

Project Summary

Rocky Mountains Cooperative Ecosystem Studies Unit

Project Title: Administrative History of the Establishment and Development of the National Network of the Cooperative Ecosystem Studies Units

Discipline: Interdisciplinary

Type of Project: Research

Funding Agency: National Park Service

Other Partners/Cooperators: University of Montana

Effective Dates: 9/30/2006 - 4/1/2010

Funding Amount: \$91,322

Investigators and Agency Representative:

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Project Abstract: The National Park Service (NPS) is collaborating on the writing of an administrative history of and for the Cooperative Ecosystem Studies Unit (CESU) Network. To meet that need, this administrative history of the CESU Network will document and analyze the network's history in the context of its times, including the:

- genesis of the CESU idea as a response to circumstances of a specific moment;
- events leading to the network's establishment;
- legal authority for the CESUs
- evolution of the network, including organizational and administrative structures, funding and support;
- program achievements, failings, and challenges, and the
- impact of the network and its work on society's needs and goals for resource conservation and management.

The study will synthesize all necessary records relevant to writing an administrative history of the CESU Network. Sources will include annual reports, correspondence and other files at agencies and partner organizations, as well as oral history documentation. Oral history interviews with key figures in the development and management of the network and individual CESUs will be necessary. Other sources will frame a context for understanding relevant trends in society, politics, and the economy, as well as relevant corporate, non-profit, and federal responses to change. In FY 2007 we added two tasks: (1) add a second two-week trip to Washington, DC to interview representatives from all of the Federal agencies, and (2) interview at least one representative from each of the 17 CESUs.

Outcomes with Completion Dates: 1st Progress Report - June 1, 2007

2nd Progress Report - December 1, 2007

3rd Progress Report/Outline of Draft Report - June 1, 2008

NPS Review Comments on Outline - July 1, 2008

4th Progress Report - December 1, 2008

Draft Report - March 1, 2009

NPS Review Comments on Draft Report - May 1, 2009

Revised Draft Report - July 1, 2009

NPS Key Official Review Comments on Revised Draft Report - August 1, 2009

Final Report - October 1, 2009

Keywords: administrative history, oral history, University of Montana, Cooperative Ecosystem Studies Units.

For Administrative Use Only:

Date Annual Report Received:

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