

Project Summary
Rocky Mountains Cooperative Ecosystem Studies Unit

Project Title: Effective communication of Natural Resource Conditions in Parks

Discipline: Natural
Type of Project: Technical Assistance/Education
Funding Agency: National Park Service
Other Partners/Cooperators: Colorado State University
Student Involvement: No
Effective Dates: 09/21/2015 - 10/31/2018
Funding Amount: \$122,452 [FY16: \$43,376; FY15: \$79,076]

Investigators and Agency Representative:

NPS Contact: Dean Tucker, Natural Resource Specialist, NPS-Water Resources Division, 1201 Oakridge, Dr. Suite 250, Fort Collins, CO, 80525; dean_tucker@nps.gov

Investigator: Ashley Anderson, Department of Journalism and Media Communication, Fort Collins, CO 80523-1878; ashley.a.anderson@colostate.edu

Project Abstract: As part of a larger effort to communicate credible and useful science-based information regarding resource conditions and resource management issues in national park units and surrounding landscapes, the NPS Natural Resource Stewardship and Science Directorate (NRSS) manages a number of public communication venues: e.g., "NRR" report series, "Resource Briefs", and "Park Science. In this project, the NRSS and Colorado State University (CSU) will collaborate to maintain and strengthen the quality and effectiveness of NRSS resource condition reporting through these venues. Project work includes: a) document layout review, reforming, and technical editing support to publish reports that conform to NRSS publication standards and good technical journalism practices; and b) applied research to evaluate and recommend communication techniques, templates, and examples that enhance message delivery (re: resource conditions in parks and surrounding landscapes) to a variety of public audiences.

Keywords:

Colorado State University, National Park Service, Natural Resource Stewardship and Science Directorate, natural resource condition, communication, public audiences