

## **Project Summary**

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

**Project Title:** Surveys for Threatened and Special Status Raptor Species for Grand Canyon National Park Fire and Aviation Program

**Type of Project:** Technical Assistance  
**Funding Agency:** National Park Service  
**Other Partners/Cooperators:** Montana State University  
**Effective Dates:** 5/1/2008 - 7/1/2010  
**Funding Amount:** \$79,795 [add \$38,775 in FY09]

**Investigators and Agency Representative:**

NPS Contact: RV Ward, Grand Canyon National Park, Division of Science and Resource Management, PO Box 129, Grand Canyon, AZ 86023, (928) 638-7756, RV\_Ward@nps.gov

Investigator: David W. Willey, Montana State University, Department of Ecology, 310 Lewis Hall, Bozeman, MT 59717, (406) 994-5319, willey@montana.edu

**Project Abstract:**

This is a multi-year project to collect and report field data on the presence or absence and reproductive status of Mexican spotted owls (MSO) and northern goshawks (NOGO) in Grand Canyon NP. The 2008 surveys will be conducted in four prescribed burn units on the North Rim, for a total of 7,202 acres. Surveys will be performed to the specifications identified in federal and NPS protocols.

Surveys will be performed in compliance with the Endangered Species Act Section 7 (a)(2), and in accordance with the National Park Service 2001 Management Policies ([www.nps.gov/policy/mp/policies.html](http://www.nps.gov/policy/mp/policies.html)) chapter 4.4.2 (Management of Native Plants and Animals) and chapter 4.4.2.3 (Management of Threatened or Endangered Plants and Animals).

Grand Canyon National Park will work with the cooperator who will provide manpower, equipment, and services to perform all tasks necessary for the completion and documentation of Mexican spotted owl and northern goshawk surveys for the Fire and Aviation program.

**Outcomes with Completion Dates:**

- Provide bi-weekly progress reports while field work is on going that include: 1) completed survey stations with actual start and completion dates, 2) planned survey start and completion dates, 3) Results of surveys plus any other additional findings, especially the date, UTM locations, and reproductive status (if known) of any MSO or NOGO detected.
- Provide 2 copies of all field data and maps in binders to be deposited in the Park.
- Provide an ArcView 3.2a Project and corresponding shape files which show project boundaries, survey stations, and locations of species of concern (all raptors detected).
- Prepare a draft and subsequent final report that contains a description of the project, analysis of the results, and discussion of the material, in a format acceptable to the NPS (interim reports are due at the end of year project year; the final report is due by February 15, 2010).

**Keywords:** Mexican spotted owl, northern goshawk, wildlife surveys, prescribed fire, Grand Canyon National Park, Montana State University, threatened and endangered species