Project Summary Rocky Mountains Cooperative Ecosystem Studies Unit

Project Title: Development of Planning Tools and an Interactive Model for Yellowstone National Park
Discipline: Social science
Type of Project: Research
Funding Agency: National Park Service
Other Partners/Cooperators: University of Montana
Effective Dates: 11/1/2001- 10/1/2002
Funding Amount: \$118,780

Investigators and Agency Representative:

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Project Abstract:

The level of regional economic impact due to changes in winter visitation to the YNP region is largely a factor of 1) the total change in the number of visitors to the area, and 2) the average amount that nonresident winter visitors spend within the region on each of their visits. In addition to these two major driving factors, a number of other generally less influential factors and modeling assumptions combine to determine the final estimates of local economic impacts. This project includes a Microsoft Excel program designed to provide NPS planners with estimates of the impacts associated with a wide spectrum of user-specified assumptions and restrictions regarding Winter use management and Winter visitor access policies. The program and this document were prepared as a task agreement through the RM-CESU. This economic analysis program will be used as part of the Winter Use EIS being prepared for Yellowstone, Grand Teton NPs and the JDR Parkway.

Outcomes with Completion Dates:

Final report was received in May 2002, along with a calculation spreadsheet.

Keywords: economic value, winter use, Draft Environmental Impact Statement, University of Montana, Yellowstone NP, Grand Teton NP

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