

## **Project Summary**

### **Rocky Mountains Cooperative Ecosystem Studies Unit**

**Project Title:** Development of Tools to Integrate Restoration Activities in the National Park Service

**Type of Project:** Technical Assistance

**Funding Agency:** National Park Service

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

**Effective Dates:** 8/20/2004 - 12/31/2005

**Funding Amount:** \$32,200

**Investigators and Agency Representative:**

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**Project Abstract:**

The inventory and assessment effort will produce defensible bases for the development of a park-wide disturbed area restoration plans and enable meaningful linkages with I&M efforts and Watershed Condition assessments; these latter linkages will facilitate articulating Servicewide needs and priorities. In addition, data collected during these processes will be collated at a national level for the development of a "certified" database for performance management reporting purposes. This will then serve as a defensible means to report to the DOI Strategic Plan goals for land health.

As part of the performance management planning and reporting, parks will be required to prepare new Resource Stewardship Plans that contain well-developed Desired Future Conditions. The Department of Forest, Rangeland, and Watershed Stewardship input to developing guidance for parks on preparing DFC's will be valuable. Finally, a cooperatively developed outline of future items will assist the continued development a comprehensive NPS Restoration Program.

**Outcomes with Completion Dates:**

List of Products (due December 31, 2005): Tools that facilitate consistent restoration activities in parks and assist the integration of restoration programs in the NPS:

- Disturbed lands field inventory form and recommendations for data management framework;
- Steps to use data from the NPS Fire, Inventory and Monitoring, and Watershed Condition Assessment Programs to economically support disturbed land inventory and assessment protocols;
- An annotated list of key concepts based on current literature to facilitate guidelines for the development of Desired Future Conditions in NPS planning documents, and;
- A draft strategy to integrate current science with the continued development of NPS Restoration Programs.

**Keywords:** restoration, watershed condition assessment, disturbed area, NPS-Biological Resources Management Division, Colorado State University, Resource Stewardship Plans

**For Administrative Use Only:**

Date Annual Report Received:

Date Final Report Received:

Publications, etc. on file: