Pacific Northwest CESU

2014 Fall Partners Meeting

November 6, 2014, 9am - Noon

University of Washington

Bloedel 292

Agenda

- Welcome and Introductions
- Retirement of Dr Gordon Bradley, Current PNW CESU Co-Leader
- Introduction of Dr Tom DeLuca, Director of School of Environmental and Forest Sciences, PNW CESU Co-Leader effective Jan 2015
- PNW CESU Program Update & Fiscal Review
- National CESU Updates
- PNW CESU Renewal & Strategic Plan
- Partner Updates
- Next Meeting

PNW CESU Members

Federal agencies

- Bureau of Land Management (BLM)
- Bureau of Reclamation (USBR)
- Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM)
- Department of Defense
- National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)
- National Park Service (NPS)
- Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS)
- U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE)
- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS)
- U.S. Forest Service (USFS) - Pacific Northwest Research Station
- U.S. Geological Survey (USGS)

Partner Organizations

Universities

- University of Washington - Host University
- Central Washington University
- Eastern Washington University
- Heritage University
- Oregon Institute of Technology
- Oregon State University
- Portland State University
- Saint Mary's University of Minnesota
- Southern Oregon University
- University of Alaska Anchorage
- University of Alaska Southeast
- University of British Columbia
- University of Idaho
- University of Oregon
- University of Vermont and State Agriculture College
- Washington State University
- Western Washington University

State Agencies

- Alaska Department of Fish and Game

Cooperative Ecosystem Studies Units

Pacific Northwest CESU Program Activity

April 2014: PNW CESU Spring Partners Webinar

June 2014: Chris attended National CESU meeting

September 2014: Poster on PNW CESU presented at 5th Annual Pacific Northwest Climate Science Conference, held at UW.

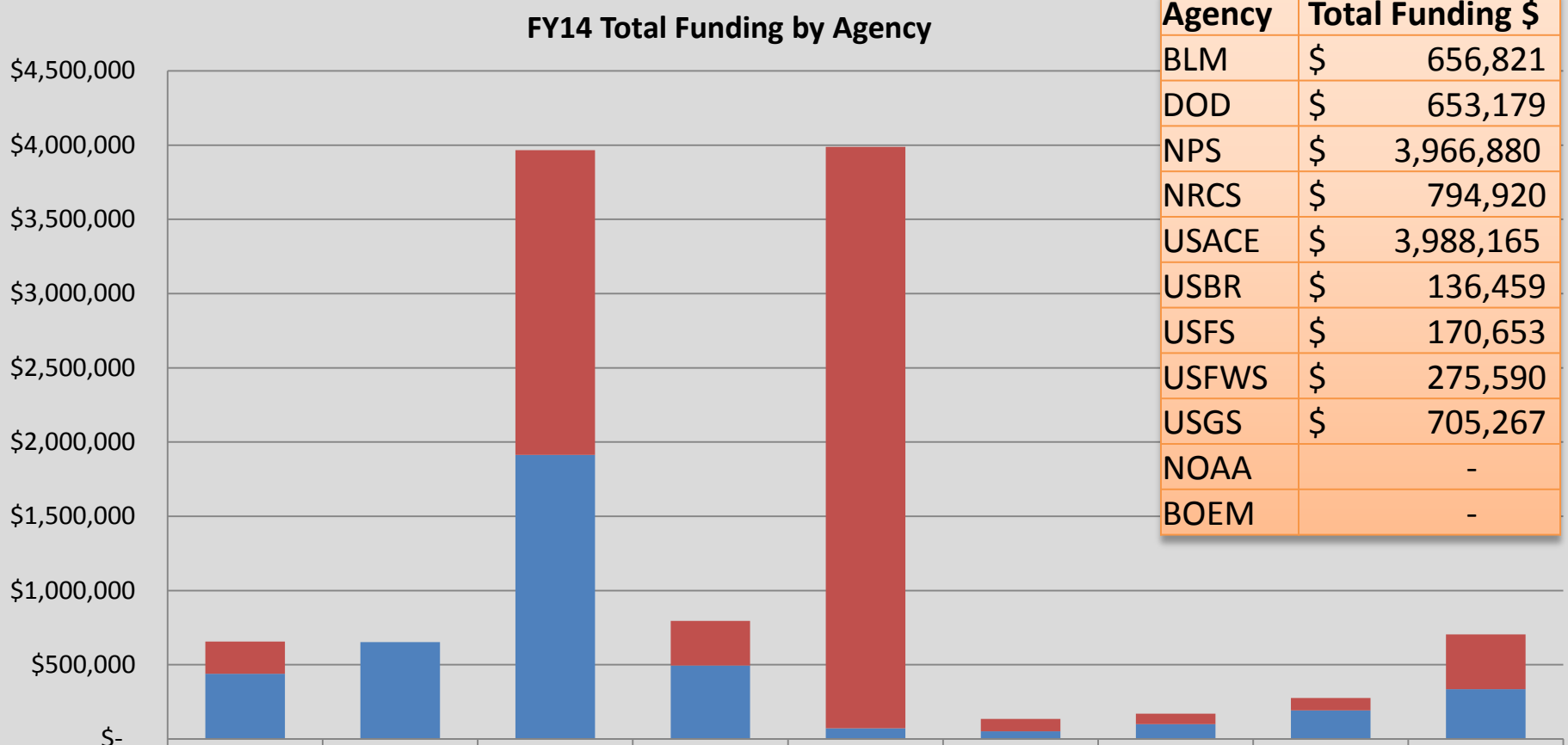
Notes:

- Teresa's been active in updating and auditing all agency documents, identified additional $3+ million in PNW CESU project funding; also audited final reports for NPS projects, collecting 50+ missing reports, added these to Project Library on website
- Other partnership connections: Chris involved with the North Pacific Landscape Conservation Cooperative and the NW Climate Science Center
- E-newsletter: plan to distribute in December
- Set the stage: current Master Agreement (2010-2015) ends Oct. 2015

PNW CESU
FY10 - FY14 Funding Overview

	# of New Projects	New Project $	# of Cost Mods	Mod $	Total Funding $	% change from previous year
FY14	**58**	**$4,256,105**	**63**	**$7,091,829**	**$11,347,934**	**12.77%**
FY13	50	$2,928,636	64	$7,134,498	$10,063,134	2.60%
FY12	54	$4,678,908	83	$5,128,902	$9,807,810	12.04%
FY11	67	$3,922,021	93	$4,832,078	$8,754,099	28.95%
FY10	87	$4,561,602	52	$2,227,358	$6,788,960	20.25%

