



## **USDA-CSREES 2006 National Water Quality Conference**

### **Evaluation of Conservation Practices using Cumulative Effects Modeling and Interdisciplinary Approaches**

Reports on effectiveness monitoring at the watershed scale across the United States contain a mix of successes and failures. The reason for the failure to observe changes at the watershed may include incorrect sampling frequency, lack of spatial resolution in monitoring, less than optimal selection of location for conservation practices, too few conservation practices, and interference of other activities in the watershed. This presentation provides a first look at some of these reasons through an USDA-CSREES funded project as part of the CEAP Program. The watershed is Paradise Creek watershed located near Moscow, ID. Our data sets include long-term monitoring at the watershed outlet, bi-weekly sampling "before" and "after" practice implementation at eight locations within the watershed, and continuous monitoring in a nested watershed system. Digital maps of topography, soils and land use exist including a 10-year history of land use change and conservation practices. In this presentation, our objective is to provide an overview of all activities in the project including: statistical evaluation of monitoring data, geo-spatial modeling, socio-economic data collection, integrated modeling of physical, economic and social information, and data management.

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