

## Project Summary

### Rocky Mountains Cooperative Ecosystem Studies Unit

<b>Project Title:</b> Wildland Urban Interface Education Coordination
<b>Type of Project:</b> Education
<b>Funding Agency:</b> National Park Service
<b>Other Partners/Cooperators:</b> Colorado State University
<b>Effective Dates:</b> July 15, 2004 - December 31, 2006
<b>Funding Amount:</b> \$27,000
<b>Investigators and Agency Representative:</b> <b>NPS KEY OFFICIAL:</b> Scott Sticha, Rocky Mountain National Park, 1000 Highway 36, Estes Park, Colorado 80517, (970) 586-1264, <a href="mailto:scott_sticha@nps.gov">scott_sticha@nps.gov</a>
<b>PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR:</b> Boyd Lebeda, Colorado State University, Colorado State Forest Service, Fort Collins, CO 80523, (970) 491-8445; <a href="mailto:blebeda@lamar.colostate.edu">blebeda@lamar.colostate.edu</a>
<b>Project Abstract:</b> Public interest generated by the Colorado wildfires in 2002 and especially the Big Elk Fire in July, which threatened communities near Estes Park, remains high and presents a great educational opportunity. In cooperation with the Colorado State Forest Service, the United States Forest Service-Arapaho & Roosevelt National Forests, Larimer County and the Estes Park Volunteer Fire Department, an interagency education initiative was launched in the Estes Valley in 2003. While much progress has been made in conducting interagency fire educational efforts, providing a coordinated educational message remains a significant challenge. Educational outreach is a collateral duty assignment for most agency personnel and dispatches to out of area assignments during busy fire seasons further compounds the problem. Having a dedicated coordinator to address these problems should eliminate these obstacles and greatly enhance operational efficiency and provide a consistent educational program. The objective of this study is that the Colorado State Forest Service Fire Education Coordinator will facilitate effective internal and external interagency communications and provide unified educational programs to create awareness about fire management, fire ecology and defensible space concepts. CSU will also post NPS information to the Front Range Fuels Treatment Partnership web site to disseminate this educational information.
<b>Outcomes with completion dates:</b> List of Products: 1. Monthly progress reports, documenting number and type of public/media contacts, in the form of electronic mail or hard copy. 2. One hard copy and one electronic copy of an annual report describing progress, due December 31, 2005, to be delivered to the ROMO key contact. 3. One hard copy and one electronic copy of the final report, due December 31, 2006, to be delivered to the ROMO key contact, and one electronic copy is to be provided to Kathy Tonnessen, RMCESU. 4. A least one oral presentation will be provided to the interagency fire education staff describing the status of the project. 5. Post NPS information to Web site.
<b>Keywords:</b> wildland urban interface, wildfire, Rocky Mountain National Park, Colorado State University, Colorado State Forest Service, fire education
<b>For Administrative use only:</b> Date Annual Report Received: Date Final Report Received: Publications, etc. on file: