

Project Summary

Rocky Mountains Cooperative Ecosystem Studies Unit

Project Title: Enhance the Understanding and Appreciation of the Flora of the Grant-Kohrs Ranch Complex

Discipline: Natural Resources

Type of Project: Education and Technical assistance

Funding Agency: National Park Service

Other Partners/Cooperators: Utah State University

Effective Dates: 5/1/2006 - 3/30/2007

Funding Amount: \$9225

Investigators and Agency Representative:

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Project Abstract:

This project is a collaboration between Grant-Kohrs Ranch NHS (GRKO) and Utah State University to develop an Expanded Field Guide to the Common Plants and Habitats of the Grant-Kohrs Ranch.

This guide will be a 'companion guide' to the previously developed RM-CESU funded guide "A Field Guide to the Common Birds by Habitat Type and Basic Color (2005)." The guide will be more than the typical field checklist of plants that many national parks, historic sites, and refuges make available to the public. This guide will be a "user friendly" tool to the identification of the plants and habitats that a visitor might expect to see when exploring the Grant-Kohrs Ranch with historical references to this park unit. The NPS (RM-CESU) will fund this task agreement, and will provide additional funds to GRKO to publish the guides. The guide will be available at the Visitor Center and will be used with school groups in which trained knowledgeable staff will accompany students at the ranch. These tours would be designed to introduce students to one habitat type (with respective dominant species) per field trip. These guided field trips will be conducted in the fall, winter and spring so that students can understand the seasonal variations that take place on the Grant-Kohrs Ranch.

A task was added to allow one of the Tehabi students to assist with completion of a survey of *Typha* species at the park. Various species of this reed are found in the park and are known exotics. For the park to control their spread there is a need for a map of the distribution of *Typha* and options of control of these non-native plants.

Outcomes with Completion Dates:

Develop an Expanded Field Guide to the common plants of the Grant-Kohrs Ranch. The guide will be more than the typical field checklist of plants that many national parks make available to the public. This guide will be a "user friendly" tool to the identification of the plants that a visitor might expect to see when exploring the Grant-Kohrs Ranch with historical references to this park unit. Plants will be categorized as grasses, flowering plants, shrubs and trees, and noxious weeds.

- ◆ Summer 2006: Research and creation of the plant guide, including photographs of all common plants.
- ◆ Fall 2006: Print 1500 copies of guide (with other funding)
- ◆ Summer 2007: Guides will be available at the visitor's center for the general public's use.
- ◆ Summer 2006: complete *Typha* survey
- ◆ Fall 2006: provide literature review of *Typha* spp., with recommendations for control

Keywords: field guide, flora, education, *Typha* species, invasive plants, Grant-Kohrs Ranch National Historic Site, Utah State University

For Administrative Use Only:

Date Annual Report Received:

Date Final Report Received:

Publications, etc. on file: