Project Summary Rocky Mountains Cooperative Ecosystem Studies Unit

Project Title: Science Communication Assistance, Greater Yellowstone Science Learning Center

Discipline: Interdisciplinary Type of Project: Technical Assistance/Education Funding Agency: National Park Service Other Partners/Cooperators: Utah State University Effective Dates: 6/1/2012 - 12/31/2014 Funding Amount: \$64,833

Investigators and Agency Representative:

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

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

Project Abstract: 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 office works on a variety of publications and supports or organizes park science-related conferences and workshop and all of the associated products.

The three park units of the Greater Yellowstone Inventory and Monitoring Network (GRYN; 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, YELL, seeks to work cooperatively in these efforts 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.

In conjunction with YELL, BICA, and other NPS staff, edit, write, and/or professionally design and layout science communication and interpretive products with special emphasis on the parks of the Greater Yellowstone Inventory and Monitoring Network. In conjunction with NPS staff, other partners, and conference sponsors, the cooperator will lead the logistics team for the 11th Biennial Scientific Conference on the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem and provide support for and facilitation of other resource-related workshops, including the associated event materials.

Outcomes with Completion Dates: 12/31/2014

- Three interpretive brochures for the Delaware Water Gap NHP
- eight signs for an interpretive trail focusing on Archeology in Bighorn Canyon NRA
- edited and professionally laid out science communication products for Yellowstone's Science Communications Office; and
- facilitation and products for the 11th Biennial Scientific Conference on the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem and other agreed upon workshops will be produced under this Task Agreement.

Keywords: Greater Yellowstone Science Learning Center, Greater Yellowstone Inventory and Monitoring Network (GRYN; Yellowstone and Grand Teton National Parks and Bighorn Canyon National Recreation Area, Utah State University, science writing, editing services, communication planning