



News from International Programs of the USDA Forest Service

No. 5, May 2005:
A Century of International Engagement

A Bird's-Eye View of Conservation

by Jim Chu and Dan Logan

Jim Chu is a biological scientist for the USDA Forest Service, International Programs, Sedro Woolly, WA; and Dan Logan is a wildlife biologist for the USDA Forest Service, Chugach National Forest, Cordova Ranger District, Cordova, AK.

A little yellow-and-blue bird symbolizes environmental progress: the Kirtland's warbler. Once on the brink of extinction, the endangered warbler is coming back due to an aggressive program to restore its summer breeding habitat in northern Michigan. Yet the bird is still doomed should its winter habitat in the Bahamas decline. Like hundreds of other bird species in the United States, the Kirtland's warbler spends much of the year on wintering grounds abroad.

Birds have long been of special concern. In the early 20th century, migratory ducks and geese were in severe decline through overhunting for the market. In 1918, Canada and the United States signed the Migratory Bird Treaty Act restricting the hunting and sale of migratory birds. The act was later strengthened and expanded to include Japan, Mexico, and Russia. In 1989, Congress

passed the North American Wetlands Conservation Act to protect waterfowl habitat.

Today, the focus of conservation is on all migratory and resident birds. More than 300 species breed in Canada and the United States and winter in Latin America and the Caribbean. In 2000, recognizing that many species were in serious decline, Congress passed the Neotropical Migratory Bird Conservation Act authorizing grants to protect bird habitats, both at home and abroad.

The act is based on a bird's-eye view of conservation. International and property boundaries mean nothing to migratory birds, which are equally at home in places near and far. To give them the habitats they need, we must work across borders and boundaries ourselves, assessing conservation needs across entire migratory ranges and collaborating where the needs are greatest.

A bird's-eye view of conservation pervades such efforts as the North American Bird Conservation Initiative. Based on regional partnerships, the initiative fosters bird conservation on a landscape scale. Other important initiatives include the Waterbird Conservation for the Americas

Plan; the Shorebird Conservation Plans in Canada, Mexico, and the United States; and the North American Waterfowl Management Plan.

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Forest Service takes a bird's-eye view of conservation through its *Wings Across the Americas* program. The agency has long worked with partners to maintain and restore bird habitats on private as well as public land, both at home and abroad, and to pioneer research on birds throughout the Americas. The *Wings Across the Americas* program supports these efforts while keeping the agency as a whole focused on integrated all-bird conservation on a national and international level. In March 2005, at the annual *Wings Across the Americas* Awards Ceremony, the Associate Chief of the USDA Forest Service recognized outstanding work in bird conservation involving agency employees and partners.

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LIKE THE KIRTLAND'S WARBLER AND OTHER MIGRATORY BIRDS, THIS HUMMINGBIRD DEPENDS ON SOUND HABITAT CONDITIONS.

WHAT'S INSIDE?

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A Global Role for the USDA Forest Service

by Dale Bosworth

Dale Bosworth is the Chief of the USDA Forest Service, Washington Office, Washington, DC.

The USDA Forest Service was founded a century ago, with the birth of conservationism in the United States. However, it is worth remembering that much of our conservation heritage comes from abroad. One might even say that conservation in the United States was grafted onto American roots from mother trees in Europe (see the text boxes below and on pages 4 and 5).

Spain declared the first forest reserves in what is now the United States. Foreign immigrants became many of our early forestry leaders, including Bernhard Fernow and Raphael Zon. And foreign training shaped the views of the USDA Forest Service's founding father and first Chief, Gifford Pinchot.

Over the years, international exchanges have strengthened our commitment to conservation, improving our management tools and deepening our ecological understanding. A wonderful example is our forest inventory system, which owes much to innovations abroad (see the article by Rob Hendricks on page 5). Through the Montreal Process, we are working with international partners to develop the tools we need to track our progress toward sustainable forest management.

