

Project Summary

Rocky Mountains Cooperative Ecosystem Studies Unit

Project Title: Lewis and Clark Bicentennial Tribal Legacy Curriculum - Development Plan-Phase 3 & 4

Type of Project: Education
Discipline: Cultural Resources
Funding Agency: National Park Service, Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail
Other Partners/Cooperators: University of Montana
Effective Dates: 9/15/2009- 3/31/2011
Funding Amount: \$75,925 [FY10: \$3,525; FY09 \$72,400]

Investigators and Agency Representative:

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Project Abstract: The Lewis and Clark Bicentennial Tribal Legacy Project is part of the National Park Service's effort to build on the themes and goals of the Lewis and Clark Bicentennial commemoration with a focus on native people along the Lewis and Clark Trail.

The long-term goal of the Tribal Legacy project is to create a website and related educational resources that will assist educators nationwide to integrate Native American culture and history across the curriculum. These resources will serve grades two through high school as well as educational programs of state and national parks, museums, cultural centers and universities. The project will provide a unique opportunity for American Indians to educate other Americans about American Indians, and promote respect for native cultures and languages, the environment, and the future.

During Phase 3, curriculum will be developed to provide context for the video resources and to amplify the content. Print resources, designed to enhance the video resources and to guide effective classroom application, will include (1) storybooks for elementary grades, (2) readers' theater scripts on treaties for intermediate grades, (3) history from the viewpoints of native inhabitants for middle school, and (4) a guide to sovereignty for high school/university government classes. This classroom content can be adapted to provide useful resources for state parks and other interpretive centers.

Interpretive Themes

The four themes identified during the Bicentennial by the Circle of Tribal Advisors to the National Lewis & Clark Bicentennial (COTA) will provide direction for the project: We are Still Here, Cultural Resource Protection, Taking care of the Creator's Gifts, and Native Languages - Our Libraries. Reflecting these themes, some educational goals of the Legacy Project include:

- i. Cultural Continuity of American Indian Communities-- shared through oral tradition from the stories of creation, through historical eras to contemporary life, and including a worldview that looks ahead for the good of the future.
- ii. Bring to life key stories of the implementation of the Corps of Discovery, and the cultures, traditions, and experiences of the Indian tribes along its route. Share its broader implications in the subsequent history of the United States and its indigenous peoples.
- iii. Encourage respect for all cultures and their unique expressions, including their languages and material culture.
- iv. Provoke understanding of the changes that have occurred on the land along the Lewis & Clark NHT over the past 200 years, and instill an ethic of resource stewardship and conservation;

During Phase 4 (the final phase of this project) the PI will work to complete the final transcription of the video clips for inclusion on the web site.

Outcomes with Completion Dates: Phase 3: Curriculum Development & Teacher Training (October 1, 2009- Sept 30, 2010). Due Date for Final Report and/or Project Deliverables: December 31, 2010

Keywords: Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail, University of Montana, Tribal Legacy Curriculum, Development plan