# Project Summary Rocky Mountains Cooperative Ecosystem Studies Unit

Project Title: Tehabi Internships - Historic Fence Restoration/Repair

Type of Project: Education

Funding Agency: National Park Service
Other Partners/Cooperators: Utah State University

**Effective Dates:** 9/15/2004 - 12/29/2006

Funding Amount: \$13,000

#### Investigators and Agency Representative:

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#### Project Abstract:

The Tehabi program represents a partnership among 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 a final presentation meeting is held in August.

## Outcomes with Completion Dates:

List of Products: 2 Tehabi interns with an interest/background in cultural resources management-

- 1. Restoration/Repair to 5 miles of historical fencing and associated gates
- 2. Documentation of work to meet NEPA and NHPA guidelines (Section 106)  $\,$
- 3. Final report of work including GIS/photo documentation

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