

## **Project Summary**

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

**Project Title:** Science Communication Assistance

**Discipline:** Interdisciplinary  
**Type of Project:** Education & Technical Assistance  
**Funding Agency:** National Park Service  
**Other Partners/Cooperators:** Utah State University  
**Effective Dates:** August 1, 2010 - **December 31, 2011**  
**Funding Amount:** \$41,190

**Investigators and Agency Representative:**

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**Abstract:** The Southern Plains Network (SOPN) has 11 NPS units working to disseminate science information through one website, the Learning Center of the American Southwest, which is still in development and in need of content from the parks. Yellowstone National Park has a Science Communications Office that works to keep managers, researchers, and the public informed about the results of research taking place in the park. The three park units of the Greater Yellowstone Inventory and Monitoring Network (Yellowstone and Grand Teton National Parks and Bighorn Canyon National Recreation Area) have joined to create a Greater Yellowstone Science Learning Center that is currently focused on science communication for each unit using one website, and YELL currently manages the bulk of the workload for maintaining it. Through this Task Agreement, SOPN and YELL seek to work cooperatively in this effort with Utah State University because of a record of high quality natural resource communication efforts by USU faculty and staff concerning these and other national parks.

Outcomes with Completion Dates: October 1, 2011

List of Products: Written, edited, and professionally laid out Natural Resource Condition Assessments and science communication products for the Southern Plains Network and Yellowstone's Science Communications Office.

**Keywords:** Utah State University, Southern Plains Inventory & Monitoring Network, Yellowstone National Park, Natural Resource Condition Assessments, research learning center content, annual and other reports, quarterly magazines