

Science

As the landscape adapts to change, so must the sciences that help us understand this ecosystem. We can no longer wait to fill in baseline data for the blank spots on the map, and ongoing data collection, integration, monitoring, and analysis will prove critical in shaping future management actions.

The Roundtable is supporting a major transboundary, interagency project that will dramatically improve the capacity for collaboration among researchers, resource managers, and community leaders throughout the region.

Member agencies of the Crown Managers Partnership (CMP) are creating a “knowledge interface” between resource managers and communities for sharing science, analytical tools, and findings throughout the region. They’re focused on three indicators of ecological integrity: (1) land cover, (2) vegetation structure and dynamics, and (3) the human footprint. To quantify these indicators, CMP uses existing geographic information system (GIS) layers and remote sensing.

Stages of this work will be the featured topic for discussion within existing networks of CMP, the Roundtable, and the Great Northern Landscape Conservation Cooperative and at 2012 and 2013 CMP annual forums. CMP will also host follow-up workshops with community stakeholders to communicate results, solicit feedback, understand societal values, and engage in dialogue on the jurisdictional implications of integrating environmental management across boundaries.

