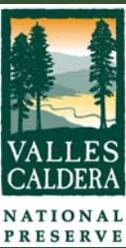


VISITOR PROGRAMS

Science



Inventory – Projects that provide spatial distribution data of existing natural and cultural resources at one point in time.



VCT Biologist Zoe Ana Duran inventories aquatic invertebrates in the Valle Grande

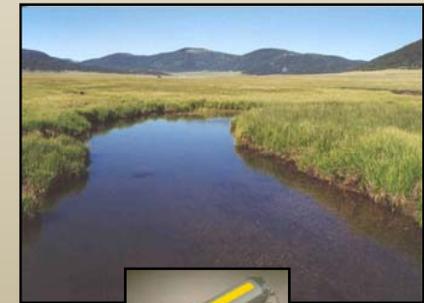
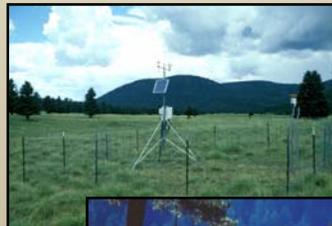


- VCNP Inventory projects:**
1. Geology map
 2. Soils map
 3. Vegetation map
 4. Species lists: plants, mammals, birds, reptiles, amphibians, fish, aquatic insects, terrestrial insects, other invertebrates, fungi, lichens and algae.
 5. Watershed health, stream condition, fish habitats
 6. Water quality (physical & chemical)
 7. Forest stand conditions and fuels
 8. Forest logging history and roads
 9. Range condition



Water quality inventories in VCNP streams.

Monitoring – Projects that provide temporal data on the dynamics of natural and cultural resources, particularly with respect to management activities and public programs.



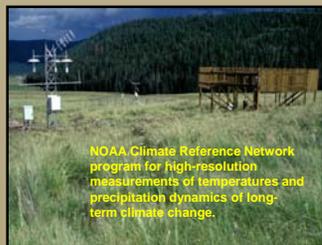
VCT stream monitoring for changes in bank structure and vegetation, water temperature, dissolved oxygen, pH, turbidity and conductivity.



Fisheries monitoring using electro-shocking capture-release methods

VCT monitoring programs: Climate influences forage production, which drives elk populations and stocking density of livestock. Elk calf production and rodent population cycles, in turn, may influence predator populations.

Research – Incorporates a wide variety of hypothesis-driven projects on applied and theoretical topics; often extramurally-funded.



NOAA Climate Reference Network program for high-resolution measurements of temperatures and precipitation dynamics of long-term climate change.



Flux towers for measuring water cycle and carbon budget on VCNP rangelands (NSF funded research to University of Arizona)



Flumes for measuring stream discharge and validating models for increasing snowmelt water production through watershed restoration.



Research on wildlife diseases (hantavirus, plague, CWD, whirling disease)



Research on historic fire frequencies on VCNP