Paper Session:

2102 Payments for Ecosystem Services: Paths toward Sustainability--Sesssion I

is scheduled on Wednesday, 4/10/2013, from 8:00 AM - 9:40 AM in Beaudry B, Westin, Lobby Level

Sponsorship(s):
Spatial Analysis and Modeling Specialty Group
Human Dimensions of Global Change Specialty Group
Geographic Information Science and Systems Specialty Group

Organizer(s):
Li An - San Diego State University
Alex I. Zvoleff - San Diego State University

Chair(s):
Sarah Wandersee - SDSU Geography

Abstract(s):

8:00 AM Author(s): *Ruxandra Popovici - Duke University

Abstract Title: *The role of the state in the formation of markets for hydrological services in Mexico*

8:20 AM Author(s): *Li An - San Diego State University
Xiaodong Chen - University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill
Sarah Wandersee - San Diego State University
Shuang Yang - San Diego State University
Alex Zvoleff - San Diego State University

Abstract Title: *Payments for ecosystem services: a coupled natural and human systems approach*

8:40 AM Author(s): *Heejun Chang - Portland State University
Samantha Hamlin - Portland State University
Wes Hoyer - Portland State University
Dave Ervin - Portland State University
Bobby Cochran - Willamette Partnership

Abstract Title: *Payments for Water-Related Ecosystem Services addressing the Impacts of Climate Change and Urban Development in the Lower Willamette Valley*

9:00 AM Author(s): *Sarah Wandersee - San Diego State University, Geography
Li An, PhD - San Diego State University, Geography
Yeqin Yang - Fanjingshan National Nature Reserve

Abstract Title: *National plans, local rules: An analysis of China's sloped land conversion program implementation in a high priority conservation area*

9:20 AM Author(s): *Leah Bremer, Ph.D. - The Natural Capital Project, Stanford University
Kathleen A Farley, Ph.D. - San Diego State University
Carol P Harden, Ph.D. - University of Tennessee

Abstract Title: *Tradeoffs in carbon storage and plant diversity with land-use changes*

promoted by payment for ecosystem services (PES) programs in Ecuadorian páramo grasslands

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Session Description: Many important ecosystem services have been degraded as a result of human activities. Even services derived from so-called protected areas are not immune to these threats. Indeed, much debate surrounds the topic of the most effective approaches to conservation. One approach has been to provide compensation to the parties protecting them in the form of payments for ecosystem services (PES). To counteract forces of degradation, governments, the private sector, and non-governmental organizations worldwide invest billions of dollars each year in PES programs that provide incentives to resource users to take actions that sustain ecosystem services (or to refrain from taking actions that threaten ecosystem services). Despite reported successes in restoring and preserving ecosystems and their corresponding services such as clean air and water, food, soil fertility, forest resources, and eco-tourism, long-term PES program sustainability remains uncertain. PES lack of sustainability can arise from many reasons, one being that PES participants may return to their previous behavioral patterns when payments end.
This session will explore possible pathways toward PES sustainability, addressing the complex reciprocal relationships between PES programs and corresponding socioeconomic, demographic, and environmental systems. We particularly encourage review and research articles to address theoretical, methodological, and empirical issues related to (but not limited to) the following topics:
1. Land use or land cover change associated with PES programs
2. Ecological effects of PES programs (e.g., wildlife habitat or behavioral change)
3. Potential mechanisms for success/failure observed in current PES programs
4. Socioeconomic, demographic, and political consequences of PES programs
5. Methodological issues: collection of qualitative and quantitative data related to PES, data analysis and modeling, application of GIS techniques and spatial statistics, integration of multidisciplinary and multi-scale data, etc.
6. Complexity in coupled natural and human systems (CNH) arising from PES programs (e.g., feedback, nonlinearity, time lags). Analyses using similar integrated frameworks including coupled human and natural systems (CHANS), social-ecological systems, or social-environmental systems are also welcome.
This session (sessions) is co-sponsored by multiple AAG Specialty Groups: Geographic Information Science and Systems, Spatial Analysis and Modeling, Human Dimensions of Global Change, and China Geography.

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