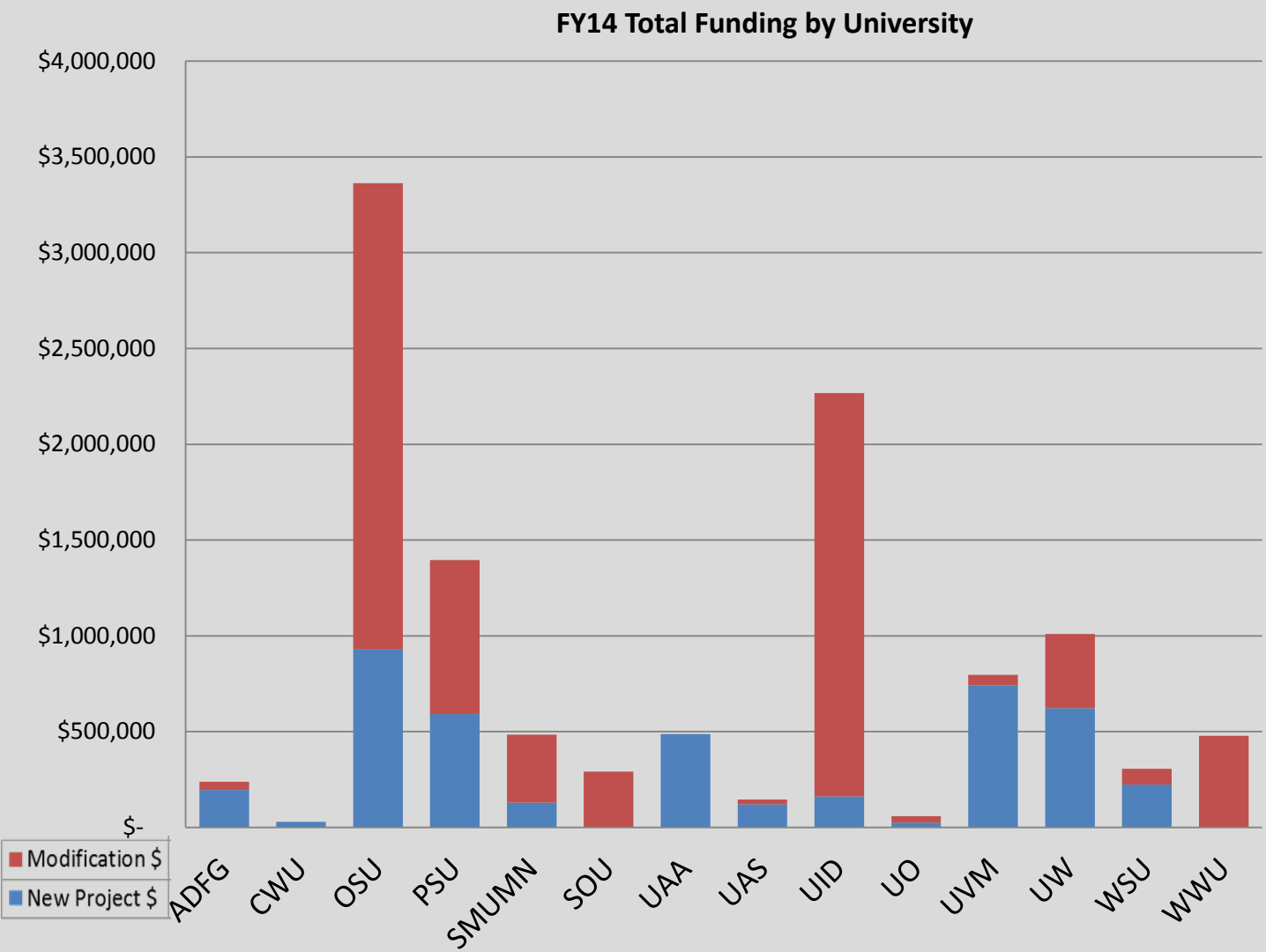
PNW CESU
FY14 - Total Funding by Agency
(Includes new projects and cost modifications)



Agency	Total Funding $
BLM	$ 656,821
DOD	$ 653,179
NPS	$ 3,966,880
NRCS	$ 794,920
USACE	$ 3,988,165
USBR	$ 136,459
USFS	$ 170,653
USFWS	$ 275,590
USGS	$ 705,267
NOAA	-
BOEM	-

	BLM	DOD	NPS	NRCS	USACE	USBR	USFS	USFWS	USGS
Modification $	$217,048	$-	$2,053,114	$299,000	$3,916,008	$84,599	$70,000	$83,000	$369,060
New Project $	$439,773	$653,179	$1,913,766	$495,920	$72,157	$51,860	$100,653	$192,590	$336,207

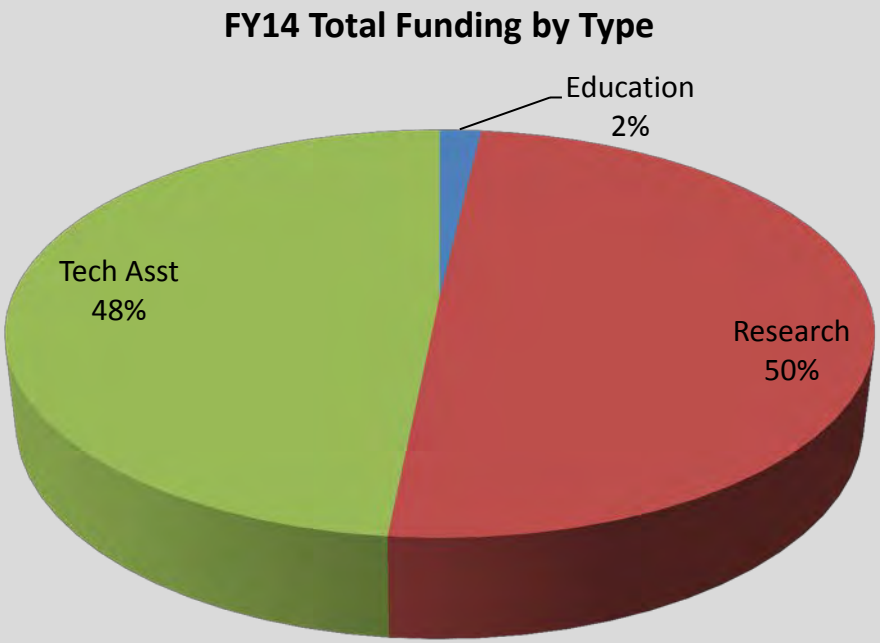
PNW CESU
FY14 - Total Funding by University
(Includes new projects and cost modifications)



