 federal partners
	+ Gulf Coast – Debbie Danford
		- Recent five year review and assessment
		- New website
		- 73 partners, 46 uni, 14 NGO, 13 federal agencies
		- 2021 = 71 projects funded
		- Recovering Texas ocelots
		- Tortoise Translocations at airforce base – Dr. wade ryberg
	+ Hawaii Pacific Islands – Sheron Ziegler-Chong
		- Unique aspects
			* Remote
			* Threatened native species ecosystems and communities
			* Vulnerable to climate change
			* Close-knit community
		- 27 partners – 2 new members
		- Project highlight - Explore early park management and those involved
	+ North Atlantic Coast – Judith Swift
		- 37 non federal partners, 9 federal partners
		- Self assessment underway
		- Onsite visits promote nonfederal project partnering
		- Need new NPS research coordinator
		- Develop website and social media coverage
		- Promote ancillary educational tool
		- Enhance institutional profile
		- Improve employee and student recruitment
		- Heralds federal investment in environment and cultural applied research
		- Provide taxpayers with positive investment news
		- Improve diversity and student engagement
		- Developing funding opportunity dispersal protocol
		- Promoting cooperative between public and ecological health
	+ Piedmont-South Atlantic Coast – Nate Nibbelink
		- Two new partners
		- New website launch las year
		- Annual partner meeting in the fall
		- Highlighted projects – assessing trail and river use at mammoth cave national park and stock origins of loggerheads and green turtles
		- More projects = thin layer placement and analysis of ecosystem response and statistical support for long-term natural resource monitoring
		- 10 federal partners, 22 uni and 12 non-academic
	+ Rocky Mountains – Lisa Gerloff
		- 10 federal, non federal 28
		- Created a student research fellowship along with glacier national park – open to all CESU students
		- Spring online seminars about justice, equity, diversity and inclusion
		- Student awards each year
		- Launching a student internship
	+ South Florida Caribbean – Evelyn Gaiser
		- Main research topics, Everglades, conservation, response, water, hydrologic restoration
		- One new member this past year
		- Hub transfer form university of Miami
		- Website revamp and new strategic plan
		- Career forum for the graduate students
		- Special session at LTER all scientists meeting
		- Highlighted Project = RECOVER
		- Currently 36 projects at 7 institutions
		- 9 federal partners
	+ Southern Appalachian Mountains – not here
* State of the CESU Network
	+ Early Days – mission-oriented research , provide technical assistance, and offer educational programs to federal agencies and partners concerned with natural and cultural resource management
	+ Before this, there was no multi-agency, university-based, broadly interdisciplinary, and ecosystem oriented research system currently providing scientific research, technical assistance and education to federal resource managers
	+ CESU council
		- Setting policy, communicating to agency leadership on CESU matters, etc.
	+ Focus areas = collaborate, evaluate, innovate, generate
	+ 509 partners in entire program – trend of more non-governmental organizations
	+ Increase in funding from 2020 to 2021
	+ Very few tribal partners and state local government
	+ 17 active federal partner agencies
	+ 5 potential new agencies to enroll or reenroll

Insights from breakout groups

* Challenges of the next 20 years is getting folks together, need to know the NGO folks better
* Next 20 years biggest concern: climate change influences all other items on that list – ecological health messages to the general public – healthy environment can equal a healthy economy
	+ Climate change is a symptom of over population and do we have the will to tackle this
* Tik-tok = a lot of themes were what we are doing in the CESU – concisely communicate results to the public and decision makers – use technology to collect and disemminate information
* Caution about oversimplification
* Necessity for better integration amongst disciplines and more strength among partners