

Project Summary

Rocky Mountains Cooperative Ecosystem Studies Unit

Project Title: Developing a Monitoring Protocol for Visitor Experience and Recreation Demand at Lake Roosevelt National Recreation Area

Discipline: Social Science

Type of Project: Research

Funding Agency: National Park Service

Other Partners/Cooperators: University of Idaho

Effective Dates: 1/11/2010 – 7/1/2013

Funding Amount: \$177,188 [FY13: \$20,000; FY12: \$41,422; FY11: \$68,011; FY10: \$47,755]

Investigators and Agency Representative:

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Project Abstract: This is the final year of this project, which was started in 2010. Lake Roosevelt National Recreation Area (LARO) will work with University of Idaho to complete the following tasks:

- Oversee and advise monitoring data collection in summers 2013 and 2014, including sampling, observational methods, data entry, and quality assurance.
- Create a database for long-term monitoring of recreational use in the Kettle Falls area.
- Meet with NPS staff to discuss selection of indicators and establishment of standards for greater public need determinations related to shoreline recreation.
- Analyze and report on data collected in 2013 - 2014 and revise the monitoring protocol as needed - especially as indicators and standards are set by the park.

Lake Roosevelt National Recreation Area seeks to develop a description of existing and projected recreation types and levels in the Kettle Falls area of the reservoir, as well as an assessment of visitor needs and experience quality that can be linked to the distribution and levels of use. Based on an initial inventory - using observation of use levels and types, as well as a visitor survey - this study will describe areas of current or likely future concern. For a park with 1.5 to 1.75 million annual visitors the LARO management team feels this is a critical time to begin monitoring and setting indicators and standards that initiate more intensive monitoring or management actions.

Outcomes with Completion Dates:

April 2010	Study Plan and Scope of Work
May 2010	Data collection instruments for summer 2010; draft visitor survey for 2011
June 2010	Submit visitor survey for OMB approval and UI IRB approval
Dec 2010	Interim report on use levels, types and projected trends.
May 2011	Sampling plan for visitor survey; evaluate relevant monitoring protocols
May 2011	PhD dissertation proposal
June 2012	Develop recommended monitoring protocol
Dec 2012	Complete PhD dissertation
December 15, 2014	Final project report

Keywords: Monitoring protocol, visitor experience, recreation demand, visitor surveys, Lake Roosevelt National Recreation Area, University of Idaho