Partner	Total Funding $
ADFG	$ 237,876
CWU	$ 28,525
EWU	$ -
HU	$ -
OIT	$ -
OSU	$ 3,362,299
PSU	$ 1,395,973
SMUMN	$ 483,639
SOU	$ 290,893
UAA	$ 487,062
UAS	$ 145,397
UBC	$ -
UID	$ 2,267,255
UO	$ 59,117
UVM	$ 795,781
UW	$ 1,009,342
WSU	$ 306,781
WWU	$ 477,992

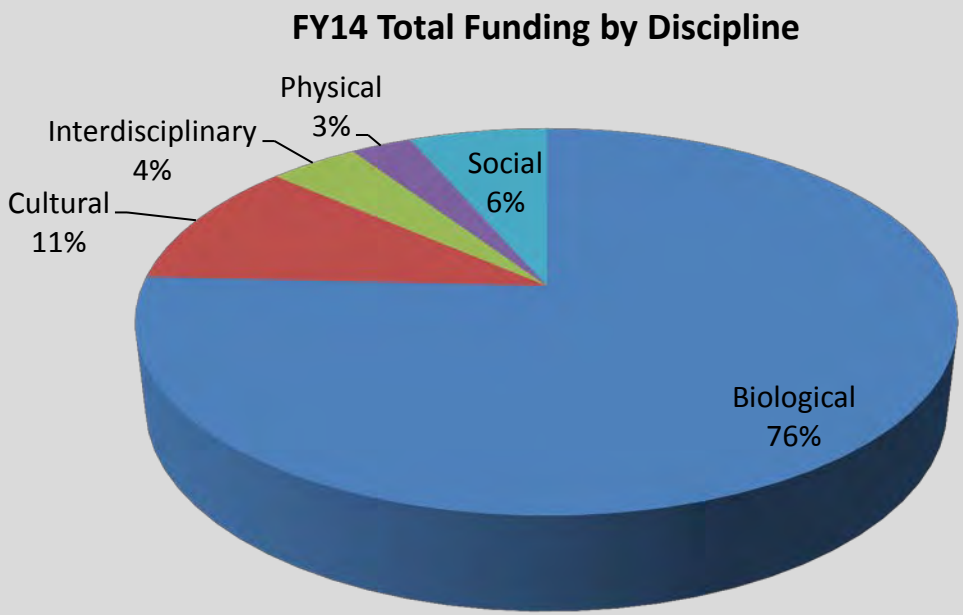
PNW CESU
FY14 - Total Funding by Type
(Includes new projects and cost mods)

Type	Total Funding $	New Projects
RESEARCH	4,560,255	23
TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE	4,436,722	11
EDUCATIONAL	167,649	2



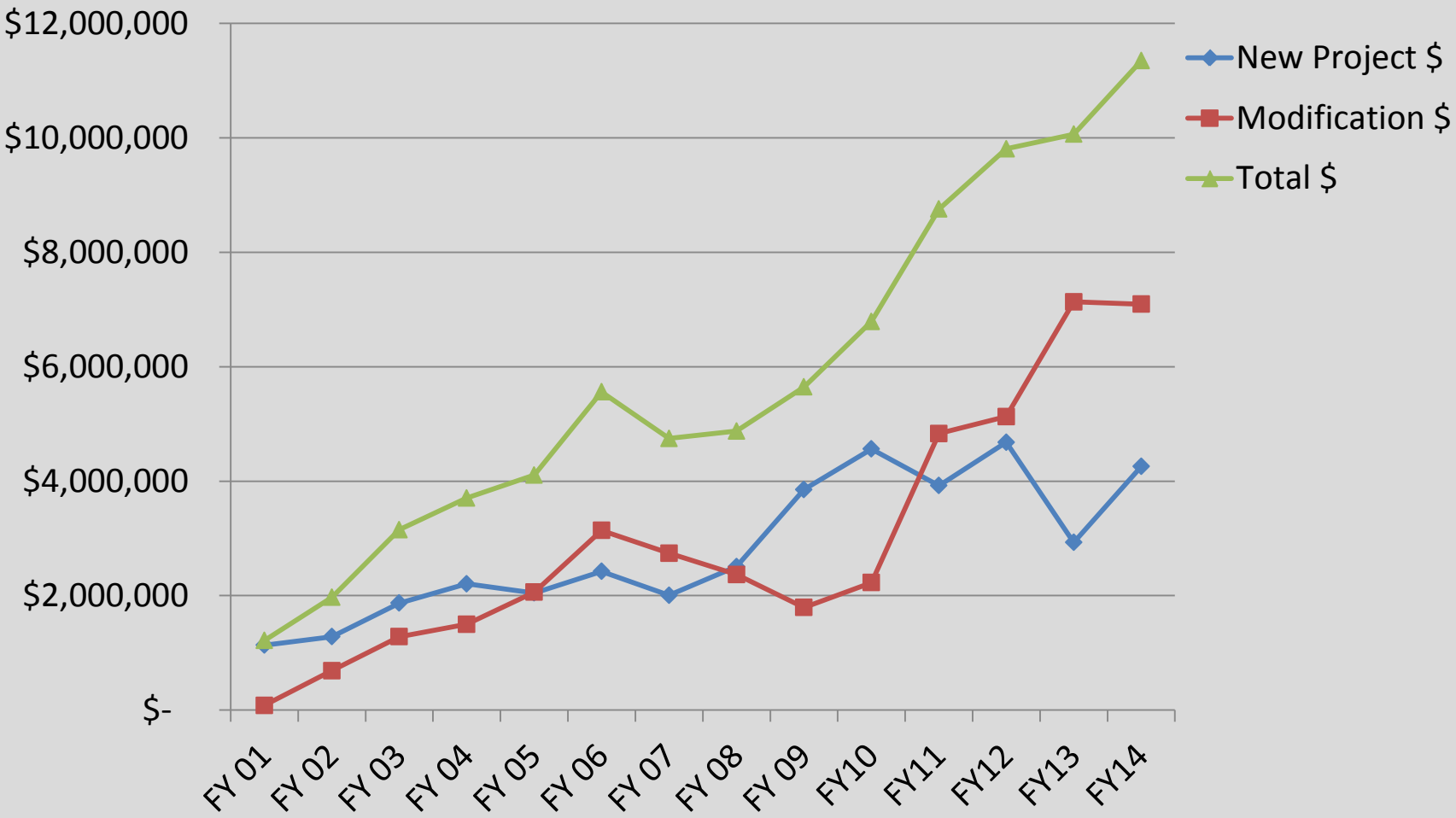
PNW CESU
FY14 Total Funding by Discipline
(Includes new projects and cost mods)

Discipline	Total Funding $	New Projects
BIOLOGICAL	6,972,200	22
CULTURAL	973,936	7
INTERDISCIPLINARY	384,300	4
PHYSICAL	261,198	2
SOCIAL	592,992	1



PNW FY01 - FY14 Funding Overview

Almost $82 million, approx. 700 projects

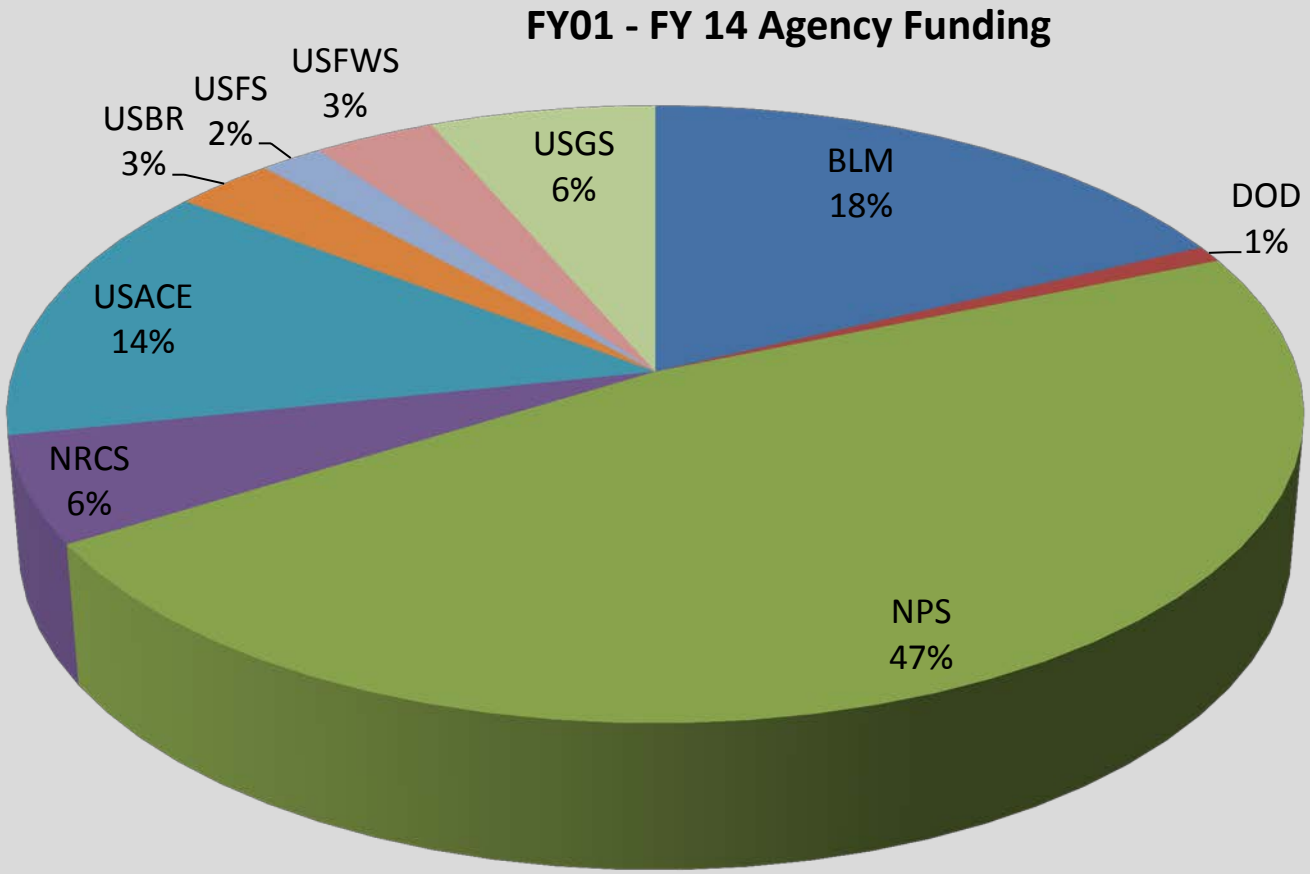


PNW CESU FY01 - FY14 Funding Overview

	# of New Projects	New Project $	# Cost Mods	Mod $	Total Funding $	% change from previous year
FY01	34	$1,133,953	7	$80,080	$1,214,033	
FY02	36	$1,282,100	22	$686,700	$1,968,800	62.17%
FY03	37	$1,870,283	32	$1,281,449	$3,151,732	60.08%
FY04	45	$2,206,739	32	$1,498,078	$3,704,817	17.55%
FY05	39	$2,046,761	41	$2,059,943	$4,106,704	10.85%
FY06	40	$2,422,394	54	$3,138,276	$5,560,670	35.40%
FY07	42	$2,005,168	53	$2,741,415	$4,746,583	-14.64%
FY08	59	$2,507,016	42	$2,367,806	$4,874,822	2.70%
FY09	47	$3,852,438	41	$1,793,127	$5,645,565	15.81%
FY10	87	$4,561,602	52	$2,227,358	$6,788,960	20.25%
FY11	67	$3,922,021	93	$4,832,078	$8,754,099	28.95%
FY12	54	$4,678,908	83	$5,128,902	$9,807,810	12.04%
FY13	50	$2,928,636	64	$7,134,498	$10,063,134	2.60%
FY14	58	$4,256,105	63	$7,091,829	$11,347,934	12.77%
TOTAL	**695**	**$39,674,124**	**679**	**$42,061,539**	**$81,735,663**	

