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News

California Polytechnic State University

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## Cal Poly Joins Education and Research Consortium

SAN LUIS OBISPO -- Cal Poly has been admitted to a national network of universities that have partnered with a number of federal agencies to promote education and research in the management of natural and cultural resources.

The Californian Cooperative Ecosystem Studies Unit (CCESU), part of the national CESU network, recently welcomed Cal Poly and two other CSU campuses (Humboldt and Chico) to the consortium. The California CESU includes all nine University of California campuses and is housed on the Berkeley campus. Three other CSU campuses –Fresno, San Francisco and Los Angeles – were already members.



A grove at Cal Poly's  
[Swanton Pacific Ranch](#)

"Membership in the CESU will open up many new avenues to applied research funding and support for our educational programs, not only for the Natural Resources Management Department, but for other departments and programs across campus that engage in instruction and research related to the network's interests," said Doug Piirto, head of Cal Poly's Natural Resources Management Department.

"Programs in the biological, physical, social and cultural sciences that address natural and cultural resource management issues can all benefit from Cal Poly's new affiliation with the CESU," he said.

"A number of federal agencies are partners in the CESU network and provide financial support for projects and programs. These include the U.S. Forest Service, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Bureau of Land Management, Bureau of Reclamation, Natural Resources Conservation Service, U.S. Geological Survey and NASA.

Piirto expects opportunities to develop quickly with the U.S. Forest Service and the National Park Service, which have expressed interest in working with Cal Poly because of its considerable expertise in forest science and natural resources management.

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