

Project Summary

Rocky Mountains Cooperative Ecosystem Studies Unit

Project Title: Vegetation and Biological Soil Sampling and Data Analysis for the Wyoming Landscape Conservation Initiative (WLCI) and Other Vegetation Research Partners

Type of Project: Technical Assistance

Project Discipline: Natural

Funding Agency: USGS

Other Partners/Cooperators: Colorado State University

Effective Dates: 9/1/2008 - 8/31/2013

Funding Amount: \$124,300 {FY10: \$32,000; FY09: \$25,036; FY08: \$67,264}

Investigators and Agency Representative:

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Agency: Geneva Chong, USGS northern Rocky Mountains Science Center, 229 AJM Johnson Hall, Bozeman, MT 59717; 307-733-9212 X226; geneva_chong@usgs.gov

Project Abstract:

This research is to analyze previously collected field data to better design, collect, and analyze additional data to provide science-based guidance to resource management decision-making particularly as it relates to addressing the impacts of energy development and climate change.

Objectives include:

- Collect and analyze soil samples (physical, chemical, and microbiological).
- Conduct a pilot near-surface sensing project in the Powder River Basin and/or in the Wyoming Landscapes Conservation Initiative (WLCI) study area.
- Collect and analyze spatial vegetation data (composition and structure) from both study areas
- Maintain and QA/QC the databases
- Field check model results as necessary

Outcomes with completion dates: Final Report is due 8/31/2013

Keywords: Impacts, energy development, climate change, resource management decision-making, Powder River Basin, Wyoming Landscapes Conservation Initiative (WLCI) study area, USGS, Colorado State University