

Project Summary

Rocky Mountains Cooperative Ecosystem Studies Unit

Project Title: Implementing the Northern Rockies Fire Science Network to Facilitate Fire Science Communication: Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem Node

Discipline: Natural
Type of Project: Technical Assistance
Funding Agency: National Park Service
Other Partners/Cooperators: Montana State University
Effective Dates: 7/1/2012 - 6/30/2016
Funding Amount: \$108,087 [FY14: \$21,096; FY13: \$86,991]

Investigators and Agency Representative:

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Project Abstract:

Task 1

Work collaboratively with the Northern Rockies Fire Science Network (NRFSN) project team to implement NRFSN activities and to foster a network of managers and scientists across the Northern Rockies.

- a. Participate in monthly conference calls, annual meetings, and subcommittees of interest.
- b. Contribute scientific products and events relevant to fire and fuels management in the Northern Rockies as appropriate for network distribution through the website, newsletter, syntheses, research briefs, and other NRFSN products.
- c. Network with other faculty and staff at Montana State University to increase awareness of the NRFSN and compile relevant material for science dissemination.
- d. Serve as a primary point of contact for networking with the Greater Yellowstone Coordinating Committee.
- e. Provide scientist travel grants to facilitate participation in NRFSN fieldtrips and workshops by subject matter experts who are central to event foci and discussions.
- f. Contribute materials as needed for annual progress reporting to the Joint Fire Science Program [usually due in December].
- g. Assist with planning for NRFSN renewal grant, due to the Joint Fire Science Program in February 2014.

Task 2

Coordinate NRFSN activities.

- a. Coordinate project team and advisory board conference calls and meetings.
- b. Assist with logistics of workshops, fieldtrips, focus groups, webinars, advisory and team meetings, etc.
- c. Organize and update web content.
- d. Prepare quarterly newsletters and other NRFSN updates.
- e. Develop and update outreach materials, such as an NRFSN flyer and poster.
- f. Assist with review and layout of research briefs and syntheses.
- g. Coordinate presentations about NRFSN activities, for example, at agency Fall fire meetings.
- h. Distribute biannual evaluation survey, as scheduled by the Joint Fire Science Program.
- i. Collaborate and interact with other Joint Fire Science Program regional knowledge exchange consortia across the national network to share ideas and best practices in fire science delivery and application.
- j. Serve as a point of contact for networking with the Great Northern Landscape Conservation Cooperative.
- k. Coordinate development of annual progress report to the Joint Fire Science Program [usually due in December].
- l. Assist with development of NRFSN renewal grant, due to the Joint Fire Science Program in February 2014.

Task 3

Maintain and expand the NRFSN website.

- a. Working closely with the NRFSN Principal Investigator, Coordinator, and Web Subcommittee, develop a plan for expanding the website to meet user needs as expressed in the 2011 needs assessment that was conducted during the planning stage of the project. As a minimum, the web expansion plan should include the types of content envisioned, look/feel of the site, source/timing of content, anticipated levels of user interaction, and a general website structure.
- b. Implement the web expansion plan.
- c. Work closely with University of Montana web content developer.
- d. Work closely with FRAMES staff for Resource Cataloging System content management and query set up.
- e. Manage NRFSN contact database.
- f. Collect and store web statistics.
- g. Provide ongoing maintenance and programming support, as funded.

Outcomes with Completion Dates: June 30, 2016

Keywords: fire science, communication, network implementation, web development, Northern Rockies Fire Science Network (NRFSN), National Interagency Fire Center, Montana State University