

## **Project Summary**

### **Rocky Mountains Cooperative Ecosystem Studies Unit**

**Project Title:** Administrative History of Great Sand Dunes National Park and Preserve

**Discipline:** Interdisciplinary  
**Type of Project:** Research  
**Funding Agency:** National Park Service  
**Other Partners/Cooperators:** Colorado State University  
**Effective Dates:** 10/15/2008 - 12/15/2010  
**Funding Amount:** \$30,000

**Investigators and Agency Representative:**

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**Project Abstract:** The 1997 thesis, "Ramparts of Sand: An Environmental History of Great Sand Dunes National Monument and the San Luis Valley" (Colorado State University, 181 pp.) is the most thorough history of GRSA to date. Yet this valuable document was completed before the establishment of the national park and preserve. Given the extraordinary natural and cultural significance of GRSA, an expansion of Geary's manuscript into a complete, publishable, administrative history of the park and preserve is not only warranted, but necessary. Therefore, this project will update the environmental history of Great Sand Dunes National Monument to reflect the elevated status of the site from monument to national park/preserve and to serve as the official NPS administrative history of GRSA. This work will provide a narrative foundation for public and governmental understanding of GRSA and will create a publishable manuscript that GRSA staff and researchers can use to pursue publication with a scholarly press, the WNPA, or an independent publisher.

**Outcomes with Completion Dates:**

*-First draft and complete bibliography due to NPS contacts: October 15, 2009*  
*NPS and external review comments due: December 15, 2009*  
*-Second draft due: March 15, 2010*  
*-Final NPS review comments due: April 15, 2010*  
*-Final manuscript package due, including photographs and maps: June 15, 2010*  
*-All final products received following any changes/reviews: December 15, 2010*

**Keywords:** environmental history, Great Sand Dunes National Park and Preserve, Colorado State University