

## **Project Summary**

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

**Project Title:** Preparation of a Natural Resource Condition Assessment Reports for Bent's Old Fort, Fort Davis, and Fort Larned National Historic Sites

**Discipline:** Natural  
**Type of Project:** Technical Assistance  
**Funding Agency:** National Park Service  
**Other Partners/Cooperators:** Utah State University  
**Effective Dates:** 9/1/2012 - 9/31/2014  
**Funding Amount:** \$42,463

**Investigators and Agency Representative:**

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**Project Abstract:** Natural resource managers seek science-based information for use in a variety of resource planning and decision-making activities, and for use in program accountability reporting to upper level managers and the general public. This project will compile, synthesize, and help translate existing scientific data from diverse sources to provide Bent's Old Fort NHS (BEOL), Fort Davis NHS (FODA) and Fort Larned NHS (FOLS) managers a perspective on current condition status for a subset of important park natural resources. The objective is to place existing scientific data and knowledge into a context and format(s) that ensure its usefulness to park managers for park planning, decision making, and accountability reporting purposes.

**USU will** in conjunction with SOPN and NPS park staff, assemble the data and information for resources from each of the three parks (BEOL, FODA, and FOLS) into three well written reports following the general organization from Natural Resources Condition Assessment (NRCA) guidelines.

Each report will include the following chapters:

1. NRCA Background Information (largely boiler plate language)
2. Introduction and Resource Setting (based on SOPN and CHDN Monitoring Plans)
3. Study Scoping and Design (summarizing approach taken for these reports)
4. Natural Resource Condition
5. Resource Summaries

**Outcomes with Completion Dates:**

31 December 2013 - Draft final Condition Assessment Reports  
31 March 2014 - Final Condition Assessment Reports

**Keywords:** Southern Plains Network, Bent's Old Fort NHS, Fort Davis NHS, and Fort Larned NHS, Utah State University, Natural Resource Condition Assessment Reports