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
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: