UNEDITED ABSTRACTS
for
Papers, Posters, and Maps
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Annual Conference
California State University
Chico, CA
May 2-4, 2007
AFFILIATION: Humboldt State University
TITLE: Strategies for mentoring and supporting female students and faculty
ABSTRACT: Despite significant improvements in recent decades, the discipline of geography continues to be marked by a notable gender imbalance, as reflected in the demographics of both university students and faculty. Many departments today face the challenge of attracting, mentoring, and supporting women, but recent budget cuts throughout California make this task increasingly difficult. Members of Humboldt State University's Supporting Women in Geography (SWIG) – an informal network of groups at colleges and universities throughout North America and beyond – will discuss how to start a SWIG chapter on your campus and share examples of activities to support and engage female students and faculty. After an overview by the panelists, audience members will be invited to share their own success stories and challenges, to begin an ongoing dialogue about how we can work together to improve gender equity within the discipline. Both men and women are welcome and encouraged to participate.

AFFILIATION: Humboldt State University
TITLE: Thatch ants: Interactions Between Neighboring Mounds and Mound-Territory Distance Relationships
ABSTRACT: In Humboldt County’s coastal Lamphere Dunes, the thatch ant (Formica obscuripes) dwells. To explore spatial aspects of this ant’s behavior, I conducted two experiments. First I measured the time elapsed before an introduced member of a foreign mound would be attacked by members of the host mound, observing that the length of time until attack was unaffected by the host mound’s proximity to the intruders’ mound. Next, I hypothesized that the surface territory of a mound would be positively correlated with its volume. By calculating and comparing these two figures, I determined that mounds of greater volume do not necessarily have larger territories. Thatch ants have a significant effect on the ecosystem they inhabit; thus understanding their behavior will help us understand how to manage their habitats more efficiently.

Keywords: Thatch ant, territoriality, bio-geography

AFFILIATION: Humboldt State University
TITLE: Alderpoint: An Analysis of Transportation and Settlement
ABSTRACT: Dawn C. Albrecht, Humboldt State University
Alderpoint: An analysis of Transportation and Settlement
The growth or decline of any community is often determined by its available resources and transportation routes. This work reflects an evaluation of the influences of transportation access for the community of Alderpoint as it undergoes six stages in its growth and decline. Each of these changes is addressed in context of the access to and from this Southern Humboldt town by river, roads and rails, as determined by historical, topographic, economic, social and environmental influences. These influences on transportation are assessed through information compiled from geologic studies, environmental reports, books and articles, first-person accounts of long-time residents, government data and personal observations. An assessment of present-day transportation issues and the ensuing impact on the health, economic livelihood and culture of local citizens is discussed, as well as the future outlook for this once-thriving community.
AFFILIATION: California State University, Northridge
TITLE: Mexican Status Variations Across U.S. Counties
ABSTRACT: Our research investigated the extent of county variations in the socioeconomic position of Mexicans, including both immigrants and the U.S.-born, and how such variations related to other characteristics of the counties. Using the SF4 file of Census 2000 data for the 911 U.S. counties with at least 1000 Mexicans, we measured and mapped Mexican percentage homeowner and three income variables as well as the ratio of Mexican to Non-Hispanic White incomes. Results indicated much county variation in Mexican status, with median income of Mexicans occasionally higher than that of Whites. Mexican incomes were strongly and positively correlated with the percentage of Mexicans proficient in English, high school graduates, U.S.-born, and in professional or managerial occupations. In comparison to Whites, Mexican incomes were relatively higher where Mexican and total populations were smaller and where lower percentages of Whites were college graduates and professionals or managers.

Presenter(s): Kirk Anderson -- Category: undergrad -- Contact: <kirk.and@gmail.com> -- Type: poster
AFFILIATION: CSU Chico
TITLE: Community Fire Planning and the Absentee Problem in Butte County, California
ABSTRACT: This presentation is a GIS analysis of privately owned land in the foothills of Butte County which focuses on the relationship between occupied and unoccupied parcels—specifically how their relative distribution pertains to fire risk. The project seeks to identify zones of "tension" where occupied parcels sit adjacent to unoccupied ones, and explore the implications of this sort of land ownership arrangement.

Presenter(s): Tara Athan -- Category: graduate -- Contact: <tara_athan@alt2is.com> -- Type: poster
AFFILIATION: Department of Geography, University of Leeds
TITLE: An Online Global Health Volunteering Opportunities Map
ABSTRACT: Online interactive maps based on OpenLayers opensource software were created for the HealthCare Volunteer website (healthcarevolunteer.com) as a geographical interface to the volunteer and volunteer opportunity databases of this organization. Markers are displayed at the continent, country or state level, depending on the resolution of the map and the region. In addition to showing locations of volunteers and opportunities, the markers show the number of database records through both proportional symbols and numerical labels, and a click event opens a pop-up with a text message and link to more information. The maps were developed with xhtml, php and javascript. The project is a collaborative effort with Neilesh Patel of HealthCare Volunteers and is coordinated by GISCorps.

Presenter(s): Josi S Baltazar Guerra Cruz -- Category: undergrad -- Contact: <sol000ares@yahoo.com> -- Type: poster
AFFILIATION: California State Polytechnic University, Pomona
TITLE: Los Angeles & the San Gabriel Mountains
ABSTRACT: Identifying High-Risk Areas Where Los Angeles Meets the San Gabriel Mountains
Los Angeles (LA) is a city that continues to expand and grow in population but the San Gabriel Mountains (SGM) challenges this expansion and growth. As LA urban areas expand, they meet the SGM where floods and debris flows are naturally occurring phenomena. Once these naturally occurring phenomena occur, damages to property and more importantly to human life can be substantial. Through the aid of ArcGIS, identifying high-risk areas is possible by mapping where variables such as Urban Growth, Debris Potential Areas (DPAs), Catch Basins and Debris Basins meet. Identifying these areas will provide insight into the degree of risk for locations bordering the SGM.
Presenter(s): Narinder Bansal and William Harmon -- Category: faculty -- Contact: <williamharmongeography@yahoo.com> -- Type: paper
AFFILIATION: Ohlone College
TITLE: GIS for the Lower Division Geography Classroom at Ohlone Community College
ABSTRACT: This presentation will describe how we, in addition to offering a GIS certificate, are integrating GIS activities and exercises into our lower division Geography Classes (e.g. Geography 101).

Presenter(s): Aaron R. Benavidez -- Category: undergrad -- Contact: <benzium2000@yahoo.com> -- Type: paper
AFFILIATION: Cosumnes River College
TITLE: Markets, Migration and Manipulations: Has Neoliberalism Intensified Sex Trafficking in Thailand, Russia and the Middle East?
ABSTRACT: The trafficking of humans has gained increasing international recognition as one of the most significant issues of the 21st Century. Just one aspect of human trafficking, sex trafficking has increased in regions that have undergone economic transformations as a result of neoliberal policies of the last 50 years. Characterized by privatization, government deregulation and profound cuts to social spending, neoliberalism has underwritten much of the processes associated with globalization, forcing economic transformations at the local and regional levels. We will examine Thailand, Russia and the Middle East to determine the extent by which neoliberalism has provided the platform for the magnification of trafficking as a global phenomenon.

Presenter(s): Orson Bevins -- Category: undergrad -- Contact: <orson@briskbaja.com> -- Type: poster
AFFILIATION: San Diego State University
TITLE: Time to Retire Smokey the Bear?
ABSTRACT: Fire is a natural element of the chaparral life cycle. It is frequent, low intensity fire that clears the brush, and fuel from the backcountry. Over 100 years of fire suppression policy that mandates extinguishing of all fires no matter how small has changed the burn patterns from frequent, small fires to large and catastrophic. This poster also demonstrates how fuel age and perimeters affect future occurrences of fire activity.

Presenter(s): Orson Bevins -- Category: undergrad -- Contact: <orson@briskbaja.com> -- Type: paper
AFFILIATION: San Diego State University
TITLE: The Effects of Climate Change on Fire Occurrence in California
ABSTRACT: This paper will discuss how changing climatic patterns may affect burn frequency and intensity in the Southern California climate.

Presenter(s): Orson Bevins -- Category: undergrad -- Contact: <orson@briskbaja.com> -- Type: Paper
AFFILIATION: San Diego State University
TITLE: Fire Protection in Unincorporated San Diego County
ABSTRACT: San Diego County is the largest in California without a unified county fire department to respond to fire and emergencies in unincorporated and backcountry lands. Fire protection in these areas are handled by a jumble of various agencies, jurisdictions, and districts. A clear and unified response to emergencies is necessary to provide effective fire protection. Currently, a fire emergency only receives support from other agencies if the home jurisdiction requests it, causing a valuable loss in response time. Cost is a frequent argument against the establishment of a county fire department. However, if there were a coordinated dispatch of already established fire protection resources, this could be implemented without much more investment than currently allotted. The analysis conducted is to show that there are fire stations in sufficient numbers and in close proximity to assets.
Presenter(s): Marsha Bond-Nelson -- Category: graduate -- Contact: <M00sha7@aol.com> -- Type: poster
AFFILIATION: California State University, Stanislaus
TITLE: Reshaping of Modesto’s Landscape: Transportation and the decentralization of the Central Business District
ABSTRACT: The San Joaquin Valley region has witnessed rapid population increase in recent years with 30% growth in the last two decades. Not surprisingly, the mid-sized cities of the region have been the focus of this demographic transition. While much of the attention focuses on current trends in population and urbanization, this process has been underway since the mid-1900s. This study examines the city’s transportation infrastructure and its impact on the urban morphology of Modesto, California from the 1950s to 1980s. In the early years of the city’s growth, the Central Pacific Railroad and the Tidewater Inter-Urban line led to the emergence of a distinct central business district. Subsequently, the building of the original Highway 99 provided easy access to the downtown and further enhanced its location and prominence. Finally, the construction of the current Highway 99 and new transportation corridors that link the CBD to new commercial areas reshape the urban landscape. Taken together, transportation, the building of new suburbs and commercial centers led to decentralization of the city’s central business district. Based on archival research and mapping of transportation patterns this research shows changes in urban morphology through time.

Presenter(s): Mike Boruta -- Category: undergrad -- Contact: <mikeboruta@gmail.com> -- Type: poster
AFFILIATION: Humboldt State University
TITLE: Using a 3D Model to Enhance Topographic Visualization of Arcata’s Community Forest
ABSTRACT: Casual map readers sometimes have a difficult time visualizing elevation changes depicted by standard methods. Even when relief shading is done painstakingly by hand and the hypsometric color palette is artfully chosen, a map can still be misinterpreted. Contour lines may be misunderstood or relief inversion may cause the reader to see a valley where in fact a ridge exists. One solution to this problem is to change the perspective of the map reader from the typical orthogonal view to an oblique “bird’s eye” view. With 3D visualization software, this change in perspective can be taken several steps further to empower the map reader with complete control of his or her perspective. Such a virtual landscape can be tilted and rotated at will to provide alternative views of the terrain. This poster examines the steps involved in creating a 3D model of the Arcata Community Forest using ArcGIS’s 3D Analyst.

Presenter(s): Mike Boruta -- Category: undergrad -- Contact: <mikeboruta@gmail.com> -- Type: digital map
AFFILIATION: Humboldt State University
TITLE: The Tourist Traps of Northwest California
ABSTRACT: An abundance of roadside tourist traps are located along the highways of northwest California. While many of them exhibit the stereotypical qualities commonly associated with tourist traps, considerable variation exists within the category. Distinct examples of this variation are found in advertising methods, activities offered, the portrayal of authenticity, and the level of place image commoditization. This interactive map was designed to accompany a paper entitled “Inside the Drive-Through Tree: Exploring the Diverse Characteristics of Northwest California’s Tourist Traps.” It provides viewers with a tour of sites used in the study while at the same time embodying the whimsical nature of the subject matter.
Presenter(s): Mike Boruta -- Category: undergrad -- Contact: <mikeboruta@gmail.com> -- Type: paper
AFFILIATION: Humboldt State University
TITLE: Erasing the Neatline: Collaborative Cartography in the Web 2.0 World
ABSTRACT: Currently, the field of cartography is undergoing a second digital transformation. Mash-ups, wikis, and geotagged photographs are merging to create new forms of online mapping that can be created with little or no cartographic training. While these new maps may still appear crude in comparison to the work done by professional cartographers, they present a new collaborative model that allows a wide range of users to contribute geographic information in highly dynamic formats. This study explores the strengths and weaknesses of these new maps in regards to usage, data quality, and aesthetic appeal. After comparing key examples of collaborative online cartography to corresponding maps from conventional cartography, the study finds that these early examples signify a dramatic change in how maps can be created and used. Keywords: Neogeography, web 2.0, mash-ups, wikis.

Presenter(s): Calli-Jane Burch -- Category: graduate -- Contact: <blueskycalli@yahoo.com> -- Type: paper
AFFILIATION: CSU C Geography Dept. Graduate
TITLE: Geographic Content of Fire Safe Education Materials
ABSTRACT: The presentation will cover the topic of a Masters Thesis titled Geographic Content of Fire Safe Education Material. Discussion will include, background to the grass roots fire safe council movement of California. Education materials of northern California fire safe councils will be discussed in relation to their use of local knowledge in fire safe education materials.

Presenter(s): Sharon Caddy -- Category: undergrad -- Contact: <sharoncaddy@yahoo.com> -- Type: poster
AFFILIATION: CSU Chico
TITLE: Spatial Analysis of Centaurea solstitialis: A Geospatial Prediction Model
ABSTRACT: “Environmental Controls of Centaurea solstitialis” is a spatial predictive model designed through the use of ESRI Spatial Analyst extension. This model is designed to reduce management resources in the inventorying of invasive plant species such as Centaurea solstitialis. Field data on a range of environmental conditions and human disturbances, collected in Whiskeytown National Recreation Area in the summer of 2007, was used as the basis of this specialized high precision model in conjunction with macrosite data layers derived through GIS.

Presenter(s): Sharon Caddy -- Category: undergrad -- Contact: <sharoncaddy@yahoo.com> -- Type: Paper Map
AFFILIATION: CSU Chico
TITLE: Migration Routes of the Blackpoll Warbler
ABSTRACT: The map “Migration Routes of the Blackpoll Warbler”, produced in Adobe Illustrator, depicts the extensive migration route of the Blackpoll Warbler. This incredible 5000 mile trans-hemispheric journey traverses both continental and maritime environments through the span of all four seasons. The map is an attempt to demonstrate the magnificence of this exceptional journey being made by a bird only four and half inches in length and weighing only half an ounce.
Presenter(s): Sylvana Cares -- Category: graduate -- Contact: <sylvana22cares@hotmail.com> -- Type: Paper Map
AFFILIATION: California State University, Chico
TITLE: Invasion of the Tree of Heaven: Association between Presence of Tree of Heaven and the Historic Transcontinental Railroad
ABSTRACT: The map "Invasion of the Tree of Heaven: Association between Presence of Tree of Heaven and the Historic Transcontinental Railroad" was produced in GEOG 419 Advanced GIS at CSU, Chico. The assignment required that analysis be used to answer a scientific question. The analysis consisted of finding the presence of the Tree of Heaven in association with Chinese laborers during the construction of the Transcontinental Railroad. The map was produced in ArcGIS 9.2 and in Adobe CS2 using both Illustrator and Photoshop. ArcGIS was used to analyze data. Photoshop was utilized to leverage the strengths of raster graphics, producing a continuous background image. Illustrator was then used to add text, and vector line work.

Presenter(s): Sylvana Cares -- Category: graduate -- Contact: <sylvana22cares@hotmail.com> -- Type: poster
AFFILIATION: California State University, Chico
TITLE: Invasion of the Tree of Heaven: Association between Presence of Tree of Heaven and the Historic Transcontinental Railroad
ABSTRACT: The poster "Invasion of the Tree of Heaven: Association between Presence of Tree of Heaven and the Historic Transcontinental Railroad" was produced in GEOG 419 Advanced GIS at CSU, Chico. The assignment required that analysis be used to answer a scientific question. The analysis consisted of finding the presence of the Ailanthus altissima in association with Chinese laborers during the construction of the Transcontinental Railroad. The poster was produced in ArcGIS, Microsoft Excel, and Adobe Illustrator.

Presenter(s): John A. Carthew, Ph.D. -- Category: faculty -- Contact: <cartheja@piercecollege.edu> -- Type: paper
AFFILIATION: Los Angeles Pierce College
TITLE: Teaching Geography to Beginning College Students
(Using Pierce College as an example)
ABSTRACT: 1. Note Taking Ideas
2. Geographic Vocabulary
3. Outline Maps
4. Textbook Reading Habits
5. Testing Procedures
6. Goal: To Increase the Viability of College Geography Students

Presenter(s): Kuntat Chaicharn -- Category: other -- Contact: <kuntat1@yahoo.com> -- Type: poster
AFFILIATION: CSU Chico
TITLE: Spatial Analysis of Centaurea solstitialis: A Geospatial Prediction Model
ABSTRACT: "Environmental Controls of Centaurea solstitialis" is a spatial predictive model designed through the use of ESRI Spatial Analyst extension. This model is designed to reduce management resources in the inventorying of invasive plant species such as Centaurea solstitialis. Field data on a range of environmental conditions and human disturbances, collected in Whiskeytown National Recreation Area in the summer of 2007, was used as the basis of this specialized high precision model in conjunction with macrosite data layers derived through GIS.
Presenter(s): Kuntat Chaicharn -- Category: other -- Contact: <Kuntat1@yahoo.com> -- Type: Paper Map
AFFILIATION: California State University, Chico
TITLE: “Population Density Map of Australia”
ABSTRACT: The map “Population Density Map of Australia” was created for an Advanced Cartography class at California State University, Chico. The assignment was to produce a multivariate Map in ArcGIS for export to the Adobe CS2 Suite of programs. Adobe Photoshop was used to stylize the DEM background information while vector line work and text placement was performed in Adobe Illustrator.

Presenter(s): Rebecca A. Ciccone -- Category: graduate -- Contact: <becca.ciccone@gmail.com> -- Type: poster
AFFILIATION: University of Nevada, Reno
TITLE: Reno Nevada’s Suburban Regions: An Examination of Planned Unit Developments
ABSTRACT: Reno, Nevada has a very distinct look and feel to its residential areas. Older neighborhoods are easily recognized by the unique and varying building design; newer neighborhoods are just as distinct, but in a different way. These new suburbs tend to be homogeneous in design, materials, and layout. This is the result of the development tool known as Planned Unit Developments (PUDs). Each of these PUD suburbs creates a distinct area, design, and feel; a mini region. All the PUDs have distinct boundaries and identification. Identification in each of the PUDs is different and sometimes as subtle as the lot size and house design; others are overt, like specific street signs and markers. This poster examines 9 of the 22 total PUDs in Reno. It is the goal of the poster to identify the mini regions, provide details about the characteristics of each, and provide a time line of construction.

Presenter(s): Michael Commons -- Category: undergrad -- Contact: <mgcommons@gmail.com> -- Type: Paper Map
AFFILIATION: CSU, Chico
TITLE: Charles Darwin and Alfred Wallace: Race to the Theory of Evolution
ABSTRACT: “Race to the Theory of Evolution” was created using NASA satellite imagery, manipulated in ESRI ArcMap, and further refined using Adobe Photoshop and Illustrator (CS2). This map represents the efforts, spatially and temporally, of Charles Darwin and Alfred Wallace during their periods of exploration and their ‘race’ to the theory of evolution. This map provides insight to the controversy surrounding the theory of evolution; a topic still misunderstood over one hundred years later.

Presenter(s): Michael Commons -- Category: undergrad -- Contact: <mgcommons@gmail.com> -- Type: paper
AFFILIATION: CSU, Chico
TITLE: Environmental Controls of Centaurea solstitialis
ABSTRACT: “Environmental Controls of Centaurea solstitialis” correlates significant environmental effects influencing the distribution and abundance of Centaurea solstitialis. With the resulting data, a spatial predictive model was designed with the ESRI Spatial Analyst extension to reduce management resources in the inventorying of invasive plant species such as Centaurea solstitialis. Field data on a range of environmental conditions and human disturbances, collected in Whiskeytown National Recreation Area in the summer of 2007, was used as the basis of this specialized high precision model in conjunction with macrosite data layers derived through GIS.
Presenter(s): Michael Commons -- Category: undergrad -- Contact: <mgcommons@gmail.com> -- Type: poster
AFFILIATION: CSU Chico
TITLE: Spatial Analysis of Centaurea solstitialis: A Geospatial Prediction Model
ABSTRACT: “Environmental Controls of Centaurea solstitialis” is a spatial predictive model designed through the use of ESRI Spatial Analyst extension. This model is designed to reduce management resources in the inventorying of invasive plant species such as Centaurea solstitialis. Field data on a range of environmental conditions and human disturbances, collected in Whiskeytown National Recreation Area in the summer of 2007, was used as the basis of this specialized high precision model in conjunction with macrosite data layers derived through GIS.

Presenter(s): Mia Christine Costa -- Category: undergrad -- Contact: <mcosta@usc.edu> -- Type: poster
AFFILIATION: University of Southern California
TITLE: Indicators of Nutritional Affluence in Whittier, California
ABSTRACT: A diet that includes various healthy foods is important in reducing numerous poor health outcomes. For some people access to healthy foods can be restricted for several reasons including limited mobility, financial hardship or even poor selection. This has been an increasingly studied topic in public health and in geography. My research focuses on the greater Whittier area in Los Angeles County and examines the availability of fresh produce items as an indicator of nutritional affluence. For this project I surveyed all markets in the study area and looked for the availability of certain indicators such as organic produce, specialty products, ethnic produce, and standard produce. The term ‘market’ refers to both chain supermarkets as well as specialty food stores. Comparing the data from these markets with their locations and with socioeconomic data, my research reveals a disparity in access to these types of products between the city of Whittier and adjacent unincorporated areas. This discrepancy is related to income levels of the surrounding area as well as ethnicity of each market’s clientele.

Presenter(s): Carol J. Cox -- Category: faculty -- Contact: <ccox@sierracollege.edu> -- Type: paper
AFFILIATION: Sierra College
TITLE: THROUGH MY STUDENT’S EYES: A Photographic Interpretation of San Francisco’s Urban Geography
ABSTRACT: Geography field classes provide first-hand opportunities for exploration, application and documentation of urban studies. For years, I have taught an intensive four-day course to San Francisco that provides new student understanding of ethnic, architectural, economic and regional landscapes. Effective urban planning is sustainable, encourages conservation and should be the goal of all California cities. Using student photos, this presentation demonstrates different perspectives, interpretations, colorful images and application of urban theory as viewed through my student’s eyes.

Presenter(s): Garrett Cunha -- Category: undergrad -- Contact: <gballin10@yahoo.com> -- Type: poster
AFFILIATION: Consumnes River college
TITLE: COLORLESS CORALS, DEAD FISH & LOST TOURISM REVENUE
CLIMATE CHANGE’S EFFECT ON THE GREAT BARRIER REEF
ABSTRACT: The purpose of this poster is to show how climate change is affecting Australia’s Great Barrier Reef (GBR) and its fish population. Coral reefs, like the GBR, are home to over 1,000,000 species and 25 percent of all marine life. They are among the world’s most fragile and endangered ecosystems. Coral reefs will likely go extinct unless we quickly cut carbon dioxide (CO2) emissions. The oceans play a major role in the uptake of CO2 emitted by fossil fuels. Climate change is affecting the world’s oceans by increasing the acidity of its waters, raising temperatures which results in coral bleaching, and increasing freshwater inflow which changes the ocean’s salinity.
Presenter(s): Shawn Curley -- Category: undergrad -- Contact: <smc61185@gmail.com> -- Type: poster
AFFILIATION: California State University Fullerton
TITLE: European Starling Population of the Pomona Valley
ABSTRACT: The Pomona Valley has been home to many different species of birds, since it is both an urban and rural habitat. The European Starling, in particular, has visited downtown Pomona every winter. There have been fluctuations in the duration of their stay and the quantity of European Starlings. Using ArcGIS to map the environmental factors of the Pomona valley and the Audubon Societies annual bird count, it is possible to find a correlation between the changes in their habitat and changes in their population.