Sustainable forest management itself, as a set of principles circumscribing our long-term goals, came out of international collaboration culminating in the 1992 Earth Summit in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. Stimulated by the summit, we formulated a holistic policy of ecosystem management, a concept that originated overseas (see the article by Hal Salwasser on page 4).

Some of the ecological challenges we face are on an international scale, particularly when it comes to birds. Many neotropical migratory birds are in steep decline, primarily due to habitat loss. Improving their habitat in your local neighborhood for part of the year does no good if the habitat they need for the rest of the year is vanishing in far-off places.

Fortunately, the USDA Forest Service and others are now taking a "bird's-eye view" of the situation: Through international partnerships, we are working across borders and boundaries to assess bird conservation needs across entire migratory ranges and to collaborate where the needs are greatest (see the article by Jim Chu and Dan Logan on page 1).

For more than a hundred years, we have benefited from foreign contributions to conservation. One way that we are giving something back is through the Incident Command System for emergency response (see the article by Deanne Shulman and Bob Mutch on page 3). I am extremely proud of our role in the Incident Command System, and I am very pleased that we are using it when disaster strikes to help people in other countries, too.

Gifford Pinchot envisioned conservation as a way to end war by eliminating the need to plunder the resources of other countries. Today, the USDA Forest Service is following in his footsteps. In the Middle East, for example, we are bringing Israelis and Palestinians together to solve their biggest natural resource challenge: water. In some small way, our international programs are building peace and understanding in the world, and I am very proud of that.

Gifford Pinchot: The International Connection

by Edgar B. Brannon, Jr.

Eddie Brannon is the recently retired Director of the Grey Towers National Historic Landmark, USDA Forest Service, Milford, PA.

The first Chief of the USDA Forest Service, Gifford Pinchot, devoted his early career to forestry and conservation. In 1889, when he first decided to study forestry, there was no place in America to do so. Pinchot traveled to Europe, where he was mentored by the Prussian Dietrich Brandis, one of the world's best known foresters.

Brandis helped Pinchot get into the French national forestry school. He also traveled with Pinchot and other students through German, French, and Swiss forests. Pinchot spent a month studying the municipal forest of Zurich, Switzerland, where he was deeply impressed by the forest's multiple-use management for wood and wildlife, hiking, and hunting. What he learned laid the groundwork for his vision of a national forest system in America.

In 1902, as an emissary for President Theodore Roosevelt, he traveled to the Philippines to help bolster its bureau of forestry. On his return, he had a major hand in writing the Philippine Forest Act.

More than 40 years later, Pinchot drew upon all that he had learned in other countries to stress the role that conservation can play in world peace. He urged the formation of an Inter-American Conservation Commission to give "each nation access to the raw materials it needs, without recourse to war."





The Incident Command System: Smoothing the Way for Emergency Relief

by Deanne Shulman and Bob Mutch

Deanne Shulman is an emergency management specialist for Disaster Mitigation Programs, USDA Forest Service, International Programs, Washington Office, Washington, DC; and Bob Mutch, formerly Program Manager for the Disaster Assistance Support Program of the USDA Forest Service, is a fire management consultant in Missoula, MT.

I imagine that you are fighting a wildfire. The wind suddenly changes, blowing fire in a new direction. You try to radio the news, but you can't get through because the unit you're calling uses another radio frequency. Precious minutes are lost as you struggle to establish communication.

On a fire, operational effectiveness depends on organizational efficiency, and that's the reason for the Incident Command System. Historically, firefighting responsibility has been shared in the United States among Federal, State, and local organizations, each with its own structure and terminology. For decades, incident information was incomplete, unreliable, and poorly communicated. Radio systems were

incompatible, lines of authority unclear, and incident objectives inadequate.

In the early 1970s, an interagency task force in California devised and field-tested a standard, reliable emergency management system that is flexible and cost effective. Ever since, the USDA Forest Service has used the Incident Command System to respond to every type of disaster, ranging from floods, to hurricanes, to terrorist attacks. In February 2003, recognizing its special advantages, the U.S. Government placed the Incident Command System at the core of its National Incident Management System.

In 1985, the U.S. Office of Foreign Disaster Assistance dispatched USDA Forest Service emergency management personnel to assist with earthquake recovery in Mexico City. Today, the same office funds a Disaster Assistance Support Program run by the USDA Forest Service's International Programs Staff. The program utilizes disaster assistance response teams modeled on similar teams under the Incident Command

System. In 2004, USDA Forest Service specialists joined a disaster assistance response team in Sudan's Darfur region to provide humanitarian relief (see story on page 6).

The Incident Command System's advantages are internationally acknowledged. In October 2003, the International Wildland Fire Summit in Australia called on all countries to adopt a common fire management standard based on the Incident Command System. In April 2004, the Antalya Declaration on Cooperation in Wildland Fire Management in the Balkans, Eastern Mediterranean, Near East, and Central Asia echoed that call.

Some countries have already adopted the Incident Command System, including Australia, Canada, and New Zealand. Elsewhere, interest is growing. Specialists from the USDA Forest Service have taught courses on the Incident Command System in Brazil, Bulgaria, Costa Rica, Mexico, Mongolia, and Taiwan. The Government of India and the Association of Southeast Asian Nations have also asked the USDA Forest Service for help in integrating the Incident Command System into their systems for disaster response. Their overseas experience gives trainers a new perspective on disaster response, improving their performance at home.

From humble origins in California, the Incident Command System has spread around the world, bridging divides between organizations in responding to emergencies of every type. With decades of experience, the USDA Forest Service is helping to fulfill the promise of the Incident Command System by facilitating its adoption wherever desired.

THE INCIDENT COMMAND SYSTEM IS AS USEFUL TODAY TO COORDINATE EMERGENCY RESPONSE IN SUDAN (LEFT) AS IT WAS DECADES AGO WHEN IT WAS DEVELOPED TO FIGHT WILDFIRES (TOP) IN THE UNITED STATES.



THOUGH IT TOOK DECADES
OF DEBATE FOR THE UNITED
STATES TO FORMALLY MAKE
ECOSYSTEM MANAGEMENT
A GUIDING PHILOSOPHY,
THE USDA FOREST SERVICE
NOW APPLIES IT AT HOME
AND OVERSEAS.



USDA FOREST SERVICE

Ecosystem Management's International Trail

by Hal Salwasser

Hal Salwasser, former Director of the Pacific Southwest Research Station and former Regional Forester for the Northern Region, USDA Forest Service, is Dean of the College of Forestry at Oregon State University, Corvallis, OR.

The web of life: We all learned about it in school. All life is interconnected. The things around us in nature, living and dead, share complex interdependencies at multiple scales, yielding detectable wholes that are greater than their parts. We call them ecological systems—or ecosystems, for short. In recent decades, ecosystem-based research has come to deeply influence public forest management in the United States.

For most of the 20th century, land managers looked at forests in the same way as farmers look at cropfields. Focused on a few species that were key for timber harvest, managers overlooked the functioning whole.

The seeds of change were planted overseas. In 1935, the British ecologist A.G. Tansley first articulated the ecosystem concept. In the 1940s, the American forester and wildlife biologist Aldo Leopold contributed the notion of a land ethic.

By the 1970s, American ecologists were exploring ecosystems through the International Biosphere Program.

Public pressure contributed to the change by inspiring new laws. The Multiple Use–Sustained Yield Act of 1960 broadened the USDA Forest Service's focus from timber to multiple products and uses. The National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 explicitly called on public land managers “to enrich the understanding of the ecological systems.”

Yet, an ecosystem-based approach to management took decades to emerge. Inside the USDA Forest Service, pressures were building to diversify the values for which forests were being managed. However, the Federal administration and Congress often pushed the agency to focus increasingly on commodity production.

In the 1980s, disputes broke out over the focus on resource extraction and over the silvicultural techniques used to support it. By the early 1990s, national forest management was in crisis.

Again, the impetus for change came from abroad. In February 1992, under the auspices of the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization, the North American Forest Commission met in Cancun, Mexico, where the United States presented New Perspectives as an ecosystem-based approach to forestry. Having borrowed from Canadian efforts to diversify forestry, New Perspectives was well received by the Canadian and Mexican delegations.

The USDA Forest Service built on that success at the Earth Summit in June 1992 in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, where the United States announced ecosystem management as a new policy for sustaining the multiple

First Forest Reserves: The Spanish Connection

In the 19th century, Puerto Rico's forest resources were dwindling due to population pressure and land conversion. Spain took steps to protect the remaining forests by prohibiting the sale of wood except for naval use and by planting trees to conserve watersheds. Then, in 1876—a full 15 years before the first forest reserves were set aside in the United States—King Alfonso XII of Spain established forest reserves in Puerto Rico.

The Treaty of 1898 ceded Puerto Rico to the United States. In 1903, President Theodore Roosevelt established the Luquillo Forest Reserve, renamed the Caribbean National Forest in 1935. Today, the Caribbean National Forest is home to the endangered Puerto Rican parrot, the emerald-hued hummingbird, and other unique animals and plants.

values and uses of the national forests and grasslands. A holistic land management policy had finally emerged.

Delegates to the 1992 Earth Summit adopted sustainable forest management, a set of principles and aspirations that complement ecosystem management. Sustainable forest management articulates long-term outcomes, whereas ecosystem management describes how to achieve them. The United States is committed to sustainable forest management through the Montreal Process.

The two most important management philosophies guiding natural resource management in the United States—sustainable forest management and ecosystem management—had international origins. After beginning in an international setting, the journey took many twists and turns. No doubt, it will continue.



USDA FOREST SERVICE



THE EXCHANGE OF IDEAS
BETWEEN THE USDA
FOREST SERVICE AND
OVERSEAS COLLABORATORS
ON IMPROVING THE
INVENTORY OF LANDSCAPES,
INCLUDING ITS BIODIVERSITY,
IS AN ONGOING PROCESS.



Global Connections Are Changing Forest Inventory

by Rob Hendricks

Rob Hendricks is a senior policy analyst for the USDA Forest Service, International Programs, Washington Office, Washington, DC.

In 1607, when English settlers landed in what they called Virginia, they were astounded by the trees. Forests in England were mostly gone, whereas the forests of Virginia seemed endless. Captain John Smith's descriptions of the size and majesty of Virginia's trees reflect the awe that America's forests invariably inspired.

At first, the main purpose for describing America's forests was to generate interest back home in exploiting them. Later depictions were more rigorous. For example, Captains Meriwether Lewis and William Clark carefully described the northwestern forests they traversed in 1805, contributing immeasurably to science. Nonetheless, the resources they discovered stimulated a rising interest in their exploitation.

By the end of the 19th century, the limits of the forest resource in the United States finally became visible. In 1880, Franklin B. Hough prepared the first countrywide forest inventory. He documented the troubling

loss of about a quarter of the original forest estate, mostly in the East and Midwest.

Such information swelled the ranks of the forest conservation movement, eventually giving rise to the USDA Forest Service. From its inception in 1905, the agency has sought to measure the extent, health, productivity, and quality of forests in the United States as a basis for their conservative use.

Early inventories by R.S. Kellogg, Raphael Zon, and other USDA Forest Service employees, though impressive for their time, lacked statistical rigor. New ideas often came from overseas. In the early 1920s, Scandinavian countries started using statistical methods in countrywide forest inventories. In 1925, a Canadian volume, *Statistical Methods in Forest Investigative Work*, clarified concepts of statistical error and how to correct for it. In the 1930s, the USDA Forest Service adopted improved statistical methods from Great Britain and more efficient measuring techniques from Austria, later building on the European advances to improve measurement and sampling techniques.

