

Project Summary
Rocky Mountains Cooperative Ecosystem Studies Unit

Project Title: Enhanced Wetland Monitoring Relative to Ungulate Management in Great Sand Dunes National Park and Preserve

Discipline: Natural
Type of Project: Research/Technical Assistance
Funding Agency: National Park Service
Other Partners/Cooperators: Colorado State University
Student Involvement: No
Effective Dates: 08/01/2015 - 12/31/2019
Funding Amount: \$105,000

Investigators and Agency Representative:

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Project Abstract:

This project focuses on evaluating and monitoring the response of wetlands to ungulate management, hydrology and climate change in GSDNP. It will provide both NPS scientists and managers AND outside scientist and the public with an understanding of how wetland and riparian communities regulated by weather and near surface hydrology respond to recent and greatly increased ungulate use as well as climate change and other stressors. This applies to wetlands in the park and in other areas in the San Luis Valley and other high elevation arid environments. The project also provides research, learning and seasonal employment opportunities for current and recent undergraduate and graduate students who will conduct the fieldwork.

Keywords:

Water resources, electronic data, public accessibility, Clean Water Act, Colorado State University