

THE CALVEG GEOBOOK – A VISUAL TOOL FOR DESCRIBING VEGETATION INFORMATION DERIVED FROM REMOTELY SENSED DATA

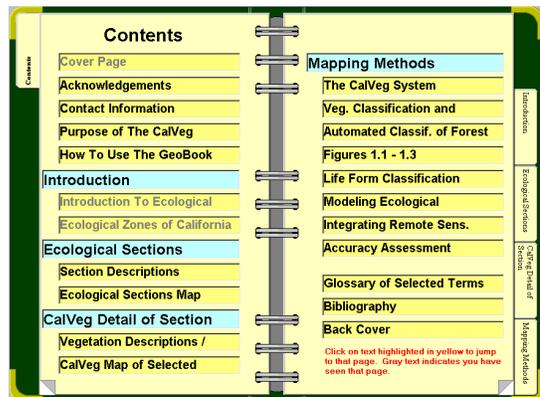
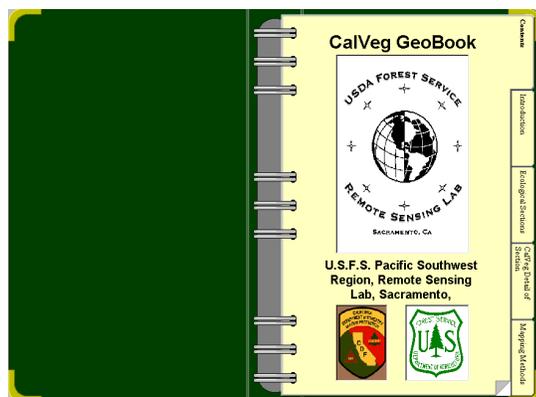
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Agencies have been rapidly developing comprehensive and complex sets of information derived in part or wholly from remotely sensed data. These databases are intended to fill the information needs of many business processes and are frequently used by resource professionals that are far removed from the developmental origins of the data. Consequently, it is imperative that effective transfer of information about the source, scale, classification systems, methods, and appropriate uses be conveyed to users of the data. The Pacific Southwest Region Remote Sensing Lab (RSL) has worked with Pacific Meridian Resources to develop a visual application that provides information about vegetation databases in an intuitive, easy to use format. The CalVeg Geobook illustrates a hierarchical approach to describing spatial arrangement, scale, vegetative floristics and associations, and development methods for vegetation information that is input into analytical processes including watershed assessments, Forest planning, statewide fuels modeling, and bioregional habitat analysis. This poster presents a visual overview of the structure and content of the CalVeg Geobook that is now being provided as metadata to the Regional vegetation databases produced by the RSL.

The content of the CalVeg Geobook is organized in an intuitive, book-like fashion for easy reference and use



The user can easily navigate through the hierarchical arrangement of spatial data distribution and the vegetation classification system

Introduction To CalVeg Zones and Ecological Regions of California

CALVEG ZONES
 The CalVeg system of vegetation classification and mapping (Regional Ecology Group, 1981) is described in detail elsewhere; refer to its chapter in this Geobook. Eight geographical zones are described in California: North Coast and Montane, Central Coast and Montane, North Sierran, South Sierran, Central Valley and South Interior, reflecting broad climatic and vegetation differences across the state. These regions are indicated in color blocks in the map on the opposite page and are usually defined by the boundaries of one or more Ecological Sections (refer to the Goudey and Smith, 1994 map and the Miles and Goudey, 1997 document). A table identifies these CalVeg Zones and Ecological Sections in California, which

Ecological Zones of California

[Print/Export Map](#)

Note: Each zone is displayed in a separate color and black lines separate ecological sections.

Select a vegetation type from the list below. The description will appear in the text area.

