Project Summary
Rocky Mountains Cooperative Ecosystem Studies Unit

Project Title: Aircraft Overflight Education
Discipline: Social Science
Type of Project: Education
Funding Agency: National Park Service
Other Partners/Cooperators: Montana State University
Effective Dates: 6/2/2006 – 3/15/2007
Funding Amount: $4972
Investigators and Agency Representative:
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Project Abstract:
The Devils Tower National Monument tends to draw aircraft towards it. Its stunning location and vertical height make it a site in which aircraft tend to get closer than they should. The aircraft pose noise pollution, which contradicts the quiet nature of the area, and conflicts with the religious significance of the site for twenty-two American Indian tribes. While park personnel can sometimes record the registration number ("N number" or "tail number") of the aircraft and work with the Federal Aviation Administration to contact pilots of their previous proximity to the Tower, this occurs after the transgression has occurred.
The goal of this project is for Montana State University to work cooperatively with Devils Tower National Monument in the preparation of a site bulletin that can be used to educate pilots so that they do not fly within the sensitive areas around Devils Tower. This project will also include a distribution plan for the bulletin, including a plan to work with agencies such as the Federal Aviation Administration.

Outcomes with Completion Dates:
1) Draft of site bulletin and distribution strategies (to be completed by 8/31/06)
2) Final site bulletin and distribution strategies (to be completed by 10/31/06)

Keywords: aircraft overflights, education bulletins, pilots, Devils Tower NM, Montana State University, Western Transportation Institute

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