

Project Completion Report Rocky Mountains Cooperative Ecosystem Studies Unit (RM-CESU)

Project Title: Coordination of 2011 Rocky Mountain Anthropology Conference

Project Code: UMT-255/P11AT00224

Type of Project: Technical Assistance

Funding Agency: National Park Service

Partner University: University of Montana

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Start Date of Project: May 15, 2011

End Date of Project: June 30, 2012

Funding Amount: \$3,525

Project Summary

The NPS, Rocky Mountains CESU (RM-CESU) was a co-sponsor of the biennial Rocky Mountain Anthropology Conference held on the University of Montana campus in Missoula, MT on October 7-9, 2011. The conference brought together experts in all fields of cultural resources expertise from the Rocky Mountains states. The objective of this agreement was for the National Park Service to work with the University of Montana to sponsor this conference, which benefitted students, resource managers and partners in the RM-CESU. Another objective was for the RM-CESU to co-organize a special session on RM-CESU project accomplishments, entitled "Heritage and Cultural Resources Research in the Rocky Mountains: a showcase of Cooperative Ecosystem Studies Unit (CESU) Projects."

Activities of RM-CESU, NPS and University of Montana for co-sponsoring this conference included: (1) involving students and RM CESU partners in the Anthropology Conference, (2) bringing in invited speakers, (3) providing administrative support for this meetings through printing of brochures, purchasing of supplies, and equipment rental. The RM-CESU co-organized a paper and poster session on cultural resources work accomplished through RM-CESU agreements with the NPS and other agencies with various university research partners. The conference was quite successful and several proceedings volumes will be published in association with sessions.

Additional project-related information may be found at:

<http://www.mtarchoeologicalsociety.org/media/2011RMACpapers.pdf>

Number of students participating in this project: One graduate student assisted with conference preparations including development of the program and other administrative tasks. More than 50 student research papers and posters were presented in the conference.

Lessons Learned from this project.

The university and the RM-CESU successfully collaborated to organize and run a major regional conference. The conference ran smoothly and was well-attended. The only drawback was that concurrent sessions overlapped topically and some attendees would have liked to be able to attend both. This was likely the by-product of a high number of excellent session submissions and limited time and space.

When final products will be received. Final products have been received as of 11/8/11.