THE SOCIAL DYNAMICS OF PROTECTED AREA CENTERED ECOSYSTEMS

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Protected Area Centered Ecosystem (PACE)

Global effects

Climate change, invasives, pollution

(Hansen et al., 2014)
One PACE… Many Managers

The various governing agencies and organizations collectively make up a management mosaic.
Research Question

How does a complex and divergent management mosaic impact connectivity of the social landscape?

Hypothetical Relationships Among Key Elements

Management Mosaic Complexity → Social Connectivity → Social Fragmentation → Social Divergence

- Complexity: The number of different land parcels in a management mosaic.
- Connectivity: Social flows such as information exchange.
- Divergence: The degree to which adjacent parcels in the management mosaic differ in type.
Methodology

Semi-Structured Interviews

- Land Managers:
  - Federal & State Agencies
  - Non-governmental Organizations

Study Areas:

- Rocky Mountain National Park
- Grand Canyon National Park
- Yellowstone National Park
- Great Smokey Mountain National Park
- Lassen Volcanic National Park

(Each park represents the center of a PACE)

Completed Interview:

- Rocky Mountain National Park: 10
- Grand Canyon National Park: 9
- Great Smokey Mountain National Parks (ongoing): 7
Emerging Themes

**Contributors to Collaboration**
- Bridging Organizations
- Keystone Collaborators
- Specific Resources

**Management Mosaic Complexity**

**Social Connectivity**

**Social Fragmentation**

**Social Divergence**

**Barriers to Collaboration**
- Turnover of Personal
- Hierarchical Disconnect
- Lack of Resources

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References


Questions

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Protected area

Land use effects

Biophysical gradients

Land use gradients

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