

Project Summary

Rocky Mountains Cooperative Ecosystem Studies Unit

Project Title: Workplace Implementation of Innovation/Adoption Strategies to Improve the Use of Science in Management Decisions

Discipline: Interdisciplinary
Type of Project: Education
Funding Agency: National Park Service
Other Partners/Cooperators: Utah State University
Effective August 1, 2008 - June 1, 2011
Funding Amount: \$19,151

Investigators and Agency Representative:

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Abstract: The Division of Resource Stewardship at Rocky Mountain National Park has a history of science-based decision making and practicing adaptive management. The Division's nearly 100 staff members are challenged annually to implement a complex and dynamic program in the interest of preserving resources for future generations. Annually, more than 80 researchers probe the park to discover new knowledge. Though the group has been historically very effective, two concepts are limiting the performance of the organization - 1. a deep understanding of science and 2. innovation and adoption of new ideas in a complex social framework, with inertia. This project will use experts from Utah State to develop a short course to instruct staff and managers at ROMO on how to use science in decision making and how to adopt innovation in the workplace.

Outcomes with Completion Dates: (1) February 1, 2009 - Scoping field trip complete; (2) July 1, 2009 - Curriculum developed, (3) October 1, 2010 - Short course complete; workplan items integrating concepts complete, (4) July 1, 2010 - Assessment complete to determine effectiveness of application of concepts, (5) October 1, 2010 - 'Lessons learned' summary presented; new workplan items developed

Keywords: Utah State University, Rocky Mountain NP, science-based decision making, course, education