Welcome to the first edition of the NESP Digest!

We are starting these regular communications to give you periodic updates on activities of the National Ecosystem Services Partnership (NESP), as well as some other information on ecosystem services that we hope you’ll find useful. These include news stories, papers and reports, events and meetings, grants, and job opportunities. We hope this information will help us fulfill NESP’s goal of engaging public and private individuals and organizations to enhance collaboration within the ecosystem services community and to strengthen coordination of policy and market implementation and research at the national level.

If you have items that you’d like to include in the next edition of the NESP Digest, please send them to us. For now we plan on releasing new editions each quarter, but if we get lots of new material, we could move to monthly editions.

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Ongoing NESP activities

Collecting Ecosystem Success Stories

Many of us in the ecosystem service community are familiar with the Catskills Mountains/New York City watershed example of payments for ecosystem services. But in order to strengthen the case for protecting and enhancing ecosystem services, we need to find and highlight more examples of success. NESP is working with Tara O’Shea, a Master’s student from Duke University’s Nicholas School to collect information on case studies involving governments, businesses, or other entities changing their actions or policies in order to protect or enhance the
ecosystem services that benefit them. We will be posting these examples to the NESP website, and we are working with the Institute for Natural Resources at Oregon State University to build this information into the ACES web portal they are developing. If you have examples of ecosystem services success stories that we should include, please let us know.

The Marine Ecosystem Services Partnership

The Marine Ecosystem Services Partnership (MESP) is a new collaborative effort of NESP, the Nicholas Institute at Duke University, NOAA, Conservation International, and many others to develop and maintain a “virtual center” to better integrate our expanding library of economic valuations of marine ecosystems with marine policy needs. The virtual center will also host an active, facilitated community of practice to 1) link users and producers of economic valuation data, 2) help better interpret and use the data, and 3) communicate with researchers, helping to ensure that new valuation efforts better meet the needs of data users. We are working with MESP to connect their data collection efforts with the ACES web portal being constructed by the Institute for Natural Resources at Oregon State University.

Ecosystem services in the news


Selected recent papers and reports on ecosystem services


Oregon Sustainability Board. 2010. **Senate Bill 513 Ecosystem Services and Markets: Report from the Oregon Sustainability Board to the 2011 Legislative Assembly.**


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**Upcoming meetings and events**


**July 17-20, 2011.** Soil and Water Conservation Society Annual Conference.


**August 7-12, 2011.** Ecological Society of America (ESA) Annual Meeting. Austin, TX.


**October 4-7, 2011.** Ecosystem Services Partnership (ESP), Ecosystem Services: Integrating Science and Practice. Wageningen, The Netherlands.
Ecosystem service grants and job opportunities

Defenders of Wildlife - Director of Conservation Economics and Finance

Environmental Protection Agency – Postdoctoral position on Ecosystem Services and Sustainability

Natural Capital Project – Research Assistant (Economics)

Helmholtz Centre for Environmental Research in Leipzig (Germany) – Two postdoctoral positions and one PhD position in ecosystem services modeling and valuation

Visit the NESP Digest on the web at: http://nicholasinstitute.duke.edu/ecosystem/nesp/nesp-digest

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NESP is housed at the Nicholas Institute for Environmental Policy Solutions at Duke University.