



Bulletin

International association for landscape ecology

LANDSCAPE ECOLOGICAL MAPPING USING SATELLITE REMOTE SENSING

LEUVEN (Belgium), 17-19 MARCH 1994

The aim of this workshop was to give some insights in the profits to be gained by using remote sensing data for landscape ecologists. Landscape ecological mapping can be defined as the systematic development of spatial information concerning landscape ecology. There is growing diversity, accessibility, spatial and temporal coverage of satellite imagery. There was an attendance of 25 European landscape ecologists and land use planners from outside the host institute (Institute for Land and Water Management, Katholieke Universiteit Leuven). The workshop was organised in collaboration with the Institute for Remote Sensing Applications (S. Folving, JRC Ispra, Italy). It started with a literature review (B. Delbaere) searching for actual and potential applications of satellite data in the diversity of fundamental and applied research fields in landscape ecology. A review of actual and planned satellite remote sensing systems was given also (H. Gulinck). W. Devos gave a paper on the state of the art in the land cover database over Europe (based on satellite images - a subproject of the former Corine project and its extensions) and its relations to landscape ecological mapping.

Useful linkages were made to such policies as the European habitat directive and

to the identification of habitats for threatened species such as the Great Bustard. R. Haynes-Young talked about the needs for land classification systems, more specifically the problems of

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EUROPEAN CENTRE FOR NATURE CONSERVATION ECNC OFFERS A WORKSHOP ON THE 4TH EU PROGRAMME FOR RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT

The ECNC is preparing a workshop to explore the opportunities for nature conservation within the 4th EU Community Framework Programme for Research, Technological Development and Demonstration Activities (1994-98)

During this meeting, which will be held in Tilburg 17 and 18 November, specialists will give information on the Framework Programme and its funding of projects. But the real aim of workshop is to bring together institutes working in European nature conservation, and give them the chance to define, discuss and edit proposals for joint research projects. By the end of the workshop, these proposals should be ready for submission to the EU for funding.

Talks on European funding by people with working experience in this field are an introduction to two days of hard work: Dis-

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NEWS ON THE IALE TOULOUSE CONGRESS AUGUST 1995

Details on the program and practical information concerning the IALE Congress in Toulouse in August 1995 will be distributed in November to all that have registered according to the preliminary inscription enclosed in the last Bulletin, and will be published in the next Bulletin, to be distributed in December.

For now, we can however inform you, that

- the congress will take place at the University in the center of Toulouse. Registration will start in the afternoon Sunday 27th August and finish in the afternoon Thursday 31 August.
- Accomodation will be available primarily at the many hotels in the vicinity. An alternative accomodation will be arranged at a student hall beside the Congress area, that will be free at the time of the congress. Information on suitable Camping-sites will be given as an alternative, too.
- The fee for members are expected to be in the order of 500 Franc (100 US\$). Lunch and dinner will be served for at price of 60-70 pr. meal.
- It will be possible for working groups to arrange meetings in the weekend before the congress. Time for Special meetings are sceduled to a late afternoon session on Monday 28 August, but can also be arranged at other times during the congress.
- The three sessions on landscapes in the future Tuesday 29 (se Bulletin 12 no. 1/2) will be in plenum, not parallel.
- Emphasis will be given to poster presentations, that will be integreted in the parallel sessions on 6 different themes Wednesday 30. August(See Bulletin 12, no 1/2).
- Parallel sessions on contributed papers will be arranged Thursday morning.
- 1-2 pages of abstracts for each contribution will be included in the Congress proceedings.

Landscape ecological mapping...Continued from p.1

regionalisation and of environmental surveys. Remote sensing should help identify scales at which regional units become meaningful, understand the site context and build flexible survey systems. B. Bunce made the linkage between land cover information and land classification systems and talked about the strength of combination of detailed field data and more coarse satellite data. He also referred to information needs in relation to climate changes. E. Kuijken explained the policy for nature restoration in Flemish Belgium and the need for data and expressed doubt about the need for remote sensing information. R. Jongman in his paper about the European EECNET programme, also about nature conservation and restoration, suggested questions about the role of remote sensing in the definition of land use categories and the amending of existing land cover frameworks. P. Kennedy gave insight into the FIRS programme of the JRC (forest information system) and questions about stratification, nomenclature, segmentation techniques and phenological information. The poster session covered the following topics: data quality, extraction of ecologically-significant measures from satellite imagery (R. Aspinall, R. Birnie); habitat mapping (R.

Aspinall, A. Andries); vegetation mapping in Botswana (H. Gulinck); grassland (M. Badji) and fallow land (C. Jurgens) monitoring; fire-altered landscapes and the effects of changing scale (E. Chuvieco); landscape ecological mapping in Sweden (M. Ihse) and Czechia (V. Kremsa, Z. Lipsky); connectivity mapping (H. Dufourmont). Based on the information during the lecture and poster sessions, two discussion panels treated satellite remote sensing data from the demand side from landscape ecology. Following recommendations were made: to establish a clear and unified nomenclature of land cover classes, useful for the whole of Europe, with a possible hierarchical structure; to define the advantages of using maps and using databases in landscape ecological mapping; to clarify the need for integrating field survey and satellite imagery in landscape ecological research.

Also, reference was made to the possibilities of joint initiatives in the frame of organisations as IALE and EARSeL. Finally, the workshop excursion was an introduction to landscapes in the eastern part of Flanders (north Belgium). Items were urban sprawl, conservation of traditional landscape remnants, nature conservation and restoration, the problem of flooding and the management of alluvial plains, land use policies and land consolidation, the role of small linear landscape elements. The use of different remote sensing image types in the analysis and planning of these landscapes was given attention.

The proceedings of the workshop will be published within the coming months.

Hubert Gulinck

ECNC..Continued from p.1

cussing, composing and editing research proposals and finding partners for joint international projects. Projects defined during the workshop will not necessarily go forward to the European Community as ECNC projects. The ECNC is not organizing the workshop this workshop to get hold of the best research-projects, but the centre is more than willing to offer its expertise in project-management, coordination, logistical support and information service where and when needed.

The meeting will be especially suitable for the discussion of international projects as institutes from different countries will be present.

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The European Centre for Nature Conservation - ECNC - is a network of institutes that have signed a memorandum of co-operation. Governmental institutes as well as non-governmental organizations working towards nature conservation in Europe can join the ECNC network.

NEW CANADIAN REGIONAL CONTACT

Jean Falardeau, Min. de l'Environnement et de la Faune, Dir. de la conservation, 2360, Chemin Sainte-Foy, Boîte 21, Sainte-Foy (Québec) G1V 4H2

'LANDSCHAP'

The dutch journal on Landscape Ecology 'LANDSCHAP' will publish an international issue (in english). The theme of the issue is: 'The plans for Ecological Networks in Europe'.

Authors from different european countries will contribute articles in which the initiatives in their countries in the planning of Ecological Networks will be described. The methodological backgrounds, the results and the problems in the implementation will be discussed. The issue will be completed with an evaluating article, in which the different initiatives will be compared.

The board of editors will be pre3ded by Dr. Rob Jongman. The special 'LANDSCHAP' issue will be published in august 1995. People that are interested in obtaining copies of this issue may write to:

Secretary 'LANDSCAP', Postbox 23, 6700 AA, Wageningen, The Netherlands.

The IALE BULLETIN is distributed 4 times a year to the members of IALE. IALE Bulletin Editor : Jesper Brandt, Inst. Geography & Computer Science, Roskilde University Center, P.O.Box 260, DK-4000 Roskilde, Denmark, Phone: +46 75 77 11 ext. 2463, Fax: +46 75 74 01 E-mail: brandt@ruc.dk. Layout Erling Andersen. IALE - International Association for Landscape ecology - was founded in 1982 to promote communication between scientists and planners and interdisciplinary scientific research. IALE executive committee: President Henri De-camps (France), Past-president Gray Merriam (Canada), Vice-presidents: Joan Iverson Nassauer (USA), Eduardo R. Fuentes (Chile), Paul F.M. Opdam (Netherlands), Vaclav Mejstrik (Czech Republic) General Secretary Almo Farina (Italy), Lunigiana Museum of Natural History, 54001 Aulla, Italy Phone: +187 40 02 52, Fax: +187 420727. Deputy General Secretary & Bulletin editor Jesper Brandt (Denmark), Treasurer: James F. Thorne (USA)The nature Conservancy, Pennsylvania Chapter, 1211 Chestnut Street, 12th floor, Philadelphia, PA 19107-4122, Phone: 215-963-1400

Deadline Bulletin Volume 12.4: 15th November 1994

Review of "Place in Space, Human Culture in landscape"

Proceedings of the Second International Conference of the IALE Working Group "Culture and Landscape" sept. 1992

The proceedings covers a wide variety of subjects, from philosophical discussions of what aesthetics can offer through research on attitudes among city people towards the landscape, (Patocka, Crouch) foresters attitudes towards forestry (Georgakoupoulou Witt), attitudes in literary texts (Schmith) and films (Uhde) to scenarios of future landscape development (Wijermans). This broad scope makes the collection of proceedings very interesting, because it raises a lot of relevant questions of landscape ecology. At the same time it unveils a certain confusion as to what are the fundamental problem in landscape ecology these days.

