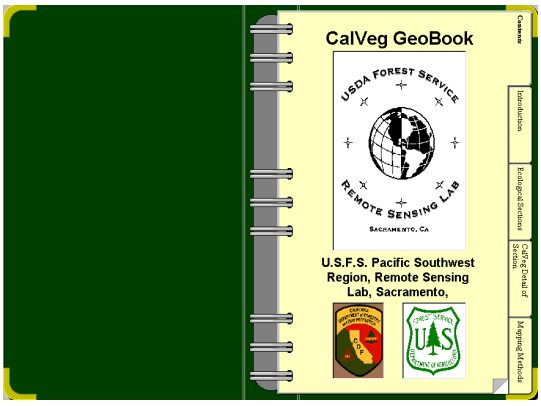
THE CALVEG GEOBOOK – A VISUAL TOOL FOR DESCRIBING VEGETATION INFORMATION DERIVED FROM REMOTELY SENSED DATA

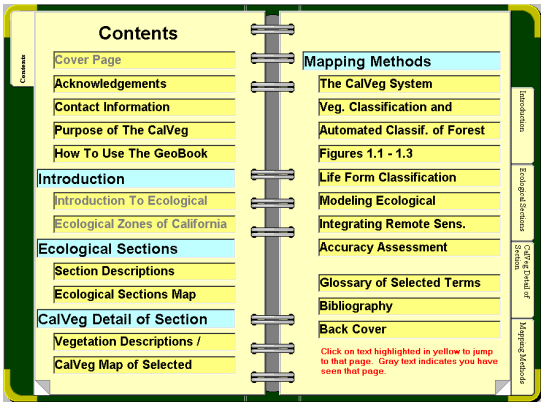
Hazel Gordon – Vegetation Ecologist
hgordon@fs.fed.us
Brian Schwind - Remote Sensing Specialist, Vegetation Mapping Project Leader
bschwind@fs.fed.us

USDA Forest Service
Pacific Southwest Region Remote Sensing Laboratory
1920 20th Street
Sacramento, CA 95814
fsweb.rsl.r5.fs.fed.us

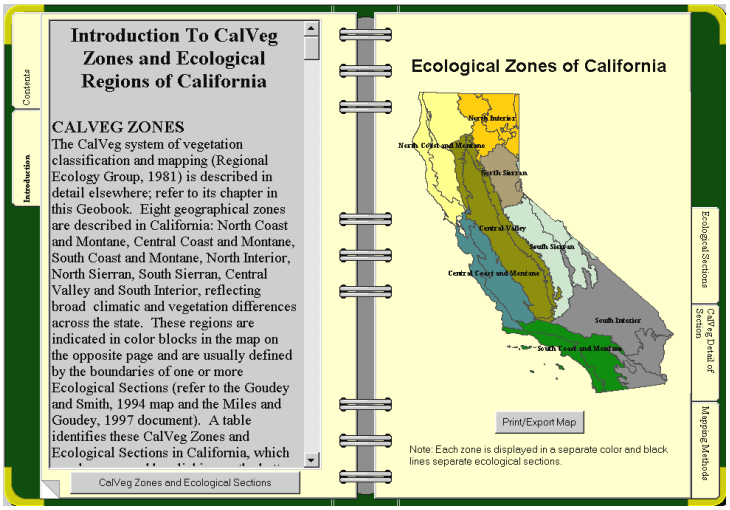
Agencies have been rapidly developing comprehensive and complex sets of information derived in part or wholly from remotely sensed data. These databases are intended to fill the information needs of many business processes and are frequently used by resource professionals that are far removed from the 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.

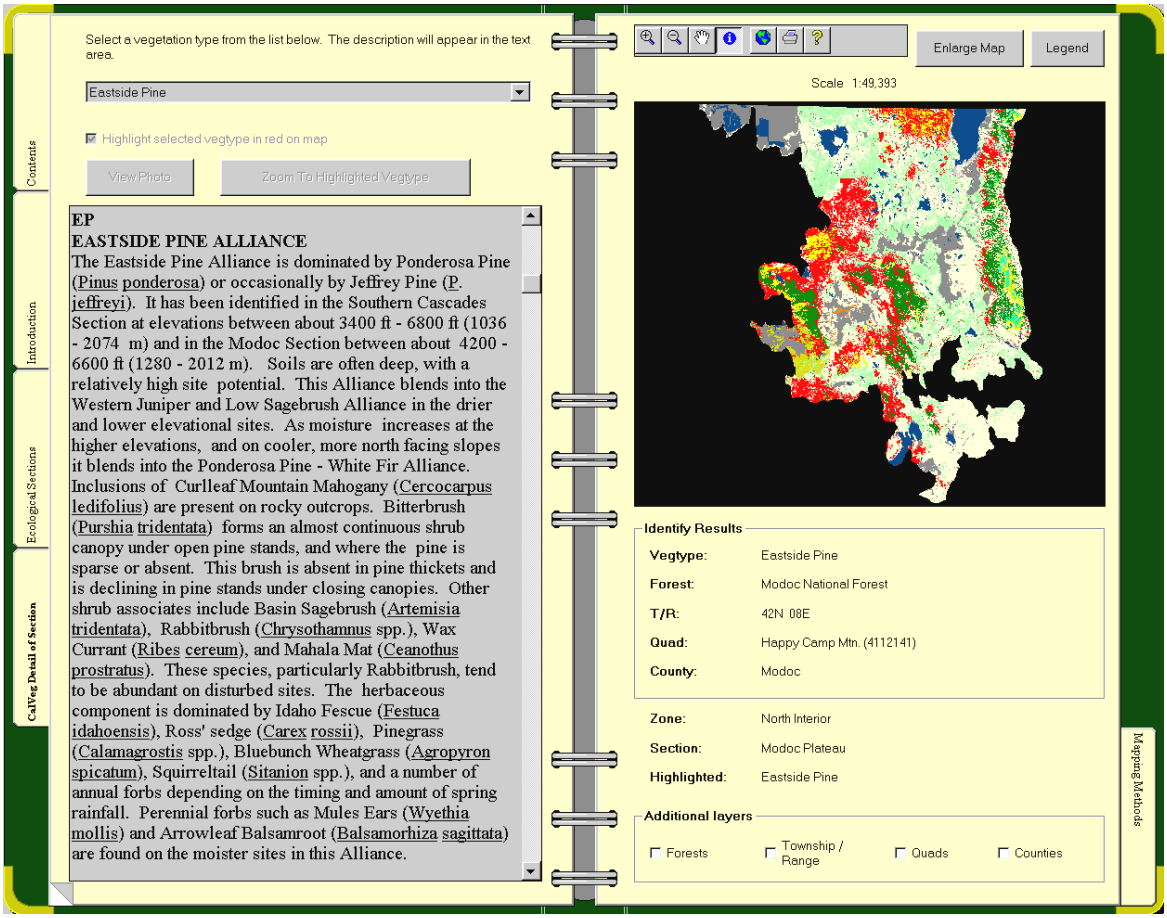
The content of the CalVeg Geobook is organized in an intuitive, book-like fashion for easy reference and use



