

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

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

Project Code: J7500100013 CSURM-185

Type of Project (Research, Technical Assistance or Education): Technical Assistance

Funding Agency: National Park Service

Partner University: Colorado State University

NPS Agreement Technical Representative (with complete contact information):

Robert Bennetts; Program Manager, National Park Service, Southern Plains Network, 23510 CR 111.3, Moel, CO; 719/846-4663; robert_bennetts@nps.gov

Principal Investigators (with complete contact information):

Mark Fiege, Department of History, Colorado State University, Fort Collins, CO 80523
970-491-6468, mark.fiege@colostate.edu

Start Date of Project: 15 April, 2010

End Date of Project: 28 February, 2012

Funding Amount: \$51,996

Project Summary:

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. 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.

The specific objectives of this project included:

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.

Products completed as part of this project:

National Park Service and Public Lands History Center. 2011. Pecos National Historical Park: Integrated Resources Stewardship Strategy. Natural Resource Report NPS/PECO/NRR—2011/408. National Park Service, Fort Collins, Colorado.

https://irma.nps.gov/App/Reference/DownloadDigitalFile?code=432836&file=PECO_RSS_20110603_nrss_final.pdf

Number of students participating in this project: none

Lessons Learned from this project.

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. An emphasis of this project was the integration of natural and cultural resources in the development of the parks desired conditions and strategies for achieving those conditions. One of the primary lessons we learned was that integration must go beyond the mere inclusion of different disciplines and strive toward the recognition that these disciplines are completely intertwined; thus, the planning must be equally intertwined.