

Project Summary
Rocky Mountains Cooperative Ecosystem Studies Unit

Project Title: Provide Geologic Support to Yellowstone National Park
Type of Project: Technical Assistance/physical science
Funding Agency: National Park Service
Effective Dates: October 1, 2002 - August 30, 2003
Funding Amount: \$57,115
Investigators and Agency Representative: NPS KEY OFFICIAL: Tom Olliff, Yellowstone NP, Yellowstone Center for Resources, POB 168, Yellowstone NP, WY 82190; 307-344-2513, tom_olliff@nps.gov PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR: Hank Heasler, University of Wyoming, Laramie, WY 82071, hank heasler@nps.gov
Project Abstract: The Yellowstone Center for Resources has had a need for a professional geologist to manage the geothermal/geology resources program at Yellowstone NP. Dr. Henry Heasler from the University of Wyoming has been detailed by the University of Wyoming to Yellowstone NP since 2002 to guide the park's Geologic Resources Section. His research on the geothermal systems of Wyoming give him a singular understanding of geothermal systems, underground heat transfer, possible impacts from geothermal development, and geothermal hazards. His work in database management and the use of GIS for managing and sharing information will allow him to manage and analyze data collected regarding Yellowstone's geologic resources, and share this information to help preserve and protect these resources. His management skills will allow him to effectively manage this program and supervise other geologists to meet program goals. His appointment is authorized under the Intergovernmental Personnel Act. Dr. Heasler will develop and implement a plan for monitoring and managing the park's geologic resources. Dr. Heasler will provide geologic expertise when needed to the Director, Yellowstone Center for Resources, the Branch Chief, Natural Resources, and other Yellowstone Division Chiefs and employees. He will review written educational and environmental compliance documents with regard to geologic resources and provide written comments.
Outcomes with completion dates: Dr. Heasler will serve as the Geology section chief until May 2003. A geology program plan will be available by the end of his tenure.
Keywords: Yellowstone National Park, geology, geothermal resources, Intergovernmental Personnel Act
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