



# DSCESU Annual Meeting 2024

Tuesday Dec. 3rd 2024

We respectfully acknowledge the University of Arizona is on the land and territories of Indigenous peoples. Today, Arizona is home to 22 federally recognized tribes, with Tucson being home to the O'odham and the Yaqui. Committed to diversity and inclusion, the University strives to build sustainable relationships with sovereign Native Nations and Indigenous communities through education offerings, partnerships, and community service.



Representatives  
& Admins

# Introductions





# Desert Southwest Cooperative Ecosystems Studies Unit

Hosted at The University of Arizona, School of Natural Resources and the Environment



<http://cales.arizona.edu/dscesu/>

**Director:** Dr. Kathryn Stoner

**Science Advisor:** Sallie Hejl

**Support Staff:** Ruth Holladay, Ashley Stewart and Paris Zapp





### Mission Statement:

- *To execute and provide collaborative research, education, and technical assistance addressing desert ecosystem resource issues at local, regional, national, and international levels.*
- *To establish interdisciplinary programs that involve natural resources, cultural resources, and social sciences, with emphasis on involving communities and under-represented groups.*



Kathryn Stoner

# Updates and Activity Summary



# Desert Southwest Cooperative Ecosystems Studies Unit

*Formed in 2000, and encompassing the Mojave, Sonoran, and Chihuahuan deserts. Hosted by the University of Arizona, School of Natural Resources & the Environment*



	1 <sup>st</sup> Five Years 2000-2005	2 <sup>nd</sup> Five Years 2005-2010	3 <sup>rd</sup> Five Years 2010-2015	4 <sup>th</sup> Five Years 2015-2020	5 <sup>th</sup> Five Years 2020-2025
<b>Federal Partners</b>	6	8	9	10	10
<b>University Partners</b>	5	7	9	13	15
<b>Non-Federal Partners</b>	3	7	13	16	17
<b>Total</b>	14	22	31	39	42



# Updates and Activity Summary

## *Our Partners*

Federal Partners	University Partners	Nonfederal partners
Bureau of Indian Affairs Bureau of Land Management Bureau of Reclamation Department of Defense National Park Service U.S. Army Corps of Engineers- Civil Works U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Southwest region U.S. Forest Service U.S. Geological Survey USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service	Baylor University Eastern New Mexico University Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University Howard University New Mexico State University Northern Arizona University Texas State University The University of Arizona (Host) University of California-Riverside University of Texas at Arlington University of Texas at El Paso University of Texas Rio Grande Valley University of Texas at San Antonio University of Utah Western New Mexico University	Archaeology Southwest Arizona Game and Fish Department Arizona-Sonora Desert Museum Bird Conservancy of the Rockies Cornerstones Community Partnerships CyArk Desert Botanical Garden Hawks Aloft, Inc. Organization of American Historians Pima County and Pima County Regional Flood Control District Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Garden Sky Island Alliance Sonoran Institute The Nature Conservancy Tucson Audubon Society Western Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies Western National Parks Association





# U p d a t e s   a n d   A c t i v i t y   S u m m a r y

- Next **DSCESU Renewal** will be in **2025**.
- Target annual host support is **\$16,200**.
- NPS funds one internship position with the DSCESU. Intern manages database and website. Participates in projects with local parks.



Host University Support  
2023 (FY24)

\$16,200

Total

Host University Support  
2024 (FY25)

\$14,400

Total





Internship Support  
2023 (FY24)

\$5,000

Internship Support  
2024 (FY25)

\$12,100



# Updates and Activity Summary

## Membership Update

New Partners who joined the DSCESU					
	1 <sup>st</sup> Five Years 2000-2005	2 <sup>nd</sup> Five Years 2005-2010	3 <sup>rd</sup> Five Years 2010-2015	4 <sup>th</sup> Five Years 2015-2020	5 <sup>th</sup> Five Years 2020-2025
Federal Partners	1	1	1	1	0
Non-Federal Partners	2	6	6	8	3

### 2021

No new partners added

### 2022

Tucson Audubon Society added

### 2023

University of Texas Rio Grande Valley

### 2024

2 pending applications:

- Cuenca los Ojos (awaiting updated application)
- Biodiversity Research Institute





### Updates and Activities:

- ✓ Hired Student Intern to conduct field or lab work, help with administrative tasks and manage the website and database.
- ✓ Distributed 32 funding, job, and fellowship opportunities to partners since Summer 2023
- ✓ University of Texas Rio Grande Valley joined DSCESU

### Short Term Goals:

- ✓ Preparing application for 5-year renewal in 2025
- ✓ Updating website project database with new projects
- ✓ Biodiversity Research Institute is a potential non-federal partner
- ✓ Setting up Expert Database on website





- 9:15am **National Updates - Tom Fish**
- 9:45pm **DEIA Statements & Principles – Tom Fish**
- 9:50pm **DSCESU 5-Year Renewal (2025) – Ruth & Sallie**
- Call for DSCESU project reports 2020-2024
  - 2025 CESU 5-Year Renewal Guidelines – Overview
  - Federal Managers Committee
- 10:10am **Administrative – Ruth & Ashley**
- Updates to contact information
  - Website feedback
  - Expert Database (upcoming)
- 10:00am **Strategic Plan Status Update - Kathryn**
- 10:10am **Other Announcements – Ruth & Ashley**
- Project Powerpoint Slide(s)
  - Share Your Story
- 10:30am **Federal Partner Updates**



Tom Fish

# National Updates





# CESU Network NPO Update



Thomas E. Fish, National Coordinator  
U.S. Department of the Interior

*Desert Southwest CESU Partners Meeting  
December 2024*

*Saguaro National Park | Source: USGS*



# What is the CESU Network?

- ✓ A national consortium of federal agencies, tribes, academic institutions, state and local governments, nongovernmental conservation organizations, and other partners working together to support informed public trust resource stewardship.
- ✓ The CESU Network includes over 500 partners across 17 regional CESUs encompassing all 50 states, the District of Columbia, and U.S. insular areas, as well as partners in Canada and Mexico.

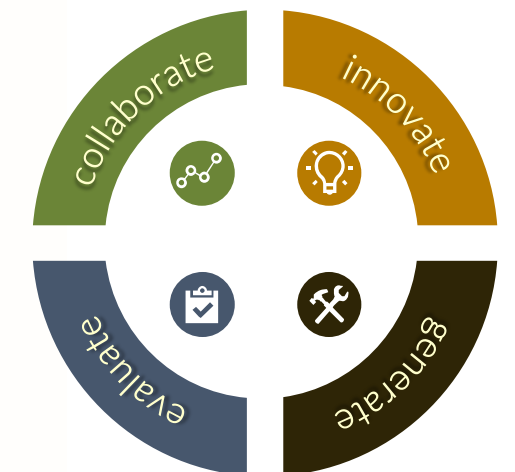
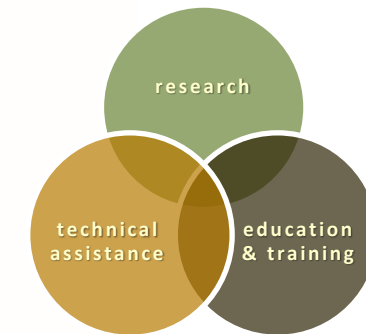
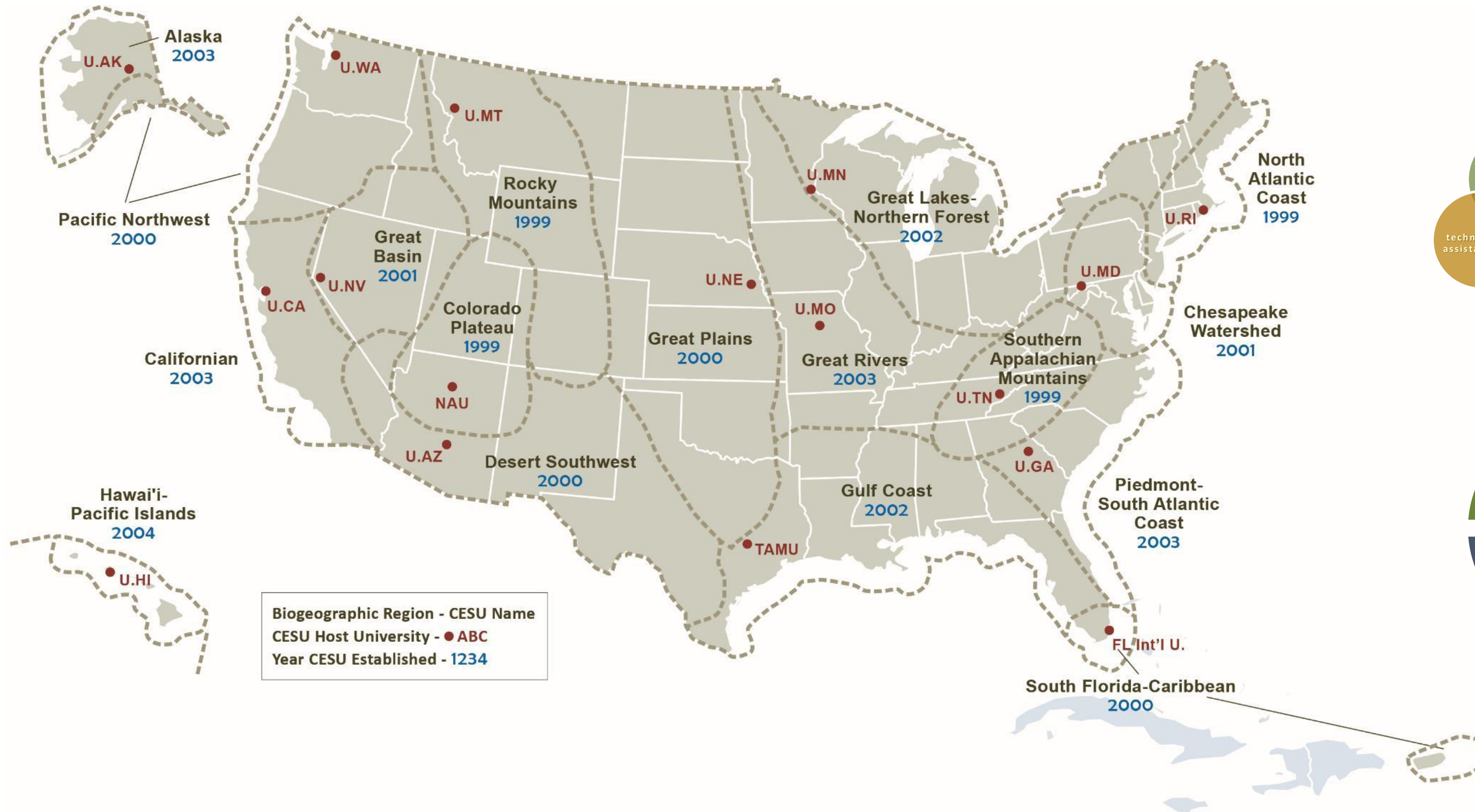
- ✓ CESUs bring together scientists, resource managers, educators, students, and other conservation professionals, drawing upon expertise from across the biological, physical, social, cultural, and engineering disciplines (from “A”nthropology to “Z”oology) to conduct collaborative and interdisciplinary applied projects that address natural and cultural heritage resource issues at multiple scales and in an ecosystem context.





# Cooperative Ecosystem Studies Units Network

25 Years!



**CESU Council (19 Federal Agencies)**  
**CESU National Program Office (NPO)**

<< program governance

**Federal Agencies**  
Regional/State Offices

<< agency supervision and guidance

**Regional CESUs**

**CESU Partners**

**Federal Agencies**  
(Federal Managers Committee)

**State and Local Agencies**

**Nonprofits/NGOs**  
+ aquariums, zoos  
+ museums, arboretums  
+ conservation organizations

**Host University**  
CESU Director  
and CESU staff

duty-stationed  
federal scientists/  
science coordinators

**Tribes and Tribal Agencies**

**Academic Institutions**  
+ doctoral universities  
+ master's colleges and universities  
+ baccalaureate colleges  
+ associate's/community colleges  
+ minority serving institutions\*  
(\*minimum one per CESU)

**five-year cooperative agreement**  
(terms and conditions | programmatic IDC [17.5%])

**agency jurisdictions | management units | public trust resources | study areas**



# CESU Council Representatives



Keirith Snyder



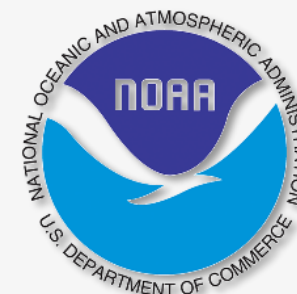
Rich Iovanna \*



Chris Swanston



Tina Norwood



Michael Liddel



Jennifer Beardsley



Charles Rewa



John Mosley



Fritz Klasner



Eve Halper



Anna-Marie  
York



Ray Sauvajot



Gerard Moore



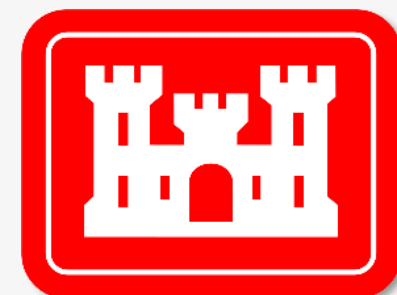
Jennifer Ewald



Ryan Orndorff



Rocky Gillette



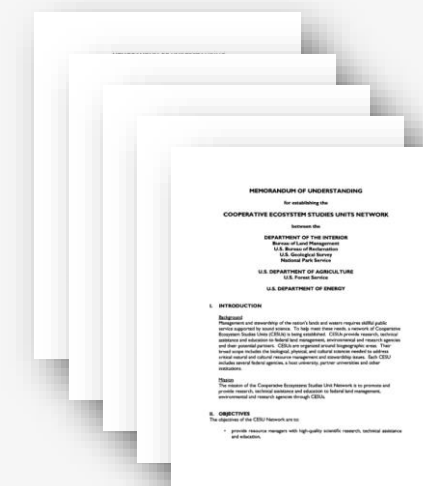
Sherry Whitaker



Stanton Enomoto



Paul Wagner



MOU 2023



## CESU Directors Group Representatives

### *CESU Host University Directors*

- Primary – Nate Nibbelink, Piedmont-South Atlantic Coast CESU | U. GA
- Vice – Vacant

### *CESU Host University Authorized Organizational Representatives*

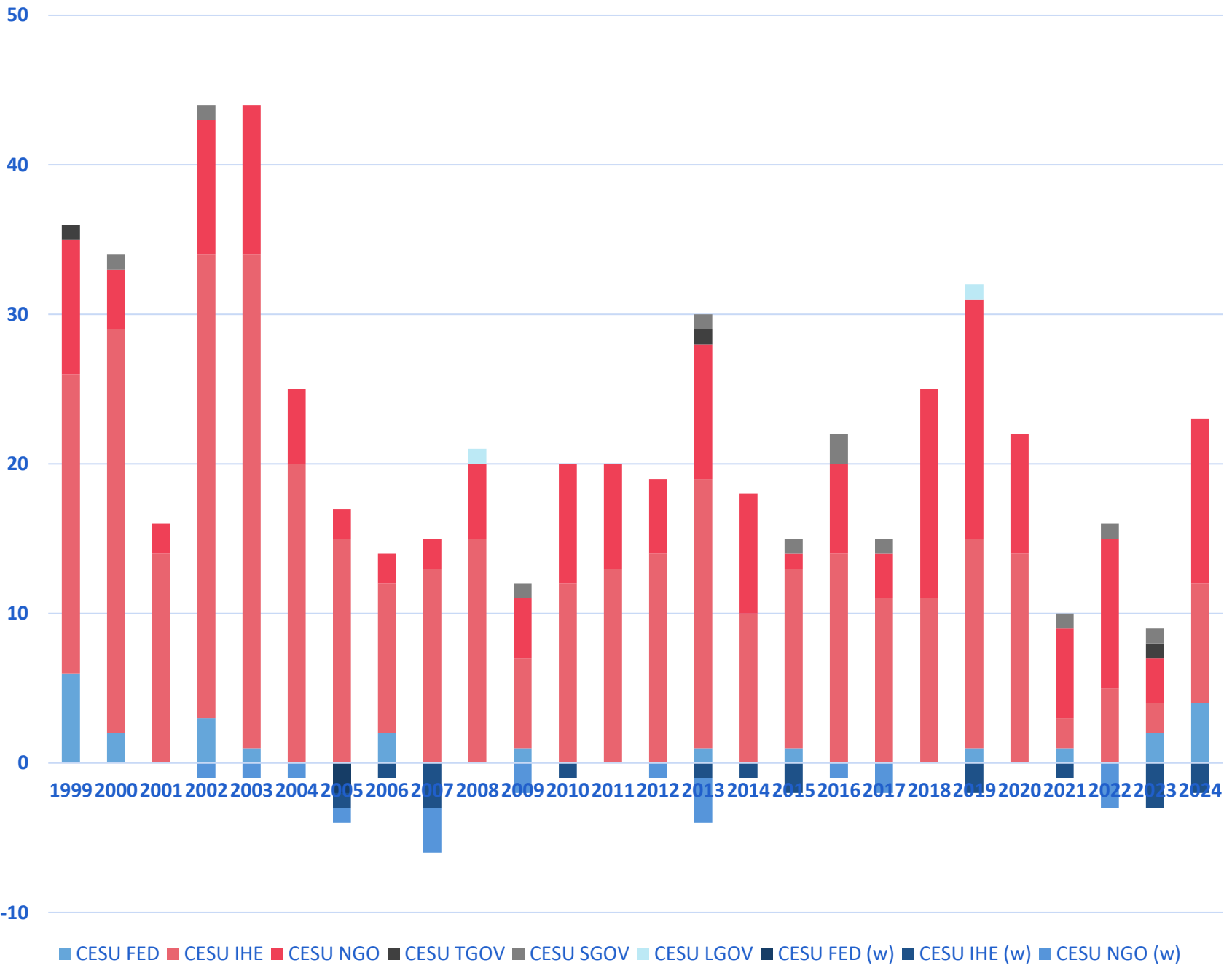
- Primary – Sangita Judge, Desert Southwest CESU | U. AZ
- Vice – Vacant

# CESU Network Partner Enrollments

CESU Partners 1999-2024



CESU Partner Enrollments 1999-present



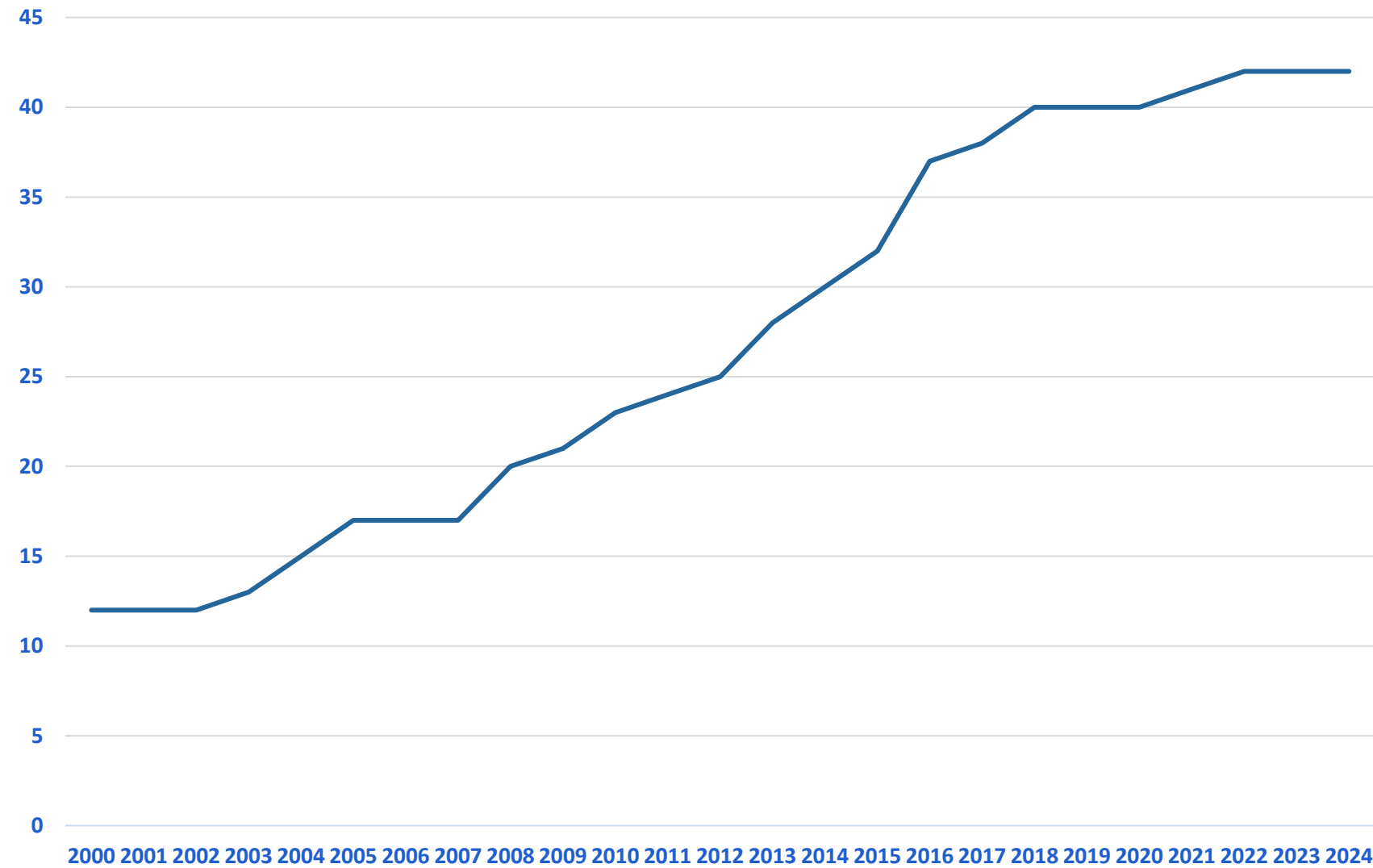
As of DEC 2024...

- Unique Partners = 534
- Enrollments in CESUs = 805

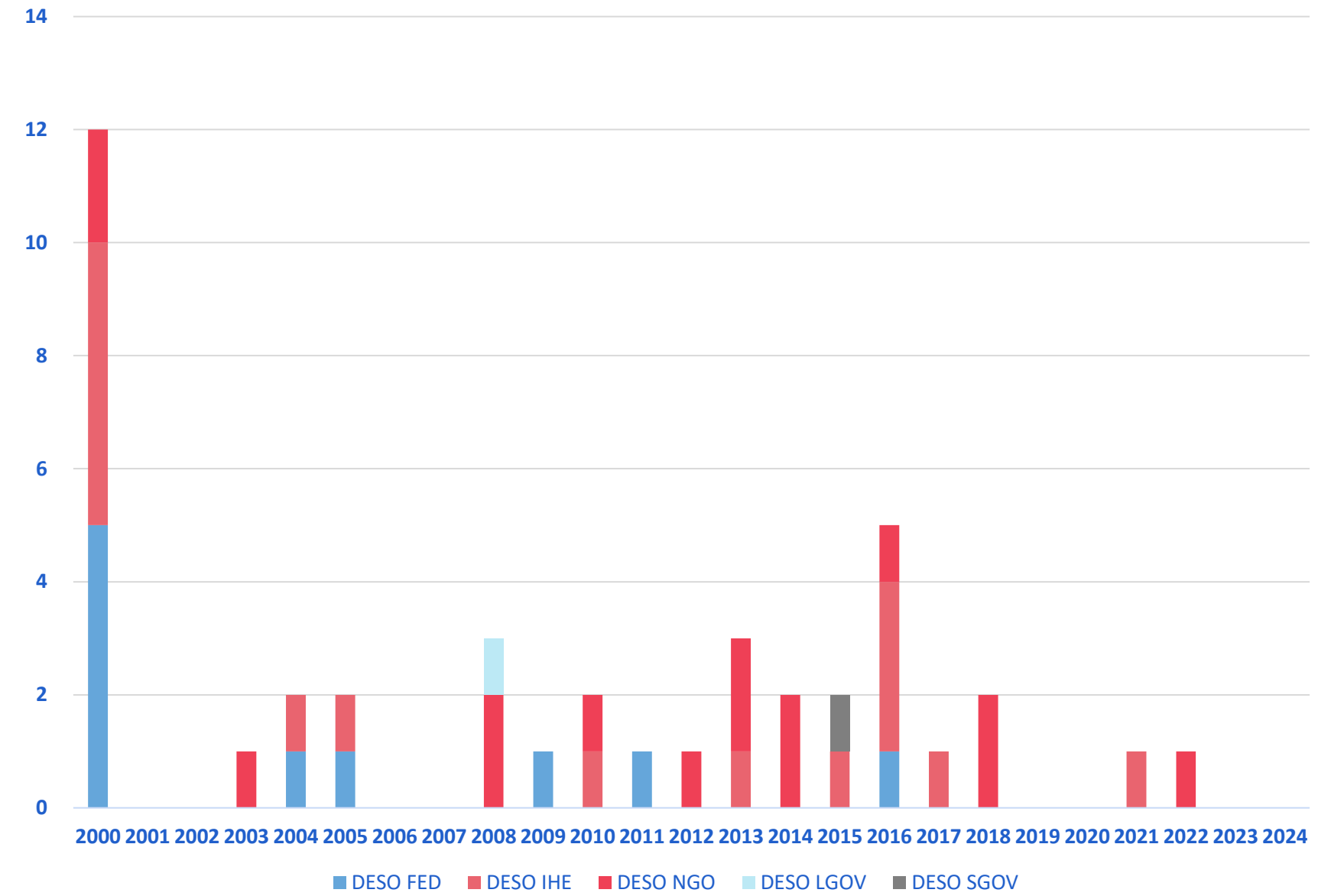


# Desert Southwest CESU Partner Enrollments

Desert Southwest CESU Partners 2000-present



DESO CESU Partner Enrollments 2000-present





## Agenda

### Roll Call, Introductions, Overview of Agenda

### National Program Office Update

- *CESU Program Overview*
- *CESU 5yr Renewals*
- *CESU Interagency MOU Status*
- *CESU Policy and Guidance*
- *CESU Network National Meeting 2025*
- *CESU Working Groups – DEIA WG, HUS WG*
- *CESU Program Support Funding*
  - + *Recap of proposal and memo*
  - + *Discuss questions and concerns*
  - + *Determine concrete next steps/action items*

### Round Robin

### Adjourn



COOPERATIVE ECOSYSTEM STUDIES UNITS NETWORK  
1849 C Street NW, Room 2649 | Washington DC 20240 | 202.354.1825 | cesu.org

#### AGENDA – CESU Council Meeting

Date: Thursday, 24 October 2024  
Time: 1:00-3:00 PM Eastern  
Location: Hybrid In-Person and Virtual Meeting  
North Penthouse Conference Room (8th Floor),  
Main Interior Building, 1849 C Street NW, Washington DC

#### [Microsoft Teams Link](#)

Meeting ID: 239 460 951 088 | Passcode: wRSjwd  
Call-in number: 202.640.1187 | Participant Code: 782971877#  
Contact: 202.302.9482 (Tom Fish)

#### Meeting Materials

[http://www.cesu.psu.edu/council/cesu\\_council.htm](http://www.cesu.psu.edu/council/cesu_council.htm)

#### Roll Call, Introductions, Overview of Agenda

#### National Program Office Update

- CESU 5yr Renewals
- CESU Interagency MOU Status
- CESU Policy and Guidance
- CESU Network National Meeting 2025
- CESU Working Groups – DEIA WG, HUS WG
- CESU Program Support Funding
  - + Recap of proposal memo
  - + Net steps

#### CESU Directors

- Topics TBD

#### Round Robin

#### Adjourn

Next CESU Council Meeting – Tuesday, 23 January 2025 @ 1:00-3:00 PM ET \*  
\* may be rescheduled as necessary

WEAVING PARTNERSHIPS. BUILDING KNOWLEDGE. SUSTAINING HERITAGE.





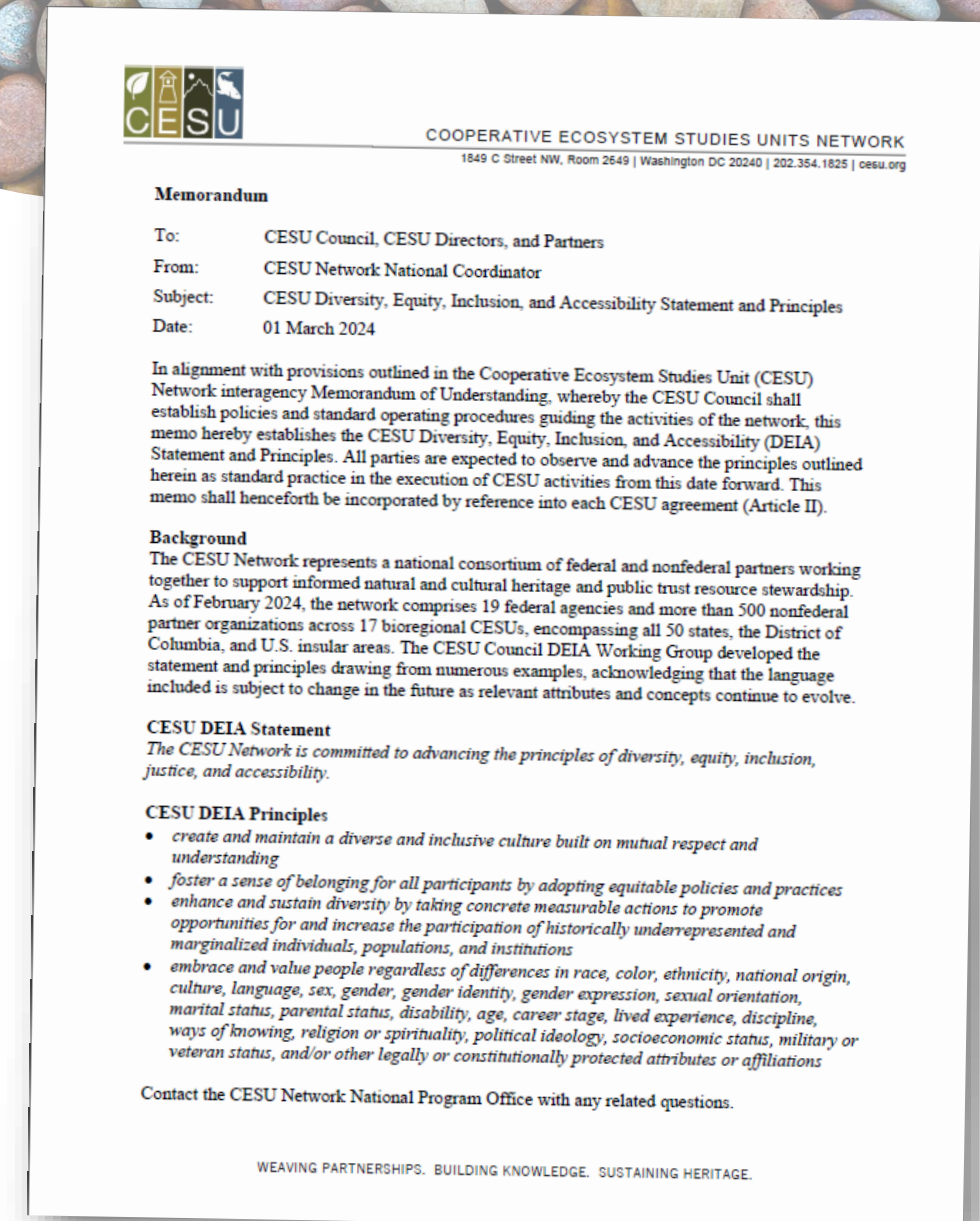
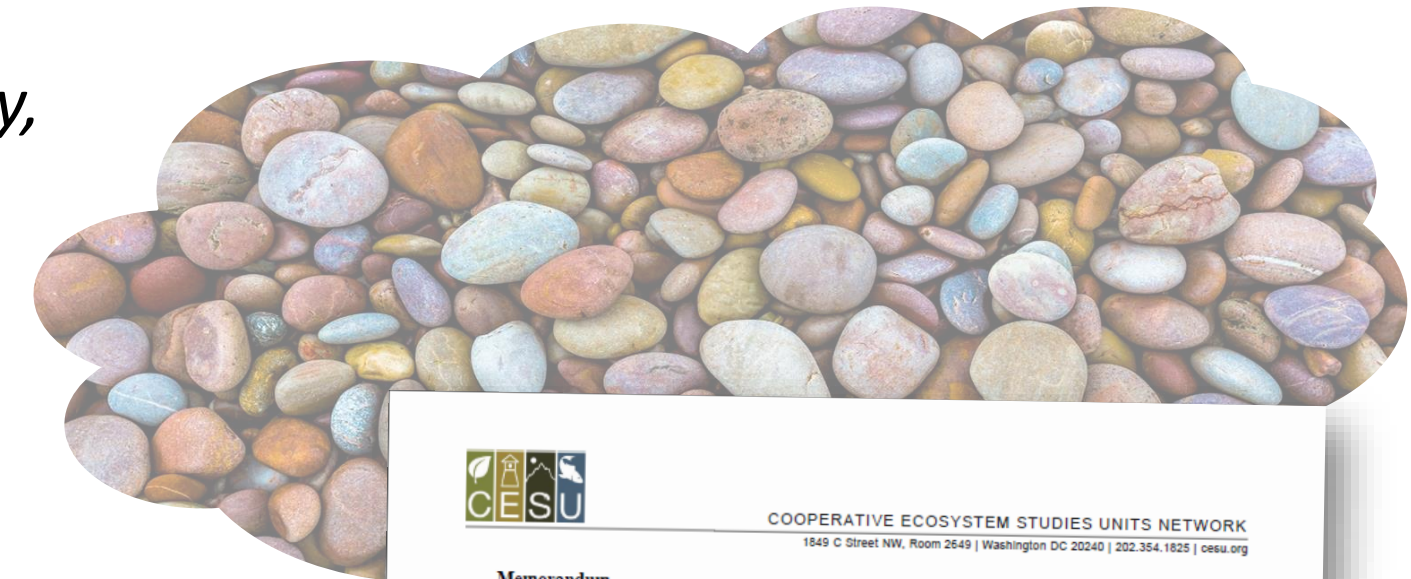


## CESU DEIA Statement

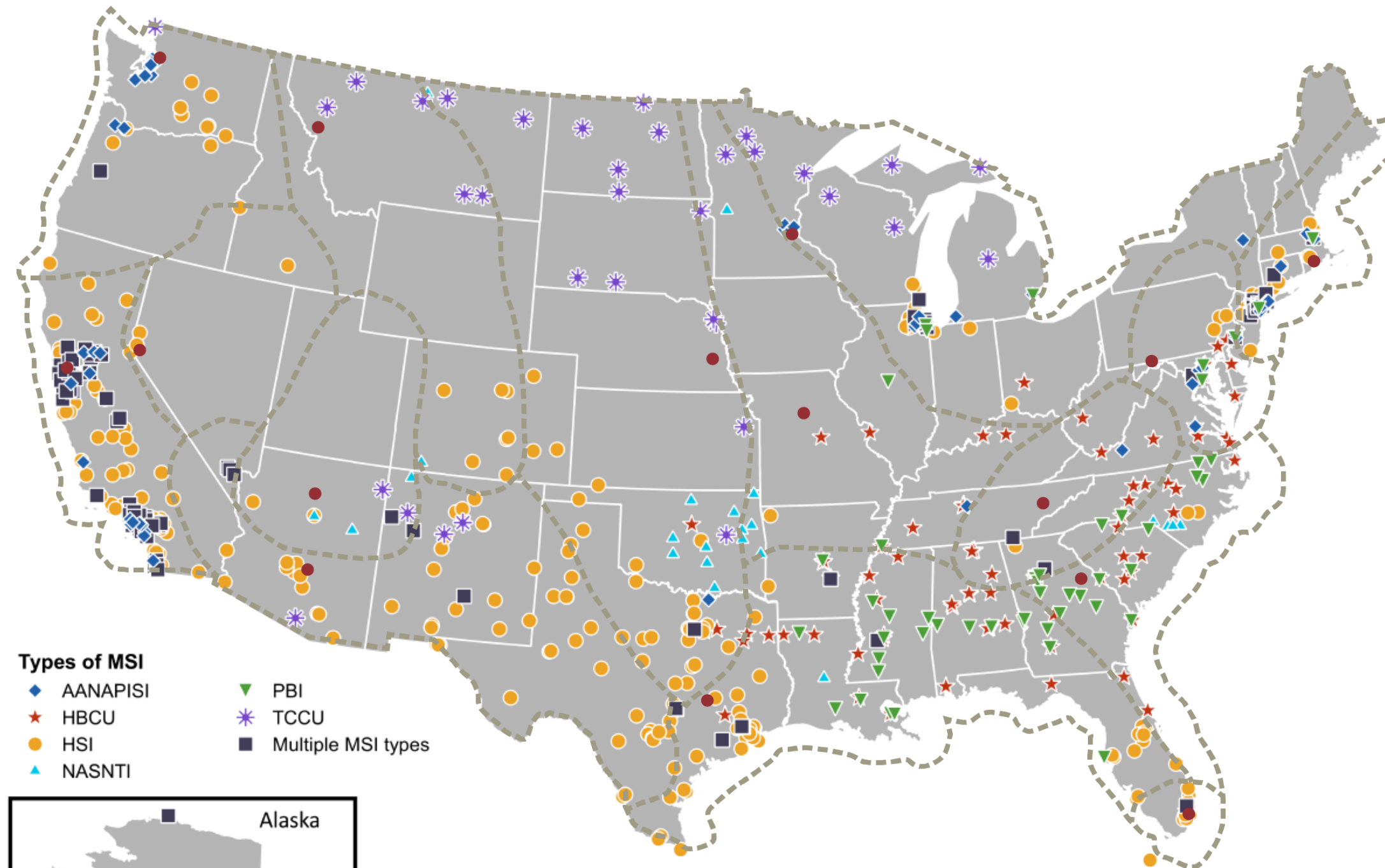
- ✓ *The CESU Network is committed to advancing the principles of diversity, equity, inclusion, justice, and accessibility.*

## CESU DEIA Principles

- ✓ *create and maintain a diverse and inclusive culture built on mutual respect and understanding*
- ✓ *foster a sense of belonging for all participants by adopting equitable policies and practices*
- ✓ *enhance and sustain diversity by taking concrete measurable actions to promote opportunities for and increase the participation of historically underrepresented and marginalized individuals, populations, and institutions*
- ✓ *embrace and value people regardless of differences in race, color, ethnicity, national origin, culture, language, sex, gender, gender identity, gender expression, sexual orientation, marital status, parental status, disability, age, career stage, lived experience, discipline, ways of knowing, religion or spirituality, political ideology, socioeconomic status, military or veteran status, and/or other legally or constitutionally protected attributes or affiliations*

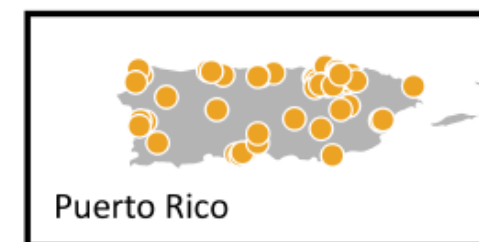






## Types of MSI

- ◆ AANAPISI
- ★ HBCU
- HSI
- ▲ NASNTI
- ▼ PBI
- ✱ TCCU
- Multiple MSI types



AANAPISI = Asian American and Native American Pacific Islander-serving institution, ANNHSI = Alaska Native and Native Hawaiian-serving institution, HBCU = historically Black college or university, HSI = Hispanic-serving institution, MSI = minority-serving institution, NASNTI = Native American-serving nontribal institution, PBI = predominantly Black institution, TCCU = tribally controlled college or university.





# POTENTIAL ACTIVITIES OF FELLOWS

## Proposed Elements

- Foster DEIA as a general principle throughout the CESU Network
- Explore which CESU partners are doing what well and how to share that information across the network
- Engage with allied DEIA groups, as appropriate
- Develop a monitoring plan to capture DEIA in CESU activities
- Fellowship term: one academic year (20 hours/week)
- Eligibility: graduate students from CESU partner institution(s)  
→ applicants esp. from historically marginalized and underrepresented groups
- Fellow projects would align with sponsoring agency priorities
- Fellows work with NPO, regional CESUs, and sponsoring agencies
- Supervisor: CESU NPO, sponsoring agency, or regional CESU institution
- Funding: CESU Council agencies (cost-shared or individual agency)
- Each Fellow will select a mentor (with mandatory training for mentors)



Tom Fish

# DEIA Statements & Fellowship





Ruth &  
Sallie

# DSCESU 5-Year Renewal





# DSCESU 5-year renewal

## DSCESU 5-Year Renewal

Ruth & Sallie

- **2025 Renewal Guidelines** – Overview of Document & Procedure:
  - What, Why, When, & How?
  - Compiling List of DS-CESU Projects

[2025 CESU Renewal Guidance for Federal](#)

[Partners](#) (October 2024)





5 - year  
renewal

# Agreements and Amendments

View

Edit

Revisions

**Cooperative and Joint Venture Agreement** ▼ (2020-2025)

**Amendment 1** ▼ (2020)- adding Western New Mexico University

**Amendment 2** ▼ (2022)- adding Tucson Audubon Society

**Amendment 3** (2023) - adding University of Texas Rio Grande Valley

## What?

Renew **Cooperative and Joint Venture Agreement**

<https://cales.arizona.edu/dscesu/agreements-and-amendments>





# Why?

## 2025 CESU 5-Year Review and Renewal Guidance (p.1)

# 5 - y e a r r e n e w a l

- Each CESU Agreement **has a term of 5 years**. The agreement states that the activities of the CESU may be continued for a **subsequent 5-year period**.
- The **objectives** of the review and decision on renewal are to:
  - Assess mutual consent in continuing the activities of the CESU
  - Evaluate the activities, strengths, and weaknesses of each CESU over the last five years
  - Renew each CESU agreement, as appropriate, including suggested or required changes.





