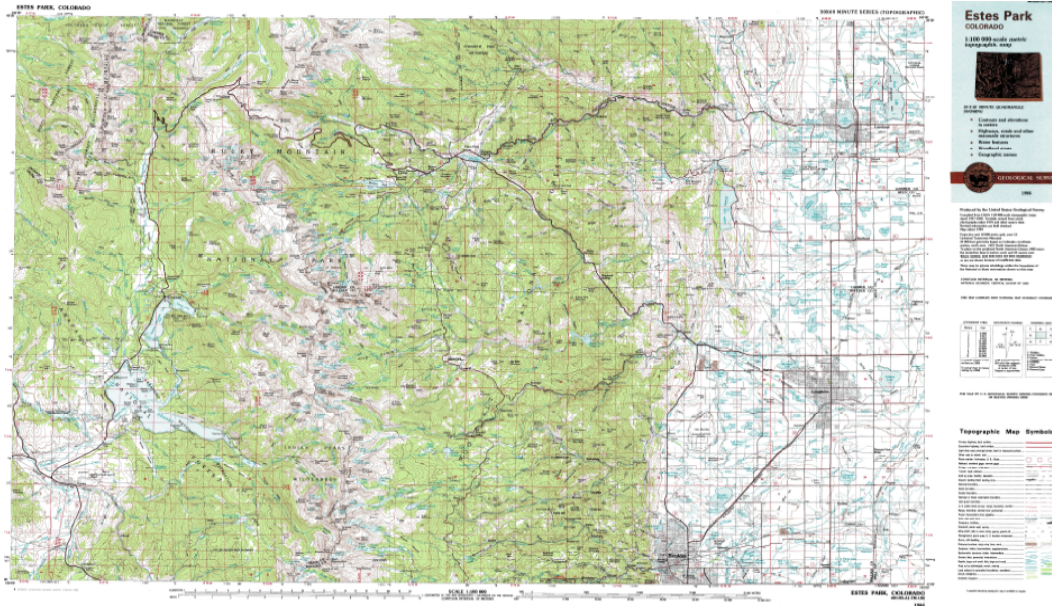


GEO111 Physical Geography

Northern Colorado Biome Project



For this project you will analyze, study & interpret the Biomes in the geographic area of the 30x60 Minute Quadrangle of Estes Park, Colorado. Your finished product should be a compiled map and write-up showing Climate Graphs and appropriate Biomes.

You may work in groups, BUT REMEMBER: If you copy another students work, both of you, the “copier” and the “copied” will receive 50%. YOU SHARE THE WORK, YOU SHARE THE GRADE!!! If more than one student is involved in the copying, the

grade will be prorated accordingly, e.g., 3 students = 33% each, 4 students = 25% each, and so forth! Be especially careful when you work on assignments in a group with other students. (Note: You may share DATA that was collected together, you MAY NOT SHARE WRITE-UPS).

- Obtain the Topographic Map: ESTES PARK, CO Scale: 1:100,000 Content: Contours
 Alternate ID: TCO2235 ISBN: 978-0-607-13246-5
 Version Date: 1984 Latitude: 40° 0' 0" N to 40° 30' 0" N
 Longitude: 106° 0' 0" W to 105° 0' 0" W

Ordering over the Internet may be a good idea (Example <http://store.usgs.gov>). Order early so you wont get into a time crunch.

- Obtain Climate Data (Monthly Average Temp. & Precip.) for areas on the Map. Cities such as Boulder, Estes Park, Loveland, etc. should be easier to come by than remote locations. These may not be readily available and you need to rely on your research ingenuity. You are allowed and even encouraged to share GOOD resources with the rest of the class.
- Construct Climate Graphs using EXCEL. These graphs are eventually cut out and pasted in the appropriate location of your shaded map. Use the graphs to indicate climate zones (e.g., Bs) on the map. Use the climate zones AND vegetation (Google Earth) to derive at the BIOME. Good resources in your book are figure 16.72, p. 556,557; table 16.2, p.558 and climate zones described in appendix B, p.591.
- Use soil survey data as part of your biome interpretation. A good source for starters is the Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS) data base from the US Department of Agriculture. See <http://www.nrcs.usda.gov> For Basic Soil Science and Explanation peruse ch.15 in your textbook.
- Shade in the Biome on the Map and create a Key or Legend. Explain each Biome in the write-up including climate, vegetation and animal life.
- Make sure you have EXCEL produced data tables of climographs in your write-up. Don't forget the source!
- In your write-up, explain if your established BIOMES correspond with elevation (Contour Lines). Are there any other influences, such as orographic or adiabatic processes which influence BIOMES?
- Cite any references you are using. The more references you use, the higher the grade for this segment. Citation style is up to you, just tell me which one you are using and be consistent. True library references will be scored much higher than internet references. Certain internet references will be UNACCEPTABLE, such as wikipedia.org. Acceptable references should either point to a data base of published articles (e.g., google books) or have the extension EDU in their title. If in doubt, CHECK WITH THE INSTRUCTOR by bringing a printed sample page with indicated reference to class.