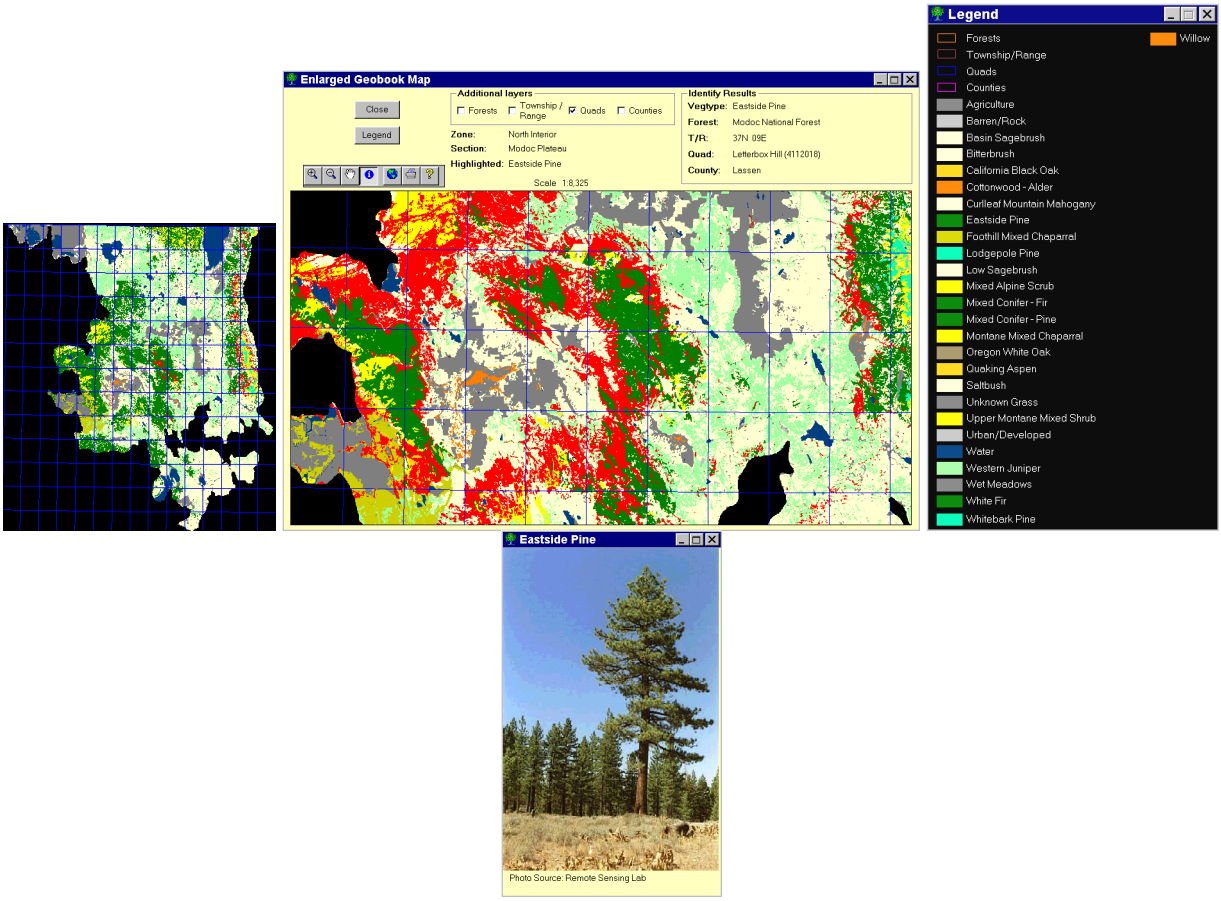


The user can easily navigate through the hierarchical arrangement of spatial data distribution and the vegetation classification system

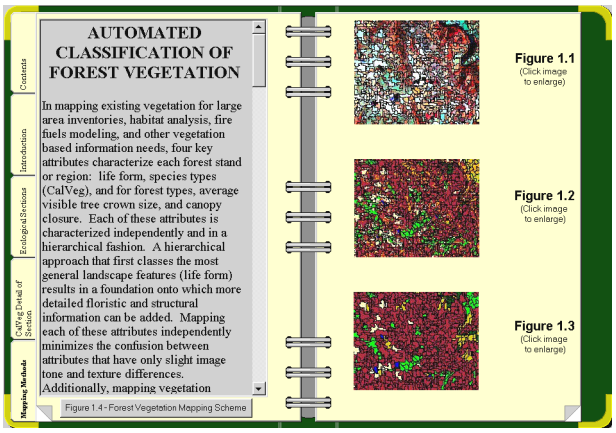


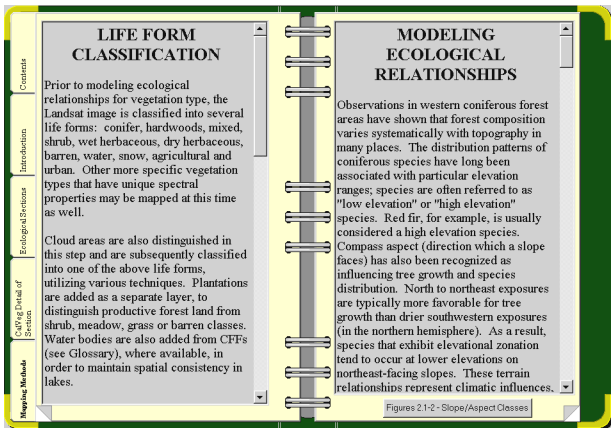


Several features exist to help the user better understand the vegetation floristics and their spatial context



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