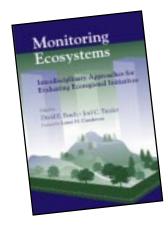
## MONITORING ECOSYSTEMS

## Interdisciplinary Approaches for Evaluating Ecoregional Initiatives

Edited by David E. Busch and Joel C. Trexler Foreword by Lance H. Gunderson



Monitoring Ecosystems brings together leading scientists and researchers to offer a ground breaking synthesis of lessons learned about ecological monitoring in major ecoregional initiatives around the United States. Contributors present insights and experiences gained from their work in designing, developing, and implementing comprehensive ecosystem monitoring programs in the Pacific Northwest, the lower Colorado River Basin, and the Florida Everglades. The book:

- outlines the conceptual and scientific underpinings for regional-scale ecosystem monitoring
- examines the role and importance of data management, modeling, and integrative analyses
- considers techniques for and experience with monitoring habitats, populations, and communities

Chapters by the editors synthesize and expand on points made throughout the volume and present recommendations for establishing frameworks for monitoring across scales, from local to international.

*Monitoring Ecosystems* presents a critical examination of the lessons learned from direct experience along with generalized conclusions that can be applied to monitoring programs in the United States and around the world. It is a vital contribution to science-based monitoring efforts that will allow those responsible for developing and implementing ecoregional initiatives to make use of knowledge gained in previous efforts.

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"More than ever, land managers and scientists are recognizing that monitoring of complex ecological systems within a multi-agency, landscape setting is a critical but intellectually challenging aspect of effective stewardship. This important book summarizes the experience of leading ecologists who have pioneered the design and implementation of regional ecosystem monitoring programs, and presents examples of how an interdisciplinary, systems approach to monitoring has helped to resolve contentious and difficult resource problems."

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