

Rocky Mountains Cooperative Ecosystem Studies Unit
Project Summary

Project Title: Evaluation of management actions taken in the Lamar River watershed

Discipline: Natural

Type of Project: Technical Assistance and Education

Funding Agency: National Park Service

Other Partners/Cooperators: Montana State University

Student Participation: Yes, Graduate

Effective Dates: 01 August 2020 – 31 December 2023

Funding Amount: \$137,130

Investigators and Agency Representative:

NPS ATR: Todd M. Koel, Ph.D., Supervisory Fisheries Biologist, Center for Resources, Native Fish Conservation Program, P.O. Box 168, Yellowstone National Park, WY 82190, Phone: 307-344-2281, Fax: 307-344-2444, todd_koel@nps.gov

Investigator: Alexander Zale, Montana State University, Department of Ecology, 1156-1174 S 11th Ave., Bozeman, MT 59715

Project Abstract:

Project Goals – Project goals support the Secretary of the Interior’s Top Priorities by utilizing science to identify best practices to manage land and water resources and adapt to changes in the environment. Goals are to determine if management actions taken in the Lamar River watershed are having the desired effect in restoring and protecting native Yellowstone Cutthroat Trout.

Project Objectives – Objectives are to, 1.) Develop population estimates of Yellowstone Cutthroat, Rainbow, and hybrid trout populations in different regions of the Lamar River watershed; 2.) Determine if angling regulations and management actions being undertaken by the NPS are having the desired effect on the native and nonnative fish populations and are angling regulations being adhered to; and 3.) Develop management recommendations for achieving NPS management goals in the Lamar River watershed.