THE SOCIAL DYNAMICS OF PROTECTED AREA CENTERED ECOSYSTEMS

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Protected Area Centered Ecosystem (PACE)

Global effects:
- Climate change
- Invasives
- Pollution

Protected area

Land use effects

Socioecological interactions

Biophysical gradients

Land use gradients

(Hansen et al., 2014)
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 Connectivity** → **Social Fragmentation** (⁻)
- **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

**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 Nations Park (ongoing): 7

**Semi-Structured Interviews**
- Land Managers:
  - Federal & State Agencies
  - Non-governmental Organizations
Emerging Themes

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

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

Management Mosaic Complexity
Social Connectivity
Social Fragmentation
Social Divergence

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References


Questions

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