

New GLORIA (Global Observation Research Initiative in Alpine Environments) Target Region Installed

Installation of a new GLORIA multi-summit target region was completed in August 2005 in the White Mountains of California. Assigned international code WDS, for White Dolomite Summits, the new target region includes three summits on carbonate soil substrates. The carbonate soils of the White Mountains, particularly dolomitic soils, provide unique habitat for endemic and narrowly restricted plant species, including Great Basin bristlecone pine (*Pinus longaeva*). The carbonate WDS summits were chosen to complement the existing GLORIA multi-summit target region in the White Mountains, coded WIM, whose four summits comprise granitic and meta-volcanic substrates.

The new summits are in the region near the Patriarch Grove of bristlecone pine, and are at elevations of 3734m, 3612m, and 3490m. 46 native species were recorded in total. Data analyses are underway.

The project was funded by the UC White Mountain Research Station (WMRS, contact Dr. John Smiley, jsmiley@wmrs.edu) and jointly sponsored through staff and volunteers from CIRMOUNT, WMRS, the California Native Plant Society, University of Arizona Tree Ring Lab, and the USFS.

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Left above: The WDS GLORIA field crew



Right above: Estimating species frequencies in 1m x 1m grids

Center below:
Setting up 10m x 10m
cover estimation plots

