Rocky Mountains Cooperative Ecosystem Studies Unit Project Summary

Project Title: Effects of Drought and Flow Regulation on Growth of Plains Cottonwood along the Wind

River, Wyoming

Task Agreement #: G18AC00030 Modification(s):

Discipline: Natural

Type of Project: Research Funding Agency: USGS

Other Partners/Cooperators: Colorado State University

Student Participation:

Effective Dates: 5/15/3018 – 5/14/2019

Funding Amount: \$37,627.00

Investigators and Agency Representative:

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Investigator: Derek Schook, Colorado State University Fort Collins, CO; derek.schook@colostate.edu

Project Abstract: The goal of this research is to study the effect of flow variation on growth and isotope chemistry of plains cottonwood trees (*Populus deltoides* subspecies *monilifera*) along the Wind River, Wyoming.

The specific objectives for this research are:

- 1. Reconstruct Wind River flow from 1790 to present using cottonwood ring widths and stable isotopes.
- 2. Test the hypothesis that flow declines along the Wind River are reducing cottonwood growth and vigor.