

Project Summary

Rocky Mountains Cooperative Ecosystem Studies Unit

Project Title: Mule Deer Genetic Relatedness Relative to Chronic Wasting Disease Prevalence and Spread in Rocky Mountain National Park
Type of Project: Research
Funding Agency: National Park Service
Other Partners/Cooperators: Colorado State University, UCLA
Effective Dates: May 30, 2004 - June 30, 2006
Funding Amount: \$14,631
Investigators and Agency Representative: NPS KEY OFFICIAL: Terry Terrell, Rocky Mountain National Park, 100 Highway 36, Estes Park, Colorado, 80517, ph 970-586-1394, terry_Terrell@nps.gov PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR: Bruce A. Wunder, Department of Biology, Colorado State University, Fort Collins, CO 80523, ph 970-491-5949, FAX: 970-491-0649, bwunder@lamar.colostate.edu
Project Abstract: This project will be an expansion of the test and cull program currently conducted by ROMO. With additional funding it will be possible to study genetic relatedness that may affect CWD prevalence. More importantly, researchers should be able to provide information on past movements and interaction of deer within ROMO and adjacent areas. Dr. Robert K. Wayne at the University of California at Los Angeles (UCLA) will perform the genetic characterization. Colorado State University, Department of Biology staff, will coordinate with park staff; prepare and ship samples; complete the analysis of data comparing genotypes, frequencies, distribution, and CWD positive individuals; and write and deliver reports.
Outcomes with completion dates: <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Progress reports, in the form of electronic mail and/or oral presentations, as CWD is detected among study animals, relatedness will be analyzed and findings submitted to the ROMO key contact, and appropriate ROMO Resource Management staff.2. One hard copy and one electronic copy of an annual report describing progress, due March 31, 2005, to be delivered to the ROMO key contact.3. One hard copy and one electronic copy of the final report, due March 31, 2006, to be delivered to the ROMO key contact, and one electronic copy is to be provided to the Rocky Mountains CESU.4. Annual and final reports will include analysis of genetic relatedness of the ROMO deer population and among groups therein.5. An oral presentation will be provided to the ROMO staff describing the research findings and the resulting management implications of this work.6. At least one publication in a professional journal is anticipated, but not required, from this work.
Keywords: chronic wasting disease, mule deer, genetics, Rocky Mountain National Park, Colorado State University
For Administrative use only: <i>Date Annual Report Received:</i> <i>Date Final Report Received:</i> <i>Publications, etc. on file:</i>