Project Summary Rocky Mountains Cooperative Ecosystem Studies Unit

Project Title: Developing Education Curriculum for Grades 9-12 at Fort Davis NHS

Discipline: Interdisciplinary

Type of Project: Education

Funding Agency: National Park Service

Other Partners/Cooperators: University of Colorado at Denver

Effective Dates: 8/15/2007 - 6/30/2009

Funding Amount: \$11,000

Investigators and Agency Representative:

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Project Abstract: The University of Colorado-Denver, working cooperatively with Fort Davis National Historic Site, will prepare a resource-based curriculum for grades 9-12. This curriculum package will function as pre- and post-visit materials for those visiting the park, complementing the existing on-site, activities-based education programs; it will also be available on the park website for use by students and teachers not able to visit the park. In essence, this curriculum will constitute actual and virtual resource-based learning. The goal is to help students gain a better understanding and appreciation of the park and to find personal meaning in the park's resources; the new curriculum materials should foster both an understanding of the NPS mission and a life-long sense of stewardship.

Like all the units of the NPS, Fort Davis National Historic Site's natural and historic resources are powerful and rich. This project is being funded by a grant from the PARKS AS CLASSROOMS program, a highly successful education initiative designed: (1) to promote parks as learning laboratories to develop greater awareness, understanding, appreciation, and commitment to the preservation and/or restoration of the NPS and larger environment on which it depends; 2) to assist teachers in the development of appealing and interactive lessons that incorporate park resources. All Parks As Classrooms educational programming is curriculum based.

Outcomes with Completion Dates: Due by March 30, 2009, package of 10 worksheets or lessons of curriculum materials formatted in PDF on Windows-compatible CDs. Lessons will have corresponding answer sheets. From this format, the materials will be uploaded onto the park website for use by teachers in preparing for a field trip, as well as by those unable to bring students to the park.

Keywords: interpretation, Fort Davis NHS, curriculum, education, University of Colorado at Denver

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Date Annual Report Received: Date Final Report Received: Publications, etc. on file: