Project Summary Rocky Mountains Cooperative Ecosystem Studies Unit

Project Title: Creating Information Products for the Greater Yellowstone Science

Learning Center, a Centennial Challenge Project

Discipline: Natural Resources
Type of Project: Education

Funding Agency: National Park Service

Other Partners/Cooperators: Montana State University

Effective Dates: 9/15/2008 - 12/1/2009

Funding Amount: \$23,000

Investigators and Agency Representative:

NPS Contact: Ann Rodman, Center for Resources, PO Box 168, Yellowstone National Park, WY 82190; 307-344-2216, ann_rodman@nps.gov

Investigator: John Varley, Big Sky Institute, 107 AJM Johnson Hall, Montana State University, Bozeman, MT 59717; 406-994-5320, john_varley@montana.edu

Project Abstract: Yellowstone and Grand Teton National Parks, Bighorn Canyon National Recreation Area, the Rocky Mountains CESU, and the Greater Yellowstone I&M Network are collaborating with universities, nonprofits and other partners to develop a Greater Yellowstone Science Learning Center (GYSLC). The goals of GYSLC are to connect parks, science, and people by facilitating research, promoting active partnerships, integrating science into park management, engaging citizen scientists, and providing science outreach and educational opportunities. In support of those goals, the GYSLC and Montana State University's Big Sky Institute (BSI) will work together to accomplish the following tasks: (1) research and develop 24 new information products for the GYSLC. The majority of these products will be about the resources in BICA and GRTE, (2) make easily accessible the results of research and monitoring to assist park managers in science-informed decision making through the GYSLC web site. Big Sky Institute will provide administrative support to the overall project by hiring and supervising personnel who are assigned responsibility for these objectives

Outcomes with Completion Dates: The content development will take place during winter 2008-2009. Information products from this effort will be posted to the GYSLC website as completed but by 1 December 2009 at the latest:

30 November 2008: final draft website content products for 6 topics

31 January 2009: final draft website content products for 6 topics

31 March 2009: final draft website content products for 6 topics

31 May 2009: final draft products for 6 topics

Keywords: Greater Yellowstone Science Learning Center, Grand Teton NP, Bighorn Canyon NRA, web content, Centennial Challenge, Yellowstone National Park, Montana State University