PNW FY01 - FY14 Agency Funding

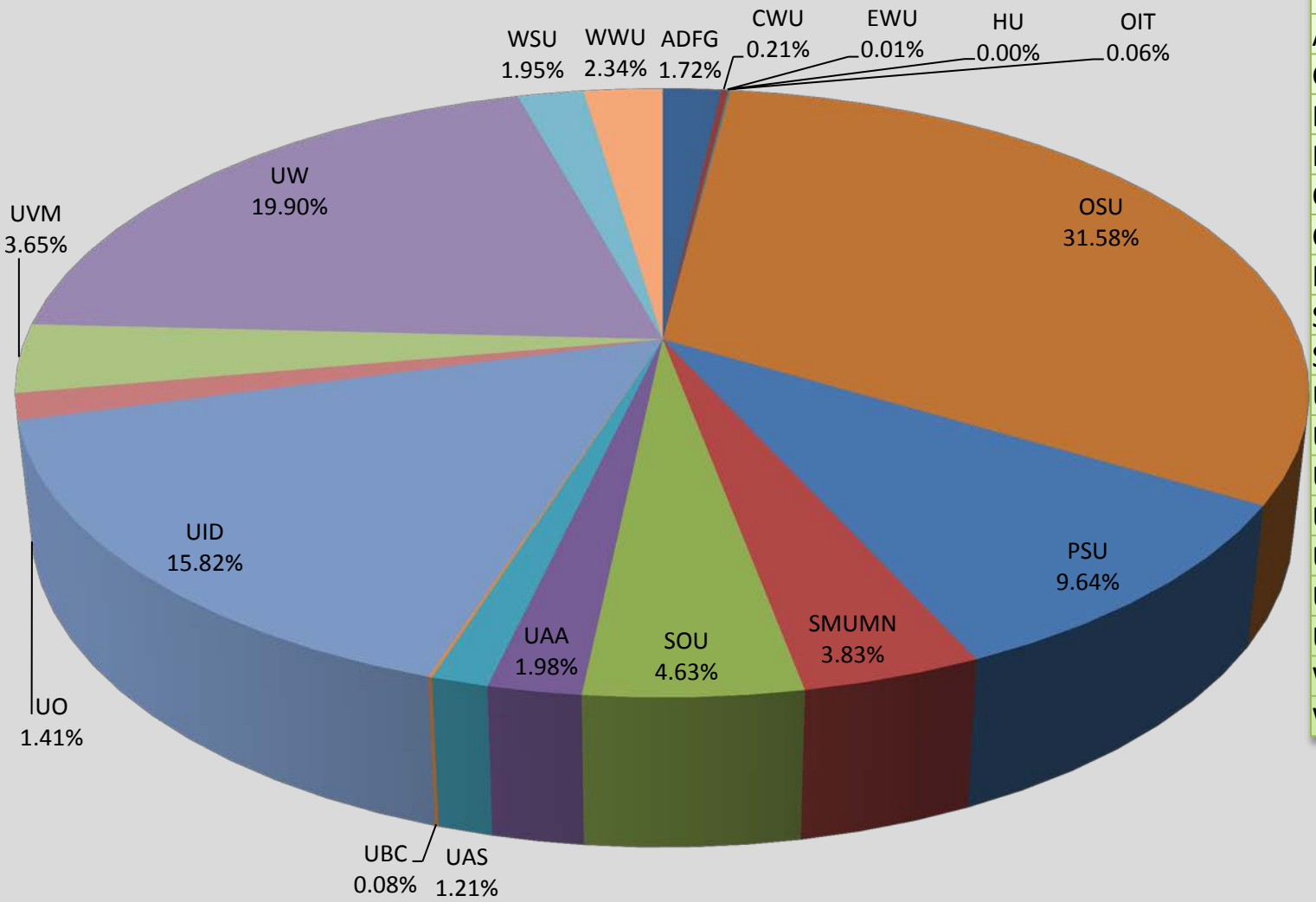
(Includes new projects and modifications)



Agency	Total
BLM	$ 14,583,452
DOD	$ 693,179
NPS	$ 38,778,684
NRCS	$ 4,565,811
USACE	$ 11,202,938
USBR	$ 2,342,811
USFS	$ 1,468,690
USFWS	$ 2,844,125
USGS	$ 5,255,973
NOAA	-
BOEM	-

PNW FY01 - FY14 Funding by Partner

(Includes new projects and modifications)



PARTNER	TOTAL
ADFG	$ 1,408,365
CWU	$ 170,405
EWU	$ 7,245
HU	$ -
OIT	$ 46,783
OSU	$ 25,804,569
PSU	$ 7,873,317
SMUMN	$ 3,128,387
SOU	$ 3,779,264
UAA	$ 1,619,912
UAS	$ 987,673
UBC	$ 64,437
UID	$ 12,921,914
UO	$ 1,149,234
UVM	$ 2,981,725
UW	$ 16,254,472
WSU	$ 1,595,432
WWU	$ 1,908,023

FY14 New Projects List

Agency	Partner	Project Name
BLM	OSU	BLM OR-WA Cooperative Ecosystems Studies Unit (CESU) Panther Creek Weather Modeling
BLM	WSU	CESU-Environmental DNA for Inventory and Monitoring Aquatic Species
BLM	OSU	Inner City Youth Institute Program, Oregon State Office
BLM	UID	CESU Native Geno-Types - Comparative Yields in Commerical Field Production
BLM	OSU	BLM OR-WA CESU Identifying Tools Based on What Users Do.
BLM	UW	BLM OR/WA CESU Flora of the Pacific Northwest Revision
DOD	UVM	Provide Architectural Expertise and Conservation Work, oversight for the continued restoration of the Las Flores Adobe Ranch House and Santa Margarita Ranch Complex
NPS	UID	Technical Assistance (GIS, Database, Science Communication) for the Upper Columbia Basin Network
NPS	PSU	An Ethnohistory of the Klamath Tribes at Crater Lake National Park
NPS	ADFG	Upper Tanana Community Harvest Assessment
NPS	CWU	Geoarchaeological Context of the Mid-Holocene Human Occupation at the Frank Slaven Roadhouse Site, Yukon-Charley Rivers national Preserve, Alaska
NPS	OSU	Landscape Change Detection in North Coast and Cascades Network (NCCN) Parks in Support of NCCN Landscape Dynamics Monitoring
NPS	SMUMN	Natural Resource Condition Assessment for Carlsbad Caverns National Park
NPS	OSU	Lichen Community Analysis for Environmental Monitoring
NPS	PSU	The Identification and Evaluation of Five Natural Areas as Potential National Natural Landmarks in the Pacific West Region
NPS	UW	Evaluate Productivity and Abundance of Selected Salmonid Populations in Olympic National Park
NPS	UW	George Melendez Wright Initiative For Young Leaders in Climate Change
NPS	UAA	Document Expressive Culture of Area Dena'ina
NPS	UID	Development of Inventory and Monitoring Outreach Products for the Sierra Nevada network
NPS	SMUMN	Natural Resource Condition Assessment for Obed Wild and Scenic River and Shiloh National Military Park
NPS	WSU	Analyzing Archaeological Materials from Redwood National Park to Investigate Historical Marine Environments
NPS	PSU	Support for Protection, Interpretation, and Public Education of the NeCus Village Site, Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail
NPS	PSU	A Telaquana Trail Cultural Landscape Report within Lake Clark National Park and Preserve