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Presenter(s): Rachel Davis -- Category: undergrad -- Contact: <racheldavis@ucla.edu> -- Type: paper
AFFILIATION: UCLA
TITLE: Ocean Desalination and its Role in California's Water Portfolio
ABSTRACT: California is a state that has long been faced with water woes. With the majority of rain falling in the northern portion of the state and most of the population residing in the southern parts, water allocation is a serious challenge. Ocean desalination (desal) is a technology-heavy solution that removes salt and other constituents from ocean water, making it potable. As of spring 2006, there were twenty-one large-scale ocean desal proposals planned for the California coast. All of the desal proposals in California rely on reverse osmosis technology, the majority are co-located with coastal power stations and, if are operated according to current plans, will seriously impact the coastal environment. When considering the consequences and the disastrous history of the single large scale desal plant in the United States, moving forward with so many plants is simultaneously hasty and may yield severe consequences.

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Presenter(s): Michelle Degmetich -- Category: graduate -- Contact: <mdegmetich@hotmail.com> -- Type: poster
AFFILIATION: CSU-Chico
TITLE: Influences on Black Bear Behavior in the Big Chico Creek Ecological Reserve
ABSTRACT: Reserves are designed to maintain appropriate vegetative areas for habitat needs of the biodiversity contained within them. In order to ascertain the needs of the black bear population located within the Big Chico Creek Ecological Reserve (BCCER), a study was conducted to evaluate geographically influenced behavioral patterns. An understanding of temporal and spatial influences on black bear behavior will lead to more effective management.

Data gathered was plotted on map offering insight into the types of vegetation and topography utilized. Additionally, camera stations were positioned to capture footage of the bear’s activity. Black bears in the BCCER showed a distinct preference for plum trees, Manzanita, and coffee berries. Temporal patterns indicated crepuscular activity. Natural corridors containing downed logs and boulders were popular for summer foraging. Anthropogenically placed posts were favored for marking. Additionally, bears traveled paths of least resistance, even if this meant crossing unpaved roads and pathways.

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Presenter(s): Mike DeVivo -- Category: faculty -- Contact: <mdevivo@grcc.edu> -- Type: paper
AFFILIATION: Grand Rapids Community College
TITLE: Empowering Third World Women: The Key to Sustainable Development
ABSTRACT: Women in Less Developed Countries (LDCs) are often perceived to play subordinate, if not relatively insignificant positions in their local societies. Frequently, their roles appear to be concentrated around producing (and reproducing) children while maintaining and managing households under the supervision of their husbands, a marked contrast to women in More Developed Countries (MDCs). Disparities between women in LDCs and MDCs are evidenced in demographic data, which often show Third World populations to be characterized by higher rates of infant mortality and fertility, and lower levels of literacy, life expectancy, and access to contraception. Moreover, where high illiteracy exists, especially among women, pragmatic sustainable development appears unlikely to succeed. These factors, as well as others, jeopardize the future availability of natural resources and the integrity of the natural environment. Moreover, as economic disparities compound the situation, disenfranchised populations are pushed to the brink of despair and the threat of terrorist action becomes real, oftentimes directly affecting MDCs; this is only one reason why MDCs are compelled to be concerned about the plight of the Third World poor. It is argued that these phenomena must be examined in concert with special reference to women, for an assessment of women’s roles provides a solid foundation for a given society’s opportunities for development, and where those opportunities are limited it appears that empowering women through education and microfinancing is imperative for the resolution (and prevention) of future crises that might create adverse impacts in society and the natural environment.

Presenter(s): Lauren DeWit -- Category: undergrad -- Contact: <lkdewit@gmail.com> -- Type: poster
AFFILIATION: Cosumnes River College
TITLE: United States Ethanol Leads to Deforestation in the Amazon
ABSTRACT: Currently in the Midwest, farmers are abandoning their soy farming practices to profit from corn, a cash crop that has recently become more valuable due to its use in the production of ethanol, an alternative fuel source. Many Americans have turned to corn farming and as a result, soy production has decreased in the U.S. Currently we are importing soy from Brazil to substitute for our loss in production. In order for Brazil to mass produce this crop for the U.S., more farmable land is essential. Thus, land in Brazil is currently being deforested through burning, which releases carbon dioxide, a greenhouse gas, into the atmosphere while destroying trees, which are a natural carbon sink. The purpose of this poster is to identify the problems associated with the production of ethanol in the U.S. and explain how the industry is exacerbating deforestation in Brazil, and thereby contributing to global warming.
(150 words)

Presenter(s): Heather Downing -- Category: undergrad -- Contact: <downingh@saccounty.net> -- Type: poster
AFFILIATION: Cosumnes River College
TITLE: “How Much Are You Willing To Pay For A Pear?”
ABSTRACT: Sacramento County is home to many things: the state capital, the state fair, and a $306,876,000 agricultural economy, a large portion of which is based in the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta; a delta spanning 738,000 acres over portions of five counties. Sacramento’s portion of the Delta is host to thousands of acres of cropland, livestock, and portions of a 1,100 mile levee system which is designed to protect the Delta from flood waters such as those predicted to occur when sea levels rise due to global warming. The 0.2-0.7 m sea level rise that is expected will put additional stress on already stressed levees and threaten Sacramento’s very productive agricultural industries. This poster will show the impact global warming, rising sea levels, and failed levees will have on Sacramento’s agricultural economy.
**AFFILIATION:** Cosumnes River College

**TITLE:** “How Hot Is Too Hot?”

**ABSTRACT:** For some species of animals heat poses no problems. For others, like those calling the ocean home, a minor change in temperature can mean disaster. The world’s oceans cover 70.8% of Earth’s surface and are home to many marine animals, including the smallest crustacean, microplankton, averaging two micrometers, and the largest marine mammal, the blue whale, averaging 100 feet in length. Even some species of birds spend their entire life on, or over, the ocean. Each species has a unique role in this aquatic ecosystem and each will be affected by global warming. This poster will explain how marine life is being affected by increasing ocean temperatures due to global warming. Assuming ocean temperatures continue to rise as projected, the outlook for some of these marine species will also be discussed.

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**AFFILIATION:** Cosumnes River College

**TITLE:** “Will They Sink or Swim?”

**ABSTRACT:** Each year most of the 74 islands comprising the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta sink a little further due to subsidence. Over the last 100-150 years, subsidence, the sinking of land due to decomposition of peat, has put many of these islands below sea level, decreasing the ability of the nearly 1,100 miles of levee system to “hold back the tides” so to speak. This lack of levee support coupled with the impending sea level rise due to global warming will increase the probability of levee failure. The Delta islands are not only home to many human inhabitants but also host to ecosystems supporting nearly 500 plant, bird, animal, and fish species. This poster will show the impact of flooding on these islands due to a failing levee system.

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**AFFILIATION:** University of Southern California

**TITLE:** Primitive, Dispersed Campsites at Cuddeback Dry Lake

**ABSTRACT:** Gregory Elwood
Geography Major
University of Southern California

Abstract
Primitive, Dispersed Campsites at Cuddeback Dry Lake

Cuddeback Dry Lake is a Playa Formation in the Western Mojave Desert. The Dry Lake is a favorite location for both motorized and non-motorized recreation. Portions of the area exhibiting significant impact from these activities are those which include dispersed, primitive campsites, located around the dry lakebed. My map depicts the physical geography of the area, displays these sites with written and visual information and exposes the overall pattern of impact. The ongoing use of these dispersed campsites results in a distinctive pattern of erosion and loss of vegetation over time.
AFFILIATION: University of Southern California Department of Geography

TITLE: Cuddeback Dry Lake; a Study in Recreational Land Use

Abstract
Cuddeback Dry Lake is a Playa Formation in the Western Mojave Desert under the jurisdiction of the Bureau of Land Management (BLM). This fragile piece of desert scenery encompasses a mosaic of land use designations: wilderness, private and state property and military reservation. A rich history of human activity is evident in the presence of petroglyphs, abandoned mines and military artifacts from World War II. Though contemporary human activity conflicts with BLM management policy, the area continues to see a steady increase in recreational use, and off-road, motorized vehicle recreation exhibits the greatest impact. This presentation examines motorized recreation at Cuddeback Dry Lake and the history of BLM management policy. Written descriptions and illustrations depict where the damage occurs and the measures the BLM has implemented to alleviate the situation. My findings demonstrate that the area is experiencing an unprecedented level of devastation and that changes in management policy are needed.

AFFILIATION: San Diego State University

TITLE: Assessing Hydrologic Impacts of Global Climate Change at Fine Spatial Scales

ABSTRACT: Projected future climate change has sparked considerable research in many areas of physical geography. Most future climate projections are based on relatively coarse scale global circulation models (GCM's). Interpreting the effects of global climate change on finer scale hydrologic and water resources issues requires a combination of downscaling GCM projections and framing the analysis at a spatial scale that is fine enough to encompass patterns of variability in key hydrologic controls and broad enough to provide results at a meaningful scale to inform water resources and land management decision-making. An example from the McKenzie River basin in the Oregon Cascades illustrates how spatial variability in climate, geology, and existing water resources infrastructure controls summer streamflow sensitivity to climatic change.

AFFILIATION: CSU, Chico and Planning Focus

TITLE: Innovations in Urban Planning and Design: Chico

ABSTRACT: Local land use planning consultant and part-time Geography professor, Pam Figge will lead a tour of Chico’s commercial and residential areas, contrasting the urban planning model of post-World War II with the innovative design of “New Urbanism.” Within the contextual and spatial setting of historic Chico with its classic city design (grid street pattern, pedestrian friendly infrastructure), this tour explores the changing design and mixed land uses that have been the cornerstone of Traditional Neighborhood Design (TND). The tour includes a short PowerPoint presentation on design concepts, components and infrastructure before venturing into the field. The regional shopping area, surrounding residential areas and innovative new neighborhoods will be explored. The tour will include walking in a neighborhood adjacent to the campus and the nearby downtown core with transportation provided to outlying areas.
Presenter(s): Co-coordinator, JIG Panel, Lisa Fischer -- Category: other -- Contact: <lisafischer@fs.fed.us> -- Type: panel
AFFILIATION: CGS Board Member
TITLE: Jobs in Geography Panel
ABSTRACT: Panel presenters include:
David Swenson, ESRI; Sally Swenson, ESRI; Pam Figge, Planning Focus; Mark Trembley, CSU Chico;
Leah Gardner, CA Dept. of Conservation
Panelists will present on jobs they are currently in and what lead them to their current jobs with degree's in Geography.

Presenter(s): Kevin Flaherty -- Category: graduate -- Contact: <knf1@humboldt.edu> -- Type: paper
AFFILIATION: CSU Long Beach
TITLE: Public Participation GIS and Housing Advocacy
ABSTRACT: Urban morphology is a major aspect of urban planning and housing policy at any level. Each aspect in one is reflected in the other. The meaning of housing is different based upon the scale at which the housing is being seen from. Its outward appearance is just as important as its monetary value. Homes are priced according to their assumed value but there is evidence to say that home values can be manipulated for profit and this affects every one. These values are contested which is why there is no absolute method for the affordable pricing of homes. Social issues such as race and class are exacerbated by the problems this causes for tenants and owners alike. Simple benchmarks have been created which researchers can use innovatively with up to date geospatial techniques to mitigate these problems

Presenter(s): Leah Gardner -- Category: faculty -- Contact: <leah_gm@sbcglobal.net> -- Type: panel
AFFILIATION: Cal. Dept. of Conservation/Office of Mine Reclamation
TITLE: Jobs In Geography Panel Discussion
ABSTRACT: I was asked to talk about my educational background and my current job as it relates to geography.

Presenter(s): Justin Gottfried -- Category: undergrad -- Contact: <jcgottfried@csupomona.edu> -- Type: poster
AFFILIATION: California State Polytechnic University, Pomona
TITLE: Potential Business Sites in Alameda County: Hip Drinking Places
ABSTRACT: This study identifies optimal sites for new bars catering to the post-college, professional demographic in Alameda County, California. The analysis of drive time, demographics and distance from colleges play a key role in this site selection. Alameda County is a prime area because of its proximity to growing technology and business, which is bringing in a younger population. With the combination of wealthy households, expendable income, and the knowledge that a bar can be cash flow positive is less than twelve months, the gamble of a small business is worth the risk in this location.

