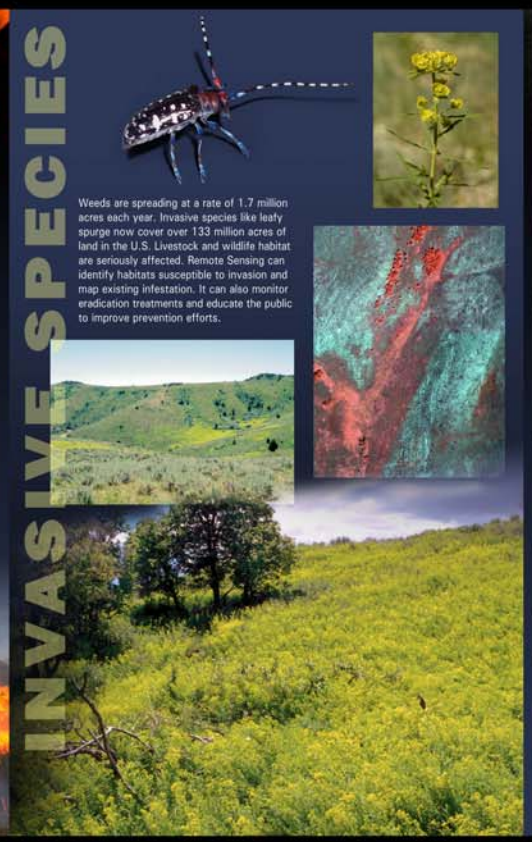
Supporting Resource Management with Technology

April 15 -17, 2008, Salt Lake City, Utah

FUELS AND FIRE

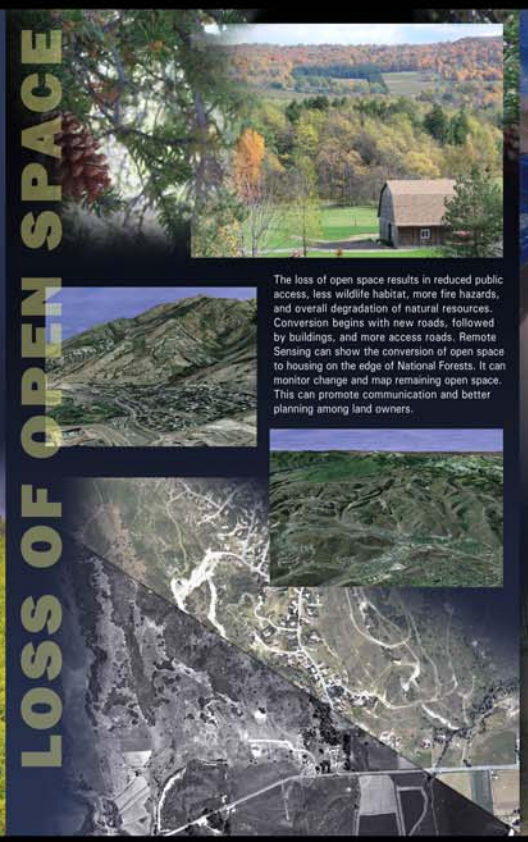
Fuel buildup over past decades led to a growing number of catastrophic fires. Many fires occur in the wildland-urban interface, threatening life and property. Remote Sensing facilitates identification of dangerous fuel accumulation and can help prioritize treatments to areas most prone to catastrophic fire. It can monitor fuels reduction and show the extent and severity of burned areas following a fire.

INVASIVE SPECIES



Weeds are spreading at a rate of 1.7 million acres each year. Invasive species like leafy spurge now cover over 133 million acres of land in the U.S. Livestock and wildlife habitat are seriously affected. Remote Sensing can identify habitats susceptible to invasion and map existing infestation. It can also monitor eradication treatments and educate the public to improve prevention efforts.

LOSS OF OPEN SPACE



The loss of open space results in reduced public access, less wildlife habitat, more fire hazards, and overall degradation of natural resources. Conversion begins with new roads, followed by buildings, and more access roads. Remote Sensing can show the conversion of open space to housing on the edge of National Forests. It can monitor change and map remaining open space. This can promote communication and better planning among land owners.

UNMANAGED RECREATION

Damage from unmanaged recreation, such as driving off-highway vehicles in closed areas, causes many problems. New trails created by OHV users increase soil erosion, destroy wildlife habitat, and introduce noxious weeds. Remote Sensing can identify areas where OHV users are creating new unauthorized trails across previously unimpacted areas. It can show impact to user groups and land management agencies alike, and prioritize problem areas.

Sponsored by:
Forest Service - Intermountain Region
Bureau of Land Management
NASA

Remote Sensing Applications Conference RS-2008

www.fs.fed.us/eng/rsac/rs2008

Contact:
Remote Sensing Applications Center
801-975-3750