

Project Summary

Rocky Mountains Cooperative Ecosystem Studies Unit

Project Title: Program Support for Rocky Mountain I&M network, Rocky Mountain Cluster Parks and Web Development for the Southern Plains I&M Network
Type of Project: Technical Assistance
Funding Agency: National Park Service
Other Partners/Cooperators: other RM-CESU universities
Effective Dates: September 1, 2003-September 30, 2007
Funding Amount: \$107,925 for FY 03
Investigators and Agency Representative: NPS Key Official: Kathy Tonnessen, NPS-RM CESU, College of Forestry and Conservation, University of Montana, Missoula, MT 59812, 406-243-4449, Kathy_tonnessen@nps.gov Mike Britten, National Park Service, IMR, PO Box 25287, Denver, CO 80225, 303-987-6705; mike_britten@nps.gov SOPN Coordinator, National Park Service, c/o Lyndon B. Johnson National Historical Park, P. O. Box 320, Johnson City, TX 78636, (830) 868-7128 UNIVERSITY CONTACT: Perry Brown, College of Forestry and Conservation, University of Montana, Missoula, MT 59812; pbrown@forestry.umd.edu ; 406-243-5522
Project Abstract: <p>The Inventory & Monitoring program for the Rocky Mountain I&M Network (ROMN - Glacier NP, Little Bighorn Battlefield NM, Grant-Kohrs Ranch NHS, Rocky Mountain NP, Florissant Fossil Beds NM, Great Sand Dunes NP&P) is beginning the design of the Vital Signs ecological monitoring program for these network parks. ROMN will work with staff at the University of Montana and other RM-CESU partners to do the planning and data analysis needed to design this program.</p> <p>The Rocky Mountain Cluster of parks includes 14 park units in Montana, Colorado and Wyoming. The RM-CESU at the University of Montana will provide support for technical assistance and education at these parks through special topic workshops and educational opportunities for NPS staff from these parks.</p> <p>The Southern Plains Inventory and Monitoring Network includes 10 NPS units in Texas, Colorado, Oklahoma and New Mexico. The network is just now getting organized to define their vital signs to be monitored. Information for that network needs to be organized via a web site. University of Montana staff will work with SOPN network staff to develop and post this web site to the NPS server, and assist with other vital signs planning activities.</p>
Outcomes with completion dates: <u>FINAL PRODUCTS</u> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Progress and final reports on Vital Signs and ecosystem monitoring planning (including workshop reports). 2) Literature syntheses on various ecological monitoring topics. 3) Conceptual ecosystem models for ROMN parks. 4) Ecological monitoring protocols. 5) Ecological data (in digital format) from data mining efforts that would apply to ecological monitoring. 6) Reports of special topic workshops for the Rocky Mountain Cluster of parks 7) Operational Web site for SOPN, and final report of vital signs planning activities
Final Products – September 30, 2007
Keywords: Program support, Rocky Mountain I&M network, Rocky Mountain Cluster

Parks, web development, Southern Plains I&M Network, workshops
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