

Project Summary

Rocky Mountains Cooperative Ecosystem Studies Unit

Project Title: Research and Document NPS-Era Agricultural Practices at Grant-Kohrs Ranch NHS

Discipline: Natural
Type of Project: Technical assistance
Funding Agency: National Park Service
Other Partners/Cooperators: Montana State University
Effective Dates: April 16, 2010 - September 30, 2013
Funding Amount: \$5,000

Investigators and Agency Representative:

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Project Abstract: The agreement will make past vegetation utilization records immediately available for the direction/development of ranch policies, procedures and Best Management Practices. This project will be completed by Bob Leinard, an adjunct MSU instructor who is currently working on developing Best Management Practices with GRKO. The scope of work includes:

1. Work with resource staff to develop a list of all needed utilization information - number of livestock, hay yield, fertilization rate, etc;
2. Methodically locate and copy (with original location citation) on-site documentation of utilization information needed as determined in Step 1;
3. Work with park staff to develop a format of presenting utilization information. It is imagined that a spreadsheet format will be most consistent and useful; and
4. Populate final format (spreadsheet) with information from utilization documentation acquired in Step 2. Format can be adjusted as needed as project progresses, for example a narrative section or a GIS map with information not easily shown on spreadsheet.

Outcomes with Completion Dates: September 30, 2011

- Final Report documenting all available GRKO vegetation production/utilization information contained in park records beginning when lands were acquired by NPS to present; and
- Copies of research/documentation from park files.

Keywords: Montana State University, Grant-Kohrs Ranch NHS, NPS-Era Agricultural Practices