

Project Summary

Rocky Mountains Cooperative Ecosystem Studies Unit

Project Title: Development of a Resource Stewardship Strategy for Pecos National Historical Park

Discipline: Interdisciplinary

Type of Project: Research

Funding Agency: National Park Service

Other Partners/Cooperators: Colorado State University

Effective Dates: 4/15/2010 - 2/28/2012

Funding Amount: \$51,996

Investigators and Agency Representative:

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Project Abstract: The purpose of this project is to prepare a Resource Stewardship Strategy (RSS) for Pecos National Historical Park that recommends science and scholarship based comprehensive strategies to achieve and maintain desired conditions of the park's natural and cultural resources. As a park program plan, the RSS serves as a linkage between the GMP and the park's foundation plan. The expert-reviewed comprehensive strategies in the RSS will aid the park in guiding its resource stewardship investments over the next 15 to 20 years and serve to focus these investments on the achievement and maintenance of desired conditions. The comprehensive strategies in the RSS will provide continuity to allocation decisions concerning park base personnel and financial resources spanning multiple five-year strategic planning cycles, and advance and coordinate both nonrecurring project funding and recurring park-base increase needs necessary for resource stewardship.

The RSS focuses on expert-reviewed comprehensive strategies to achieve and maintain desired conditions and does not detail the full range of actions or alternatives that may be considered in post-strategic plan implementation planning. These comprehensive strategies will be based on the best available science and resource knowledge. When the science or knowledge is insufficient for developing reliable strategies, the knowledge gaps will be identified and a comprehensive strategy for the acquisition of needed information and for learning and managing in the face of uncertainty will be identified in the RSS.

Through this agreement, the cooperator will play a key part in achieving a successful RSS. The specific objectives of this project are to:

1. Work with NPS to coordinate and conduct a series of workshops (see *statement of work* below) as part of the RSS content development.
2. Review existing RSSs and work with PECO Superintendent (project lead) to develop an outline that is consistent with RSS Guidelines, but emphasizes the interdisciplinary goals of a cultural resource park with significant natural resources.
3. Summarize information about resource conditions that will be incorporated into appropriate chapters of the RSS, identify knowledge gaps, and prepare materials for RSS workshops.
4. Develop content in areas of expertise in collaboration with NPS for final RSS.
5. Assemble and synthesize input from subject matter experts and NPS staff for the final RSS.

Outcomes with Completion Dates: 30 September, 2011

Keywords: Resource Stewardship Strategy (RSS), Pecos National Historical Park, Colorado State University