Hana Svobodova writes (p. 99) that a place which is home, is a specific kind of place - a source of self-realization, an anchor in smaller and larger scale, and that an insufficient integration with such a home environment manifests itself through split and disorientation. This quote seems to me characteristic for the articles in sum. A sort of home-sickness although being at home, seems to be the plague polluting the environment of ecological researchers as many researchers in others fields at the moment.

Most of the authors in this context experience the situation as part of what is most often labelled post-modernism. M. Lapka and M. Gottlieb refers to Belohradsky (p. 41) who describes the post-modern age as that "where more and more people are addressed by certain Christian religiousness where the essence consists not in worries about the immortal soul or relation to another world but in solidarity with what is mortal end endangered". Johan Meeus defines post-modernism as characterized by a special attention towards images and events, and David Crouch see it as characterized by an emphasis on cultural choice. Regarding landscape the choice is only within the realm of consumerism, i. e. a limited market. In other words landscape ecology seems to be in a crisis caused by a lack of

faith in the use of ecosystems theory, geography, human ecology and the like. These theories and sciences are now experienced as too narrow and reductionist in regard to understanding for example landscape perception by Bayer and Pedroli, whereas Kovar states that the ecological crisis is a result of a crisis in philosophy. Concepts as inter-disciplinary and holistic (Pavel, Kovar and Lapka and Gottlieb) brings new hopes as well as other methods such as phenomenology (Pedroli, Svobodova) or artistic approaches for the understanding and interpretation of the landscape (Howard, Meus, Sepanmaa, Bayer). What they all seem to long for is a sort of a harmony with nature or the anchoring Svoboda mentions; an anchoring Patocka shows is still remarkable in small Czek towns from 2-15.000 inhabitants. Here is still a strong cultural coherence with the landscape to be found and the inhabitants can be characterized as insiders versus outsiders as the scientific researchers and theorist represented by this volume.

Especially the synthesizing qualities of art seems attractive to most of the authors all though they are aware that such an approach will not result in neither an objective nor trustworthy image of reality (Howard). However, this interpretation of reality seems to be more preferable than a more or less developed scientific truth, that to day most researchers realize is typical for our time and contextually determined. In contrast to economic arguments for example the artistic approach appears attractive because of its ability to make people aware of their surroundings. The fine arts aspects of landscape architecture or even land art might bring some usefull tools to solve some of the problems, from this authors point of view.

Anyhow in the descriptions of the crisis of landscape ecology the last link towards a radical understanding of post-modernism seems to be absent. The link that discloses the problem as part of the crisis of the sign - a crisis that fundamentally deals with the representation of the environment; the translation from object to sign.

In short you can argue that the by Kant developed theoretical basis for an individual interpretation of nature now is becoming apparent illustrated by a Babylonian confusion of languages. In

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his theory of the sublime the connection between form and content was given to the interpreter- man or the spectator- and since God by Nietzsche has been declared dead our only relevant reference has become ourselves. Hereby the spectators role has become as important as that of the creating artist/ planner/ geographer. This undeniably raises new ethical challenges when you are to chose on behalf of others, i. e. in form of methods to understand and design landscapes. We must realize that there is an unsurpassable and arbitrary distance between sign and meaning/expression and content in language and that this distance also is valid when the sign is a map or on a map. From this vantage point, in a semiotic perspective, it is obvious that landscape-ecologist feels home-sick, however the above mentioned theory provides another anchoring for perception and understanding at an even more abstract level.

