

Interim Project Report (3/23/11)

Rocky Mountains Cooperative Ecosystem Studies Unit (RM-CESU)

Project Title:

A Social Normative Study of Backcountry Visitor's Acoustic Expectations and Experiences in Denali Park and Preserve

Project Code: J9836100068, CSURM-206

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

Research Project

Funding Agency:

National Park Service

Partner University:

Colorado State University

NPS Agreement Technical Representative (with complete contact information):

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Start Date of Project:

- September 2010 – Begin working with DENA social scientist and staff to establish year one survey instrument and sampling plans
- June 2011 – Begin phase-one survey administration

End Date of Project:

- August 2012 – Finalize phase-two survey administration
- January 2013 – Final task agreement report submitted for review

Funding Amount:

Phase-one/Year 1 - \$59,948

Project Summary, including descriptions of project deliverables, work accomplished and/or major results. If the information is restricted (e.g. location of endangered species or cultural resources), indicate the title and location of the final report. Also add web sites where project-related information may be found.

Progress to Date:

- In September, 2010 the principal investigators (CSU PI and Graduate Students as well as RSG Project Researchers) worked with DENA staff and the Natural Sounds and Night Skies Division to establish a draft survey instrument that would meet the Park's research needs and objectives.
- After several discussions and draft survey instrument iterations with DENA staff, the principle investigators submitted a proposed phase-one survey instrument for OMB review in October, 2010.
- In December, 2010 the investigators travelled to DENA and met with staff at Park Headquarters for three days to advance development of the phase-one strategy, present concepts to park management, and work on the comprehensive logistics of surveying in Denali's backcountry.
- Regularly scheduled conference calls between the principal investigators and DENA staff have taken place throughout the spring, 2011 ensuring continued development of the project.
- An additional scoping trip is scheduled for May 1st – 6th, 2011 to work with DENA staff at the Talkeetna Ranger Station and Park Headquarters to establish specific protocols and sampling locations on the Kahiltna Glacier, Wonder Lake area and Triple Lakes Trail.

Number of students participating in this project:

Phase-one graduate student assistants:

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