

Project Summary

Rocky Mountains Cooperative Ecosystem Studies Unit

Project Title: Analysis and Restoration Design of Former Flagg Ranch Site
Discipline: Natural
Type of Project: Technical Assistance
Funding Agency: National Park Service
Other Partners/Cooperators: Colorado State University
Effective Dates: 8/25/2005 - 12/30/2007
Funding Amount: \$25,075.00

Investigators and Agency Representative:

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Investigator: David J. Cooper, Dept of Forest, Rangeland and Watershed Stewardship, Colorado State University, Ft. Collins, CO 80523, 303 588-6426, dcooper@rm.incc.net

Project Abstract:

The National Park Service wishes to restore the Snake River floodplain in John D. Rockefeller Memorial Parkway, to a wetland and upland ecosystem complex with native plants and natural hydrologic and geomorphic processes. The Ranch construction required filling portions of the Snake River floodplain. The restoration will reconnect the Snake River and the floodplain in the study area, and allow native riparian plants to colonize, or be planted on site. The long-term goal is site restoration to a functioning floodplain-riparian ecosystem. The restoration will improve habitat along the Snake River corridor for large mammals and birds.

Colorado State University investigators will work with GRTE staff to monitor and measure current floodplain condition and hydrology, and will then recommend a plan for site restoration. The three studies to be completed by CSU are: (1) historic air photo analysis of the Flagg Ranch area, (2) on-site analysis of water table depths and water geochemistry throughout the Flagg Ranch area, (3) air photograph and on-site analyses of several Snake River reaches that could serve as topographic, hydrologic, and ecological references for the Flagg Ranch restoration project.

Outcomes with Completion Dates:

Colorado State will prepare four separate reports bundled together as our final submittal to the National Park Service. These are (1) historical site analysis, (2) analysis of site water levels and soils, (3) reference site analysis, and (4) the restoration plan. All reports due 12-30-2007.

Keywords: historical site analysis, restoration, water, soil, restoration plan, Flagg Ranch, Grand Teton National Park, Colorado State University

For Administrative Use Only:

Date Annual Report Received:
Date Final Report Received:
Publications, etc. on file: