

**Rocky Mountains Cooperative Ecosystem Studies Unit  
Project Summary**

**Project Title:** River Conditions Tool Geographic Expansion

**Discipline:** Natural

**Type of Project:** Technical Assistance/Research

**Funding Agency:** U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

**Other Partners/Cooperators:** Montana State University

**Student Participation:** Yes

**Effective Dates:** Sept 1 2020 – Aug 31 2022

**Funding Amount:** \$24,999

**Investigators and Agency Representative:**

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**Project Abstract:**

The Upper Missouri Headwaters River Conditions Tool, created by USFWS Legacy Region 6 Science Applications, is a publicly accessible web tool where planned data management and the integration of scattered information has been accomplished in the geography of 8 watersheds in Montana. The objective of this project is to expand the current web tool coverage area geography to 8-10 watersheds of Montana, 1-2 watersheds in Wyoming, and possibly other watersheds in Montana or its adjacent states. Upon completion, geographic expansion would further support drought management thus, further benefiting Science Applications program priorities; at-risk species (ie. cutthroat trout, Arctic grayling), riverine systems in the sage-steppe (and possibly grassland) landscape, and multi-jurisdictional partnerships of a large geography. Not doing this project would be a missed opportunity to provide land owners, land/watershed managers, scientists, and recreationalists to have access to the real-time conservation tool that already exists for their neighbors.