Project Summary
Rocky Mountains Cooperative Ecosystem Studies Unit

Project Title: Meeting Fire Management Needs for Science Synthesis, Workshops and Online Academic Courses: An Innovative Technology Transfer Approach
Discipline: Natural
Type of Project: Education
Funding Agency: National Park Service
Other Partners/Cooperators: University of Idaho, USDA-Forest Service, BLM
Effective Dates: 8/1/2005 - 7/1/2008
Funding Amount: $325,271.00
Investigators and Agency Representative:

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Project Abstract:

The University of Idaho received funds via the Joint Fire Science Program to develop methods to educate fire managers in federal land management agencies. Tasks are to: 1) develop four 400-level, academic, technology transfer courses, 2) deliver each course in a web-enhanced format as part of developing two of them for online delivery, 3) deliver a synthesis of remote measures of active fire and post-fire effects research via peer-reviewed manuscript, user's workshop, and two user's guides. The four courses are 1) Science-Based Fuels Management Planning, 2) Assessing Fire Effects and Burn Severity, 3) Fuels Inventory and Mapping, and 4) Remote Sensing of Active Fire and Post-fire Effects. Short courses will be designed to meet the new Interagency Fire Program Management Standards for professional GS-0401 Fire Management Specialist positions. Final products will include a refereed review manuscript, extension workshop to assess user's needs for remote sensing technologies, and two user's guides that integrate the application of research from multiple sources. The first product will be a field guide to visually assess and quantify burn severity, and the second a reference guide to identify appropriate uses of various remote sensing technologies. These will be used in the courses. Both products will be modularized and available online on the FRAMES website (www.frames.nbii.gov0. Common threads across all courses and deliverables include bringing "science and tools" to bear on fire and fuel issues through workshops, readings, discussion and applied projects, learning from and discussing case studies, issues, techniques and needs with scientists and experts, hands-on field applications, and learning how to access and synthesize the scientific literature. Workshop and course content will be collected and synthesized from specific JSFP, NFP, NASA and WO projects, and from related science and practice. All courses will require managers to apply the research to projects from their home agency job. In addition to developing the workshop and short courses, we will also conduct a needs assessment for the fire programs that will identify additional "science and tools you can use" content that should be synthesized and organized into modules for courses or future product development.

Outcomes with Completion Dates:

Final report and web outline due 07/01/2008.

Keywords: online academic courses, fire management, workshop, National Park Service Fire Program, University of Idaho, Joint Fire Science Program

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Date Annual Report Received:
Date Final Report Received:
Publications, etc. on file: