

FINAL PROJECT REPORT

**RM-CESU Cooperative Agreement Numbers: 1200-99-007 (15/17),
Task Agreement Numbers J1242040701, J1242040708, J2340040057
USU Proposal/Grant Codes: 04-1289, 04-1526**

TITLE OF PROJECT: Support for National Park Service Grazing Database and Livestock in National Park Units: A Contemporary and Historical Assessment for Improved Resources Management – Continuation of USU 15

NAME OF PARK/NPS UNIT: Grant-Kohrs Ranch National Historic Site, WASO-BRMD

PROJECT SCHEDULE AND FINAL PRODUCTS:

J1242040701 Support for National Park Service Grazing Database

Project Initiation: December 1, 2003

Final Project Date: March 30, 2004 (no-cost extension to September 4, 2004)

J1242040708 Livestock in National Park Units: A Contemporary and Historical Assessment for Improved Resources Management – Continuation of USU 15

Project Initiation: April 1, 2004

Final Project Date: December 25, 2005

H1200040001/J2340040057

Project Initiation: June 1, 2004

Final Project Date: December 25, 2005

Final Products include: NPS Livestock Database and accompanying “pdf” documents

PROJECT SUMMARY:

Over 100 park units are known to have grazing by domestic, feral, or wild livestock (approximately one-third of our National Park Service Units). Grazing is a point source of conflict in many of these units and also affects several other management issues such as exotic species management, disease control and public relations. This project is a culmination of three smaller projects that have resulted in a Livestock Grazing Database that can be used by the NPS and cooperating organizations and individuals to access information related to grazing issues on public lands.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

Historical data regarding grazing on public lands has been gathered non-systematically over the last 15 years. The purpose of this project was to put that data in a more usable format. Over the course of this project, over 700 documents related to grazing issues on public lands have been put into digital format and linked to a database where they can be easily accessed. These documents include historic and administrative documents from various NPS units and other public land management agencies as well as scholarly journals and other periodicals with information relating to grazing issues. Three Tehabi interns worked on various parts of this project with supervision and input from the Grant-Kohrs Ranch NHS Curatorial Technician, Grant-Kohrs Ranch Chief of Resource Management, and the Utah State University Tehabi Coordinator.

The initial project, Support for National Park Service Grazing Database, provided the seed money to get one intern working at USU to begin designing the initial database. Working with Brent Frakes, the database went through 25 iterations during this stage. The initial agreement provided opportunities to explore the information and determine additional work that needed to be

accomplished to create a workable and user-friendly database. The next two agreements, Livestock in National Park Units: A Contemporary and Historical Assessment for Improved Resources Management – Continuation of USU 15, provided additional funds to continue development of the database.

The next student intern scanned the existing grazing documents and converted them to Adobe PDF format so that they are easy to access and require limited computer memory for storage. The documents were then electronically linked to the Microsoft Access database with a reference form. Another intern filled in these forms with information such as Title, Keywords, and NPS Units discussed in the documents. This information has been made searchable so that NPS livestock and grazing information can be found more efficiently. Final products include the NPS Livestock Database and files containing over 700 electronic PDF documents.

The final products were approved by and delivered to Ben Bobowski, Chief of Resources Management, Grant-Kohrs Ranch National Historic Site (Ben.Bobowski@nps.gov). Ben will be working with the NPS-Biological Resource Management Division to get this grazing database on the web for NPS and public use.

Budget: The NPS RM-CESU provided \$6500 for this database development; the NPS Biological Resource Management Division provided \$5000 for a total of \$11,500. There was also assistance from NPS-funded Tehabi interns. The Rocky Mountain Inventory and Monitoring program data manager also provided in-kind services for this project. There were three separate task agreements used to transfer the funds to Utah State University in FY 04.

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

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RESEARCHER/CO-INVESTIGATOR:

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