

Presentation Information

Presenter	Gerald Urquhart
Title	Globalization and the Connection of Remote Communities: Conservation Implications on Nicaragua's Mosquito Coast
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Abstract: <p>The forces of globalization are increasingly penetrating the remote communities of the world and are likely to affect local natural resources in complex and profound ways. Remote communities are those that lie at the periphery of existing global networks of commerce, migration, and technology. Several communities along Nicaragua's Mosquito Coast are increasingly integrated due to various infrastructure projects. We present evidence of change in three ways. First, using these communities as case studies and relying on a rich, yet diverse literature, we review the household effects of changing market access, migration, and technology in remote regions as they relate to effects on local natural resources. Results indicate that while we have some understanding of the major drivers and outcomes of global connection, little is known about the pathways and processes of change. Second, we also present preliminary results on the effects of new infrastructure development on agricultural and fish markets, employment, and social capital. Finally, because this study is in its very early stages, we discuss the challenges of studying coupled human and natural systems and ideas for moving forward.</p>	