Rocky Mountains Cooperative Ecosystem Studies Unit Project Summary

Task Agreement #: P21AC11163

Project Title: Complete Archeological Inventories at Rocky Mountain National Park

Discipline: Interdisciplinary

Type of Project: Technical Assistance/Education

Funding Agency: National Park Service

Other Partners/Cooperators: Colorado State University

Student Participation: NA

Effective Dates: June 1, 2021 – May 31, 2024

Funding Amount \$244,952.00

Investigators and Agency Representative:

Agency Contact: Cheri Yost Park Planner, National Park Service Rocky Mountain National Park 970-586-1320 Cheri yost@nps.gov

Investigator: Jason M. LaBelle

Associate Professor

Department of Anthropology and Geography

970-491-7360

Jason.labelle@colostate.edu

Project Abstract:

Project goals: The goal of this project is to conduct archeological inventories in collaboration with associated Indian Tribes at Rocky Mountain National Park (park). The ultimate goal is to understand how humans traversed the rugged mountain terrain and used plant and animal resources. This project is focused on archeological resources located at high elevation areas within the park. The work will be done in collaboration with affiliated tribes in hopes to continue fostering relationships with descendent communities.

Project objectives: At the end of this project the park will have a greater understanding of how humans in the past travelled through the rugged landscape in search of plant and animal resources. The project will result in data collection, and analysis of select high-elevation archeological resources for the purpose of understanding pre-contact and historical use of the park. This information will be gathered and analyzed in collaboration with affiliated tribes and will be used to develop interpretive and educational media to inform the public about how people in the past lived within the park.