New techniques resulted in major efficiencies. In 1937, 120,000 line plots were needed to adequately sample the Lake States alone, the same number needed today for the entire United States. Without gains in efficiency, thanks to the infusion of international ideas, today's inventories might be prohibitively costly.

The exchange of ideas between the USDA Forest Service and collaborators in other parts of the world is now continuous. Regular communication with the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization and contributions to its global Forest Resource Assessment have led to a common forest

inventory terminology and common measurement protocols. USDA Forest Service specialists in forest inventory are working with Canada, Chile, Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, and Mexico to establish state-of-the-art countrywide forest inventories.

The 1992 Earth Summit in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, broadened the scope of forest inventory by committing the world to sustainable forest management. Through

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Raphael Zon: The Russian Connection

Born and raised in Czarist Russia, Raphael Zon emigrated in 1898 to New York, where he studied forest engineering at the New York State College of Forestry. In 1901, Zon joined the USDA Bureau of Forestry, later renamed the USDA Forest Service. He was a close friend and associate of Gifford Pinchot, the first USDA Forest Service Chief.

To give forest management a scientific basis, Zon advocated a system of research stations in various disciplines, the first of which was established in Flagstaff, AZ, in 1908. Twenty years later, Zon's vision was fulfilled when Congress enacted a system of research stations nationwide. Zon was also responsible for linking each forest supervisor with a trained researcher—an idea that produced a culture of close ties between forest managers and researchers in the USDA Forest Service.

As Director of the Lake States Region Forest Experiment Station, Zon established seed studies and replanting guidelines to help reforest lands ravaged by decades of rapacious logging. In the mid-1930s, following the horrific Dust Bowl on the Great Plains, Zon was instrumental in New Deal efforts to curtail wind erosion by planting shelter belts of trees reaching from North Dakota to Texas.

Until his retirement in 1944, Zon strove for a broad vision and a social basis for the USDA Forest Service. At the 1939 World's Fair in New York, he was one of 600 foreign-born citizens recognized for his remarkable contributions to American democracy.





News Bits From Around The World

Brazil: Partnership for Sustainable Forest Management

The Amazon forest covers an area the size of the United States. Its amazing biodiversity is a jewel in the crown of the world's forest ecosystems. Sadly, 18 percent of it is gone; each year, the Amazon rainforest loses an area the size of New Jersey, mainly to ranching and slash-and-burn agriculture, especially soybean production. Brazil is now the world's leading soybean exporter.

In September 2004, USDA Forest Service Chief Dale Bosworth saw large areas of deforestation firsthand. At the invitation of the U.S. Agency for International Development, he traveled to the Brazilian Amazon, where he also witnessed efforts to stop deforestation by making sustainable forestry economically competitive with agriculture and ranching.

For 8 years, the USDA Forest Service has worked with the Brazilian Government, the U.S. Agency for International Development, and other partners to train Brazilians in reduced-impact harvesting techniques, which minimize environmental damage while maintaining or even increasing profitability.

After touring the training center, Chief Bosworth visited one of the largest certified timber management operations in South America. His trip underscored the USDA Forest Service's commitment to supporting sustainable forest management worldwide.

Sudan: Alleviating the Suffering

For two decades, the people of Sudan have suffered from war and war-related famines and epidemics. More than 2 million people have perished—nearly 8 percent of the country's population. Another 4 million have been displaced, with almost half a million fleeing to neighboring countries. In recent months, the suffering has concentrated in the region of Darfur.

In June 2004, former U.S. Secretary of State Colin Powell visited Sudan with Andrew Natsios, Administrator of the U.S. Agency for International Development, and other Government representatives. They helped the Government of Sudan outline three priorities: allowing humanitarian relief to reach Darfur; reining in the militias; and opening negotiations with the opposition.

The United States is still monitoring the region and providing humanitarian assis-

tance. The U.S. Agency for International Development's Office of Foreign Disaster Assistance sent specialists from the USDA Forest Service's Disaster Assistance Support Program to Sudan to provide assessments and logistical and administrative support.

South Asia: Coping With Disaster

On December 26, 2004, a magnitude 9.0 earthquake shook the waters off the coast of northern Sumatra in Indonesia. The quake sent waves in every direction, triggering deadly tsunamis in parts of South and Southeast Asia, as well as East Africa. The waves killed more than 150,000 people and left millions more without homes.

Immediately, the U.S. Agency for International Development's Office of Foreign Disaster Assistance set up a Disaster Assistance Response Team for the region. Within hours of the disaster, a relief specialist from the USDA Forest Service and another from the U.S. Department of the Interior (USDI) Bureau of Land Management arrived in Sri Lanka. Mobilized through the USDA Forest Service's Disaster Assistance Support Program, they were among the first relief specialists from the U.S. Government to arrive on the scene.

Immediately following the tsunamis, additional employees from the USDA Forest Service and the USDI Bureau of Land Management were deployed to Sri Lanka and Thailand, and some were assigned to the Response Management Team set up by the U.S. Agency for International Development (in Washington, DC). On January 10, 2005, they were personally thanked by President Bush in an address to U.S. Agency for International Development employees concerning the Tsunami response.



USDA FOREST SERVICE CHIEF DALE BOSWORTH, ON HIS RECENT TRIP TO BRAZIL, SAW HOW REDUCED-IMPACT LOGGING TECHNIQUES MINIMIZE ENVIRONMENTAL DAMAGE WHILE MAINTAINING, OR SOMETIMES INCREASING, PROFITABILITY.



Visit these Web sites for more information related to articles in this issue:

<http://www.fs.fed.us/global/topic/migratory.htm> - USDA Forest Service International Programs' information on migratory bird conservation

<http://www.nabci-us.org> - North American Bird Conservation Initiative

<http://www.fs.fed.us/r10/chugach/cordova/initiative.html> - Copper River International Migratory Bird Initiative

<http://www.ducks.org> - Ducks Unlimited

<http://www.fs.fed.us/global/aboutus/dasp/welcome.htm> - Disaster Assistance Support Program of the USDA Forest Service International Programs Staff

http://www.usaid.gov/our_work/humanitarian_assistance/disaster_assistance - U.S. Agency for International Development's Office of Foreign Disaster Assistance

<http://www.blm.gov> - USDI Bureau of Land Management

<http://www.un.org/geninfo/bp/enviro.html> - 1992 United Nations Conference on Environment and Development Meeting in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

http://www.mpci.org/home_e.html - Montreal Process Criteria and Indicators



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One initiative based on a bird's-eye view is the *Copper River International Migratory Bird Initiative*, sponsored by Ducks Unlimited and the USDA Forest Service's Chugach National Forest, Pacific Northwest Research Station, and International Programs Staff. Millions of migratory birds depend on Alaska's Copper River Delta, as well as far-away places in Canada, Mexico, Panama, and the lower 48 States—where their habitats are threatened. The Copper River initiative looks for trouble spots and seeks solutions through conservation partnerships.

And what of the Kirtland's warbler? USDA Forest Service researchers are working with colleagues in the Bahamas to learn its island habitat needs. Kirtland's warblers and other migratory birds are like winged ambassadors: By connecting far-flung lands, they have much to teach us about working together.

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the Montreal Process, 12 countries containing 90 percent of the world's temperate and boreal forests have formulated common criteria and indicators of sustainable forest management. Specialists from the United States and other countries are now developing inventory standards for measuring

the criteria and indicators. Ultimately, all 12 countries will have the reliable data they need to set national policies for sustainable forest management.

From early subjective accounts, often inspired by greed, forest inventory has become a science-based tool for conserving

the world's forests. Through international connections, we are crafting tools for assessing the forest resource in all of its dimensions—social, economic, and ecological—for the benefit of generations to come.

