

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

**Project Title:** Pilot Study for Investigations into Cultural-Natural Landscapes and Ecological Patch Islands in Forest Canyon Pass, Rocky Mountain National Park

**Project Code (such as UMT-72 and/or the “J” number):** J1242077024

**Type of Project (Research, Technical Assistance or Research):** Research

**Funding Agency:** National Park Service

**Partner University:** University of Northern Colorado

**NPS Agreements Technical Representative (with complete contact information):**

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**Start Date of Project:** September 27, 2007

**End Date of Project:** December 31, 2009 (with no cost extension)

**Funding Amount:** \$11,000

**Number of Students Involved, and Type of Student (Undergraduate, Graduate, Post Doctorate):** 5 undergraduate and graduate students

**Project Summary, including descriptions of project deliverables, any changes made during the life of the project, work accomplished and/or major results. If the information is restricted (e.g. location of endangered species or cultural resources), indicate the title and location of the final report.**

The University of Northern Colorado (UNC) has conducted extensive archeological research in Rocky Mountain National Park since 1998. From 1998 through 2002, the university engaged in a large-scale series of archeological surveys and test excavations throughout the park as part of a National Park Service-funded Systemwide Archeological Inventory Program (SAIP). Over five years of fieldwork, the university documented more than 1,000 prehistoric and historic sites within ~30,000 acres of designated survey research areas. Since 2002, UNC has continued smaller scale archeological investigations within the park, including a long-term Native American sacred landscape research program and the subject of this report, a pilot project to intensely study at Forest Canyon Pass. ... The theoretical framework of the project associated with this report, a project entitled "A Pilot Study of Investigations into Cultural-Natural Landscapes and Ecological Patch Islands in Forest Canyon Pass, Rocky Mountain National Park", is based on a leading edge interdisciplinary research approach, cultural landscapes and patch ecology, which integrate modern and prehistoric studies of past ecological and climatic systems and archeological "settlement" pattern reconstructions.

**Final report is restricted.**

Brunswig, Robert H.<sup>1</sup>, James Doerner<sup>1</sup>, David Diggs<sup>1</sup>, Jeffrey Connor<sup>2</sup>, Leanne Benton<sup>2</sup>, Karin Edwards<sup>2</sup> (1 University of Northern Colorado, 2 Rocky Mountain National Park). 2009. Report on a Pilot Study of Investigations into Cultural-Natural Landscapes and Ecological Patch Islands in Forest Canyon Pass, Rocky Mountain National Park.