Project Summary Rocky Mountains Cooperative Ecosystem Studies Unit

Project Title: Grant-Kohrs Ranch and Little Bighorn Battlefield National Monuments

Vegetation Map Report Data Analyses and Writing

Discipline: Natural

Type of Project: Technical Assistance
Funding Agency: National Park Service
Other Partners/Cooperators: University of Montana
Effective Dates: August 15, 2009 - December 31, 2010

Funding Amount: \$ 11,245

Investigators and Agency Representative:

NPS Contact: Mike Britten, Rocky Mountain I&M Network, 1201 Oak Ridge Dr., Suite 201, Fort Collins, CO 80525, 970-267-2150, mike_britten@nps.gov

Investigator: Peter Rice, Division of Biological Sciences, 32 Campus Drive #4824, Division of Biological Sciences, University of Montana, Missoula, MT 59812-4824, voice: 406-243-2671, fax: 406-243-4184, peter.rice@umontana.edu

Project Abstract: NPS Rocky Mountain Inventory and Monitoring Network (ROMN) is coordinating two small park vegetation mapping projects

These projects were initiated by the Rocky Mountain Inventory and Monitoring Network (ROMN) in 2007 as a collaborative team effort. The project team includes Univ. Peter Rice and Melissa Hart (replacing Will Gustafson of the former Wildlife Spatial Analysis Lab), NPS Vegetation Mapping Program (Chris Lea), LIBI and GRKO representatives (Melana Stichman from LIBI and Chris Ford and Jason Smith from GRKO), the ROMN (Billy Schweiger, Jen Burke and Mike Britten), and the Colorado Natural Heritage Program (CNHP, Karin Decker).

The classification, field work, mapping, report and database development have been completed but the ultimate report and final products have not. Primary tasks include (with responsible organization/office in parentheses): complete final database utilizing and contributing to national Vegetation Mapping program guidance (ROMN), complete "voucher" plots in both parks (for inclusion in the National Vegetation Classification system (ROMN and GRKO and LIBI staffs), conduct and prepare final analyses (including resolving classification issues) and report manuscript (UMT), work with on editing/layout and final report/products production (CNHP), and complete final report and database by spring 2010.

Outcomes with Completion Dates: Final manuscript for GRKO and LIBI are due December 31, 2010.

Keywords: Grant-Kohrs Ranch National Historic Site, Little Bighorn Battlefield National Monument, University of Montana, vegetation, mapping