

FINAL REPORT

**Rocky Mountains Cooperative Ecosystem Studies Unit (RM-CESU)
RM-CESU Cooperative Agreement Number: H2380040001 (WASO)
Task Agreement J2370090513**

May 31, 2010

Title of Project: Develop, verify, process, maintain, and document information in support of the National Park Service's natural resource-related data and information systems.

Name of Park/NPS Unit: WASO-NRPC

Name of University Partner: Colorado State University

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Background

The Natural Resource Program Center (NRPC) is a national-level office of the National Park Service (NPS) located in Fort Collins, Colorado. NRPC has traditionally provided student employment opportunities through its cooperative relationship with Colorado State University (CSU) in an effort to provide practical work experiences for students interested in Federal land management applications of geographic information systems (GIS), taxonomy, and data management. One way to introduce students to these activities is their direct participation in collecting, cataloging, and managing natural resource information for park units within the National Park System.

Duties performed by Student Interns

CSU students are assisting the NPS in acquiring, verifying, formatting, computerizing, maintaining, and disseminating NPS natural resource information. This assistance will help ensure that NPS has access to and applies the information it needs to make sound resource management decisions, and that this information is also available to researchers, cooperators, and the general public.

The Scope of Work (SOW) allowed for three GIS student intern positions and three natural resource data student interns. Following is a summary of duties performed during the period of performance.

GIS Student Intern

- DOQ Compression
 - Copying and aggregating data from the Base Cartography Archive; condensing data from CD media to DVD media for more efficient storage, and refreshing existing archive media to preserve data.
 - Generating park image mosaics from available NAIP compressed county mosaics (CCMs). Developing imagery and documentation; posting products to NPS Data Store.
 - Writing standard operating procedures to document inventory processes.
 - Populating database of Base Cartography Inventory data stocks.
- Assessment Pilot Project
 - All data for pilot parks were downloaded from the US Fish & Wildlife Service website, merged together and clipped, attribute tables formed and standardized, and project documenting database expanded and updated.
 - All parks and networks tasked for initial stages of the Watershed Condition Assessment project have been completed and posted to the NPS Data Store.
- Landscape Dynamics (NPScape) Project
 - Reviewed and validated standard operation procedures.

- Performed quality assurance on generated data sets.
 - Output standard deliverable products.
- Map Production Assistance
 - Assisted several NRPC data managers and scientists with assembling maps and GIS data for analysis.
- Performed other related duties as assigned, including office work such as making photo copies and compiling documents for workbooks.

Natural Resource Data Student Interns

- NPSpecies
 - Performed NPSpecies conversions, uploads, QA certifications, and re-certifications as required.
 - Prepared QA Certification Snapshot for NatureBib Archival.
 - Began migration of Certification Snapshots into new Species database format.
 - Downloaded the following datasets to be used in the new IRMA Match List Service: Breeding Bird Survey bird species list, Breeding Bird Survey with BBS codes, Fish and Wildlife Service bird list, NMFS Species of Concern and Marine Mammal Commission Species of Concern.
 - Updated Federal Threatened and Endangered Species List to be used in the new IRMA Match List Service.
 - Started gathering updates to the State Species of Concern lists.
 - Provided user testing of IRMA portal and proof-read help pages.
 - Reformatted NPSpecies semi-permanent and temporary Taxonomic Serial Numbers (TSN) names in to HTML. This data will be used by the IRMA Taxonomy Service in order to properly display scientific names on the IRMA Portal.
- Performed other related duties as assigned, including occasional light office work, such as making photo copies and compiling documents for workbooks.