## Project Summary Rocky Mountains Cooperative Ecosystem Studies Unit

Project Title: Charles M. Russell NWR Bird Inventory

Type of Project:Technical Assistance/ResearchDiscipline:Natural ResourcesFunding Agency:US Fish and Wildlife ServiceOther Partners/Cooperators:University of MontanaEffective Dates:10/14/2014 - 7/31/2018Funding Amount:\$69,960

## Investigators and Agency Representative:

FWS Contact: Randy Matchett, USFWS, 333 Airport Road, Lewistown, MT 59457; 406-535-2800 ext. 17; randy\_matchett@fws.gov

Investigator: Vicky Dreitz, Director, Avian Science Center, 32 Campus Drive, University of Montana, Missoula, MT 59812, 406/529-4557; victoria.dreitz@umontana.edu

**Project Abstract:** The Avian Science Center (ASC) will collect information about bird resources on the Charles M. Russell National Wildlife Refuge (CMR). Study design and data collection will follow procedures established by the Integrated Migratory Bird Program (IMBCR) and leverage data already collected in Montana to permit (1) refuge-wide density and/or occupancy estimates for a much larger number of species, (2) comparison of bird populations on CMR to those at state and regional scales, (3) establish long-trend monitoring at local and regional scales, and (4) provide robust estimates despite variability in sampling intensity from year to year.

## Outcomes with Completion Dates: October 15, 2018

**Keywords:** bird monitoring, US Fish and Wildlife Service, Charles M. Russell National Wildlife, University of Montana, The Avian Science Center