

Project Summary

Rocky Mountains Cooperative Ecosystem Studies Unit

Project Title: Technical Support for Sierra Nevada I&M Network Monitoring Program, Vegetation Map Completion, and Data Management projects

Discipline: Natural Resources

Type of Project: Technical Assistance

Funding Agency: National Park Service

Other Partners/Cooperators: University of Idaho

Effective Dates: 9/1/2007 - 9/1/2011

Funding Amount: \$67,248 [add \$32,350 in FY08]

Investigators and Agency Representative:

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Project Abstract: The goal of this project is to provide technical assistance in development of the Phase III report, vital signs protocol development and vegetation map completion for the Sierra Nevada Network (SIEN). Examples of technical assistance include development of appropriate sampling designs, power analysis, and data management for priority vital signs, assembling and synthesizing existing baseline data, digitizing and documenting legacy data, and completing important data layers (such as vegetation maps) for vital signs monitoring. The eleven vital signs selected for monitoring in SIEN parks include: weather/climate, water chemistry, surface water dynamics, snowpack, amphibians, landbirds, nonnative/invasive plants, forest dynamics, wetlands, landscape mosaics, and fire regimes. The SIEN includes: Devils Postpile National Monument, Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks and Yosemite National Park. Products will include: Data tables (MS Access or Excel) and complete metadata associated with any data acquisition and synthesis projects. SIEN Data Manager will provide data tables and metadata templates for any data-related work; Specific sections and SOPs associated with vital signs protocol development; and GIS data layers and associated metadata for spatial legacy data conversion projects, and for spatial data analysis associated with protocols.

Outcomes with Completion Dates: Initial products include: data summaries and syntheses for protocol development, standard operating procedures for monitoring protocols and data management, and completion of SIEN vegetation maps, due by December 31, 2009. Ongoing products, due by 9/1/2011, include data summaries and syntheses for protocol development, standard operating procedures for monitoring protocols and data management, communication products for vital signs, and digitized products for high-priority legacy datasets

Keywords: Inventory and monitoring, protocols, vital signs, legacy data sets, Sierra Nevada Network, University of Idaho