Project Summary
Rocky Mountains Cooperative Ecosystem Studies Unit

Project Title: Wildland Fire Decision Support System (WFDSS) – Compiling landscape-scale geospatial data for five wildland fire agencies

Discipline: Natural
Type of Project: Technical Assistance
Funding Agency: National Park Service
Other Partners/Cooperators: University of Montana
Effective Dates: 5/18/2009- 9/30/2010
Funding Amount: $49,936

Investigators and Agency Representative:
NPS Contact: Gladys Crabtree, National Park Service, 3833 S. Development Ave., Boise, ID; 208-387-5214; Gladys_crabtree@nps.gov

Investigator: Tyron Venn, College of Forestry and Conservation, University of Montana, Missoula, MT 59812, 406-243-6702, tyron.venn@umontana.edu

Project Abstract:
WFDSS (Wildland Fire Decision Support System) assists fire managers and analysts in making strategic and tactical decisions for fire incidents. It is designed to replace the WFSA (Wildland Fire Situation Analysis), Wildland Fire Implementation Plan (WFIP), and Long-Term Implementation Plan (LTIP) processes with a single process that is easier to use, more intuitive, linear, scalable, and progressively responsive to changing fire complexity. WFDSS was conceived as a way of integrating the various applications used to manage incidents into a single system, which streamlines the analysis and reporting processes.
A University of Montana, GIS Specialist working with the Rocky Mountain Research Station, Missoula Forestry Sciences Lab will support the Wildland Fire Decision Support System (WFDSS) – Rapid Assessment of Values-at-Risk (RAVAR) spatial data compiling, processing, data analysis and map interpretation for the 2009 and 2010 fire season. In addition to a GIS skill set, knowledge related to forestry, forest economics, and fire behavior is helpful to interpret RAVAR analysis. This GIS Specialist will be hired by Dr. Tyron Venn, who will serve as the supervisor of this activity in support of the Wildland Fire Decision Support System.

Outcomes with Completion Dates: Due Date for Final Report and/or Project Deliverables: Final product will be the research, development, and maintenance of geospatial landscape-scale (enterprise) wildland fire data which support wildland fire decision support systems and the final completion report will be in electronic format for posting on the RM-CESU web site. Due by September 30, 2010.

Keywords: wildland fire, GIS, databases, National Interagency Fire Center, USFS Fire Lab, University of Montana