21st International Seminar on Forest and Natural Resources Administration and Management

August 21 – September 8, 2005

Arizona, Colorado, North Carolina, and the District of Columbia, USA

Jointly offered by Colorado State University and USDA Forest Service International Programs, this seminar is designed for senior natural resource management professionals. The 19-day program focuses on strategies and methods to develop, manage, and conserve natural resources for the sustained delivery of goods and services to meet the full range of human needs. For application details, visit <http://www.fs.fed.us/global/is/isfam/welcome.htm> or write to Ann Keith, College of Natural Resources, Colorado State University, Fort Collins, CO 80523-1401, USA, or e-mail at ifs@cnr.colostate.edu.

2005 International Seminar on Protected Area Management

August 3-20, 2005

Missoula, Montana, USA

This seminar—jointly offered by the University of Montana, University of Idaho, Colorado State University, and USDA Forest Service International Programs—is geared for senior-level managers and policymakers working in protected areas. The program examines and stimulates debate on management strategies, policies, and innovative institutional arrangements to address the conservation and use of the world's most special places. For application details, visit <http://www.fs.fed.us/global/is/ispam/welcome.htm> or write to Wayne Freimund, School of Forestry, The University of Montana, Missoula, MT 59812, USA, or e-mail at wayne@forestry.umt.edu.

2005 International Seminar on Watershed Management

June 14-30, 2005

Stevens Point, Wisconsin, USA

Jointly offered by the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point and the USDA Forest Service International Programs, this seminar is geared towards senior-level natural resource professionals. The course examines the needs and challenges facing watershed managers and focuses on strategies and methods to manage and conserve watershed resources sustainably. For application details, visit <http://www.fs.fed.us/global/is/watershed/welcome.htm> or write to Dr. Wes Halverson, University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point, College of Natural Resources, Stevens Point, WI 54481-389, USA, or e-mail at Wes.Halverson@uwsp.edu.

2005 International Field Course on Wildlands and Protected Area Management

July 5 – August 7, 2005

Fort Collins, Colorado, USA

Co-hosted by the Center for Protected Area Management and Training at Colorado State University and USDA Forest Service International Programs, this course, held in Spanish, presents key concepts and methods of protected area management while emphasizing field-based practical exercises. For application details, visit http://www.fs.fed.us/global/is/field_course/welcome.htm or write to Ryan Finchum, Colorado State University, Center for Protected Area Management and Training, Fort Collins, CO 80523-1480, USA, or e-mail at finchum@cnr.colostate.edu.

The **Global Leaflet** presents highlights of policy, research, technical cooperation, development, and conservation activities in which the USDA Forest Service is involved worldwide. Its purpose is to demonstrate the breadth and importance of international collaboration on natural resource management issues and to share information within the USDA Forest Service and with our partners in the United States and around the world.

International Programs is dedicated to applying the wealth of skills within the USDA Forest Service to foster sustainable forest management globally. We encourage linking the agency's researchers, foresters, wildlife biologists, hydrologists, policymakers, and disaster specialists with partners overseas to work on assignments in the areas of technical cooperation, policy assistance, and disaster coordination. Our focus is on key natural resource problems and issues in countries with significant forest resources and important forest-related trade with the United States. International cooperation results in improved sustainable natural resource practices in partner countries, develops the skills of USDA Forest Service personnel, and brings back knowledge and innovative technologies to the United States.

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Secretary of Agriculture: **Mike Johanns**
Chief of the USDA Forest Service: **Dale N. Bosworth**

International Programs
USDA Forest Service
1099 14th St. NW, Suite 5500W
Washington, DC 20005-3402

Web site: <http://www.fs.fed.us/global>

Director: **Val Mezainis**
Phone: **(202) 205-1650**

Art Director: **Woody Machalek**
Editor: **Hutch Brown**



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FOREST SERVICE



INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMS

