

# Great Plains Cooperative Ecosystem Studies Unit



A PERIODIC REPORT OF ACTIVITIES

C. Lockert, editor  
Spring 2005

UNIVERSITY OF  
**Nebraska**  
Lincoln

## GP-CESU Review and Renewal Update

The Great Plains Cooperative Ecosystem Studies Unit is currently undergoing a five-year review and renewal. The University of Nebraska-Lincoln and its partner institutions submitted a self-assessment with supplemental materials to the CESU Council on January 21.

A final copy of the self-assessment will be

provided to our partner institutions. A review of the unit with recommendations by the Managers Committee was submitted for consideration by the Council on March 11.

External reviews were provided by Dr. Tony Prado of the Upper and Middle Mississippi Valley CESU, and Dr. Diane Debinski of Iowa State University.

We were recently informed that all of the appropriate materials have been received by the CESU Council and they will be considering our renewal. A decision is expected in May.

MARK YOUR  
CALENDARS!

CESU  
NATIONAL  
NETWORK  
MEETING WILL  
BE HELD  
JUNE 21-22,  
2005 IN  
WASHINGTON,  
D.C.



## NPS Adds Cultural Research Coordinator

Gary Willson, National Park Service Research Coordinator at UNL, has also been serving as acting Research Coordinator for the Upper & Middle Mississippi Valley CESU the past 15 months.

Recently, a new temporary arrangement has been made where Willson will share duties with Dr. Cal Calabrese, Associate Regional Director,

Cultural Resource Stewardship and Partnerships, Midwest Regional Office. Calabrese is acting as the Cultural Research Coordinator for both the GP-CESU and UMMV CESU, while Willson continues as Natural Research Coordinator for both CESUs.

To date, the GP-CESU has funded only a handful of cultural resource projects, Calabrese's

expertise in cultural resource management as well as his academic connection to both host universities enhance the opportunity for development of cultural projects by partner universities.

This is a very exciting development and one that will significantly increase NPS involvement in the Great Plains and Upper and Middle

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## GP-CESU Tidbits

**GP-CESU Partner Candidate.** Kansas State University has submitted a proposal to become a member of the GP-CESU. The Executive Committee is currently considering their proposal, and we will know in a few weeks if KSU will be the newest partner institution in the GP-CESU.

**GP-CESU Committee's.** There have been several recent changes in the members of our Executive and Managers Committees. We would like to re-visit the role of each committee in the unit, and determine the best mode of action to try to reduce the rate of turnover within the committees. It is important for our com-

mittee members to have knowledge of the CESU program, and it is especially important for our Managers Committee to be active participants. Watch for future announcements on this issue.

### New on the Web!

A documents link has been included on the web site. This page will hold all of the GP-CESU governing documents, meeting summaries, and marketing materials. Temporarily, the only way to access this page is from the link under the What's New? heading on the home page. This is the page you need when you are looking for the Agreement or Amendments, information on be-

coming a member, or a list of committee members among other things.

### Items for Newsletter.

Please consider submitting information to share with our readers:

- Announce upcoming workshops and conferences hosted by your institution and/or agency
- Spotlight a current or completed GP-CESU project
- Provide information on agency resource needs
- Spotlight your institution providing information on expertise, facilities, etc.

Please send items to [clockert2@unl.edu](mailto:clockert2@unl.edu).

## THE NEXT

NEWSLETTER WILL PUBLISH IN JULY. SUBMISSION DEADLINE IS JUNE 15.



Photo courtesy of Dave Wedin, School of Natural Resources, University of Nebraska-Lincoln.

## NPS adds Cultural Research Coordinator, continued

Mississippi Valley regions. Calabrese has recently completed CESU orientation trips to both host universities and will work out of his office in Omaha.

He is in the process of initiating a project with Minuteman Missile National Historic Site in South Dakota. Dr. Calabrese and Dr. Willson can be reached at:

F.A. "Cal" Calabrese, Ph.D.  
Associate Regional Director  
Cultural Resource Stewardship  
and Partnerships  
Midwest Regional Office  
601 Riverfront Dr.  
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Gary Willson, PhD.  
Natural Research Coordinator  
National Park Service  
Great Plains CESU  
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The NPS goal is to have a permanent research coordinator located at each host university.

## HAVE A CULTURAL OR NATURAL RESOURCE NEED OR PROJECT IDEA?

CONTACT AN AGENCY REPRESENTATIVE TO DISCUSS DEVELOPING A GP-CESU PROJECT. PLEASE VISIT THE WEB SITE FOR A LIST OF REPRESENTATIVE AND HOW TO REACH THEM.

<http://greatplains.cesu.unl>

# Great Plains CESU

Cooperative  
Ecosystem  
Studies Units  
Network



## A PERIODIC REPORT OF ACTIVITIES

Contact Us:  
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*The mission of the Great Plains Cooperative Ecosystem Studies Unit is to determine the ecological state of public lands of the Great Plains and examine its future within the context of private lands. Our focus is on improving the scientific basis for managing ecosystems in the region, through more active an interactive technical assistance, research, and education among the partner institutions and agencies.*

**GP-CESU Members:** University of Nebraska (host), Black Hills State University, Colorado State University, Langston University, Little Priest Tribal College, North Dakota State University, South Dakota State University, Texas A&M University, University of Minnesota, University of North Dakota, University of Oklahoma, University of South Dakota, and University of Wyoming. Bureau of Land Management, Bureau of Reclamation, National Park Service, Natural Resource Conservation Service, US Forest Service, and US Geological Survey.

Visit us online at  
<http://greatplains.cesu.unl.edu>

## Mark your calendar! Fourth CESU Network National Meeting, June 21 – 22, 2005

**Location: Washington, D.C.**  
**American Association for the Advancement of Science Headquarters**

The CESU Network National Meeting, held every two years, is a key event for the CESU Network.

### Who should attend?

- University faculty, graduate students, and administrators
- Representatives of other CESU-affiliated institutions
- Federal natural and cultural resource managers
- Federal agency leaders

### Activities include:

- Showcasing expertise of CESU-affiliated universities and other institutions
- Presentations by leaders of federal agencies on research, technical assistance, and education needs and priorities
- Workshops on the management of CESUs; discussions on the federal funding process
- Opportunities to share CESU accomplishments with

other participants from around the country

Additional information about the CESU Network and the National Meeting is available at [www.cesu.org/cesu](http://www.cesu.org/cesu). Watch for coming announcements and meeting details.