

Project Completion Report Rocky Mountains Cooperative Ecosystem Studies Unit (RM-CESU)

Project Title: Southeast Coast Network Database Program, Continuation of CSURM-51 and CSURM-89, J2114060012

Project Code: *CSURM-153*; J2114090012

Type of Project : **Technical Assistance**

Funding Agency: National Park Service

Partner University: Colorado State University

NPS Agreement Technical Representative :

Tony Curtis
Coastal Ecologist
Southeast Coast Network
101 Wheeler Street
Saint Marys, GA 31558
Email: tony_curtis@nps.gov
TEL: 706.352.9295
FAX: 912.882.3816

Principal Investigator:

Jim Loftis
A207J Engineering Building
Colorado State University
Fort Collins, CO 80523-1372
Email: jim.loftis@colostate.edu
TEL: (970)491-2667
FAX: (970) 491-7727;

Start Date of Project: 7/1/2006

End Date of Project: 5/31/2012

Funding Amount: \$113,468

Project Summary:

Description of products and major milestones:

The CSU Research Associate has accomplished the following:

- Since commencing work in August 2010, has participated on the Southeast Coast Network's effort in inventory and map vegetation communities in National Parks as part of the National Vegetation Inventory Program.
- Developed the initial remote sensing photographic signature key for Carolina coastal

National Parks.

- Worked closely with Network Staff on updating the vegetation keys for parks within the Southeast Coast Network.
- Conducted initial scoping and photographic signature verification for 3 Carolina Parks and two Georgia Parks.
- Completed the initial remote sensing, identifying and mapping vegetative communities in 5 Southeastern US National Parks to the standards of the National Vegetation Classification System and the Federal Geographic Data Committee.
- Conducted the second field verification of photographic signatures of 5 Southeastern National Parks, including Cape Hatteras National Seashore, Cape Lookout National Seashore, Fort Sumter National Monument, Moore's Creek National Monument and Fort Pulaski National Monument.
- Participated in the development of the accuracy assessment standard operating procedures for National Vegetation Inventory Program in the Southeast Coast Network.
- Completed the final deliverables for Fort Sumter NM and Moore's Creek NM, including the GIS deliverables and two peer reviewed project reports. May be found at: <http://science.nature.nps.gov/im/units/SECN/reports.cfm> and <http://irma.nps.gov> (Both are public websites).
- Participated in two annual Network meetings, providing presentations to both.
- Drafted the standard operating procedure for monitoring change in bay-side coastal shorelines within the Southeast Coast Network

Number of students participating in this project: undergraduates, graduate students, degrees conferred.

There has been 1 participant in this project since its inception. No degrees conferred.

Lessons Learned from this project.

There was an extensive gap from initiation to actual RAs working on this project. This gap was created because of a delay in pre-project data acquisition. This delay did not have any impact on the current project or affect the RA's accomplishments to date.