Closest to such an understanding is Groening, Lapka and Gottlieb. The latter states that landscape ecology first and foremost deals with self-reflection whereas the former finds no difference between the attitudes applied by nazis for the use in occupied territories and the attitudes used in our time. Terms as "the wrong race in the wrong place" can with only a smaller variations be found in scientific as well as popular medias now. The artillery is often focused on individuals or companies responsible for environmental damages in stead of at the democratic procedures and institutions according to Groening. However I feel that there is even more at stake. We are born into a structure, the language, that gives us a place in the world and a certain perspective through which we experience our surroundings but at the same time this language is what irrevocable separates all human beings from nature in the same way. Therefore we can no longer state, that some are more alienated than we are. The consequence of this is that what we see is nothing but ourself looking. We are all in different boats out on the open and what is now the question is if and how a common security system or a fair system for distribution of life-wests can be developed, and what will be the consequences of the implementation of such systems - art or no art.

In closing these proceedings raise many very relevant questions, to which no solutions easily are found. Questions that precisely maintain their qualities by being vapourish.

Jette Hansen-Møller

The proceedings is available from Pudoc Scientific Publishers, Wageningen, The Netherlands. ISBN 90-220-1089-9. US\$ 65.

US-IALE FOREIGN TRAVELLING SCHOLAR AWARD

Each year US-IALE offers an award to a foreign participant attending the US symposium. The award is based on the quality of the abstract submitted to the meeting as well as the participant's need. Preference is given to participants from developing countries, particularly in the Americas. The award comes with a cash prize of a minimum of \$200 US for travel to the 9th Annual US Landscape Ecology Symposium.

Last year Eduardo Salinas of Cuba was selected to receive the award but, unfortunately, was unable to attend. In 1993 Nuri Trigo of the Metropolitan University of Mexico received the award and presented a paper on national park protection in Mexico's central volcanic plateau. Because few people have applied for the award in the past, we urge you to identify yourself or another person as a deserving candidate for this award. The next US-IALE Symposium will be held in Minneapolis, Minnesota, 22-26 April 1995. Abstracts must be submitted by 22 November 1994 to the address in the Symposium announcement in the diary of this Bulletin. To be considered for the award, a candidate must send a copy of a submitted abstract to Dr. Joseph E. Means, Pacific Northwest Forest Research Station, 3200 Jefferson Way, Corvallis, Oregon 97331 USA;

Internet: Means@fsl.orst.edu; Phone: +503-750-7351; Fax: +503-750-7329.

DIARY

• Delft, Netherlands 24-26 October 1994
EARSeL Workshop: Remote Sensing and GIS for Coastal Management.

Contact: R. Allewijn, Survey Department, P.O.Box 5023, NL-2600 GA Delft, Netherlands

• San Jose, Costa Rica 24-28 October

1994 Down to Earth: Practical applications of ecological economics
Contact: Sylvia Tognetti, Maryland International Institute for Ecological Economics, P.O.Box 38, Solomons, MD20688, USA

• Tilburg, the Netherlands 17-18 November 1994

ECNC workshop on 4th EU Programme for Research and Development. Contact: ECNC, phone +31 (0)13 663240 fax: +31 (0)13 663250

• Smolenice, Slovakia, 21-24 November 1994 Xth International Symposium on Problems of Landscape Ecological Research: Present state and new trends in landscape ecology. Contact: Milan Ruzicka, SAS, Stefanikova 3, P.O.Box 254, 814 99 Bratislava. Fax: +42 7 332 560, E-mail: direkt@uke.savba.sk

• Bressanone, Italy 1-2 december 1994. International symposium: Remote sensing in forest studies and management. Contact: Dr. M. Dissegna, Regione Veneto, Via Torino 110, 30172 Venezia-Mestre, Italy. Phone: +041 5495460, Fax: +041 5310492

• Minneapolis, USA 22-26 April 1995
10th annual USIALE meeting: Working a world dominated by humans - theory and practice of landscape ecology. Contact: Nancy E. Grubb, University of Minnesota, 222 Nolte Centre, 315 Pillsbury Drive, Minneapolis MN 55455, Phone: (612) 625-6358

• Beijing, China 11-15 August 1995
9th International Conference on state of the art in ecological modelling. Contact: Dr.L.Kvang, Inst. of Zoology, 19 Zhong-guancun Lu, 100080 Beijing, Phone: 86-1-2555612 Fax: 86-1-2565689

• Toulouse, France 27-31 August 1995
IALE Congress 1995: The future of our landscapes. Contact: Henri Decamps, Centre d'Ecologie CNRS, 29 rue Jeanne Marvig, 31055 Toulouse Cédex, France. Fax: +33 62269999