

## **Project Summary**

### **Rocky Mountains Cooperative Ecosystem Studies Unit**

**Project Title:** Technical assistance for the Upper Columbia Basin Network including database development, GIS, and science communication

**Discipline:** Natural Resources  
**Type of Project:** Technical Assistance  
**Funding Agency:** National Park Service  
**Other Partners/Cooperators:** University of Idaho  
**Effective Dates:** 7/1/2010- 12/31/2015  
**Funding Amount:** \$313,385 [FY12: \$58,000; FY11: \$85,000; FY10: \$170,385]

**Investigators and Agency Representative:**

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**Project Abstract:** The purpose of this agreement is to provide technical assistance in all phases of the development and implementation of monitoring protocols for the Upper Columbia Basin Network (UCBN). Examples of technical assistance include development of appropriate sampling designs, development and design of Access databases to hold monitoring data, and development and design of communication products that explain the protocol development process and the results of monitoring. The thirteen vital signs selected for monitoring in UCBN parks include: invasive/exotic plants, sagebrush-steppe vegetation, land cover and use, riparian vegetation communities, stream/river channel communities, limber pine, camas lily, and sage grouse.

**Outcomes with Completion Dates:** Access databases developed to hold monitoring data for UCBN vital signs, posters and other communication products that communicate the monitoring program to parks and visitors, GIS technical assistance in development of protocols for UCBN vital signs, and monitoring protocol technical reports.

**Keywords:** Inventory and monitoring, protocols, vital signs, technical assistance, Upper Columbia Basin Network Inventory and Monitoring Program, University of Idaho