Great Basin Collaboration – An overview of key organizations

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US Forest Service, RMRS
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Rapid Ecological and Sociological Change

- Rapid population growth, land use change, limited water resources, climate change, altered fire regimes and invasive species

Increasing Management Challenges

- All levels of government, private individuals and NGOs
- Complex and large scale issues
- Issues cross both geographic and administrative boundaries
- Limited science information at necessary scales for effective planning and management

The Great Basin is an endangered ecosystem
Land Ownership

- 72% Federal Management
  - 54% BLM
  - 14% FS
- 22% Private
- 6% State, Tribes, Local
Need for Collaboration

- Addressing Great Basin issues requires an unprecedented level of communication and cooperation

**Federal – State – Local – Tribal – Private - NGO**

- Obtain consensus on priority issues
- Address larger spatial and longer temporal scales
- Address organizational/policy/social constraints that impede cross-boundary management
- Leverage limited funds, increase efficiency and reduce overlap
- Collaboration increasingly the product of federal mandates; required in JFSP and USDA requests for proposals
Great Basin Collaboratives with Restoration Linkages

- Regional Coordination
  - Great Basin Consortium

- State-based
  - Utah and Nevada Partners for Conservation and Development

- Place-based
  - Eastern Nevada Landscape Coalition

- Research & Management-based
  - Great Basin Restoration Initiative
  - Great Basin Integrated Landscape Monitoring (GBILM) Pilot Project
  - Native Plant Selection and Increase Project
  - Sagebrush Steppe Treatment Evaluation Project

- Information-based
  - Great Basin Information Project
Great Basin Consortium

Vision ~
A consortium of partners who coordinate and collaborate on science delivery to achieve sustainable and resilient Great Basin ecosystems and human communities

GBCESU – GBRMP – GBEP – GBLCC – GBRI

Mission ~
To increase communication and coordination among the partner organizations in order to enhance the effectiveness of their research, management, outreach and funding activities
Great Basin Consortium

Universities/Agencies
Priority Research & Management Issues
Information Clearinghouse

Research & Management Partnership

Cooperative Ecosystem Study Unit

Landscape Conservation Cooperative

Environmental Program

Restoration Initiative

DOI/Partners
Landscape-Scale Conservation

UNR/NGOs/States
Develop funding
On-the-ground projects

Universities/Agencies
Mechanism to transfer funds
Federal→universities

UNR/NGOs/States
Develop funding
On-the-ground projects

BLM
Proactive, Science-Based Restoration
The GBRMP promotes comprehensive and complementary research and management collaborations to sustain ecosystems, resources and communities across the Great Basin

- **Unique Role** - Grassroots organization that provides a web based clearinghouse of information for the Great Basin and mobilizes teams of researchers and managers to fund and implement projects that address priority science needs
- **Partners/Collaborators** - All Great Basin organizations
- **Initiating Organization** - Research agencies and universities
- **Funding/Support** - Member agencies and grants
- **Contacts** - Nat Frazer, nat.frazer@usu.edu, (435) 797-2452; Jeanne Chambers, jchambers@fs.fed.gov; (775) 784-5329
GBRMP Contributions

**Web based Clearinghouse of Information Workshops and Symposia**
- Collaborative Research and Management, Reno, NV 2006
- “Alternative Futures for the Great Basin,” Ecological Society of America, San Jose, CA 2007

**Syntheses of Critical Issues**

**Working groups**
- Information Management, Invasive species, Cheatgrass die-off, Monitoring, Science Delivery
The GB-CESU is a partnership for research, technical assistance and education to enhance understanding and management of natural and cultural resources of the Great Basin

- **Unique Role** - Part of a national program that provides a funding mechanism for transferring funds from federal partners to universities to conduct projects
- **Partners/Collaborators** - Universities and federal agencies
- **Initiating Organization** - Department of the Interior; UNR and USU Regional leads
- **Funding/Support** - Projects funded with federal agency funds through a cooperative agreement
- **Contact** - Michael Collopy, mcollopy@unr.edu; (775) 784-8262
GB CESU Contributions

