

Baker Center Energy and Environment Forum

Thursday, January 30, 2013 - 3:30-5:00 pm
Toyota Auditorium, Howard Baker Center
1640 Cumberland Avenue, UT Campus

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Studying and managing multiple ecosystem services in an agricultural landscape

Agricultural landscapes can provide multiple ecosystem services, including food, high quality freshwater, opportunities for recreation, and flood control. Yet, a narrow focus on food production can unintentionally undermine the delivery of other key services. I will present a new framework to quantitatively link landscape planning, biodiversity, and multiple ecosystem services and will apply it to study an agricultural landscape in southern Quebec. This framework shows how landscape configuration affects biodiversity and the provision of several ecosystem services. I will use this framework to focus on interactions – especially trade-offs – between ecosystem services, and how we can manage these trade-offs to ensure provision of multiple services in multi-functional landscapes.

