

Project Summary

Rocky Mountains Cooperative Ecosystem Studies Unit

Project Title: National Natural Landmark Evaluations
Discipline: Natural Resources
Type of Project: Technical Assistance
Funding Agency: National Park Service
Other Partners/Cooperators: Colorado State University
Effective Dates: 9/15/2007-6/30/2012
Funding Amount: \$13,000

Investigators and Agency Representative:

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Investigator: Joe Stevens, Colorado Natural Heritage Program, Colorado Natural Heritage Program, 254 General Services Building, Colorado State University, Fort Collins, Colorado 80523, 970-491-7760, js@lamar.colostate.edu

Project Abstract: The National Natural Landmarks (NNL) Program, administered by the National Park Service (NPS), was established in 1962 to identify, recognize and encourage the preservation of sites containing some of the best remaining examples of biological and geological features that illustrate the Nation's natural heritage. NNL designation does not change ownership or require specific management of the site. Rather the partnership formed between the landowner(s) and the NPS through the designation, allows the NPS to be an advocate for and support the landowner's voluntary conservation efforts. Potential NNLs are evaluated using the NNL Program's national significance criteria, and designation is conferred by the Secretary of the Interior, with owner consent. Evaluation reports are completed by a qualified non-NPS scientist(s) (referred to as the Evaluator(s)) and include a site description, comparative analysis, and final recommendation. Activities associated with preparation of an evaluation report may include landownership research, consultation with landowners and other scientists, gathering known information about the site or resources, and site visits. Evaluation reports will be prepared in accordance with the "Guidelines for Evaluation of Potential National Natural Landmarks" June 2007, to be provided by the NPS Key Official.

The primary objectives for this cooperative agreement are to identify one or more Potential NNLs appropriate for evaluation and select evaluators whose expertise matches the natural features at the PNNLs. The PI on this agreement may or may not be the evaluator selected for completion of evaluation reports. Evaluators may include students or other faculty members at CSU. PNNL sites chosen for consideration will be located within one of the eight NPS Intermountain Region states (MT, WY, UT, CO, AZ, NM, TX, OK).

Outcomes with Completion Dates: Completion of evaluation reports for one or more Potential NNL sites as chosen by the Regional NNL Coordinator and PI. Each evaluation report prepared will involve at least the following submissions:

- o Preliminary Draft, two (2) print copies
- o Review Manuscript, five (5) print copies and an electronic version readable in MS Word or Adobe (pdf)
- o Final Deliverables:
 - Final Report, five (5) hardcopies, including all maps and graphics
 - Electronic copy of Final Report readable in Adobe (pdf) with digital images, graphics, and maps also submitted as individual files
 - All GIS data files associated with landmark boundary and landownership maps

Keywords: National Natural Landmarks Program, evaluations, Intermountain Region,
Colorado State University, Colorado Natural Heritage Program

For Administrative Use Only:

Date Annual Report Received:

Date Final Report Received:

Publications, etc. on file: