

Project Summary

Rocky Mountains Cooperative Ecosystem Studies Unit

Project Title: Evaluating 2009 Non-Motorized Pathway Use in Grand Teton National Park

Discipline: Social Science
Type of Project: Technical Assistance
Funding Agency: National Park Service
Other Partners/Cooperators: Montana State University
Effective Dates: 8/1/2009- 9/1/2010
Funding Amount: \$5,000

Investigators and Agency Representative:

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Project Abstract: The 2006 Transportation Plan for Grand Teton National Park proposed 22.5 miles of multi-use pathways outside the road corridor, to enhance safety and mobility for travelers using non-motorized modes of in the most visited and developed areas of the park. As part of this effort, park management officials would like to understand the relationship between multi-use pathways and visitor use patterns. The goal of this research project is to collect data on non-motorized user distributions, volume, and user types to determine the pathways' effects on visitor use and experience. The evaluation will collect data regarding non-motorized use along the Teton Park Road corridor in 2009. This will be compared with data collected in the spring and summer of 2007 (pre-pathway) and ultimately with similar data planned for collection in 2010 (post-pathway).

In 2007 the Western Transportation Institute at Montana State University (WTI) administered surveys and counted non-motorized travelers in April and August along Teton Park Road to assess pre-pathway conditions (Gleason and McGowen 2009). The objective of this phase is to bridge the gap between data collected in 2007 (baseline data) and data planned for collection in 2010.

Outcomes with Completion Dates: The final report is due by May 31, 2010

Keywords: Grand Teton National Park, Western Transportation Institute, Montana State University, visitor questionnaire, transportation planning, adaptive management plan