

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

**Project Title:** Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act Consultation and Repatriation, Fort Union National Monument

**Project Code:** UCOB-04 and UCOB-18; J1233040024

**Type of Project:** Research

**Funding Agency:** National Park Service

**Partner University:** University of Colorado Boulder

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**Start Date of Project:** September 15, 2004

**End Date of Project:** June 30, 2008

**Funding Amount:**

FY2004 Total Cost: \$30,450

FY2005 Total Cost: \$10,000

## **Project Summary:**

### 2004 Project Activities:

1. Draft cultural affiliation report;
2. Final affiliation report;
3. Draft federal register notice for completion of NAGPRA inventory for FOUN (see attached deliverable);
4. Facilitation of consultation meetings potentially leading to repatriation of park NAGPRA collections;

### 2005 Project Activities:

1. Finalize report to park on human remains (see attached deliverable);
2. Travel to consultation meeting to provide technical expertise on human remains analysis and historic context for the tribal participants and the park;
3. Provide reimbursement of costs to tribal members for their attendance at the consultation meeting.

## **Number of students participating in this project: undergraduates, graduate students, degrees conferred.**

Graduate student Brenda Kaye Todd participated in the project as did graduate student Katy Putsavage. The project helped Brenda to complete the requirements of her Masters degree in Anthropology (Archeology).

## **Lessons Learned from this project.**

The project was integral to Fort Union National Monument's (FOUN) compliance with the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA) and culminated in a request to the NAGPRA Review Committee (see NPS prepared Executive Summary attached). As a result of the project, FOUN hosted multiple consultation meetings, published a Notice of Inventory Completion, and repatriated Culturally Unidentifiable Native American human remains to the Jicarilla Apache Nation, New Mexico and Ute Mountain Tribe of the Ute Mountain Reservation, Colorado, New Mexico & Utah under NAGPRA. The FOUN project was the first in the Intermountain Region that included reburial of culturally unidentifiable Native American human remains.