Presenter(s): Gregory A. Greene -- Category: undergrad -- Contact: <gagreene@csupomona.edu> -- Type: poster
AFFILIATION: Center for GIS Research - Cal Poly Pomona
TITLE: Topography Incarnate: Resurrecting an Ancient Indian Fortification
ABSTRACT: Professional GPS equipment has rarely been used to record archaeological features in India. From December 2006 to February 2007, the first in-depth use of such equipment took place. Over 5,000 point-locations were gathered to record the topographic variations of a 2000 year-old rampart fortification near Bhubaneswar, Orissa, India. This poster documents this first attempt, providing a procedural breakdown of the methodology behind the data collection and analysis techniques. Through the venue of GIS, this GPS work resulted in the generation of a Digital Elevation Model (DEM), to be used in calculating the volume of earth moved during rampart construction.
Presenter(s): Abbey Grimmer -- Category: undergrad -- Contact: <grimmer_a@hotmail.com> -- Type: poster
AFFILIATION: University Of Nevada, Reno
TITLE: Conservation Planning: A Clark County Management Area Assessment
ABSTRACT: The Clark County Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plan (MSHCP) is designed for the conservation and recovery of the diversity of natural habitats and for the orderly and beneficial use of the land. The plan identifies of 79 species of concern, a subset of which is represented by terrestrial vertebrate species (amphibians, birds, mammals, and birds) whose potential habitat distributions have been modeled by the Southwest GAP Analysis Project. Also contained within the plan are conservation management areas designated by four categories: Intensively Managed Areas (IMA), Less Intensively Managed Areas (LIMA), Multiple Use Managed Areas (MUMA), and Unmanaged Areas (UMA). Using the Gap Analysis potential species habitat GIS layers an assessment is performed to determine the relative protection afforded the terrestrial vertebrate species of interest listed in Clark County’s MSHCP. The assessment determines the current status quo and the potential future protection to be afforded species through the use of urban growth models, where conservation oriented management areas are protected from development. Statistics are reported on a species-by-species basis highlighting the spatially explicit impact on species potential habitat for Clark County.

Presenter(s): Michael Hanes -- Category: undergrad -- Contact: <alive2live2004@yahoo.com> -- Type: paper
AFFILIATION: San Diego State University
TITLE: Greenland: Impacts of Climate change
ABSTRACT: We have gathered much information of Earths climate history due to the embedded ice in Greenland. With future climate change on its way due to global warming, I will compare and contrast the past climate scenario with the possible future outcomes of the climate in Greenland.

Presenter(s): Cassandra Hansen -- Category: graduate -- Contact: <cassie.hansen@gmail.com> -- Type: paper
AFFILIATION: University of Nevada, Reno
TITLE: Correlative Synoptic Scale Weather Patterns and Large Slab Avalanches on Mt. Shasta, California
ABSTRACT: This research aims to identify synoptic atmospheric patterns in correlation to class V avalanches on Mt. Shasta, CA. Class V avalanches are the largest and most destructive avalanches that exist. Fifteen class V avalanches (ten storm events) have been observed on or near Mt. Shasta in the past 115 years. Avalanche observation activity in the Mt. Shasta region has been inconsistent, resulting in incomplete documentation. Yet, meteorological records for the City of Mt. Shasta have been continually collected from 1890 to present. Historical meteorological records, combined with applied analysis of atmospheric processes, provide the foundation for this research. Composite mean and anomaly analysis data from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), applied with correspondent statistical analysis of atmospheric grid records indicate that there is a strong correlation between these specific weather patterns and the formation of large, naturally occurring, slab avalanches on Mt. Shasta.
**Presenter(s):** Cassie Hansen -- Category: graduate -- Contact: <cassie.hansen@gmail.com> -- Type: poster  
**AFFILIATION:** University of Nevada, Reno  
**TITLE:** "They Just Don't Make Storms Like This One Anymore": Analysis of the Anomalous Record Snowfall of February 1959  
**ABSTRACT:** This study examines the anomalous synoptic scale circulation during February 1959. During this month of irregular weather, a slow-moving low pressure system over Northern California produced a total of 189 inches of snowfall at Mount Shasta, CA over a six day period (13-19 Feb). This unique slow-moving, moisture-loaded storm event is infrequent, and no storm of this magnitude has been recorded on Mount Shasta since 1959. In order to better understand this anomalous weather pattern, upper atmospheric data, from NOAA, along with local snow depths were used to analyze the unique atmospheric components that were responsible for this exceptional storm. Results showed the mixture of cut-off lows and a high-over-low blocks which contributed to the duration and magnitude of this storm event. The surface sea level pressure was recorded as 992mb, a considerable low along with a coupled jet streak that amplified the entire storm event. These key elements all contributed to the extreme nature of the snowfall of 1959 at Mount Shasta.

**Presenter(s):** Peggy Hauselt -- Category: faculty -- Contact: <PHauselt@csustan.edu> -- Type: paper  
**AFFILIATION:** CSU Stanislaus  
**TITLE:** A Demographic and Health Overview of Aging Californians  
**ABSTRACT:** This report provides an overview of California’s state-wide aging demographics, health trends, and rural and urban characteristics. California has the greatest number of elders of any state (3.6 million) and that number is projected to double by 2020. This review paper uses the results of multiple studies to examine the diverse nature of the aging demographics and its impact on the health and social systems in California. It assesses needs for aging programs within counties, and establishes local educational priorities. This report was developed by the UC Agriculture and Natural Resources (ANR) workgroup on Aging Californians in Rural and Urban Settings.

**Presenter(s):** Ashleigh V. Hayes -- Category: undergrad -- Contact: <avhayes@csupomona.edu> -- Type: Paper Map  
**AFFILIATION:** California State Polytechnic University, Pomona  
**TITLE:** Malnutrition of Children in Africa  
**ABSTRACT:** Using ArcGIS awareness of poverty can be accomplished on a larger scale and in return more effort may be put out to help the suffering countries. Data files and information is available but not many people care to put it to good use. Instead of making charts, maps should be made to help people understand what is going on and how serious poverty is around the world and its effects. A good map with solid information can go a long way in proving a point and getting help and solutions. Information on continents and its countries, such as Africa, with a young and underfed population will help people find ways on how to make sure those young children survive and to teach them skills for the future. ArcGIS is the perfect tool to use in achieving a map of this nature.

**Presenter(s):** Christopher R. Haynes -- Category: undergrad -- Contact: <crh261@gmail.com> -- Type: paper  
**AFFILIATION:** Humboldt State University  
**TITLE:** Up in Smoke: Economic Effects of the Pigeon Fire  
**ABSTRACT:** This paper explores the economic effects of the Pigeon Fire on businesses from Junction City to Del Loma along Highway 299 in Trinity County, California. The Pigeon Fire, which started on September 2, 2006, burned over 35,000 acres and required almost $33 million in suppression costs. The fire started on Labor Day weekend, one of the busiest periods for the local tourism-based economy. Many businesses suffered economic loss due to the fire while others benefited from the influx of fire crews. Data was gathered through empirical and archival research, surveys, and interviews with business owners, employees, and local, state, and federal officials.
Presenter(s): Megan Helms -- Category: undergrad -- Contact: <mdh47@humboldt.edu> -- Type: paper
AFFILIATION: Humboldt State University
TITLE: The Ecological Importance of Fire; A case study using tree ring dating.
ABSTRACT: Until the settlement period of the mid-1800s, when humans began to intervene with nature, California’s forests experienced fires every five to 10 years. Since the early 1900’s the federal policy on forest fires has been fire suppression. However, over the past few decades scientists have discovered that fires are essential for forest health. In order to demonstrate the importance of fire in forest management I took core samples of eight sugar pine trees (Pinus lambertiana) in an area of the Stanislaus-Tuolumne Experimental Forest that had not experienced fire in over 100 years. I measured the yearly growth of each tree and determined that after the forest was last logged in 1929, the growth rate increased for a few years, and then steadily decreased. My results suggest that, if a forest is completely protected from fire or logging, growth rates will slow and the forest will eventually die. Keywords: forest management, controlled fire, tree ring dating

Presenter(s): Ngoc Ho -- Category: undergrad -- Contact: <e66_knock@yahoo.com> -- Type: poster
AFFILIATION: Orange Coast College
TITLE: The Arctic Circle of Death: Suicides in Northern Canada, Northern Scandinavia, and Siberia
ABSTRACT: Suicide is an anomaly of a subject due to the varying perspectives and reasons as to why people would, as Sigmund Freud said, commit “inverted murder” upon themselves. It is a topic that has primarily been studied on a psychological and social level. However, suicide can also reveal the relationship between man and his environment. By analyzing three regions on Arctic Circle and focusing on their suicide rate, this research details the role of the geography and how it affects the psychological and social conditions of its population. The regions of concentration are Northern Canada, Northern Scandinavia, and Siberia where physical living conditions are extreme and harsh.

Presenter(s): Gail Hobbs -- Category: faculty -- Contact: <HobbsGL@piercecollege.edu> -- Type: workshop
AFFILIATION: Pierce College
TITLE: Digital Worlds: Learning with GIS
ABSTRACT: GIS is a powerful tool, but the software’s steep learning curve often limits its use to learning GIS in order to “do GIS.” Digital Worlds GIS, built on ESRI technology, was specifically developed as a curriculum teaching tool, allowing students the opportunity to work with real GIS tools to learn content through class assignments or lab modules. While this session provides hands-on experience with sample modules for both physical and cultural/human geography courses, Digital Worlds GIS can be used across the curriculum.

Presenter(s): Victoria Huber and Siobhan Goodwell -- Category: undergrad -- Contact: <vahuber@ucla.edu> -- Type: poster
AFFILIATION: UCLA Department of Geography
TITLE: Species Richness and Forest Conservation of Tonga
ABSTRACT: Species richness of an area can be evaluated through Remote Sensing. In this project, we have used Landsat ETM+ data of the Tongatapu and Vava'u Islands of Tonga to examine species richness. We used Normalized Difference Vegetation Index (NDVI) analysis of the Landsat data to determine land cover of the islands. From our identification and analysis we have proposed two methods of forest conservation.
In wildlife management many techniques are utilized to assess habitat conditions of wildlife species. One contemporary method is suitability modeling through the use of geographical information systems. Suitability models allow researchers to assess wildlife habitat in areas such as Sequoia National Park (SNP) that are too large and remote to be sampled. The focus of this project was to analyze how accurately a suitability model can represent California spotted owl (Strix occidentalis, occidentalis) habitat in SNP. To date, this specific habitat has yet to be evaluated for this purpose.

The suitability model indicated that more than 90 percent of Spotted Owls within SNP inhabit the most suitable habitat. In addition, the suitability model resulted in finding an abundance of "most suitable habitat," which has previously not been surveyed.

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Today, continuing growth of population is one of the major problems that causes greenhouse gas, and affects climate change.

In recent decades, gentrification has threatened the identity and cohesiveness of many neighborhoods throughout the city of Los Angeles. One district in particular, Silver Lake, a progressive arts center since the early twentieth century, maintains a bohemian nexus despite these waves of gentrification. Silver Lake’s cultural evolution is represented in numerous spaces and by diverse organizations throughout the district’s business and residential sectors. Though each space may represent various sub-cultures and time periods in Silver Lake’s history, each contributes to a vibrant urban scene that manifests a unique collective identity. Through an analysis of selected ‘alternative’ culture spaces throughout Silver Lake, this study shows that despite being situated in an area of Los
Angeles congested with numerous urban ‘re-vitalization’ projects and cityscape “makeovers”, Silver Lake’s landscape represents and remains an example of cultural continuity, reflecting the needs, values and interests of the diverse community that supports it.

Presenter(s): Laurilyn Kersten -- Category: undergrad -- Contact: <kerstel@imail.losrios.edu> -- Type: poster
AFFILIATION: Cosumnes River College
TITLE: Costa Rica and Global Warming: How David is Fighting Goliath.
ABSTRACT: Abstract:
Costa Rica, a country slightly smaller than West Virginia, is being hit hard by global warming. Already numerous tropical species have gone extinct and thousands of acres of rainforest, a natural carbon sink, have been lost. Although the country is small its efforts to preserve nature and reduce carbon emissions have been large. Costa Ricans are being educated about present and future risks caused by climate change and encouraged to help save what is left of the country’s distinct biosphere. In an effort to reduce fossil fuel consumption, hydro-electric power has become the country’s largest source of energy, though environmentalists are concerned that future climate change could interfere with its water supply. This poster project will explain how Costa Rica is responding to climate change in order to save its exquisite animal species and remaining rainforests, and centralize the use of renewable energy.

Presenter(s): Rachel Kesel -- Category: undergrad -- Contact: <rachelkesel@gmail.com> -- Type: paper
AFFILIATION: San Francisco State University
TITLE: Paws in Parks: Off-leash Recreation in Natural Areas, Bernal Heights Park, San Francisco
ABSTRACT: Off-leash dogs in urban wildlands present distinct challenges to resource managers in terms of erosion control and species preservation. This paper seeks to inform this problem by describing the character and intensity of off-leash dog recreation in a San Francisco natural area. The study investigated the density and spatial distribution of off-leash recreation with respect to ecologically and geomorphologically sensitive areas in Bernal Heights Park. Activities were observed as was the demographic character of off-leash recreationists.
In 2006, direct observations of use levels revealed the intensity of off-leash dog walking on Bernal Hill and allowed for the establishment of a peak use period. Data on off-leash activities such as ball play, slope play, gully use, and digging were collected at four sites for a total of 32 hours. Statistical correlations between variables were sought to further characterize the relationship between handler activities and behaviors in dogs.
These observations were repeated in March and April of 2008, following a two year public education campaign that aimed to alter some trends observed in 2006.

Presenter(s): Guy King -- Category: faculty -- Contact: <gking@csuchico.edu> -- Type: paper
AFFILIATION: Department of Geography and Planning, California State University, Chico
TITLE: The Hottest and Coldest Places in California
ABSTRACT: National Weather Service climate data from current weather stations with long-term temperature records (+ 30 years) were used to analyze the hottest and coldest places in California. Temperature measures included mean yearly, mean yearly minimum and maximum, mean July and January, absolute record highest and lowest, and national hot and cold spots. Results indicate that the hottest places in California are Death Valley and the Salton Sea area while the coldest places are located in various valleys of the Cascade Mountains/Sierra Nevada. California hot and cold places are then compared with those of the conterminous United States.
**Presenter(s): Allan Lace -- Category: undergrad -- Contact: <allan.lace@gmail.com> -- Type: Paper Map**

**AFFILIATION:** California State University, Chico  
**TITLE:** The 1955 Mille Miglia  
**ABSTRACT:** The map “The 1955 Mille Miglia” depicts a historic Italian auto race. The 1955 Mille Miglia was memorable for its dangerous and extremely long race course. In 1955, the race was won by the racing duo Stirling Moss and Denis Jenkinson. The pair raced the 992 miles of narrow roads in the record breaking 10 h 07’ 48” with an astounding average speed of 99.2 miles per hour in their Mercedes-Benz 300 SLR. The map was produced using ESRI ArcGIS Desktop to gather and project country boundaries, cities, and a raster Digital Elevation Model. Adobe Photoshop was used to create transparencies and raster images. This was all imported into Adobe Illustrator to integrate the final map, perform text placement, and to create the secondary elements. The result is a press ready map of the race course in the CMYK color space, saved in the Adobe Illustrator CS2 file format.

**Presenter(s): Allan Lace and Rochelle Burright -- Category: undergrad -- Contact: <allan.lace@gmail.com> -- Type: poster**

**AFFILIATION:** California State University, Chico  
**TITLE:** Sewer System Modeling for the City of Oroville  
**ABSTRACT:** The purpose of this project is to create a model of the City of Oroville’s sewer system that includes flow direction for problem analysis. The model is based on data provided by the city including manhole locations, sewer pipe locations, and general attributes. The data is then ‘cleaned up’ – unknown points are checked with city field personnel and by performing onsite inspections. Connectivity in the sewer system is checked and corrected before being loaded into a geodatabase to create a geometric network. Flow direction is added to each sewer line based on existing city maps, and field personnel conversations. Analysis on the completed network is then run to answer questions regarding backups and flow direction. The ESRI ArcGIS Desktop suite (ArcEditor level with Utility Network Analyst) is used for the editing of the pre-existing shapefiles, which is then loaded into an ESRI geodatabase for geometric network functionality.

**Presenter(s): Joseph S. Leeper -- Category: faculty -- Contact: <jsl1@humboldt.edu> -- Type: paper**

**AFFILIATION:** Humboldt State University  
**TITLE:** Challenges Confronting Humboldt County Agriculture  
**ABSTRACT:** Contrary to popular stereotype, Humboldt County has a great deal of agricultural diversity. This paper will examine some of the major component areas of legitimate agriculture in Humboldt County relative to current problems and future paths. Perhaps the major problem was stated by Baron Hilton: location, location, location.

**Presenter(s): Colin Leslie -- Category: undergrad -- Contact: <crl21@humboldt.edu> -- Type: paper**

**AFFILIATION:** Humboldt State University  
**TITLE:** Influence of China's Development in southeastern Tibet on Traditional Tibetan Economies  
**ABSTRACT:** This paper examines how subsistence economies are being impacted as a result of China’s development of the Tibetan Region. My research was carried out in the Tibetan Autonomous Region and Sichuan provinces of southeastern Tibet. Interviews with several local organizations as well as field surveys and observations within subsistence communities were conducted via the help of a translator. Questions focused around what products were produced and whether those products were consumed locally or transported to market. Survey results and observations were then compared to historical accounts of Tibetan economies between the 1970s and present day, notably Tibet's pastoral economies. My findings conclude that increased transportation infrastructure is providing access to markets that were
previously unavailable and the influx of Han Chinese settlers to the region is shifting both the supply and
demand of traditional and nontraditional goods. Understanding how these pressures are influencing the
region will provide a basis for analyzing the continuing viability of Tibet’s traditional subsistence
economies.

Presenter(s): Chris Lukinbeal -- Category: faculty -- Type: paper
AFFILIATION: Arizona State University
TITLE: The Professional Master’s of Advanced Study in Geographic Information Systems (MAS-GIS) at
Arizona State University
ABSTRACT: In the fall of 2004 Arizona State University began a new professional degree program in
GIS. Since then 56 students have graduated and another 17 are enrolled for the current school year.
The MAS-GIS program is designed to meet the needs of students from a variety of academic and
professional backgrounds with either extensive or limited experience in GIS. The objective of the
program is to provide a comprehensive professional degree that balances work in the theoretical aspects
of GIS, the technical side of the discipline, and the applications domain. The success of our program can
be gauged by two matrixes: first, our graduates are finding gainful employment in the rapidly growing
geospatial technology industry in Arizona and elsewhere; two, regional employers from both the private
and public sphere speak very highly about the quality of our graduates.
For further information, please visit our website: http://geography.asu.edu/education/degrees/masgis/.

Presenter(s): Robin R. Lyons -- Category: faculty -- Contact: <geobiz2@sbcglobal.net> -- Type: paper
AFFILIATION: San Joaquin Delta College
TITLE: James Cook and the Myth of Terra Australis Incognita
ABSTRACT: Following Abel Tasman's exploration of Australia, and Wallis's discovery of Tahiti, England's
Royal Society chose James Cook to lead a scientific expedition to the South Pacific to record the Transit
of Venus and look for Terra Australis Incognita. Cook was subsequently promoted to Captain and led two
further expeditions to the South Pacific resulting in the discovery of Hawaii and the dismissal of the
mythical southern continent's existence.

Presenter(s): Nancy Madison, Marilyn Jacobs, Jack Jacques, Leticia Barrios, Jayme Greer, Penny
Brennan, Andy Morgan, Jeremy Munroe, Tatiana Khoubiar, Josh Hollinger, James Fields -- Category:
undergrad -- Contact: <mobsolutions4u@yahoo.com> -- Type: poster
AFFILIATION: CSU, Stanislaus
TITLE: Community Geography: Mapping the Needs and Assets of the Airport Neighborhood in Modesto,
California.
ABSTRACT: From 1930 to 1940, over 300,000 Dust Bowl migrants from Oklahoma, Texas, Arkansas and
Missouri made their way to California, many making the San Joaquin Valley their home. The Airport
Neighborhood located in Modesto, California is a cultural island representing the descendants of Dust
Bowl migrants and a growing number of Latino residents. Through a combination of archival research,
census mapping, land use surveying, and fieldwork students enrolled in Urban Geography at CSU,
Stanislaus developed a community-based service learning project to identify and map neighborhood
needs and assets. The collected materials are incorporated into a community geodatabase where GIS
software is used to explore the historical significance of the neighborhood; analyze social, environmental,
and transportation justice; and examine resource disparities. By mapping the benefits and challenges
faced by those living in the Airport Neighborhood community, the project will raise awareness about
current problems and advocate important community concerns!
Presenter(s): Amy M. McGrann -- Category: graduate -- Contact: <ammcgrann@ucdavis.edu> -- Type: paper
AFFILIATION: UC Davis
TITLE: Floristic Resolution of Wildlife Habitat Relationships on the Pacific Crest Trail
ABSTRACT: How does floristic resolution (the scale of vegetation classification) affect predictions of wildlife habitat relationships (WHR) in California? Do finer scale vegetation classifications (e.g. California Native Plant Society, CNPS) predict bird species occurrence more accurately than coarse WHR categories? In 2006, we completed a mega-transect of California on the Pacific Crest Trail, collecting 3,580 sample points over 1700 miles. Data was collected on vegetation (at a finer resolution CNPS classification) and bird species occurrence and abundance at each point. A more intensive sub-sample was collected in 2007 on 150 sub-alpine vegetation points, to determine if differences existed between dominant vegetation types within this larger WHR vegetation classification. Preliminary analysis showed that foxtail pine, lodgepole pine, and western white pine contained different bird species from sub-alpine vegetation as a whole. The results from 2007 are currently being analyzed to determine if sub-alpine vegetation should be split into a finer floristic resolution.

Presenter(s): Michael C. McGrann -- Category: graduate -- Contact: <mcmcgrann@ucdavis.edu> -- Type: paper
AFFILIATION: UC Davis
TITLE: A Megatransect of California on the Pacific Crest National Scenic Trail: Considering Foliage Height Diversity in Wildlife Habitat Relationships
ABSTRACT: I am preparing results from our 2006 and 2007 field seasons on the Pacific Crest National Scenic Trail (PCT). On 3,580 sample plots (50 m radius), we collected data on birds and vegetation for the entire length of California on the PCT (1,720 miles, from Mexico to Ashland, Oregon); this effort included stopping every 10 minutes of walking and conducting 10 – 15 minutes point counts for birds at each sample plot. We revisited 150 of the sample plots in 2007, where we performed more intensive bird counts and vegetation measurements for 2 hours on each. I will discuss our results as they pertain to foliage height diversity and wildlife habitat relationships. In addition, I will briefly discuss the importance of a megatransect in filling data gaps in current large scale monitoring efforts of bird populations, such as the Breeding Bird Survey and Christmas Bird Count.

Presenter(s): Alison McNally -- Category: graduate -- Contact: <alandrod@pacbell.net> -- Type: poster
AFFILIATION: CSU Stanislaus/Columbia College
TITLE: Proposed Helicopter Emergency Landing Groomed Areas (HELGAs) Near Eagle Meadow Road, Stanislaus National Forest, CA
ABSTRACT: In the last 15 years or so, the number of winter use vehicles (snowmobiles in particular) has risen exponentially. This is evidenced by the increasing number of sno-park permits sold, as well as the construction of sno-park lots located throughout the state that provide parking to winter recreation enthusiasts. With the population of winter use vehicles on the rise, so, too, are the chances that injuries may occur, possibly in remote areas. This project was launched to determine whether or not groomed helicopter landing sites could easily be added to the existing groomed road areas, more specifically in the Eagle Meadow Road area, on the Stanislaus National Forest. Currently there are no such sites adjacent to Eagle Meadow Road. If approved, these sites can be maintained with the use of existing snow grooming equipment that is currently contracted to keep various roads throughout the Stanislaus ready for winter use.
Presenter(s): Scott Mullin -- Category: undergrad -- Contact: <smullin@csulb.edu> -- Type: Paper Map
AFFILIATION: California State University Long Beach
TITLE: El Dorado Park Frisbee Golf
ABSTRACT: Frisbee golf is as its name suggests, golf using a Frisbee. The courses are often in small areas with overlapping fairways. It is easy to get turned around in Frisbee golf and skip or repeat holes because of their close proximity to one another. With a course map Frisbee golfers could navigate the course with ease. To make sense of El Dorado parks Frisbee golf course I will take GPS measurements at the start of each hole and at the three pin locations of each hole. Using Google Earth I will convert the satellite imagery into a shape file and present the locations in Arc GIS.

Presenter(s): Diana Muncy -- Category: undergrad -- Contact: <dlm65@humboldt.edu> -- Type: poster
AFFILIATION: Humboldt State University
TITLE: Foggy Notions Surrounding Redwood Creek-- A Historical Perspective
ABSTRACT: Redwood Creek joins the Pacific Ocean approximately eight miles south of the Humboldt-Del Norte County border, containing virtually three river miles situated within the coastal zone. Past and present land use activities including timber harvesting, road building, grazing, and the building of levees in the lower 3.5 miles of the creek have produced aggraded and broaden stream channels, filled pools, elevated water temperatures, channelization in the lower watershed, and loss of estuary function. This project looks both at historical data of Redwood Creek and current restoration efforts.

Presenter(s): Jonathan Nimis -- Category: undergrad -- Contact: <jnimis001@yahoo.com> -- Type: poster
AFFILIATION: Cosumnes River College
TITLE: The Disappearing Amazon
ABSTRACT: Today, the Amazon basin is facing its darkest hour. The purpose of this project is to help explain the two biggest threats that the Amazon is facing, deforestation and climate change, and also the relationship between the two. Since 1970, over 600,000 square kilometers (232,000 square miles) of Amazon rainforest have been destroyed. And until illegal logging in the Amazon is stopped, we can expect to see much greater loss of tropical rainforest in the coming years. We can also expect to see great increases in global warming as a result of deforestation.

Presenter(s): Marge O'Connor -- Category: undergrad -- Contact: <ann_egram@hotmail.com> -- Type: poster
AFFILIATION: Cosumnes River College
TITLE: Gain Alternative Fuel Source, Lose Indonesia's Rain Forests?
ABSTRACT: The development of alternative fuel sources has led to an increase in demand for palm oil. The economic value placed on palm oil has led to an expansion of palm plantations in Indonesia. The associated demand for arable land has caused deforestation within Indonesia's rain forests. Deforestation eliminates trees that absorb carbon dioxide and releases stored carbon into the atmosphere, ironically contributing to greenhouse gas emissions that alternative fuels seek to reduce. Scientific studies have shown that greenhouse gas emissions contribute to global warming. This poster explains how the pursuit of palm oil as an alternative fuel source is not only threatening the survival of Indonesia's rain forests, but also Indonesia's native people and animals; how deforestation contributes to global warming; and what steps are being taken to prevent deforestation and preserve the biodiversity in Indonesia.
Presenter(s): Eileen O'Halloran -- Category: faculty -- Contact: <eileen.ohalloran@gmail.com> -- Type: paper
AFFILIATION: San Jose State University
TITLE: The Current State of Geographic Education Requirements and Standards in California Schools
ABSTRACT: As geographers in California, we should all be concerned about the state of geography education at the primary and secondary levels in our schools. This includes current requirements and standards for geography education. Historically, students in the United States have ranked low on standard geography assessments which can be seen as a reflection of the lack of emphasis on geography education in our schools. Taking a look at our own state of California, what is required to be taught in schools today?

In this paper, the requirements and standards in California schools today are gathered and synthesized. The purpose is to educate those in the geography community about the state of geography education in California schools and to serve as a guide for preparing future students for geography courses.

Presenter(s): Sally Otton -- Category: graduate -- Contact: <otton38@hotmail.com> -- Type: paper
AFFILIATION: California State University, East Bay
TITLE: The California State University, East Bay Carbon Report
ABSTRACT: The California State University, East Bay has committed itself to pursuing climate neutrality, a commitment reinforced by the state’s Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006, AB 32, which requires the state to reduce its greenhouse gas emissions to what they were in 1990 by the year 2020, with further reductions pursued thereafter. To establish a carbon dioxide emissions baseline and examine the potential for emissions reductions, this class-based project quantified CSUEB's direct CO2 emissions (from energy derived from fossil fuels) from electricity, natural gas, and liquid fuels and its indirect emissions from commuting by faculty, staff, and students. Our results show that the University’s biggest emission sources were commuting (more than 25,000 tons of CO2 emitted per year, approximately double that of the University’s direct emissions) and electricity use (approximately 10,000 tons emitted per year). The university could reduce emissions by facilitating public transportation and establishing a new electricity provider.

Presenter(s): Michael L. Owens -- Category: undergrad -- Contact: <mlo14@humboldt.edu> -- Type: paper
AFFILIATION: Humboldt State University, Department of Geography
TITLE: Past, present, and future: transitions in resource use and landscape in Shelter Cove, California.
ABSTRACT: Shelter Cove is the most isolated coastal community in Humboldt County, California, nestled behind the King Mountain range and along the Lost Coast. Shelter Cove continues to be an important refuge for ocean going vessels as it provides the only natural harbor with easy access and navigation between Humboldt Bay and San Francisco bay. My study explores the geologic events that shaped this coastal headland, access to and from Shelter Cove, the human use of its natural resources, and the development of its landscape within a historical-geographic context. In 1966 residential sub-division were laid out, even though many lots are unfit for building. In this paper, I explore how and why Shelter Cove transitioned from a resource based economy to a recreation and vacation resort community.
Presenter(s): Mary E. Paulet -- Category: graduate -- Contact: <paulet_mary@yahoo.com> -- Type: paper
AFFILIATION: CSU Los Angeles
TITLE: Global Warming, Water Usage, and California-Sustainability Issues
ABSTRACT:
Key Words- California, Global Warming, Sustainability
While global warming is well documented, its effects on California's water supply are understated. Combined with unrestricted population growth and seemingly perennial state budgetary deficits, the effects of a reduced water supply resulting from global warming are pushing California's ability to sustain its burgeoning population to the breaking point. These challenges include a dwindling water supply from an ever more strained Colorado river, decreased snow pack, increased risk of catastrophic forest fires. While every year California's time to deal with these challenges grows more finite, the politicians seem to do little to respond to these catastrophes in-waiting. What I will advocate is a three pronged approach to deal with these difficult issues. The first leg of this triad would be to attempt to limit global warming and thus help to mitigate further deterioration in water-related sustainability through several legislative approaches as well as encourage greater cooperation between municipalities throughout California. The second aspect would be tied to limiting population growth. The third leg would be in investing in new technologies such as desalinization plants, toilet-to-tap initiatives, as well as alternative energy sources.

Presenter(s): Denielle Perry -- Category: graduate -- Contact: <deniellep@hotmail.com> -- Type: poster
AFFILIATION: University of Nevada, Reno
TITLE: Costa Rica's Rio Pacuare: Troubled Waters for a Cultural Icon
ABSTRACT: The Pacuare River cascades down the Caribbean Slope of Costa Rica. Located within the watershed, the Reserva Indmgena Chirrips-Cabecar provides sanctuary from mainstream society. An extensive hydroelectric complex proposed for this pristine river by the electric company, el Instituto Costarricense de la Electricidad (ICE) would cover with reservoirs miles of river and rainforest along with riverside Cabecar settlements. Large sections of world class whitewater rapids would be destroyed by the operation, spoiling a lucrative tourist economy. Currently, the community of Turrialba has achieved a moratorium on the project, although whether ICE will appeal the ruling is unclear. With pressures looming to increase power production for the Central America Free Trade Agreement (CAFTA) and the Plan Puebla-Panama (PPP), many locals fear that it is only a matter of time before ICE seeks to resume with their plans. This poster seeks to identify the potential socio-cultural impacts of the dam complex.

Presenter(s): Robert Predosa -- Category: undergrad -- Contact: <robert.predosa@gmail.com> -- Type: poster
AFFILIATION: California State University, Chico: College of Geography and Planning
TITLE: Analysis of Mill Creek Watershed: Modeling effects of Global Warming and changes in land cover using a GIS
ABSTRACT: Utilizing GIS to analyze the flow of water through a watershed provides valuable insight that can aid in a variety of ways, from the management of water resources to conceptualization of hydrologic processes. In this study, we utilized the EPA’s Automated Geospatial Watershed Assessment Tool to delineate the extent of the Mill Creek watershed in Tehama County, California. A Soil Water Assessment (SWAT) analysis was then used to calculate a variety of outputs - including infiltration, runoff, and evapotranspiration - based on precipitation, soil, and land cover data. A scenario-based approach was taken to observe the consequences of hypothetical changes, such as deforestation, wildfire, and climate change. Results of the models were compared against the existing conditions of the watershed to determine the significance of their impact.
Presenter(s): Vicki Rabin -- Category: undergrad -- Contact: <vicki_rabin@yahoo.com> -- Type: poster
AFILIATION: California State Fullerton
TITLE: The cause and conditions of the slums in Johannesburg, South Africa
ABSTRACT: This poster will lay out the cause of the slums of Johannesburg, and there current conditions. It will focuses on the history of gold mining and the development of Jonesburg and the need of cheap labor. The Apartheid government and Pass Laws establishing legal separation of blacks and whites, including ethnic rezoning and the creation of townships. Also high light and a look at the currant conditions of living in one of the most famous townships called Soweto. United Nations plans for help and the future.

Presenter(s): Jennifer Reynolds-Kusler -- Category: undergrad -- Contact: <JenniferEKusler@gmail.com> -- Type: paper
AFILIATION: California State University Sacramento
TITLE: A Reconstruction of Late Holocene Vegetation Productivity and Composition from Meadow Sediments at Diamond Lake in California’s Klamath Mountains.
ABSTRACT: A ~960 year record of changes in meadow productivity and local vegetation was obtained from a site in the Marble Mountains of northwestern California’s Klamath region. Sediment cores were recovered from a meadow adjacent to Diamond Lake and analyzed using standard paleoecological methodology. Variations in sedimentary pollen assemblages, organic content, and bulk density indicated numerous trends. The vegetation composition and productivity of the early 20th Century and Medieval Warm Period appear to have been similar, supporting a forest composed primarily of pine, Mountain hemlock, and fir. During the Little Ice Age, the abundance of forest species decreased and meadow vegetation increased. Multiple disturbances to the ecosystem appear to have occurred during this period as well.

Presenter(s): Aubrey Rose -- Category: faculty -- Contact: <aubreyrose2000@netscape.net> -- Type: paper
AFILIATION: CSU, Chico MA Geography (Planning) 2006; City of Oakland, Planner II
TITLE: Planning for Sustainability with Infill Development and Density Bonuses: A Case Study of Arroyo Vista Senior Housing Facility in East Oakland
ABSTRACT: Various development types are changing the geographies of place with serious consequences for conservation and sustainability. Current “good” planning practice promotes infill development (often featuring density linked to mass transit), as opposed to conventional sprawling development, as a means to achieve these desired outcomes. How can planning practice enable such development? One way is to approve projects utilizing density bonuses under State law. The presentation provides a case study of such an infill project for a senior housing facility to be located in a distressed area of East Oakland. The presenter is the project’s case planner and a graduate of Chico State geography master’s program, town planning option (Thesis Advisor: Prof. Jacque Chase).

Presenter(s): Matthew Rosso -- Category: undergrad -- Contact: <smiles_lately@yahoo.com> -- Type: Paper Map
AFILIATION: Chico State
TITLE: Low-Lying Areas in the Region of Mexico's State of Tabasco.
ABSTRACT: Although many Americans are familiar with flooding, either through personal experience or through media reports, much of this familiarity is limited to the United States. Perhaps with the exception of such catastrophic events as the 1991 cyclone in Bangladesh and the Indonesian tsunami of 2004, few foreign floods make any significant impact on the American consciousness. This map of the Mexican state of Tabasco seeks to highlight the threat that faces this region.
Presenter(s): Irene M Seelye -- Category: graduate -- Contact: <zazibarkaje@hotmail.com> -- Type: poster
AFFILIATION: University of Nevada, Reno
TITLE: The Changing Footprints of Downtown Reno: Tracing Community Evolution through Land Use Change
ABSTRACT: In 1918, Reno, Nevada, was a small town, with a traditional small-town downtown and riverfront areas. The small shops, restaurants, and theaters, mixed in with administration and judicial buildings created a core for the surrounding communities. Over the next four decades, the boom of the automobile culture and Nevada’s legalization of gambling and divorce caused a large shift in the use of downtown Reno. By 1955 Reno had expanded greatly, and the face of downtown had shifted away from that of a community center to that of a visitor center. As the downtown became geared more towards the traveler and the temporary inhabitant, the locals, as well as most shopping, began to draw away from the area. Over the last twenty years, the downtown has become, to most locals, a foreign place, visited only for official reasons, or when out of state guests drag them into their own backyard. Currently there are efforts to bring the community back into this alien corridor, with events, housing, and facilities geared towards an urban lifestyle. This study uses GIS software to show this transition in place and through time, by looking at Sanborn maps from 1918 and 1955 and comparing them to the present land use along the Truckee River through downtown Reno to see if the maps reflect the sought after return to downtown as a community center.

Presenter(s): Helene Seelye -- Category: undergrad -- Contact: <hmesl@yahoo.com> -- Type: poster
AFFILIATION: University of Nevada, Reno
TITLE: A Place for the Senses: La Provence
ABSTRACT: Abstract: There are several ways to decide on attributes to define a region. Traditional ways can be looking at landscape, water, vegetation, and climate; language and culture; history and patterns of settlements; statistics of agricultural, mineral, and industrial production, including tourism; or even media representation and advertisement. These are academic approaches to a region. However, the traveler and/or geographer will remember a region by the impact it makes on the five senses. Such is the case of Provence. The Provence region of France offers a plethora of sensory stimulations. This region could be learned abstractly from reports and statistics, and much could be inferred from experience with other parts of the world, but one of the major keys in understanding Provence or any other region should directly involve the geographer’s five senses to learn about the region not just as a name but as a place.

Presenter(s): Willie Shubert -- Category: undergrad -- Contact: <wcs8@humboldt.edu> -- Type: digital map
AFFILIATION: Humboldt State University
TITLE: The Modern Middle East: A Survey of Chaos and its Contributors
ABSTRACT: The Islamic realm stretches from Atlantic to Pacific across thousands of miles of Africa and Eurasia. It encompasses many distinctive cultures, languages, environmental factors, external influences, and contemporary conflicts. This diversity often leads outsiders confused about Islam to make generalizations based upon selective information or accept a simple understanding discouraged by puzzling and misleading media messages. By placing a set of dynamic variables such as cultural identities, environmental influences, refugee movements, and contemporary conflicts in an interactive GIS the user can explore the Islamic world according to his or her interests and questions. A layered approach utilizing a comprehensive sample of variables displayed in a wide variety of cartographic mediums pushes the user to make connections previously attainable only through hours of research utilizing wide ranging sources. The synthesis, made available by Flash cartography will decrease the prevalent misconceptions that are a detriment to the Islamic world and efforts for peace and justice.
Presenter(s): Willie Shubert -- Category: undergrad -- Contact: <wcs8@humboldt.edu> -- Type: paper
AFFILIATION: Humboldt State University
TITLE: Cuisine on the Plateau: Changing Patterns in a Globalized Setting
ABSTRACT: The dynamics of food availability and choice provide examples of how culture, technology, and environment intersect within the phenomena of globalization. Tibet’s relative isolation and China’s combination of rapid transition and deep cultural legacy present fertile ground for examining these processes.
Supported by prior research and reinforced by interview and personal observation, I explored China and Tibet’s changing dietary patterns and concluded the following. The environmental constraints characteristic of life on the Tibetan plateau have influenced an indigenous culture tailored to its ecosystem. Yet, as Chinese populations migrate into Tibet’s rugged landscape, foods alien to the plateau penetrate Tibetan marketplaces. Aided by technology and compelled by a desire to maintain a Chinese cultural identity, we witness the tendency for globalized society to overcome the limits of regional ecosystems. In turn, China’s opening to the global economy has created opportunities for western corporations to reap massive profits off of China’s unparalleled population.

Presenter(s): Daniel Siegel -- Category: undergrad -- Contact: <danberado@yahoo.com> -- Type: poster
AFFILIATION: California State University Chico
TITLE: Analysis of Mill Creek Watershed: Modeling effects of Global Warming and Changes in Landscape using a GIS
ABSTRACT: Utilizing GIS to analyze the flow of water through a watershed provides valuable insight that can aid in a variety of ways, from the management of water resources to conceptualization of hydrologic processes. In this study, we utilized the EPA’s Automated Geospatial Watershed Assessment Tool to delineate the extent of the Mill Creek watershed in Tehama County, California. A Soil Water Assessment (SWAT) analysis was then used to calculate a variety of outputs - including infiltration, runoff, and evapotranspiration - based on precipitation, soil, and land cover data. A scenario-based approach was taken to observe the consequences of hypothetical changes, such as deforestation, wildfire, and climate change. Results of the models were compared against the existing conditions of the watershed to determine the significance of their impact.

Presenter(s): Heather Siler -- Category: undergrad -- Contact: <hsiler@mail.csuchico.edu> -- Type: poster
AFFILIATION: California State University, Chico
TITLE: South American Viticultural Regions of Chile
ABSTRACT: The poster “South American Viticultural Regions of Chile” highlights the result and techniques employed to generate a brochure of the wine regions of Chile. Encompassing 10 distinct wine growing regions, Chile’s climatic variation is evident throughout. Chile is isolated by the Andes Mountains to the east and a lower coastal range on the western side. This regional variation, also known as the terroire, combined with pre-phylloxera vines, has driven renewed interest of Chilean wines in the world market. The poster and brochure were created using the Adobe CS2 Suite of Products. Both were produced in the CMYK color space are suitable for printing on a 4 color offset press.
Presenter(s): Kathleen Sonesen -- Category: undergrad -- Contact: <ksonesen87@yahoo.com> -- Type: poster

AFFILIATION: Kathleen

TITLE: Escaping Paradise: Changing Climate Destroying Fiji

ABSTRACT: The effects of global warming and climate change have deeply impacted Fiji. Climate change has been affecting one of Fiji's largest islands, Viti Levu, due to intensive urban development, deforestation, pollution and exploitation of coastal resources have lead massive areas of the coast to be eroded. It is predicted that the health and agricultural conditions of the island will decline as the sea level rises and massive storms rain on the Islands. Even though Fiji is a low emitter of gases, they are attempting to change their ways to preserve their sea level stability, agriculture, and health. Projects are being proposed to help improve Fiji and the life for its inhabitants. The purpose of this poster is to explain the impact of climate change on Fiji that effects the Pacific Islander’s land, business, and address the positive changes taking place.

Presenter(s): Daniel Stauning -- Category: graduate -- Contact: <des41@humboldt.edu> -- Type: digital map

AFFILIATION: Humboldt State University

TITLE: Manifest Destiny

ABSTRACT: The westward expansion of the United States occurred over a span of many years in the form of numerous land acquisitions. In order to animate this sequence, a base map of the United States will be used to show the addition of each state into the union by assigning an area fill to indicate whether or not a given state is part of the U.S. at that time. An associated timeline will inform the reader when each state was acquired and descriptive texts will explain the context of each acquisition. The map will start with the original thirteen colonies and progress through the sequence of westward expansion until the last state (Hawaii) is acquired. Keywords: Westward expansion, land acquisition, United States

Presenter(s): Daniel Stauning -- Category: undergrad -- Contact: <des41@humboldt.edu> -- Type: paper

AFFILIATION: Humboldt State University

TITLE: Mapping Native Dunegrass (Leymus mollis) at the Ma-le’l Dunes

ABSTRACT: The coastal dune systems of northern California have suffered extreme degradation as a result of industrial, residential, commercial and recreational encroachment. Attempts to stabilize dynamic windswept dunes with exotic plants to protect such developments have resulted in the bio invasion of several non-native plant species’ such as European beachgrass (Ammophila arenaria). Efforts are being made to eradicate invasive plants in the Ma-le’l dunes Cooperative Management Area (CMA) on the north spit of Humboldt Bay so that native plants such as native dunegrass (Leymus mollis) are able reestablish themselves. A Garmin 76 GPS unit used in conjunction with ArcGIS 9.2 software was used to display the current spatial distribution of native dunegrass in Ma-le’l CMA so that its recovery can be analyzed and compared to future spatial distributions. Keywords: invasive species, Native dunegrass, European beachgrass, Ma-le’l dunes CMA,
Presenter(s): Jared -- Category: graduate -- Contact: <jdwolfe80@yahoo.com> -- Type: digital map
AFFILIATION: Humboldt State University
TITLE: DISTRIBUTION OF NEOTROPICAL MIGRANTS IN RESPONSE TO THE EL NINO SOUTHERN OSCILLATION IN COSTA RICA
ABSTRACT: Analyses of long-term demographic trends indicate declining populations of some species of Neotropical migrant songbirds. These analyses, coupled with recent studies showing that migration may be a limiting factor preventing population level recovery, should encourage further landscape-level spatial analysis. Using historic spring migration bird-capture data from Costa Rica, El Niño Southern Oscillation Index data and Landsat 7 imagery, an animated map illustrating the effects of a stochastic climate on migrant bird distribution in Costa Rica was created. Primary forest habitat-use increased during dry periods associated with El Niño; alternatively, younger forests were preferred during all other years. Management implications derived from this map include the preservation of tropical primary forest for wildlife during dry climatic periods.

Presenter(s): Siegrun Storer -- Category: undergrad -- Contact: <sstorer@csulb.edu> -- Type: poster
AFFILIATION: California State University, Long Beach
TITLE: A Visual Representation of Wetlands Law in the Los Cerritos Wetlands
ABSTRACT: The Los Cerritos Wetlands of Southern California have been degraded as industry has taken over. Many developments occurred before wetlands laws were developed. Even after development of laws to protect wetlands, this area continues to be threatened by further development. There are several problems with trying to protect and restore this area, including land ownership, jurisdiction of wetlands law, and poor information available to the public regarding the area of land affected. With the applications of remote sensing, ground truth observations and GIS, an analysis of vegetation, soil type and presence of water in conjunction with wetlands law and jurisdictions will comprehensively show the areas that need to be protected. This visual and spatial representation of the Los Cerritos Wetlands will give Long Beach and Seal Beach voters, city officials and restoration advocates information they need to make logical decisions about protecting and restoring the area.

Presenter(s): Anthony M. Sudderth -- Category: graduate -- Contact: <asudderth@mail.csuchico.edu> -- Type: Paper Map
AFFILIATION: CSU Chico
TITLE: James-Younger Gang Railroad & Stagecoach Robberies
ABSTRACT: A journey map depicting the James-Younger Gang Railroad & Stagecoach Robberies that occurred between 1873 and 1881. This map was created using ArcGis, Adobe Photoshop, and Macromedia Freehand.

Presenter(s): David Swenson -- Category: faculty -- Contact: <dswenson@esri.com> -- Type: panel
AFFILIATION: ESRI
TITLE: Jobs in Geography Panel
ABSTRACT: A description by the panelists of their career paths. How they got where they are and what they do in their jobs.
David Swenson - Graduate of Cal Poly Pomona with a BS in Anthropology/Geography. Currently Working at ESRI as a Software Products Release Engineer for ArcSDE.
Presenter(s): Sally Swenson -- Category: faculty -- Contact: <sswenson@esri.com> -- Type: panel
AFFILIATION: ESRI
TITLE: Jobs in Geography Panel
ABSTRACT: A description by the panelists of their career paths. How they got where they are and what they do in their jobs.
Sally Swenson - M.A. in Geography from the University of Denver. Currently working at ESRI as an Education Specialist writing training courses.

