

Project Summary
Rocky Mountains Cooperative Ecosystem Studies Unit

Project Title: Technical Assistance to the National Park Service Wildlife Health Team

Discipline: Natural
Type of Project: Technical Assistance
Funding Agency: National Park Service
Other Partners/Cooperators: Colorado State University
Effective Dates: 9/15/2007- 12/31/2013
Funding Amount: \$1,024,700 [add \$206,000 in FY08; add \$256,100 in FY09; add \$185,600 in FY10; add \$ 197,000 in FY11; add \$302,000 in FY12]

Investigators and Agency Representative:

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Project Abstract: Colorado State University Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory (CSUVDL) will work with the National Park Service to provide well trained technicians, students, and other staff that can maintain close collaboration with professional personnel at the laboratory and assist the NPS wildlife health team. CSUVDL will assign wildlife health technicians to support the NPS Wildlife Health Team to provide:

- Technical assistance on CWD projects at parks, including animal capture, field anesthesia, sampling of live animals, monitoring animal movements, postmortem examination, collection and handling of postmortem samples.
- Training to NPS staff on recognition of CWD, animal capture, field anesthesia, sampling of live animals, radio telemetry, postmortem examination, and collection and handling of postmortem samples.
- Technical assistance with maintaining wildlife health databases and sample archiving.
- Technical assistance to parks and regions for developing and implementing CWD surveillance and adaptive management programs.
- Coordinating with CSUVDL on CWD diagnostic work.
- Remaining up-to-date on national CWD research, surveillance, and literature.
- Technical assistance to parks, regions, and WASO in producing informational material on CWD for park staff and visitors.
- Assisting NPS wildlife health team on preparedness for, and potentially response to, HPAI (highly pathogenic avian influenza).
- Assisting NPS wildlife health team on other wildlife health projects and issues.

Outcomes with Completion Dates: Technical assistance, training, and consultation on collaborative wildlife health projects; Annual summary reports; Project completion report: July 31, 2014

Keywords: Wildlife Health, chronic wasting disease, highly pathogenic avian influenza, NPS- Biological Resource Management Division, Colorado State University, Veterinary Diagnostic Lab