

**Project Summary**  
**Rocky Mountains Cooperative Ecosystem Studies Unit**

**Project Title:** Long Term Data Collection to Support Restoration Design In the Lulu City Wetland, Colorado River and Lulu Creek Corridors, Rocky Mountain National Park, Colorado (2011-2012)

**Discipline:** Natural  
**Type of Project:** Research  
**Funding Agency:** National Park Service  
**Other Partners/Cooperators:** Colorado State University  
**Effective Dates:** 6/1/2011 - 6/30/2013  
**Funding Amount:** \$24,035

**Investigators and Agency Representative:**

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**Project Abstract:** Restoration of the Lulu City wetland and the Lulu Creek and Colorado River riparian zones will be based upon an understanding of current water table depth and landforms and also desired channel/floodplain water table depths, profiles and cross sections, and vegetation composition. Ground water monitoring wells were initially installed in the study area in 2005 and have been monitored in 2005 and 2008, 2009 and 2010. The Colorado State University (CSU) will continue the weekly data collection and analysis process at these wells during the summers of 2011 and 2012 to help perfect our understanding of surface water and ground water interactions, and water table depths in riparian and wetland areas throughout the study area.

CSU will: (1) monitor ground water levels in wells/staff gauges installed in the study area and add data to the long-term record of water levels in the study area and in reference areas selected for use in the restoration planning process, (2) develop final channel/floodplain typical cross sections and vegetation composition for use in restoration planning, (3) provide a summary and synthesis of the existing data after each summer. Data for task 2 would come from both the reference areas, and an analysis of similar streams and wetlands in the region. In addition, we will continue to be available to provide data, analyses and guidance to the EIS process, and any additional needs of Rocky Mountain National Park (RMNP) in the development of the Lulu City area restoration.

**Outcomes with Completion Dates:** Data collection would occur during June-early September of 2011 and 2012. A report will be submitted to NPS in October 2011 and October 2012

**Keywords:** long-term monitoring, restoration, Lulu City wetland, Lulu Creek and Colorado River riparian zones, Rocky Mountain National Park, Colorado State University