

Project Summary
Rocky Mountains Cooperative Ecosystem Studies Unit

Project Title: Ecology and Persistence of Sylvatic Plague in Phillips County,
Montana

Type of Project: Research

Funding Agency: BLM

Other Partners/Cooperators:

Effective Dates: 7/11/2002 to 1/31/2004

Funding Amount: \$10,000.00

Investigators and Agency Representative:

Agency: Marc Whisler, BLM, MSO, PO Box 3680, Billings, MT 59107; 406 896-5024

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Project Abstract:

The BLM, Montana State Office and The University of Montana, will work cooperatively to quantify the differences in disease prevalence and host-vector assemblages associated with prairie dog colonies with a history of sylvatic plague activity, those without a history of plagues, and similar off-colony sites. The length of time that the causative agent (*Yersinia pestis*, a bacteria) is likely to persist in an area following and epizootic among prairie dogs will also be explicitly examined.

Outcomes with Completion Dates:

Interim Reports: September 2002 and 2003

Final Thesis: January 2004

Keywords: Sylvatic Plague, prairie dogs

For Administrative Use Only:

Date Annual Report Received:

Date Final Report Received:

Publications, etc. on file: