## Project Summary Rocky Mountains Cooperative Ecosystem Studies Unit

**Project Title:** A Regional Study of Eolian Dust Emission and Deposition in the Western US

**Type of Project**: Research

**Project Discipline**: Natural

**Funding Agency: USGS** 

**Other Partners/Cooperators:** 

Effective Dates: August 1, 2007–July 31, 2009

**Funding Amount:** \$23,000.00

## **Investigators and Agency Representative:**

Jason Neff, Geological Sciences, University of Colorado at Boulder, phone: 303-492-6187; email: Jason.C.Neff@colorado.edu

## **Project Abstract:**

Goals and Objectives:

- 1. Establish a wind erosion monitoring project using BSNE collectors in a range of vegetation types and land use categories in Utah. Up to thirty of these collectors will be deployed in setting that range from lightly to heavily grazed grasslands and shrublands to evaluate the potential for wind erosion in a range of ecological settings.
- 2. Establish an active dust sampling system in the San Jaun Mountains in Colorado in order to examine the chemical composition and biological reactivity to eolian dust from Western US deserts.
- 3. Continue to work on recent lake sediment records in the San Jaun Mountains of Colorado and potentially in other high elevation site to examine the recent paleohistory of dust deposition (and wind erosion) in western US.

Outcomes with completion dates (reports, publications, workshops, videos, etc.):

**Keywords:** Eolian dust, wind erosion, western US