- Several million dollars routed annually from Great Basin agencies to university research providers
- Co-sponsorship of regional workshops including “Collaborative Watershed Research and Management,” Reno, NV 2006
- Co-lead in initiating regional research projects like CREES IFAFS “Integrated Restoration Strategies Towards Weed Control on Western Rangelands”
Great Basin Environmental Program
http://greatbasinenvironmentalprogram.org/

To develop funding for on-the-ground projects and related research and outreach education to improve the Great Basin environment.

- **Unique Role** - Develop funding from public and private sources to facilitate landscape-scale, on-the-ground projects by engaging NGOs, state agencies and their coalitions, and the private sector in collaboration with universities and federal agency partners

- **Partners/Collaborators** - universities, federal agencies, state agencies and coalitions, and NGOs

- **Initiating Organization** - land grant universities in the Great Basin

- **Funding/Support** - federal, state and private

- **Contacts** - Stan Johnson, sjohnson@cabnr.unr.edu, 775/784-1678; Rang Narayanan, rang@cabnr.unr.edu, 775-784-6649
GBEP Contributions

- March 2008 Conference for Nevada NGOs to identify issues
- Fall 2010 Conference to discuss implementation of invasive species projects
The Great Basin Landscape Conservation Cooperative enhances understanding of the effects of changing climate and other natural and human impacts across the region and promotes the coordination of science based actions to enable human and natural communities to respond and/or adapt to those conditions.

- **Unique Role** - DOI initiative working with stakeholders to develop landscape-scale tools and monitoring to address climate change and other stressors.
- **Partners/Collaborators** - All inclusive. All agencies (federal, state and local), Tribes, NGO’s, public, etc. No restrictions on participation.
- **Initiating Organization** - Initiated by Department of Interior in 2009 by Secretary Executive Order.
- **Funding/Support** - Funding to support three positions (BLM, US F&WS, and USGS). Potential funding to support research in FY 2012.
- **Contact**: Mike Pellant, Interim Coordinator, 208-373-3823, mike_pellant@blm.gov
GB LCC Contributions

- Permanent staff to support science-based landscape conservation
- Linkage to DOI Northwest (OSU) and Southwest (UA) Climate Science Centers
- Potential funding for science and monitoring applications
Great Basin Restoration Initiative

Maintain and/or restore public lands in the Great Basin using science-based strategies supported by stakeholders

- **Unique Role** - Maintain or improve the health of public lands by reducing the impacts of wildfires and invasive species.
- **Partners** – USGS, RMRS, ARS and other research agencies, State and federal management agencies, and larger NGO’s
- **Initiating Organization** - Initiated by BLM (Nevada State Office and the National Interagency Fire Center) in 1999 to address the large wildfires in the Great Basin
- **Funding/Support** - Permanent full-time coordinator and BLM’s Native Plant Initiative that provides $800,000 per year for native plant development and application research
- **Contact** - Mike Pellant, GBRI Coordinator, 208-373-3823, mike_pellant@blm.gov
GBRI Contributions

- Regional native seed development program to increase availability and successful establishment of native plants
  
  http://www.fs.fed.us/rm/boise/research/shrub/greatbasin.shtml

- BLM input into regional research programs
- Prioritization /technical assistance on restoration approaches for public lands
Consortium Webbased Clearinghouse of Information

http://greatbasin.wr.usgs.gov/gbrmp/

- Linked to USGS National Biological Information Infrastructure, Great Basin Information Project
- Cooperative effort among GBRMP, USGS Snake River Field Station, RMRS and OSU
- Continued support from the JFSP Great Basin Outreach Project and USDA NRII REENet Project for Managing Invasive Bromes through GBRMP
  - Data Base of Collaborators
  - Expert’s Data Base
  - Research Catalog and The Science Locator
  - Bibliography (>5,000 citation on Great Basin)
  - Upcoming Meetings and Links
  - Metadata Server
The Road Forward

**Great Basin ecosystems are undergoing rapid, large-scale and often unpredictable changes**

- Obtain consensus on priorities
- Use science-based approaches that focus on larger scales
- Conduct cross-boundary strategic planning
- Leverage resources to implement activities & monitor outcomes
- Collectively determine if adjustments are needed
- Improve both collaboration & communication
Assist Great Basin land managers in identifying fire and resource management technical needs

Synthesize information and develop tools to meet these needs

Provide these tools through venues preferred by field specialists, including developing direct connections with research scientists

Eugénie MontBlanc, Coordinator
26 April 2011
1) Ongoing identification of needs
2) Syntheses of scientific and agency information
3) Web-based training
4) Web-based clearinghouse
5) Field workshops and webinars
6) Networks of experts
7) Program effectiveness assessments
The Great Basin Research and Management Partnership (GBRMP) promotes comprehensive and complementary research and management collaborations to sustain ecosystems, resources and communities across the Great Basin -- a five state area experiencing similar sociological and ecological concerns.

Our vision is of teams representing the full spectrum of organizations and stakeholders working together to solve the region’s sociological and socio-economic issues through the integration of research and management. GBRMP does not replace existing collaborations, but builds upon their strengths by increasing coordination and communication among them. GBRMP provides a mechanism for assembling the diverse research and management groups working in the Great Basin to:
1) obtain consensus in identifying and prioritizing regional issues;
2) expand and help focus existing collaborative efforts;
3) facilitate new teams to address emerging issues. It also provides critical information sharing capacity for both existing collaborations and new teams.

Read the Great Basin Research and Management Partnership Briefing Paper.

Background
The Great Basin is considered to be one of the most endangered ecoregions in the United States. The human population is expanding at the highest rate in the nation, and major sociological and ecological changes are occurring across the region. These changes can be attributed to numerous interacting factors including urbanization, changing technology and land use, climate change, limited water resources, altered fire regimes, invasive species, insects, and disease. Managers across the Great Basin are increasingly challenged to maintain or improve the ecological condition of these systems and the services that they provide while meeting the needs of a growing number of user groups with diverse and often opposing interests. Sustaining the ecosystems, resources and human populations of the Great Basin will require strong collaborative partnerships among research and management organizations in the region.

Issues

- Urbanization
- Public
- Water
- Energy
- Climate Change
Science Delivery Blog

Post-Burn Treatment
This website can be helpful!
Dovitz 11/22/2010 12:40:02 PM

Plateau use post-burn
Hello Great Basin land managers and scientists. Does anyone know if I can use Plateau after a burn and have any success? Please click, "Create a blog entry" to reply. Thanks for your help.
GB Manager 7/13/2010 3:49:39 PM

Welcome!
Welcome to the Great Basin Science Delivery homepage. Our goal is to serve the science needs of our Great Basin land managers. We hope to provide tools and contacts to answer managers' and scientists' most pressing management questions. This space is intended to be used as a blog forum to post questions and receive answers. Please see the example post below. I hope you find this useful, and if not, please let us know how we can improve. Thank you!
Génie 7/12/2010 12:00:00 AM

Upcoming Events

Interpreting and Measuring Indicators of Rangeland Health
3-6 May 2011, Las Vegas, NV,

Native Plant Seed Production Field Day
12 May 2011, Ontario, OR,

National Workshop on Climate and Forests: Planning Tools and Perspectives on Adaptation and Mitigation Options
16-18 May 2011, Flagstaff, AZ,

Funding Opportunities

Owyhee Canyonlands Wilderness Education and Outreach

Rural Technology Competitive Grants Program

Burns District Stream/Riparian Restoration, Oregon

More Science Delivery Blog...
More Upcoming Events...
More Funding Opportunities...
Thank you!

Please contact us with any questions:
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