

## **Project Summary**

### **Rocky Mountains Cooperative Ecosystem Studies Unit**

**Project Title:** Teacher Ranger Teacher (TRT) Program Curriculum Support

**Discipline:** Interdisciplinary  
**Type of Project:** Education/Technical Assistance  
**Funding Agency:** National Park Service  
**Other Partners/Cooperators:** University of Colorado at Denver  
**Effective Dates:** 6/1/2011 – 6/30/2015  
**Funding Amount:** \$891,391 [FY13: \$686,200; FY12: \$186,496; FY11: \$18,695]

**Investigators and Agency Representative:**

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**Project Abstract:** The purpose of this position is to allow the teacher to more fully explore a national park to enrich his/her students with a clearer understanding and appreciation of park resources, and develop activities that will be used in the classroom during the school year. All teachers will be provided with general orientation to the mission and operation of the National Park Service.

Major Duties may include the following:

- Up to 30% of a TRT interns time can include the following: prepares and presents a variety of formal and informal programs including orientations talks, conducted walks, guided tours, slide programs, Junior Ranger programs, demonstrations, education programs for children and adults, roving interpretation, and campfire programs.
- Conducts independent research on varied topics for the purpose of providing resource education programs. Learns about park resources by attending in-park training, reading park research materials and maps, and by interviewing/shadowing other park rangers or staff, researchers, and other professionals.
- Works to identify and develop curriculum-based learning activities relevant to both park resources and the teaching needs of the school district or organization.
- Assists with data collection and other resource management efforts.
- Presents programs to other teachers, administrators, students, and schools during National Park Week.
- Provides statistics to the National Park Service for both in-park and in-classroom programs.
- Other agreed upon activities

This project will:

- Provide teachers with place-based learning experiences.
- Provide access to the rich resources of the national parks for inclusion into classrooms and schools.
- Provide teachers with new knowledge and teacher skills related to the resources and themes interpreted in the National Park Service.
- Provide parks with the expertise of teachers to inform and shape park education programs and services.

**Keywords:** Teacher Ranger Teacher (TRT), National Park Service- Intermountain Region, Rocky Mountain National Park, University of Colorado at Denver