Eastside Pine

Highlight selected vegtype in red on map

[View Photo](#) [Zoom To Highlighted Vegtype](#)

EP
EASTSIDE PINE ALLIANCE
 The Eastside Pine Alliance is dominated by Ponderosa Pine (*Pinus ponderosa*) or occasionally by Jeffrey Pine (*P. jeffreyi*). It has been identified in the Southern Cascades Section at elevations between about 3400 ft - 6800 ft (1036 - 2074 m) and in the Modoc Section between about 4200 - 6600 ft (1280 - 2012 m). Soils are often deep, with a relatively high site potential. This Alliance blends into the Western Juniper and Low Sagebrush Alliance in the drier and lower elevational sites. As moisture increases at the higher elevations, and on cooler, more north facing slopes it blends into the Ponderosa Pine - White Fir Alliance. Inclusions of Curlleaf Mountain Mahogany (*Cercocarpus ledifolius*) are present on rocky outcrops. Bitterbrush (*Purshia tridentata*) forms an almost continuous shrub canopy under open pine stands, and where the pine is sparse or absent. This brush is absent in pine thickets and is declining in pine stands under closing canopies. Other shrub associates include Basin Sagebrush (*Artemisia tridentata*), Rabbitbrush (*Chrysothamnus* spp.), Wax Currant (*Ribes cereum*), and Mahala Mat (*Ceanothus prostratus*). These species, particularly Rabbitbrush, tend to be abundant on disturbed sites. The herbaceous component is dominated by Idaho Fescue (*Festuca idahoensis*), Ross' sedge (*Carex rossii*), Pinegrass (*Calamagrostis* spp.), Bluebunch Wheatgrass (*Agropyron spicatum*), Squirreltail (*Sitanion* spp.), and a number of annual forbs depending on the timing and amount of spring rainfall. Perennial forbs such as Mules Ears (*Wyethia mollis*) and Arrowleaf Balsamroot (*Balsamorhiza sagittata*) are found on the moister sites in this Alliance.

[Enlarge Map](#) [Legend](#)

Scale 1:49,393

Identify Results

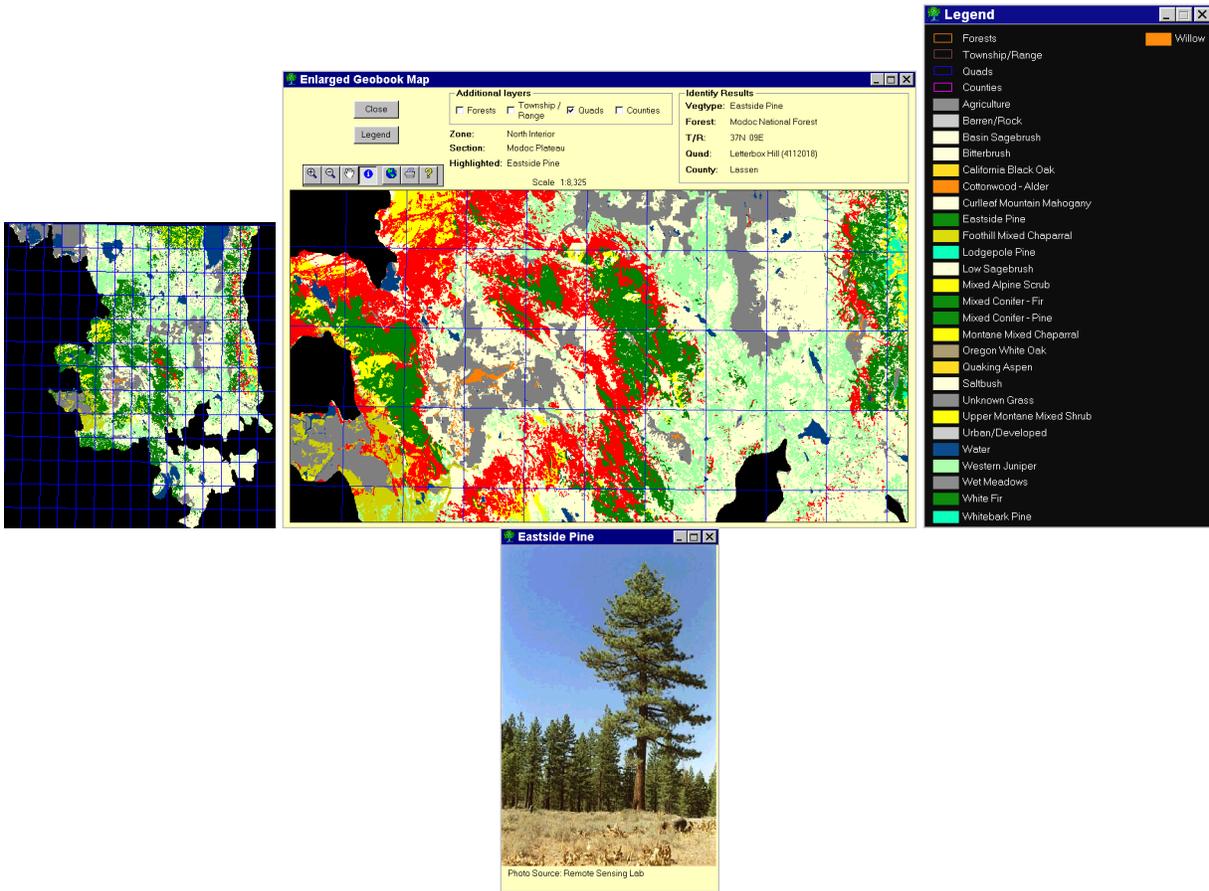
Vegtype: Eastside Pine
Forest: Modoc National Forest
T/R: 42N 08E
Quad: Happy Camp Mtn. (4112141)
County: Modoc

