

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

Project Title: Science Communications Assistance

Project Code: P11AT10741 / USURM-103, Agreement Number H1200-09-0004

Type of Project: Technical Assistance

Funding Agency: National Park Service

Partner University: Utah State University

NPS Agreements Technical Representative: Tami Blackford; National Park Service, PO Box 168, Yellowstone National Park, Wyoming 82190; 307-344-2204; tami_blackford@nps.gov

Principal Investigator: 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: \$10,000

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.

Utah State University researcher Emily Yost worked with Janine Waller (Acting Editor, Yellowstone) and Tami Blackford (Editor, Science Communication Lead at YELL) to collaboratively develop, edit, write, and lay out science communications products for YELL and content for the Greater Yellowstone Science Learning Center website. Science communication products included Research Learning Center content, organizing scientific conferences and meetings, annual and other reports, quarterly magazines, and other documents.

GYSLC (www.greateryellowstonescience.org)

- Work with Bighorn Canyon staff to update park GYSLC content, including peregrine falcons and cultural topics
- Performed website content maintenance: updated links, references, and/or content for Yellowstone birds, trumpeter swans, fish, and aquatic resources.
- Manage 11th biennial conference website content and planning committee logistics

11th Biennial Scientific Conference on the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem
(<http://gyesciconf.greateryellowstonescience.org/>)

Emily is leading the planning effort of this biennial conference co-sponsored by the GYSLC.

This effort includes:

- Coordinate and oversee conference logistics, implementation of program, and associated volunteers and vendors
- Secured sound services and poster display panels for conference
- Facilitated selections of program committee and prepared invitations
- Manage overall conference budget, work with science communication office staff; work cooperatively with all conference sponsors; coordinate financial and in-kind assistance
- Manage conference website content hosted by the GYSLC; added lists of previous conference speakers and program committee members to website with assistance from science communication office staff
- Manage abstract submission process. Prepared submissions packet for committee to review and meeting agenda. Coordinate abstract selection meeting in Bozeman.
- Prepared and manage mailing list for 2012 conference. Created database for conference series.
- Support conference program committee by planning meetings, taking notes, acting on tasks that result from meetings
- Plan, write, send, and coordinate e-blasts, press releases, and correspondence with authors and keynote speakers.
- Coordinated invitations of keynote speakers, including NPS Director Jon Jarvis
- Prepared materials to support conference approval from Washington
- Worked with YCR colleague to prepare logos for future conference while the file was active.
- Prepared mailing labels for 2010 conference proceedings

Additional science meeting assistance

- Provided assistance to oral history wolf symposium immediately following conference by locating addresses for invitations; provided guidance on cost of meals; working with symposium planner to anticipate overlap
- Researched facilities in three locations for tribal consultation meetings. Provided recommendations to cultural resources branch chief.

Final products were provided in electronic form to Janine Waller/Tami Blackford at YELL.

Number of students participating in this project: undergraduates, graduate students, degrees conferred. 0