

Project Completion Report

Rocky Mountains Cooperative Ecosystem Studies Unit (RM-CESU)

Project Title: Workshops and Program Support for National Park Service, Rocky Mountains CESU

Project Code: UMT231, P10AC00157

Type of Project: Technical Assistance and Education

Funding Agency: National Park Service

Partner University: University of Montana

NPS Agreement Technical Representative: Mark Biel, Natural Resource Program Manager, Glacier NP, West Glacier, Montana, mark_biel@nps.gov; 406-888-7919

Principal Investigator: Jim Burchfield, Dean, College of Forestry and Conservation, The University of Montana, Missoula, MT 59812, james.burchfield@umontana.edu. 406-243-5522

Start Date of Project: 3/15/2010

End Date of Project: 3/15/2015

Funding Amount: \$30,000

Project Summary: Funds for this project mainly supported the RM-CESU Coordination office at The University of Montana, and was used for various park research needs, student fellowships and NPS workshops and support. Some of the activities included:

- Salary for Executive Coordinator to work on: workshop/meeting planning and logistics, preparation of project summary reports for NPS projects, website maintenance, RM-CESU outreach and communication to Parks.
- Sponsorship of RM-CESU staff participation in the 2014 Northwest Science Association meeting, held in Missoula, Montana in March 2014.
- Travel to Glacier NP and Grant-Kohrs Ranch NHS for meetings with park staff and participation in education meetings.
- Sponsorship of the 2012 Biennial Science Meeting in the Greater Yellowstone, Mammoth Lake, WY.
- Sponsorship of a Native American student to work on the USGS, Northern Continental Divide Grizzly Bear project.
- Purchase of office supplies and equipment and payments for phone/port/xerox charges for NPS staff at University of Montana.
- Purchase of fish barrier for use in research/restoration project at Glacier NP to restore bull trout to high elevation aquatic systems.

Number of students participating in this project: Logo Fixico, student working on the Grizzly Bear project. Students who attended the various meetings sponsored by the RM-CESU.

Lessons Learned: It is useful for NPS staff duty stationed at The University of Montana to have funds available for student and partner activities that enhance the participation of all parties in science and education outreach projects. Having funds available to assist Glacier NP in purchasing a needed piece of field equipment quickly was beneficial for the park restoration of native species. These funds were “paid back” by Glacier NP in a later task agreement.

Other RM-CESU agencies or research partners who participated in this project: Efforts by both the RM-CESU Executive Coordinator and the NPS, RM-CESU staff benefit all partners.