

# **National Park Service Project Completion Report Rocky Mountains Cooperative Ecosystem Studies Unit (RM-CESU)**

**Project Title:** Develop Communication Tools for Elk and Vegetation Management and Research

**Project Code:** P15AC01305, CSURM-319

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

**Funding Agency:** National Park Service

**Partner University:** Colorado State University

**NPS Agreement Technical Representative:** Therese Johnson, Rocky Mountain National Park  
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**Principal Investigator:** Dr. Cindy Christen, Department of Journalism and Media  
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**Start Date of Project:** August 1, 2015

**End Date of Project:** April 30, 2017

**Funding Amount:** \$18,000

**Project Summary**, including descriptions of products, 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. This project developed tools to communicate Elk and Vegetation Management actions and research results to the public. Park staff worked with two CSU undergraduate students and their professor to determine what tools and messages would best meet the park's communication objectives. The students synthesized research results and management actions and developed materials, which included 1) infographics for enclosure (fence) signs for four different vegetation conditions, 2) a Frequently Asked Questions brochure, 3) social media posts, and 4) a video. Park staff are currently working with the student's final products to produce materials that will be used and distributed.

**Number of students participating in this project:** Two undergraduate students

**Lessons Learned from this project:** Park staff did not have enough time available within the student's time frame to fully review the final communication tools that the student's developed. Final review and production is currently being completed by park staff.

**Other RM-CESU agencies or research partners who participated in this project:** None