Zone: North Interior
Section: Modoc Plateau
Highlighted: Eastside Pine

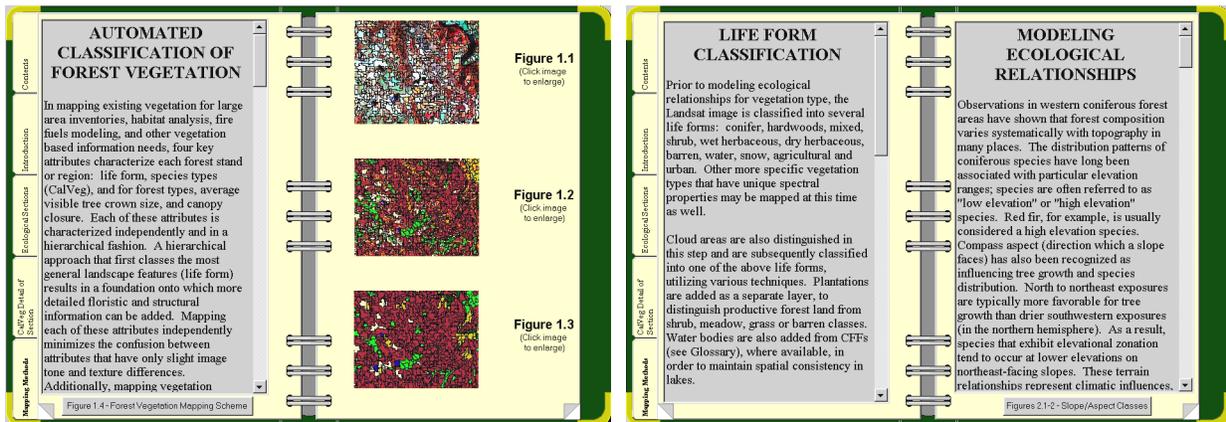
Additional layers

Forests Township / Range Quads Counties

Several features exist to help the user better understand the vegetation floristics and their spatial context



The user can also access information about mapping methods



To obtain the latest version of the CalVeG Geobook please contact either of the authors at the RSL