Project Summary Rocky Mountains Cooperative Ecosystem Studies Unit

Project Title: Support of Collaborative Natural Resource Stewardship (Tehabi) -

Continuation of USU 07 **Type of Project:** Education

Funding Agency: National Park Service

Other Partners/Cooperators: BLM

Effective Dates: August 1, 2003 - August 25, 2005

Funding Amount: \$ \$36,933

Investigators and Agency Representative:

NPS Key Officials: Ben Bobowski, Grant Kohrs Ranch NHS, 266 Warren Lane, Deer Lodge, MT 59722, 406-846-2070 ext. 240, ben bobowski@nps.gov; and John Spence, Glen Canyon NRA, Utah, (928) 608-6267, john Spence@nps.gov.

UNIVERSITY CONTACTS: Mark Brunson, Utah State University, EnvS Dept. 5215 Old Main Hill, Logan, UT 84322-5215, 435-797-2458, brunsonm@cnr.usu.edu, Ben Baldwin, Utah State University, EnvS Dept. 5215 Old Main Hill, Logan, UT 84322-5215, 435-797-2582, ben.baldwin@usu.edu

Project Abstract:

The Tehabi program represents a partnership between Utah State University and the National Park Service. The educational program begins with a two-week field course, "Field Studies in Collaborative Natural Resource Stewardship," designed to give students background in the work they will be doing during the summer. Each year the field course is offered during the middle of May. Students receive 3 credits for the course. Students then spend the summer as interns for land management agencies. To provide a guided and effective experience the Tehabi Instructor team (staff from NPS, and Utah State University) works with Field office staff to select a project which students are required to complete by summer's end. An important component of the internship is that students receive supplemental instruction and supervision through the summer from USU faculty and staff as well as mentoring from NPS staff. The focus is on helping students integrate what they learned in class with the work they are doing in the field, ensuring they are providing a quality product, and helping them resolve issues that may arise. This "safety net" is a service to the students and the offices in which they work.

Students receive three course credits (Internship in Collaborative Natural Resource Stewardship) for their summer intern work. They complete a summer field workbook designed to help them think critically about the work they are doing and then to communicate their thoughts and the information they are gathering. At summer's end students make presentations to agency staff that includes the results of their projects, their recommendations for management alternatives, and their observations about office workings and interactions with the public. Each year the interns participate in a final presentation meeting in August. This task agreement includes 5 interns to work at Grant-Kohrs Ranch NHS in summer of 2004 and two interns to complete assignments at Glen Canyon NRA during summer 2003.

Outcomes with completion dates:

Final presentation and summary report of the internships

Keywords: Tehabi, education, Grant-Kohrs Ranch NHS, Glen Canyon NRA, internships

For Administrative use only:

Date Annual Report Received: Date Final Report Received: Publications, etc. on file: