

## **Project Summary**

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

**Project Title:** Study of Ranch Management at George Lane's Bar U: Transmission of Practices from Conrad Kohrs of Montana

**Discipline:** Social Science  
**Type of Project:** Research  
**Funding Agency:** National Park Service  
**Other Partners/Cooperators:** Washington State University  
**Effective Dates:** 7/1/2008 - 5/31/2010  
**Funding Amount:** \$4,000

**Investigators and Agency Representative:**

NPS Contact: Chris Ford, Grant-Kohrs Ranch National Historic Site, 266 Warren Lane, Deer Lodge MT 59722, 406-846-2070, x240, [chris\\_ford@nps.gov](mailto:chris_ford@nps.gov)

Investigator: Matthew S. Carroll, Department of Natural Resource Sciences  
Johnson Hall 183, Washington State University, Pullman WA 99164-6410  
509-335-2235, [carroll@mail.wsu.edu](mailto:carroll@mail.wsu.edu)

Researcher: Brandon Chapman, Washington State University - Dept. of Anthropology  
14204 NE Salmon Creek Ave. Vancouver, WA 98686 Phone (cell): 360-314-8214  
Phone (office): 360-546-9488; [bchapman@wsu.edu](mailto:bchapman@wsu.edu)

Project Abstract: Through this project, Washington State University will work cooperatively with the National Park Service to prepare a historical study of changes in economic and natural resource management at GRKO in southwest Montana, focusing on its first half-century of operation. Works on the first ranch owners, Johnny Grant and Conrad Kohrs, along with numerous primary sources on-file at GRKO provide frequent entries during this period. Archived local and regional newspapers provide further stories of daily life, management practices, and transactions at the ranch. The researchers will also access correspondence from George Lane of the Bar U Ranch in Alberta, Canada, and will then write a second report concerning the linkages between Kohrs and Lane. As part of the project, Chapman, a Washington State University doctorate student, will perform archival research on-site and for additional library study over an 18-month period. The student and PI will then edit and co-author a report together for the NPS.

**Outcomes with Completion Dates:**

Final report due by 12/31/2009

**Keywords:** Ranching history, management methods, George Lane, Bar U Ranch, Grant-Kohrs Ranch NHS, Washington State University