Project Summary Rocky Mountains Cooperative Ecosystem Studies Unit

Project Title: United States Geological Survey Strategic On-Line Communication Plan

Discipline: Interdisciplinary Type of Project: Technical Assistance Funding Agency: USGS Other Partners/Cooperators: Colorado State University Student Participation: Effective Dates: 07/15/2016 - 07/14/2020 Funding Amount: \$75,000.00

Investigators and Agency Representative:

USGS Contact: Rudy Schuster USGS Fort Collins Science Center 2150 Centre Ave., Building C Fort Collins, CO 80523 Phone: 970-226-9165 Email: schusterr@usgs.gov

Investigator: Dr. Joseph G. Champ Campus Delivery 1785 Colorado State University Fort Collins, CO 80523 Phone: 970-391-4938 Email: Joseph.Champ@colostate.edu

Project Abstract: The goal of this research is to develop a replicable strategy for identifying and mapping information-based science narratives important for the USGS mission. Based upon contemporary communication theory and practice literature, will analyze the extent to which these accounts are being framed in agency communications, and identify effective ecosystems science messaging strategies. In addition to distinguishing successful science communication efforts, will offer suggestions for improving message framing deemed less effective. Ultimately, this work will inform the design of a USGS administered web platform which will serve as a gathering/dissemination point for science-based communication.

Keywords: On-line communication, science-based, mapping, USGS, Colorado State University