

Project Summary

Rocky Mountains Cooperative Ecosystem Studies Unit

Project Title: Livingston, MT and Cody, WY YELL-ITS Road Status Signs

Discipline: Interdisciplinary
Type of Project: Technical Assistance
Funding Agency: National Park Service
Other Partners/Cooperators: Montana State University
Effective Dates: 2/8/2012 - 12/31/2012
Funding Amount: \$7,726

Investigators and Agency Representative:

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Project Abstract: A safe and efficient transportation system is dependent upon many variable, including traffic variable, road conditions, the weather, and even animal-vehicle interactions. A system that can monitor these conditions and then provide useful information to a traveler is very valuable.

The area in and around the YNP has some operational challenges. These challenges include varying weather conditions, alternate routes that are separated by great distances, and animal-vehicle conflicts. The purpose of this project is, therefore, to develop, implement and evaluate a system that will accurately provide necessary information to those who manage and utilize the transportation system along the US 89 and US 212 corridors .

The purpose of this Intelligent Transportation System (ITS) project is to demonstrate the use of advanced technologies to increase information to motorists on the on US 89 and US 212 corridors at key decision points— around Livingston, MT and Cody, WY. The project will focus on the goal of reducing the traffic (visitor) impact on the natural resources in the area, through traffic management and wayfinding enhancements.

The Western Transportation Institute will collaborate with YNP, Montana Department of Transportation, Wyoming Department of Transportation and other relevant stakeholders to finalize ITS technology. The project will be conducted in two phases. The first phase will focus on obtaining the data, and conducting the analysis to determine the ITS technologies most appropriate for the project. The second phase would focus on the procurement, installation, testing and evaluation of the strategies and technologies.

Outcomes with Completion Dates:

Final Report due May 31, 2012

Keywords: Intelligent Transportation System (ITS), US 89 and US 212 corridors, Yellowstone National Park, Montana State University - Western Transportation Institute