Presenter(s): Michele M Tobias -- Category: graduate -- Contact: <mmtobias@ucdavis.edu> -- Type: paper
AFFILIATION: University of California, Davis
TITLE: Armed Beaches: Coastal Plant Communities May Respond to Trampling with Armor
ABSTRACT: Protecting beaches from trampling may have a bigger impact on the experience of beach-goers beyond an increase in the number of plants to look at; it may protect your feet. Recent collection of data on the percent cover of plant species on several southern California beaches suggests that increasing impacts from people decreases the overall cover of plants but may increase the cover of armed plant species like beach bur (Ambrosia chamissonis). Reducing human foot traffic over beaches and restricting travel to well-defined trails may not only increase plant cover, but build topography, and reduce the amount of armed plants that can be stepped on in bare feet.

Presenter(s): Jacob F. Vawter -- Category: undergrad -- Contact: <jvawter@usc.edu> -- Type: paper
AFFILIATION: University of Southern California
TITLE: Geographical Perspectives on Regional Development in the Greater Mekong Subregion
ABSTRACT: The Greater Mekong Subregion (GMS) of Southeast Asia is booming. Rather than the sound of battle, this boom is the product of a variety of economic reforms and developmental efforts. The GMS has emerged as one of the higher-growth areas of the developing world. Closer scrutiny of development in this region reveals geographical dimensions that have been addressed only scantily by academics. This paper is organized around four sections, focusing upon the geography of regional development. First I review GMS history; next I examine regional patterns of development; in the third section I examine interregional connections, and in the final segment I look at development from the perspective of Mekong residents themselves. Topics covered include regionalism, development, inequality, and the global economy under late capitalism. Looking at the GMS through a geographical lens achieves a better understanding of the accomplishments and challenges that characterize development in this important world region.

Presenter(s): Robert Voeks -- Category: faculty -- Contact: <rvoeks@fullerton.edu> -- Type: paper
AFFILIATION: Geography, California State University--Fullerton
TITLE: AFRICAN DIASPORA ETHNOBOTANY IN THE AMERICAS: THE ROLE OF ANTHROPOGENIC LANDSCAPE EVOLUTION
ABSTRACT: The Columbian encounter initiated a massive floristic reorganization of the coastal Atlantic World. Ringed by highly endemic floras, these anthropogenic poles of habitat disturbance became increasingly homogenous by the seventeenth century in terms of naturalized cultigens, ornamentals, and weeds. By the peak of the African slave trade, enslaved peoples who were transported to the Caribbean, the Guianas, and Brazil would have encountered a wealth of familiar and useful species—material and spiritual. The botanical continuity provided by these culturally facilitating taxa, which preceded and accompanied the Black diaspora, encouraged reformulation of traditional ethnobotanical practices in the Americas. This paper examines the significance of pan-Atlantic foods, ornamentals, and weeds to the Afro-Brazilian plant pharmacopoeia.
Presenter(s): Vienne Vu -- Category: graduate -- Contact: <vienne79@gmail.com> -- Type: paper
AFFILIATION: California State University, Fullerton
TITLE: Changing Foodways of Vietnamese Americans
ABSTRACT: Vu, Vienne; Geography, California State University, Fullerton; vienne79@gmail.com; Changing Foodways of Vietnamese Americans.
Vietnamese refugees and immigrants have been entering the United States in great numbers since the fall of Saigon in 1975. Since that time, this group has experienced many changes as they adjust to life in the United States. This study looks at the changing foodways of Vietnamese immigrants living in Orange County as they assimilate to American culture. Within Orange County, the proximity at which Vietnamese Americans reside to their cultural center, Little Saigon, is taken into consideration along with the observation of food consumption habits between different waves of immigrants and different generations. The study will reveal whether there is a positive correlation between food habits and assimilation of Vietnamese in Orange County.
Keywords: Foodways, Vietnamese, Assimilation

Presenter(s): Tamara Wagner -- Category: graduate -- Contact: <tinytam@mac.com> -- Type: poster
AFFILIATION: California State University, Fullerton
TITLE: Child Soldiers in Sierra Leone: Strung Out to be Puppets of a Diamond-Encrusted Civil War
ABSTRACT: Wagner, Tamara Ms. Cal State University, Fullerton
tinytam@mac.com
“Child Soldiers in Sierra Leone: Strung Out to be Puppets of a Diamond-Encrusted Civil War”
A history of instability coupled with an abundance of diamonds has transformed Sierra Leone into a conflagration of exploitation, both of its natural and human resources. Civil war has fueled an increase in “Blood Diamonds”, diamonds that are collected and sold to aid the rebel groups. Child Soldiers have become a growing part of the conflict in Sierra Leone, coerced into serving the warring parties because of their malleability and naivety. The attempt at re-assimilation of these child soldiers back into society creates a negative feedback loop that further exacerbates conflict in this war torn and mineral rich nation.
Keywords: Sierra Leone, Blood Diamonds, Child Soldiers

Presenter(s): Janna L. Waligorski -- Category: graduate -- Contact: <jlwaligorski@gmail.com> -- Type: Paper Map
AFFILIATION: California State University, Chico, Department of Geography and Planning
TITLE: Shasta Valley Surface Geology
ABSTRACT: This map, titled Shasta Valley Surface Geology, was developed in conjunction with a groundwater inventory analysis prepared by California Department of Water Resources – Northern District, on behalf of the Shasta Valley Resource Conservation District. All digitizing, data compilation and cartography was performed by Janna Waligorski. Noel Eaves and Michael Ward contributed to the project by providing geologic legend text and project description text respectively. The map presents surface geology, watersheds, rivers, creeks, and major roads within the boundary set by the Department of Water Resources. Additionally, the approximate extent of the avalanche debris flow, originally part of ancestral Mt. Shasta, is included because of its role in regulating and redirecting the natural flow of groundwater to the Shasta River. Geologic features were digitized from the 1:250,000 Geologic Map of California, Weed Sheet. The map was scanned, digitized and symbolized using ArcMap software. Additional layers, including topography, were added and the resulting map layers were exported to Macromedia’s Freehand software where additional cartographic techniques were performed.
Presenter(s): Janna L. Waligorski -- Category: graduate -- Contact: <jlwaligorski@gmail.com> -- Type: paper
AFFILIATION: California State University, Chico, Department of Geography and Planning
TITLE: An Examination of the Development of Activity Space and Spatial Knowledge amongst First Year College Students
ABSTRACT: My research analyzes the development of spatial knowledge of first year college students by asking them to create sketch maps of their new surroundings throughout their first semester at California State University, Chico. Students were asked to create a sketch map of their activity space during the first, fifth and fifteenth weeks of the Fall 2007 semester. From these sketches, the first year students’ activity space is used to determine their perception of Chico, off-campus activities, and how their sense of place develops. Map orientation, street labels, and inclusion of road corridors and place names are analyzed to determine spatial range and knowledge. Additionally, the sketch maps are used to delineate density maps showing the most commonly drawn areas. The study of activity space of first year college students may assist in improving retention rates if examined in terms of increasing their knowledge and sense of place in regards to the larger Chico community.

Presenter(s): Brennan Wallace -- Category: undergrad -- Contact: <brenman202@hotmail.com> -- Type: poster
AFFILIATION: Cal State University, Fullerton
TITLE: Newport Beach Groins
ABSTRACT: Wallace, Brennan
Cal State University, Fullerton
Brenman202@hotmail.com
“Newport Beach Groins”
The groin field at Newport Beach, Orange County, California helps to combat beach erosion and trap sediment that would otherwise be transported to other locations through littoral drift. The groin field was built in 1968 has 8 groins made of sealed riprap. The beach here is unique in that it is exposed to swells from multiple directions, receives sediment deposits from both a river outlet as well as artificial beach nourishment, is near a large tidal inlet, and contains coastal engineering structures. The effects of these factors are shown through measurements of beach width, foreshore slope, and beach face azimuth.
Keywords: Newport Beach, Groins, Groynes, Coastal Engineering

Presenter(s): Sarah Warnock -- Category: undergrad -- Contact: <srwarnock@gmail.com> -- Type: paper
AFFILIATION: Humboldt State University
TITLE: The New Face of the Foothills: Landscape and Residential Development Change in the Central Sierra Nevada.
ABSTRACT: Increased residential development in rural counties of the Sierra Nevada is one of the most visible and significant problems facing the region today. In many areas large tracts of rural lands are being converted to housing developments at an astounding rate. This process transforms the local communities, strains infrastructure and threatens local ecosystems. This case study of Copperopolis, a rural town in the Central Sierra Nevada Foothills, explores the rapid transformation resulting from large-scale residential development. The study employs a landscape-based approach and analysis of empirical observations, photographs, and aerial photography to analyze current development trends and compare them with previous development. The results clearly demonstrate how development is transforming this community from rural to exurban. This process has important implications for local ecosystems and infrastructure, as well as social, political and economic impacts.
Presenter(s): Ranamaitreya M. Waterfall -- Category: graduate -- Contact: <Rwaterfall@mail.csuchico.edu> -- Type: paper
AFFILIATION: California State University Chico
TITLE: Parks and Rural Communities: The Crain Park Redevelopment Plan
ABSTRACT: Concow is a rural region of northern California and Crain Park is this community's existing underdeveloped park. To be a park that better serves this area Crain Park requires redevelopment, and this paper discusses the Crain Park redevelopment plan process. This paper includes a study of Crain Park's existing conditions, a review of community involvement and workshops, an analysis of redevelopment alternatives, and the final preferred redevelopment proposal.

Presenter(s): Doug Weseman and William Martin -- Category: undergrad -- Contact: <martin711@sbcglobal.net> -- Type: poster
AFFILIATION: CSUCHico
TITLE: Aerial Application Drift Modeling
ABSTRACT: Poster presentation of drift modeling of mosquito abatement aerial application in use by local agency.

Presenter(s): Douglas Weseman -- Category: undergrad -- Contact: <dweseman@gmail.com> -- Type: poster
AFFILIATION: California State University Chico
TITLE: Drift Modeling
ABSTRACT: The latest technological advance in the aerial application of adulticide, (an insecticide that targets adult mosquito's) is drift modeling. Drift modeling uses a weather probe on an airplane that is used in conjunction with an application specific GPS unit. The weather probe keeps track of real time wind speed, barometric pressure and humidity. These are computed into the on-board GPS unit and a projected spray pattern is created. The pilot can then use the GPS unit for guidance in the spraying of the pattern. This technology results in less chemical being used and higher yield of adult mosquito deaths. Our analysis will detail these benefits.

Presenter(s): Alan A. Whipple -- Category: undergrad -- Contact: <originalleroy@gmail.com> -- Type: poster
AFFILIATION: California State University, Stanislaus
TITLE: Redevelopment and Renaissance of 31 Channel Street
ABSTRACT: A hypothetical redevelopment plan of 31 East Channel Street in Downtown Stockton, CA is discussed and presented with the use of basic maps, plans, and text. The redevelopment brings fresh urban design to improving Downtown Stockton and reflects older architectural styles with new looks guaranteed to usher in a new vision for the Downtown Redevelopment campaign.

Presenter(s): Daniel Whitehorn -- Category: undergrad -- Contact: <tjwrangler@gmail.com> -- Type: digital map
AFFILIATION: Chico State University
TITLE: Baja 1000
ABSTRACT: The map, "Baja 1000", depicts a journey that my dad took in 1998. In conjunction with the race, my dad celebrated his birthday at the finish line. This map is devoted to him. The project was produced utilizing the Adobe CS2 suite of products. Photoshop was used to manipulate, and add filters to raster images and backgrounds. Illustrator was used for vector line work, and text placement. The resulting map was produced in the CMYK color model, and is ready for output on a four-color offset press.
AFFILIATION: Chico State University

TITLE: Amado Vintners

ABSTRACT: The poster, “Amador Vintners”, elaborates on the techniques used to produce an informative viticulture brochure for an Advanced Cartography Class. The purpose of the project was to communicate and locate wineries in Amador County. Twenty six wineries are represented with regional information. The project was produced utilizing the Adobe CS2 suite of products. Photoshop was used to manipulate and add filters to raster images and backgrounds. Illustrator was used for vector line work, and text placement. The resulting brochure and poster were produced in the CMYK color model, and is ready for output on a four-color offset press.