

Project Summary

Rocky Mountains Cooperative Ecosystem Studies Unit

Project Title: Study of the effects of mountain goats on alpine vegetation in
Yellowstone NP

Type of Project: Research

Funding Agency: National Park Service

Other Partners/Cooperators: Montana State University

Effective Dates: 1/1/1999 - 6/30/2007

Funding Amount: \$46,500

Investigators and Agency Representative:

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NP, Wyoming, ph 307-344-2151. mary_hektner@nps.gov

Investigator: Tad Weaver, Montana State University, Bozeman, MT 59717-3120, and John
Aho, graduate student, Montana State University

Project Abstract: This project will study cliff and alpine plant communities to record
different types of plant communities and their habitat requirements with respect to
substrate and water gradients. These systems are sensitive to disturbance by mountain
goats, a non-native species now invading the Washburn Range and the Northern Absarokas
in the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem. The researchers will also investigate possible
changes in plant species and habitat given recent and potential changes in climate.

Outcomes with Completion Dates:

List of Products: Ph.D. Thesis by John Aho, Ph.D. student at Montana State University.

Keywords: mountain goats, alpine vegetation, Yellowstone National Park, Gardiner
Basin, Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem, Montana State University.

For Administrative Use Only:

Date Annual Report Received:

Date Final Report Received:

Publications, etc. on file: