

## **Project Completion Report Rocky Mountains Cooperative Ecosystem Studies Unit (RM-CESU)**

**Project Title:** Lessons Learned and Success Stories: Recruiting, Retention and Outreach Materials Development Related to National Park Service Relevancy

**Project Code (such as UMT-72 and/or the “J” number):** Award Number: P11AT10723 / USURM-102, Agreement Number H1200-09-0004

**Type of Project (Research, Technical Assistance or Research):** Technical Assistance

**Funding Agency:** National Park Service

**Partner University:** Utah State University

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**Principal Investigators (with complete contact information):** Mark Brunson, Utah State University, EnvS Dept. 5215 Old Main Hill, Logan, UT 84322-5215; mark.brunson@usu.edu; 435/797-2458

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

**Start Date of Project:** August 1, 2011

**End Date of Project:** December 31, 2012

**Funding Amount:** \$14,970

**Project Summary, including descriptions of project deliverables, work accomplished and/or major results. If the information is restricted (e.g. location of endangered species or cultural resources), indicate the title and location of the final report. Also add web sites where project-related information may be found.**

Emily Yost, Utah State University (RM-CESU cooperator), worked with Rocky Mountain National Park NPS staff to edit, write, and/or professionally design and layout communication products including: recruiting materials, competencies and other materials for interns and new employees, reference materials for program participants, calendar and other materials promoting the efforts of the NPS to connect with youth and promote agency relevancy, support for program development and planning assistance, and other documents. Through this work, Emily:

- Led effort to create Continental Divide Research Learning Center calendar sharing successes and lessons learned with other parks and partners; designed calendar in three versions (letter, tabloid, and desktop theme), prepared text, found appropriate connections with Call to Action,

incorporated review comments. The park received good feedback about this effort and expressed interest in making it an annual product.

- Provided substantial edits and feedback for “Steps to Success” packet, intended to make the federal hiring process more clear for employees beginning NPS careers; incorporated comments and layout improvements.
- Supported development of products related to Passing the Torch initiative. Created an InDesign template for Passing the Torch interviews; edited five existing interviews, incorporated NPS suggestions and edits. Edited and formatted other Passing the Torch materials for other park units to use (one request from Acadia): interview checklist, interview questions, interview tips, and pre-interview questionnaire. Drafted introduction to materials and reflections based on the first five interviews.
- Began preliminary search of youth internship programs in the NPS and by partner organizations.
- Reviewed, and edited draft stage briefs on park involvement in several programs (climate change interns and fellows, Eagle Rock School partnership, Groundwork Denver partnership, 50-50 hiring program)
- Reviewed potential opportunities for collaboration upon request.
- Provided feedback and editing on ProRanger TRADES concept proposal.
- Provided support for other youth programs, including feedback on proposed competencies and collecting photos for use by NPS Youth Programs Division.
- Provided suggestions for administrative and logistical record of panning for National Geographic/National Park Service Bioblitz in park (August 2012).
- Edited 2011 Eagle Rock Handbook and Workbooks; provided feedback about potential use for seasonals.
- Provided support as needed for summary materials related to literature review of English publications on studies conducted in Rocky Mountain and its sister park in the Tatra Mountains (Poland and Slovakia).

Electronic copies of all products were provided to Ben Baldwin/Judy Visty, Rocky Mountain National Park.

**Number of students participating in this project: 0**