

## **Project Summary**

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

**Project Title:** Writing and Editing of Scopes of Work, Research Project Fact Sheets, and Newsletter Articles for Rocky Mountain National Park

**Discipline:** Interdisciplinary  
**Type of Project:** Technical Assistance  
**Funding Agency:** National Park Service  
**Other Partners/Cooperators:** Utah State University  
**Effective Dates:** March 17, 2008 - December 30, 2010  
**Funding Amount:** \$10,040  
**Investigators and Agency Representative:**  
NPS Contact: Judith Visty, Research Administrator, Rocky Mountain National Park,  
1000 Highway 36 Estes Park, CO 80517; Judy\_Visty@nps.gov; 970/586-1302

Investigator: Ben Baldwin, Utah State University, EnvS Dept. 5215 Old Main Hill, Logan, UT 84322-5215, 435-797-2582, [ben.baldwin@usu.edu](mailto:ben.baldwin@usu.edu)

Researcher: Emily Yost, Utah State University, EnvS Dept. 5215 Old Main Hill, Logan, UT 84322-5215; [esyost@gmail.com](mailto:esyost@gmail.com); 610/360-9152

#### **Project Abstract:**

This project is a partnership between Utah State University and the National Park Service. The objective is to provide high quality science writing, editorial services, and communication planning assistance to Rocky Mountain National Park Resource Stewardship staff by working cooperatively with USU staff and students with skills and abilities in resource communication.

**Task 1. Develop or edit written scopes of work for future task agreements. (The final number will depend on complexity of agreements, but we anticipate the employee will be involved with finalizing 5-8 scopes of work)** For this task, USU research associate will work closely with Research Administrator in Rocky Mountain National Park to craft scopes of work to be included in task agreements for research projects that the park is funding in 2008. Research associate will be expected to interact with park staff to understand research information needs, and with potential investigators to understand methods, budgets, and project constraints. In some cases, research associate will review scopes of work prepared by others for completeness. In all cases, research associate will be responsible for finalizing the agreement template and the scopes of work to ensure that it is in the format required by the CESU NPS research coordinator.

**Task 2. Write 2-3 one page "research summaries" using park template.** USU research associate will review project descriptions, technical reports and scientific reprints to develop one-page summaries of completed research projects related to the management of elk and vegetation within Rocky Mountain National Park. Feedback on summary drafts will be provided by a small writing team. As time allows, associate will review similar summaries written by others. Summaries will also undergo review by a scientist.

**Task 3. Develop a communication plan and related communication tools for the park's Elk and Vegetation Management Plan.** Based on the park's Elk and Vegetation Management Plan, the research associate will develop communication tools explaining new and somewhat controversial initiatives. A team of "park experts" will assist in identifying audiences and messages but associate will have primary responsibility in creating best products. Products will be reviewed by park's lead Elk and Vegetation Management Plan manager.

**Outcomes with Completion Dates:** Due by December 30, 2010: 5-8 Task Agreement Scopes of Work, 2-3 One-page research project summaries, 1 Communication plan (<5 pages in length) regarding Elk and Vegetation Management Plan implementation actions, and 3-5 Communication tools related to elk and vegetation

**Keywords:** Rocky Mountain National Park, Utah State University, science writing, editorial services, communication planning

