

Project Summary
Rocky Mountains Cooperative Ecosystem Studies Unit

Project Title: Train Little Bighorn Battlefield NM Staff to Perform Herpetology Inventory Surveys

Discipline: Natural
Type of Project: Education/Technical Assistance
Funding Agency: National Park Service
Other Partners/Cooperators: University of Montana
Effective Dates: 4/1/2009- 3/1/2010
Funding Amount: \$5,000

Investigators and Agency Representative:

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Project Abstract: The objective of this project is to train park personnel to survey for reptiles and amphibians at LIBI. The ROMN I&M Program was established in part to complete minimum level baseline information for biological inventories in all natural resource parks in the system. In 2001 the ROMN coordinated with USGS-BRD, Missoula, to conduct an inventory to confirm the presence of reptile and amphibian species at LIBI, with a 90% confidence. In 2003 Steve Corn, Blake Hossack, et al. (USGS-BRD) reported no amphibians and only a partial list for reptiles, with the recommendation "Park personnel can easily be trained to identify species of amphibians and reptiles and their records can provide a considerable amount of information." This small park is remote, so coordinating with professionals to conduct inventories in a timely manner is difficult. Training park personnel in species identification and field techniques will enable the park to perform surveys conveniently after rain events when amphibians are active. This education project will allow the park to complete minimum level baseline information for these vertebrate inventories.

Outcomes with Completion Dates: Due Date for Final Report and/or Project Deliverables:
March 1, 2010

Keywords: amphibians, reptiles, identification, training, Little Bighorn Battlefield NM University of Montana