

Project Summary

Rocky Mountains Cooperative Ecosystem Studies Unit

Project Title: Climate Change and National Parks Wilderness Review

Type of Project: Education/Technical Assistance
Discipline: Natural Resources
Funding Agency: National Park Service
Other Partners/Cooperators: University of Montana
Effective Dates: 5/15/2012 - 6/30/2013
Funding Amount: \$4700

Investigators and Agency Representative:

NPS Contact: Garry Oye, National Park Service, Wilderness Stewardship Division, 702-895-4893, garry_oye@nps.gov

Investigator: Len Broberg, EVST, University of Montana, Missoula, MT 59812, 406-243-5209; len.broberg@umontana.edu

Project Abstract: The student intern at University of Montana will do the following during 13 week internship with the NPS Wilderness Program:

1. Conduct a survey of all NPS wilderness parks (49) for effects of climate change and activities that the park is considering to take in response to climate change (monitoring, mitigation, and adaptation strategies). Survey questions targeted to identify specific climate change related management actions; assisted migration, invasive species removal, endangered species management, tree restoration, and fire management, for instance.
2. Summarize the results of this survey, and the potential effects of climate change and park activities on wilderness character
3. Develop 3 case studies that provide detailed examples of the range of effects and activities that parks are considering
4. Write up the results and case studies and submit this to Park Science for publication

Outcomes with Completion Dates: September 30, 2012

Products will include a completion report to the RM CESU and a journal manuscript ready for publication.

Keywords: student intern, wilderness parks, climate change, response (monitoring, mitigation, and adaptation strategies), NPS Wilderness Program), University of Montana