FY14 New Projects List

Agency	Partner	Project Title
NPS	UW	Using LiDAR to Guide Forest Restoration in the Crater Lake Panhandle
NPS	ADFG	Energetics, Survival, and Dispersal of Dall's Sheep Rams Under Differing Harvest Management Strategies
NPS	OSU	Updating PRISM Climate Maps for Alaska (using 1981 -2010 data) and Developing Monthly Time Series Maps for Temperature and Precipitation
NPS	OSU	Evaluating Impacts of a Pneumonia Epizootic and Potential for Disease Transmission Among Desert Bighorn Sheep Herds in and near Mojave National Preserve
NPS	UW	Assessment of Water Quality Conditions in and around Four Pacific Northwest Coastal Parks
NPS	WSU	Community-Specific Biogeochemical Responses to Atmospheric Nitrogen Deposition in Subalpine Ecosystems
NPS	OSU	Lepidoptera (Butterflies and Moths) of Crater Lake National Park
NPS	UW	Determining if Managed Wildfires and Prescribed Fires Conserve Critical Habitat Structure for Pacific Fishers in the Southern Sierra Nevada
NPS	UVM	Natural Resource Condition Assessment for the National Park of American Samoa
NPS	CWU	Monitoring and Studying the Effects of Atmospheric Deposition and Other Water Quality Threats to Parks In the North Coast and Cascades Network
NPS	UO	Dissemination Strategies for Honoring Tribal Legacies in the Studies of Lewis and Clark: An Epic Journey of Healing
NPS	OSU	Supporting the Ocean Noise Reference Station Network with Underwater Acoustic Monitoring at the National Park of American Samoa
NPS	PSU	A Stable Isotope Approach to Understanding Contaminant Distribution in Food Webs of Stocked versus Fishless Montane Lakes
NPS	UID	Developing a Sage Grouse Long-term Monitoring Protocol for the Upper Columbia Basin Network
NPS	ADFG	Determining Moose and Wolf Population Estimates for the International Chisana Caribou Herd Management Plan
NPS	UAS	Current and Historical Mercury Sources and Deposition to Remote Southeast Alaskan Lakes
NPS	PSU	An Ethnohistory Study for John Day Fossil Beds National Monument
NPS	UAA	Economic Assessment of the Ambler Mining District Road Access through Gates of the Arctic National Park and Preserve on Subsistence Users

FY14 New Projects List

Agency	Partner	Project Title
NRCS	OSU	Integrating Soil Microbial Community Composition into Soil Survey as an Index to Soil Health
NRCS	PSU	NWCC Spatial Services - Watershed Analysis Internet GIS
NRCS	OSU	CEAP assessment of the effects of the NRCS Lesser Prairie-Chicken Inititive
USACE	UAS	Defining Source of Crab Population in Yakutat Area
USBR	UID	2014-2019 Lapwai Basin Steelhead Density Monitoring
USBR	UID	South Fork Boise River Sediment Study
USFS	UAA	Using Tree Rings to Understand the Impacts of Climate Change in Interior Alaska
USFS	UAS	Critical zone measurements in the perhumid coastal temperate rainforest of southeast Alaska.
USFS	PSU	Envisioning the Future of Oregon's Forests
USFWS	UW	Incorporating Spatial Heterogeneity in Temperature into Climate Vulnerability Assessments for Coastal Pacific Rivers: An applied case study to integrate climate change into design and permitting of water crossing structures.
USFWS	UW	Routed Streamflow Projections for the Western US
USFWS	PSU	2014 Western Snowy Plover Nest Monitoring and Protection
USFWS	OSU	Probability of Occurrence Reanalysis - PSG Marbled Murrelet Inland Survey Protocol
USFWS	UW	Synthesis of Terrestrial Climate Change Impacts on the North Pacific Landscape Cooperative Domain for Inclusion in the NPLCC's "Interactive Climate Map" submitted to the USFWS's CFDA Program 15.669.
USGS	WSU	Daily Activity Budgets of Polar Bears in Response to Variation in Seasonal Sea Ice Condition
USGS	UID	Hosting and Supporting the Coastal Biogeographic Risk Analysis Tools at the University of Idaho Northwest Knowledge Network
USGS	UAA	AK HYDRO

Cooperative Ecosystem Studies Units

Thomas E. Fish, National Coordinator

cesu.org

State of the Network

2 tribes

14 federal agencies

258 universities (58 minority serving institutions)

85 state, tribal, and non-governmental

359 total partners (as of November 2014)

Since 1999, ~12,000 projects over $1 billion (estimated figures)

What are the roles?

- Network Council
- Network National Office Staff
- Directors
- Partner Technical and Administrative Reps
- Federal Managers Committee

National Initiatives

- National Meeting
- Database
- Program Evaluation and Strategic Planning

CESU Policies: Host Support

- Each CESU will get $15,000 per year
- Likely as a task agreement/modification with the National Office
- Amount based on tasks/costs from directors
- Federal agencies will contribute based on their "membership share" (about $1,600 per share)
- Agencies that joined recently get a waiver
- Details of implementation TBD

CESU Policies: Indirect Cost

- Host support and IDC separate issues
- IDC working group formed in mid-October
- Tasked with addressing:
  - The rate (currently 17.5%) – specifically designing an appropriate method for reviewing the rate and recommending the frequency of conducting the review
  - Setting a nationwide policy for the cost basis (MDTC or TDC)
  - Making recommendations for reducing the administrative burden of CESU projects on agencies and nonfederal partners
  - Addressing the Office of Management and Budget Uniform Guidance

CESU Policies: Renewal Process

The objectives of the review and decision on renewal are to:

- assess mutual consent in continuing the activities of the CESU,
- evaluate the activities, strengths, and weaknesses of each CESU over the last five years, including collaborative responsibilities described in each agreement, and
- renew each agreement, as appropriate, including suggested or required changes.

- Desert Southwest – University of Arizona
- Pacific Northwest – University of Washington
- South Florida-Caribbean – University of Miami
- Great Plains – University of Nebraska, Lincoln

Renewal Package

- Host university analysis (letter of interest, self-assessment, compiled list of projects)
- Federal managers committee analysis and recommendation
- External reviewers analysis and recommendation

Due Dates - tentative

- Names of External Reviewers – due Dec 15
- Agency funded project list – due to director no later than Jan 15
- Host university analysis – due Jan 21
- Federal managers committee analysis and recommendation – due Feb 28
- External reviewers analysis and recommendation – due Feb 28
- Renewal package to Council – Mar 15
- Council meeting – around Apr 20

Roles during the Review

- *CESU Network Council* reviews each renewal package and votes to approve or deny continuation of a CESU.
- *CESU Director* (with partners) writes the letter of intent, coordinates the self-assessment, and compiles the list of projects. If approved, the director works with the CESU Network National Office to review and gather signatures on the new Cooperative and Joint Venture Agreement.
- *CESU Federal Managers Committee* provides a list of CESU projects for the last five years funded by their agency, provided at least two external reviewer names, convenes a meeting to discuss the CESU, and writes a report on the activity of the CESU.
- *External Reviewers* are federal or non-federal colleagues familiar with the CESU system but not actively engaged in the CESU under review. They review the host university analysis. Then each one writes a brief report.
- *CESU Network National Office Staff* provides guidance and oversight to the CESU Directors, external reviewers, and federal managers committee on behalf of the CESU Network Council.

Revisions to the Criteria

- Council is modifying the renewal criteria – 3 criteria with questions focus on Article II of agreement (yes or no, and explain)
- Students, strategic plans, annual meetings, communication, distribution of funding
- Establishing scale (excellent, full performance, satisfactory, unsatisfactory)

Pacific Northwest CESU Renewal Items

- Timeline
  - Nov 2014 - PNW CESU emails members asking if they wish to continue membership in our CESU
  - Dec 2014 - Tech Reps email reply to pnwcesu@uw.edu
  - Jan 21 2015 - Host Letter of Interest and Intent due to National CESU
  - Jan 21 2015 - Self-Assessment due to National CESU
- Changes to Renewal document
  - USFS wording change
  - Council's revisions to Self-Assessment Criteria
  - Federal Agencies Member annual fee

USFS Proposed Changes to their section of the Renewal Document

Page 9 of our Current Agreement, Article II. Statement of Work, D. All Federal Agencies, the Host University, and Partner Institutions agree to:

Specifically for BLM and USFS, this Agreement is neither a fiscal nor a funds obligation document. Any endeavor to transfer anything of value involving reimbursement or contribution of funds between the parties to this agreement will be handled in accordance with applicable laws, regulations, and procedures including those for government procurement and printing. Such endeavors will be outlined in separate task agreements that shall be made in writing by representatives of the parties and shall be independently authorized by appropriate statutory authority. This agreement does not provide such authority. Specifically, this agreement does not establish authority for noncompetitive award to the cooperator of any contract or other agreement.

Page 19 of our Current Agreement, Article V. Awards, C.1:
C. A 17.5% indirect cost rate will be paid on work covered by the Agreement and all its modifications or task agreements.
1. One exception is that the USFS cannot reimburse "state cooperative institutions" for indirect costs, pursuant to 7 USC 3103(16) and 7 USC 3319. Indirect costs may be used to satisfy USFS cost-sharing requirements at least a minimum of 20% of total project costs. It is recommended that cost sharing is greater than 20% in accordance with the Forest Service Handbook FSH1509.11, Chapter 70.

PNW CESU Strategic Plan Goals and Objectives

- Strategic Plan last reviewed 2009

1	**Establish effective ongoing communication among all partners** • develop and maintain web site • publish PNW CESU newsletter • convene annual meeting of PNW CESU partners
2	**Demonstrate success in research, technical assistance & education** • develop research, technical assistance and education projects that: (a) provide well rounded participation across research, technical assistance and education arenas (b) have robust levels of involvement by partners and agencies (c) fulfill and enhance the collaborative ideal of the PNW CESU
3	**Increase minority involvement** • identify minority-institution partner strengths in the areas of research, technical assistance and education • link minority institutions with PNW CESU agencies
4	**Match agency needs with partner expertise** • regularly post agency needs and partner expertise on the web site • convene regular meetings of agency representatives to discuss training needs and ways of fulfilling these needs using the CESU structure • on an ongoing basis, develop mechanisms and explore opportunities for multi-agency collaboration
5	**Establish an effective and efficient organization** • develop executive committee operating principles and guidelines for: (a) addition of new members to the PNW CESU (b) composition of the managers committee (c) expected level of agency/partner participation (d) responsibilities of member agencies and institutions • meet yearly as an executive and managers committee • post information to the web site regarding cooperative agreement financial and administrative procedures specific to each agency or institution

PNW CESU Strategic Plan Goal #1

- Establish effective ongoing communication among all partners
  - Develop and maintain website
  - Publish PNW CESU newsletter
  - Convene annual meeting of PNW CESU partners

- Website http://www.cfr.washington.edu/research.cesu/index.asp
  - Added listings for Additional Contacts (contracting, etc.)
  - Considering updating the style template for the website next Summer
- Newsletters
  - Format as e-Newsletter instead of Adobe PDF (emailing out Dec 2014)
  - We want to share our agency and university activities and news, email to pnwcesu@uw.edu
  - Funding Announcements will be included in e-Newsletter
- Annual Meetings
  - Nov 2011: Partners meeting at UW (LCC, CSC updates)
  - April 2013: Partners meeting at OSU postponed
  - April 2014: Spring Webinar
  - November 2014: Annual Meeting

PNW CESU Strategic Plan Goal #2

- Demonstrate success in research, technical assistance, & education
  - Develop research, technical assistance and education projects that
    - A) Provide well rounded participation across research, technical assistance and education arenas.
    - B) Have robust levels of involvement by partners and agencies
    - C) Fulfill and enhance the collaborative ideal of the PNW CESU

PNW CESU Strategic Goal #3

- Increase minority involvement
  - Identify minority-institution partner strengths in the areas of research, technical assistance and education
  - Link minority institutions with PNW CESU agencies

PNW CESU Strategic Plan Goal #4

- Match agency needs with partner expertise
  - Regularly post agency needs and partner expertise on the web site
  - Convene regular meetings of agency representatives to discuss training needs and ways of fulfilling these needs using the CESU structure
  - On an ongoing basis, develop mechanisms and explore opportunities for multi-agency collaboration

