

## **Project Summary**

### **Rocky Mountains Cooperative Ecosystem Studies Unit**

**Project Title:** Tehabi Student Intern to Assist with Native Plant Restoration Project and Bent's Old Fort NHS and Sand Creek Massacre NHS

**Type of Project:** Education

**Funding Agency:** National Park Service

**Other Partners/Cooperators:** Utah State University

**Effective Dates:** 9/15/2004 - 3/15/2006

**Funding Amount:** \$6,250

**Investigators and Agency Representative:**

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Investigator: Mark Brunson, Utah State University, EnvS Dept. 5215 Old Main Hill, Logan, UT 84322-5215, 435-797-2458, Mark.Brunson@usu.edu

**Project Abstract:**

This project will include the recruitment and placement of a Tehabi student intern at Bent's Old Fort and Sand Creek Massacre NHS during summer 2005. This 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. This year's field course will occur in May 2005. Students receive 3 credits for the course. The student will be required to complete a project by summer's end and provide a written report to the park. As part of this internship program, 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.

Bent's Old Fort and Sand Creek Massacre National Historic Sites wish to employ a Tehabi intern to assist NPS staff with several short grass prairie and riparian dry land seeding revegetation projects during the summer of 2005. Bent's Old Fort & Sand Creek Massacre NHS both reside within the Arkansas River drainage system.

The student intern will assist with monitoring vegetation transects, fire plot vegetation monitoring, data collection from the transects, and transect data analysis. The student will also work on dry land revegetation projects. The sites will require soil preparation, seeding, grass plugging, weed management, and site progress analysis. The student will also work on site preparation for seeding in 2006. This will require seed collection and propagation of seed in the greenhouse. The addition of this position will enhance data collection efforts and further the accuracy of sample collection and preparation procedures which will strengthen the overall project.

At the conclusion of the project the intern will present Bent's Old Fort NHS and Sand Creek Massacre NHS a written report covering the project accomplishments and future recommendations.

**Outcomes with Completion Dates:**

Final Report and presentation from intern on summer project due March 15, 2006.

**Keywords:** native plant restoration, Tehabi, Bent's Old Fort NHS, Sand Creek Massacre NHS, Utah State University, student intern

**For Administrative Use Only:**

Date Annual Report Received:

Date Final Report Received:

Publications, etc. on file: