

Rocky Mountains Cooperative Ecosystem Studies Unit
Project Summary

Project Title: Digital Junior Ranger Research and Experiential Development

Task Agreement: P18AC00848

Mods:

Discipline: Interdisciplinary

Type of Project: Education/Technical Assistance

Funding Agency: National Park Service

Other Partners/Cooperators: Western State Colorado University

Student Participation: yes

Effective Dates: September 1, 2018 – September 1, 2023

Funding Amount: \$163,388

Investigators and Agency Representative:

NPS Contact: Carole Wendler, Chief of Interpretation, National Trails Intermountain Region, National Park Service, (505) 988-6092, carole_wendler@nps.gov

Investigator: Melanie Armstrong, Director, Center for Public Lands, Assistant Professor, 970-943-2233; marmstrong@western.edu

Project Abstract: Engaging students at an educational institution with the capacity to produce a variety of digital products in the research and exploratory development of a prototype digital Junior Ranger program for national historic trails (NHTs) that when completed will engage youth ages 9-12 in stories of US history across multiple states.

Project Objectives --

1. Students and faculty will connect with the NHT stories
2. Students will gain awareness of the diversity of NPS programs and opportunities for employment
3. Students will show an increased interest in trail stewardship and support
4. The Partner and NPS will cooperatively develop multiple program prototypes
5. The Partner and NPS will cooperatively develop media for family audiences that meets universal design, accessibility and NPS standards