PNW CESU Strategic Plan Goal #5

- Establish an effective and efficient organization
  - Develop executive committee operating principles and guidelines for:
    - A) Addition of new members of the PNW CESU
    - B) Composition of the managers committee
    - C) Expected level of agency/partner participation
    - D) Responsibilities of member agencies and institutions
    - All can be found on our Administration page under Organizing Structure and Principles:

    http://www.cfr.washington.edu/research.cesu/admin.htm

- Meet yearly as an executive and managers committee
- Post information to the web site regarding cooperative agreement financial and administrative procedures specific to each agency or institution
  - PNW CESU website has the specific procedures for NPS, USGS, USACE, BLM, (NOAA draft received)

Pacific Northwest CESU

PNW CESU 2014 Annual Meeting Minutes

November 6, 2014
9am - Noon
University of Washington, Bloedel 292

Attendees: Cheri Yost (National CESU), William Vagt (DOD), Mark Strom (NOAA), Dale Blahna (USFS), Christopher Watkins and Noller Herbert (NRCS), Glenn Rhett (USACE), Paul Heimowitz (USFWS), Carrie Phillips (USGS), Melinda Ritacco (USBR), Gordon Bradley (UW), Tom DeLuca (UW), Teresa Bresee (UW), Chris Lauver (UW/NPS), Anne Johansen (CWU), Kazuhiro Sonoda (Heritage University), Jherime Kellermann (OIT), Lisa Gaines (OSU), Mark Sytsma, Rachelle Richmond, and Tim Rinner (PSU), Barry Drazkowski (SMUMN), Matthew Carlson (UAA), Bruce Larson (UBC), Lisa Shipley (WSU).

Host Updates

- Dr Gordon Bradley, Current PNW CESU Co-Leader, will be retiring December 2014.
- Dr Tom DeLuca, UW Director of the School of Environmental and Forest Sciences, will be taking on the role of PNW CESU Co-Leader effective January 2015.
- PNW CESU Program Activity & FY14 was reviewed (Gordon Bradley, Chris Lauver, Teresa Bresee)
    - FY14 was the highest funded year yet with over $11 million in total funding, with 58 new projects, and 63 modifications adding funding to existing projects.
    - Nine of our 11 federal agencies funded projects; 14 of our 18 university/state partners received funding.
- Watch for: FY01-FY14 Data reports by University and Agency will be sent to each partner for their reference.

National CESU Updates (Cheri Yost)

Host support

- National CESU Council will be meeting on 11/14 to discuss the details of host support funding and will send out information soon.
- Host support funding will be approximately $15,000 per CESU.
- The amount a federal agency pays is calculated by how many 'membership shares' they have, which is based on how many CESUs they belong to; each share is about $1,600.
- Agencies which have recently joined a CESU will receive a waiver for part of their share cost.
- The length of time that the host support funding will remain at $15,000 is still being discussed.
- Funding will probably be processed via a Technical Assistance Task Agreement project, and will likely have a 3rd quarter due date for the agencies to submit their funds.
- The Host support funding item will likely be added to each CESU via the Renewal document (i.e., the Master Agreement) or via an Amendment.

Indirect Cost Rate (IDC)

- National CESU working group is meeting regularly and discussing the appropriate method for reviewing the IDC.
- If the rate changes, Amendments will be done for each CESU, or if the change is made in time it will be incorporated into the Master Agreement.

- This sort of amendment will need every partner's signature.

Total Direct Cost vs Modified Cost

- National CESU office will be setting a nation-wide policy.
- PNW CESU is the only CESU that has a unit-wide rule regarding this.

OMB

- The Federal Office of Management and Budget (OMB) has developed new Uniform Guidance for grants and agreements (to take circulars and move them into one uniform guidance document).
- New requirements go in to effect on December 26, 2014.
- These will override existing rules, and will streamline grants and agreements policies.
- DOI has requested from OMB an exemption on behalf of all CESU agencies to keep the current IDC 17.5% rate (or other existing rate if an agency has an IDC other than 17.5%).
- OMB language will likely be included in new Master Agreements.

Renewal Revisions

- Criteria for Renewal are being revised, the new Criteria will be sent out soon.
- CESU Council, which reviews and votes on renewing CESUs, are now applying a scale (excellent, full performance, satisfactory, unsatisfactory) to the renewing Unit, and may mention items to be improved upon.

Other Items

- National CESU Database is currently being populated by intern.
- The Bureau of Indian Affairs has expressed interest in joining the Colorado Plateau CESU; they need to join the CESU National Council first. Tom has been discussing this with them.
- Adding new Member to CESU: both federal and university/state partners must review and vote on the addition of potential nonfederal members.
- Feedback: the National CESU would like to know of any issues or concerns regarding the use of the CESU, please contact Cheri Yost at Yost at cheri_yost@nps.gov

PNW CESU Strategic Plan

- The current Strategic Plan's Goals and Objectives were reviewed in detail.
- Tech Reps will be deciding if the Plan should be ratified as is, or edited to add or change goals.
- PNW CESU Website may be updated next summer to improve the look and feel.
- Newsletters: PNW CESU e-Newsletter will be sent out in December. Teresa will be sending out focused summaries for potential inclusion in partners' newsletters.

PNW CESU Renewal

- Depending on the National CESU Council's working group progress, the IDC rate will either remain the same (17.5%) or adjusted somewhat for our new Master Agreement.
- USFS language will be changed slightly in the Renewal document; no objections were made to this. (see slide 30 of meeting power point for the USFS edits)
- Nonfederal Tech Reps will be soon asked to respond to an email, indicating if their organization wishes to remain a member of the PNW CESU.
- Tech Reps will be identifying their organization's signing authority for the Master Agreement (Renewal Document).

Partner Updates

- NOAA is currently working on establishing a system and authority to process projects through the CESU network.
- Noller Herbert (NRCS): Recourse for project products that are not delivered? Touch base with Cheri Yost; also, NRCS has had some staff changes.
- Paul Heimowitz (USFS): USFS has a new Technical Rep, Simon Kihia, who will be introduced to the PNW CESU staff soon.
- Kazu (Heritage University) will be sending information to be forwarded to PNW CESU partners regarding their students' interests for a possible summer internship; could they team up on a project? Heritage has added an additional faculty member, and will be adding another soon; they've worked with federal agencies, but not through the CESU yet. Also, Yakima Nation is not currently a CESU partner – perhaps this should be looked into?
- New Technical Reps:
  - Oregon Institute of Technology – Jherime Kellermann
  - University of Alaska, Anchorage – Matthew Carlson
  - Washington State University – James Pratt
  - US Bureau of Reclamation – Lesa Stark

Next Meetings

- Next PNW CESU Annual meeting - Spring or Fall of 2015