

Project Summary

Rocky Mountains Cooperative Ecosystem Studies Unit

Project Title: A structured decision making approach to develop recovery objectives for endangered amphibian species

Discipline: Natural
Type of Project: Technical Assistance
Funding Agency: National Park Service
Other Partners/Cooperators: Colorado State University, USGS
Effective Dates: 7/1/2014 - 8/31/2105
Funding Amount: \$7,000

Investigators and Agency Representative:

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Project Abstract: Effective management of threatened and endangered species requires clear and transparent recovery objectives that are agreed upon by all stakeholders. Such objectives are necessary to assess progress toward recovery and to inform decisions made to advance recovery. A formal decision-making framework can, based on clear objectives, serve to improve the evaluation of potential recovery actions and the identification of optimal actions. We propose to revisit the 2001 Boreal Toad Conservation Plan and Agreement (Loeffler 2001) to revise and develop recovery objectives that reflect current stakeholder values and incorporate the large volume of demographic information that has been generated in the last decade, including population and occupancy-based studies (all funded in part by ARMI). We propose to take a formal, structured decision making approach to develop recovery objectives for boreal toads in Colorado. Stakeholders from federal regulatory and management agencies, as well as the States of Wyoming and New Mexico, will be included in the process. This collaborative approach will facilitate development of objectives that may be universally adopted in the eastern section of the species' range.

Outcomes with Completion Dates: Final Report - August 31, 2015

Keywords: Boreal Toads (*Anaxyrus boreas*), decision-making framework, 2001 Boreal Toad Conservation Plan and Agreement, Rocky Mountain National Park, Colorado State University