

Project Summary

Rocky Mountains Cooperative Ecosystem Studies Unit

Project Title: Operational and technical support for Vital Signs Monitoring in the Greater Yellowstone Network Inventory and Monitoring Program

Discipline: Natural

Type of Project: Technical assistance

Funding Agency: National Park Service

Other Partners/Cooperators: Montana State University

Effective Dates: September 1, 2007- December 30, 2009

Funding Amount: \$44,253

Investigators and Agency Representative:

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Project Abstract: The Big Sky Institute at Montana State University will work with the Greater Yellowstone I&M network to accomplish the following network support for protocols, communications and workshops:

- Compile monitoring protocols (all or in part) by completing literature reviews, proof-reading and editing manuscripts, publishing protocols via MSU publications office and the NPS Natural Resource Report series.
- Update and maintain NPS service-wide databases (NPSPECIES, NatureBib, and NPSTORET) with natural resource related information.
- Prepare sample designs and associated metadata using Geographic Information Systems.
- Host workshops and meetings with NPS and university collaborators.
- Test methods and written protocols through the implementation of pilot projects which include field data collection, data management, analysis and reporting.
- Provide logistical support to field projects such as communications (satellite phone) and transportation.
- Facilitate the development of communication products through independent sources.
- Communicate resource status and trends through Greater Yellowstone Science Learning Center communication products, posters, presentation and other suitable communication reports and papers

Outcomes with Completion Dates: (1) Annual progress report September 20, 2008; (2) Final progress report September 20, 2009

Keywords: Montana State University, Greater Yellowstone I&M network, protocols, workshops