# When?

## Steps and Due Dates (p.2)

# 5 - year renewal



2025 CESU 5-Year Review and Renewal Guidance for Host University, Tribal and Nonfederal Partners, Federal Managers Committee, and External Reviewers

### Steps and Due Dates

Action or Item	Responsible Party	Due date	Delivered via email to
Recruit and provide names of external reviewers	CESU Federal Managers Committee	January 20	CESU Network National Office
Provide list of federal agency-sponsored CESU projects	CESU Federal Managers Committee	January 20	CESU Director
Host University and Nonfederal Partner Self-Assessment	CESU Director and tribal and nonfederal partners	January 31	CESU Network National Office
Host University and Nonfederal Partner Self-Assessment – verified complete and distributed for review	CESU Network National Office	February 01	CESU Federal Managers Committee
	CESU Network National Office	February 01	External Reviewers
Federal Managers Committee Report and Recommendation	CESU Federal Managers Committee	March 01	CESU Network National Office
External Reviewers' Assessment Reports and Recommendations	External Reviewers	March 01	CESU Network National Office
CESU renewal package compiled, verified complete, and distributed for review	CESU Network National Office	March 15 (approximate)	CESU Council
Renewal package review, discussion, and renewal decision	CESU Council	April 15 (approximate)	NA
Council decision, including deficiencies or areas needing improvement	CESU Council (via National Office)	no later than June 01 (approximate)	CESU Host University
Draft and review new CESU Agreement (upon approval for renewal)	CESU Network National Office	May to July (approximate, per agreement effective date)	CESU Host University, tribal, federal, and nonfederal partners
Sign the new CESU Agreement	CESU Host University, tribal, federal, and nonfederal partners	Prior to expiration of current agreement	CESU Network National Office



# 5 - y e a r r e n e w a l

## How?

### Instructions for the Federal Partners (p. 4)

#### **1. Recruit and provide names of external reviews.**

The external reviewers may be federal or nonfederal colleagues who are familiar with the CESU program.

*Due January 20, 2025*

#### **2. Federal Managers Committee Report and Recommendation.**

The committee evaluates the activities of the CESU.

*Due March 1, 2025*





# When?

## Steps and Due Dates (p.2)

# 5 - year renewal



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Sign the new CESU Agreement	CESU Host University, tribal, federal, and nonfederal partners	Prior to expiration of current agreement	CESU Network National Office



# 5 - y e a r r e n e w a l

## How?

### Instructions for the Host University & Partners (p. 4)

All review materials should be assembled electronically and emailed to the CESU Network National Coordinator by **January 31.**

1. Letter of Interest and Intent
2. CESU Host University and Nonfederal Partner Self-Assessment Report (*on pp. 5-7*)
3. Compiled List of DS-CESU Projects
4. Compiled list of DS-CESU Partners





# How?

## Instructions for the Host University & Partners (p. 4)

All review materials should be assembled electronically and emailed to the CESU Network National Coordinator by **January 31**.

5 - y e a r  
r e n e w a l

### 3. Compiled List of DS-CESU Projects



# Compiling List of DS-CESU Projects

## Frequently Asked Questions

5 - y e a r  
r e n e w a l

1. Which DSCESU project data should I include?
2. How do I know when an award is a DSCESU project?





# Compiling List of DS-CESU Projects

Which data should I include?

5 - year  
renewal

- Award Number
- Project Title
- Start date/modification date
- End date
- \$ Award Amount
- Sponsoring federal agency
- Lead Investigator Organization / Partner Institution  
(award recipient)
- PI / Partner Institution Contact
- Other:
  - # of undergrad + grad students involved
  - Description of student involvement



# Compiling List of DS-CESU Projects

## Which data should I include?

Award Number	Sponsoring Agency	Sponsoring Agency Contact	Partner Institution	Partner Institution Contact	Place of Performance	Project Title	Start Date	End Date	Award Amount	Money Added Modifications Amount	Total Amount	# of undergrad students involved	# of grad students involved	description/details of student involvement
F19AC00738	USFWS	Daniel Bunting, daniel_bunting@fws.gov	University of Arizona	Ariel Leger, arielleger@arizona.edu	University of Arizona	Science Support for Wildlife Conservation in Arizona	9/1/19	8/31/25	\$446,046.43	0	446046.43	6	2	This funding has supported the development of Case Studies for the Climate Adaptation and Resources Toolbox (CART, formerly CCAST) as well as data entry and analysis specific
F20AC10778	USFWS	Daniel Bunting, daniel_bunting@fws.gov	University of Arizona	Ariel Leger, arielleger@arizona.edu	University of Arizona	Engaging Students in Support of Grasslands Conservation and Restoration in the Southwest	9/1/20	8/31/25	\$321,927.00	0	321927	7	1	This funding supported the Coordinator position to carry out the Grassland Conservation Workshop and lead the Climate Adaptation and Resources Toolbox (CART) program
F20AC00342	USFWS	Daniel Bunting, daniel_bunting@fws.gov	Arizona Game and Fish Department	Ryan Mann, rmann@azgfd.gov	Grand Canyon, AZ	Assessment of Fish Movement through Pearce Ferry Rapid	6/1/20	5/31/23	\$69,493.84	0	69493.84	0	0	This project used PTT tag arrays to detect several native fish species in the Pearce Ferry reach of the Grand Canyon.



Input project data in the provided spreadsheet template via email:

- Excel attachment
- Google Sheet link





# Compiling List of DS-CESU Projects

How do I know when an award is a DSCESU Project?

F	H	AP
Project F&A Rate Percentage	Award Title	Sponsor Name
0% Stipulated	Survey for Detection of the Mediterranean Pine Engraver in Pines in Arizona and New Mexico	United States Forest Service
17.5	Increasing the Effectiveness of Monitoring Abundance, Migratory Patterns, and Border Impacts of an	National Park Service
17.5	Increasing the Effectiveness of Monitoring Abundance, Migratory Patterns, and Border Impacts of an	National Park Service
17.5	Increasing the Effectiveness of Monitoring Abundance, Migratory Patterns, and Border Impacts of a R	National Park Service
17.5	High-Resolution Transboundary Vegetation Community and Dynamic Maps of the Sonoran and Mojav	United States Geological Survey
17.5	Online Platform with Value Added Satellite Imagery for Monitoring Western U.S.A. Riparian Zones V	United States Geological Survey
17.5	DS CESU: Remote Sensing of Vegetation Greenness and ET Following Minute 319 and 323 Environme	United States Geological Survey
17.5	DS CESU: Multi-Sensor Remote Sensing of ET and Greenness of the Major Riparian Corridors of the Lo	United States Geological Survey
17.5	DS CESU: Natural Vegetation Water Use and Efficiency at the US-Mexico Transboundary Region: Part	United States Geological Survey
17.5	DS CESU: Natural Vegetation Water Use and Efficiency at the US-Mexico Transboundary Region: Part	United States Geological Survey
17.5	High-Resolution Transboundary Vegetation Community and Dynamic Maps of the Sonoran and Mojav	United States Geological Survey
17.5	DS CESU: Remote Sensing of Vegetation Greenness and ET Following Minute 319 and 323 Environme	United States Geological Survey
17.5	DS CESU: Natural Vegetation Water Use and Efficiency at the US-Mexico Transboundary Region: Part	United States Geological Survey
17.5	Vegetation Assessment of Greenup and Evapotranspiration Using Satellite Imagery for Native and N	United States Geological Survey
17.5	Vegetation Assessment of Greenup and Evapotranspiration Using Satellite Imagery for Native and N	United States Geological Survey

a) CESU Indirect Cost Rate  
= 17.5%  
*US Forest Service = 0%*  
*USDA NRCS = 10%*

b) Award Title  
May or may not include  
“DSCESU” or similar

c) Sponsoring Agency /  
Lead Investigator Organization  
Must be one of our partners



# Compiling List of CESU Projects

How do I know when an award is a DSCESU Project?

F	AP
Project F&A Rate Percentage	Sponsor Name
17.5	National Park Service
17.5	Bureau of Land Management
10	Natural Resources Conservation Service
17.5	National Park Service
17.5	Bureau of Land Management
17.5	United States Fish and Wildlife Service
17.5	United States Geological Survey
17.5	United States Geological Survey
17.5	National Park Service
0	United States Geological Survey
0	United States Geological Survey
10	Natural Resources Conservation Service
10	Natural Resources Conservation Service
10	Natural Resources Conservation Service

**a) CESU IDC Rate = 17.5%**

*US Forest Service = 0%*

*USDA NRCS = 10%*





# Compiling List of DS-CESU Projects

## How do I know when an award is a DSCESU Project?

Award Title
DS CESU: Post-Restoration Flammability: The Effect of Time Since Treatment on Understory Live Fir
NOC for AZ CESU Evaluating Livestock Exclusion and Distribution in the Agua Fria National Monum
NOC for AZ CESU Evaluating Livestock Exclusion and Distribution in the Agua Fria National Monum
NPS-FY23-IMR CESU Task Agreements (15.945)
Restoring Biotic Diversity in Lehmann Lovegrass Dominated Grasslands: Fertile Islands
Engaging Students in Support for Grasslands Conservation and Restoration in the Southwest
Maintaining Frog Monitoring and Populations on the Las Cienegas National Conservation Area
USA National Phenology Network
Arizona Cooperative Rangeland Monitoring Program (ACRMP)(CESU)
Engaging Students in Support for Grasslands Conservation and Restoration in the Southwest
Conduct Climate Change Impact Workshops to Develop Region-wide Baseline Assessment Approac
DS CESU: Leadership, Coordination, and Administrative Oversight for the Desert Southwest Cooper
Establishing a Hydrologic and Biologic Baseline for Predictive Management of Threatened Freshwat
Increasing the Effectiveness of Monitoring Abundance, Migratory Patterns, and Border Impacts of a
Research Support for Science Communications and Water Resource Management Toolbox
Wildlife Trends Analyses for 11 Sonoran Desert Parks
Science Support for Wildlife Conservation in Arizona
Synthesis and Analysis of Binational Avian and Vegetation Field Data Sets for the Madrean Sky Islan
Leadership, Coordination, and Administrative Oversight for the Desert Southwest Cooperative Eco
Vegetation Community Mapping at Chocolate Mountains Aerial Gunnery Range
Implementing a Grassland Productivity Forecast Tool for the U.S. Southwest
Ecological Forecasts for Risk Management
Invasive Plant Control Cabeza NWR
CPCESU BLM Utah Reptile and Amphibian Inventory and Monitoring

### b) Award Title

May or may not include  
“DSCESU” in the title

(Or another CESU)



5 - year  
renewal

# Compiling List of DS-CESU Projects

## How do I know when an award is a DSCESU Project?

Federal Partners	University Partners	Nonfederal partners
Bureau of Indian Affairs Bureau of Land Management Bureau of Reclamation Department of Defense National Park Service U.S. Army Corps of Engineers- Civil Works U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Southwest region U.S. Forest Service U.S. Geological Survey USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service	Baylor University Eastern New Mexico University Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University Howard University New Mexico State University Northern Arizona University Texas State University The University of Arizona (Host) University of California-Riverside University of Texas at Arlington University of Texas at El Paso University of Texas Rio Grande Valley University of Texas at San Antonio University of Utah Western New Mexico University	Archaeology Southwest Arizona Game and Fish Department Arizona-Sonora Desert Museum Bird Conservancy of the Rockies Cornerstones Community Partnerships CyArk Desert Botanical Garden Hawks Aloft, Inc. Organization of American Historians Pima County and Pima County Regional Flood Control District Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Garden Sky Island Alliance Sonoran Institute The Nature Conservancy Tucson Audubon Society Western Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies Western National Parks Association

c) Sponsoring Agency /  
Lead Investigator Organization  
Must be one of our partners  
<https://cales.arizona.edu/dscesu/partner-and-project-information>





5 - y e a r  
r e n e w a l

# Compiling List of DS-CESU Projects

- Every organization and agency has a different system for pulling Award data. U of A uses **UAnalytics**, for example.
- Collaborate with your organization or agency's **administrative representative**, who serves as financial assistance point of contact.
  - Contact information is listed in the **Cooperative and Joint Venture Agreement** posted on our website.
- Universities can contact their Sponsored Program Office for assistance.



# DSCESU 5-year renewal

## DSCESU 5-Year Renewal

- Need **2020 – 2024 Project Reports** from all partners
- Please send your **DSCESU project reports** to Paris Zapp and Ruth Holladay:
  - [pzapp@catworksarizona.edu](mailto:pzapp@catworksarizona.edu)
  - [ruthholladay@arizona.edu](mailto:ruthholladay@arizona.edu)







# Call for Volunteer

**Federal Managers Committee Lead**

Contact Ruth if interested: [ruthholladay@arizona.edu](mailto:ruthholladay@arizona.edu)

5-Year Renewal



Kathryn  
Stoner

# Strategic Plan Status Update





# Strategic Plan

<https://cales.arizona.edu/dscesu/strategic-plan>

Kathryn

1. **Introduction**
2. **Partner Institutions: Federal & Non-Federal Agencies**
3. **Key Natural Resources of Desert Southwest Region Issues**
  1. Renewable Natural Resources and Conservation Management
  2. Cultural Resources
  3. Climate Change, Ecosystem Goods and Services, and Education
4. **Mission and Objectives**

2015 DSCESU Cooperative & Joint Venture Agreement objectives
5. **Goals and Actions**

Communication, Integrate DEIA, Coordination, Outreach, Collaboration, Interdisciplinary Research
6. **Monitoring of Strategic Plan**



Ruth &  
Ashley

Administrative



# Administrative Items

Ruth & Ashley

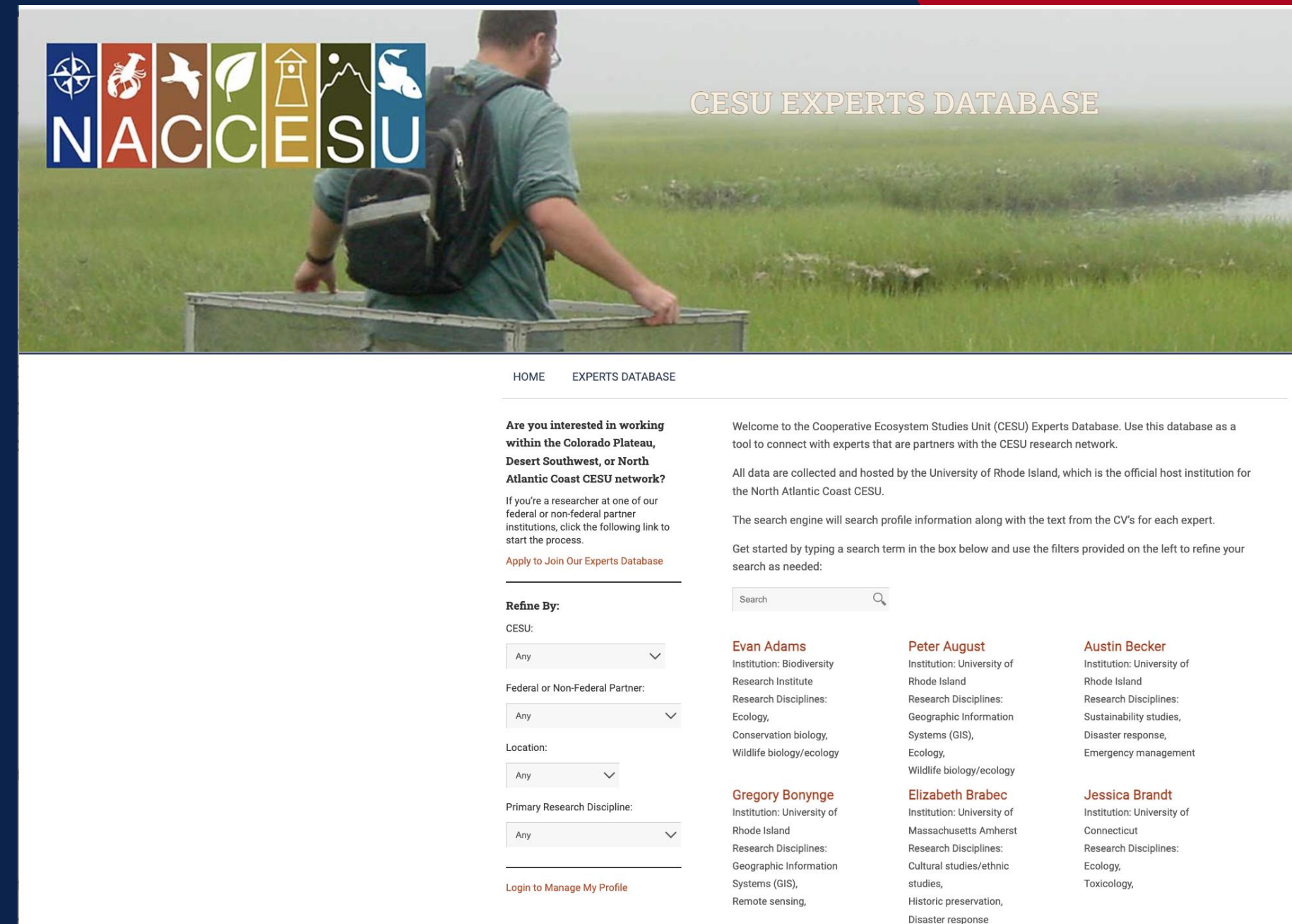
2024

- Expert Database
- Request updates to contact information
- DSCESU website feedback



# Expert Database

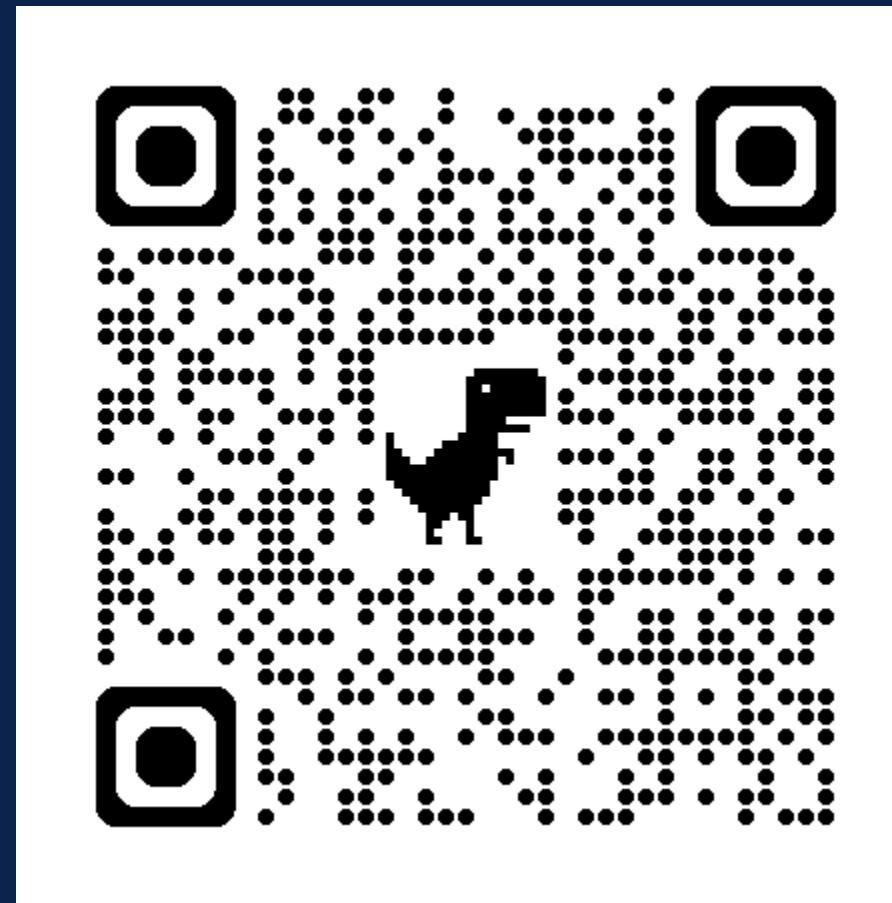
- The main database is hosted on the North Atlantic Coast CESU and can now support updates from DSCESU.
- Helps connect federal funding agencies to a pool of nonfederal research partners
- Experts from our partner organizations can start adding profiles at any time.
  - Instructions for adding profiles forthcoming
- We are looking into embedding the database on our website.





# Updates to Contact Information & Website Feedback Form

DSCESU Annual Meeting Follow-Up Questions



<https://app.smartsheet.com/b/form/c1b536d1bab8406e99ebe0cdb71fe202>



Ruth &  
Ashley

# Other Announcements



# Other Announcements

Ruth & Ashley

2024

- **Project PowerPoint Slide**
  - These PowerPoints are used to educate potential partners about membership, funding opportunities, expertise, and the impact of the DSCESU activities
- **Share Story Form**
  - We post your stories about DSCESU research projects on our website



# Share Story Form

<https://cales.arizona.edu/dscesu/submit-story>

- Partner Institution
- Contact Name
- Contact Email
- Headline/Project Title
- Sponsoring Federal Agency
- News Story (100-625 words)
  - i.e. project goals & major findings
- Photo(s)
- Photo Caption

## DSCESU Project Stories

Partner Institution \*

Partner Institution Contact Name \*

Email \*

Headline or Project Title \*

Federal Agency

### News Story

Please submit a news story (100-625 words) about your organization's DSCESU project(s) below. For example, include any project goals, major findings, participating partners and sponsors, and management implications. This will be posted on our website.

**NOTE:** You can also attach a Word Document in the File Attachment field below instead.

Photo and/or Word Document - if applicable

Drag and drop files here or [browse files](#)

Photo Caption - if applicable

☐ Send me a copy of my responses

Submit





# Share Story Form

<https://cales.arizona.edu/dscesu/submit-story>

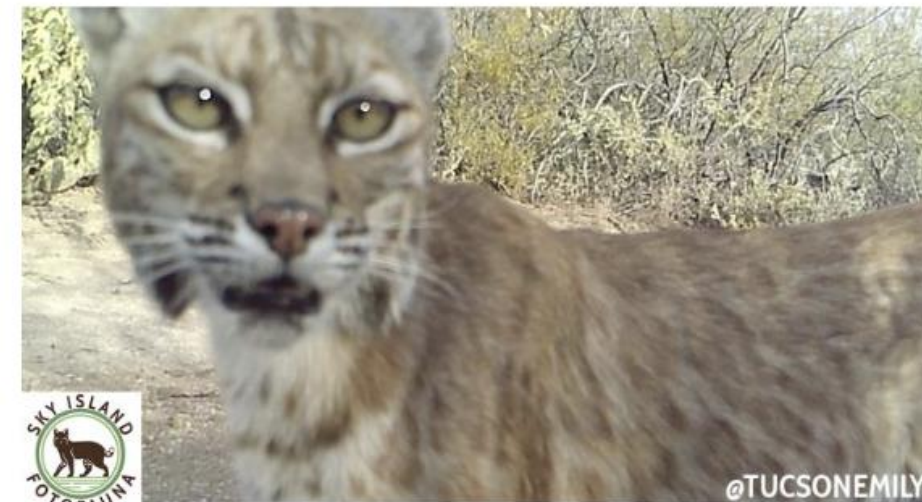
## News



### Sand Creek Massacre National Historic Site Administrative History Update

Sept. 9, 2024

[Read more](#)



### Binational Community Monitors Wildlife Together Through Sky Island FotoFauna

May 16, 2024

[Read more](#)

[Read All News](#)



**Submissions posted here:**  
<https://cales.arizona.edu/dscesu/news-teasers>



Round  
Robin

# Federal Agency Updates & *Plans with Funding*



# NPS Updates

Sallie

- We do not know what the budget will be like
- We are on a **Continuing Resolution** through December 20.
- **FY2024:** NPS initiated about **31 new projects** with DSCESU partners in FY24 totaling almost \$4 million.

This is a lot more projects for more funding than we have had in past years!



# NPS Updates

Sallie

About 50% of the 2024 NPS projects going through the DSCESU are **cultural resource projects**.

Cultural topics included:

- ethnographic overview of a park
- historic structure reports
- museum collections assistance,
- preservation of archeological field data





# NPS Updates

Sallie

About 50% of 2024 NPS DSCESU projects are **natural resource projects**.

Natural resource topics included:

- native plant species restoration
- monitoring springs with sister parks in Mexico
- studying the effects of climate change on southwestern rivers
- conducting an inventory of Cactus Ferruginous Pygmy-Owls



Any questions or comments?



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