

Project Completion Report

Rocky Mountains Cooperative Ecosystem Studies Unit (RM-CESU)

Project Title: Provide Technical Assistance to the Great Northern LCC

Project Code: P12AC10564; MSU-246

Type of Project : Technical Assistance

Funding Agency: National Park Service

Partner University: Montana State University

NPS Agreement Technical Representative: Tom Olliff, GNLCC, National Park Service, 2327 University Way, Suite 2, Bozeman, MT 59715, (406)-994- 7920; tom_olliff@nps.gov

Principal Investigators: Cathy Whitlock, Director of Interdisciplinary Science Initiatives and Professor Earth Sciences, Montana State University, 200 Traphagen Hall, Bozeman, MT 59715, (406) 994-6910, (406) 994-6923, whitlock@montana.edu

Start Date of Project: Start Date: June 4, 2012

End Date of Project: September 30, 2015

Funding Amount: \$20,000

Project Summary,

-Helped plan and facilitate Steering Committee meetings for the GNLCC, including logistics, facilitation, and providing light snacks and occasional sponsored lunches and meeting room rental. Attendees at these meetings will include managers from multiple state and federal agencies including the Bureau of Land Management, National Park Service, US Forest Service, US Fish & Wildlife Service, and US Geological Survey, along with the States of Idaho, Montana, Oregon, Washington and Wyoming, Tribal Governments and Canadian Provinces. The purpose of the meetings is to formulate the Steering Committee and get agreement on the structure and method of GNLCC operation, priorities for the LCC and to allocate funding. As planner and facilitator Scott will help translate the Advisory Team recommendations into documents such as meeting prospectus, purpose and needs statement, and web site content. Meetings included Steering Committee Meetings in Kamloops, British Columbia, October 2012; Leavenworth, Washington, May 2013; and planning for the Steering Committee Meeting in Waterton, Alberta, to be held October 2013.

-Helped to plan and facilitate Advisory Team Science Planning meeting, Leavenworth, Washington, May 2013:

-Handled meeting logistics before and during the meetings. This includes reserving the meeting facilities, sending out notices to participants, arranging for delivery of advanced materials and

handouts, and design of the meeting agendas. Responsible for sending out invitations and assisting with individual speaker's travel arrangements.

-During the 3-4 multi-day meetings, facilitator Scott Bischke worked as the facilitator and recorder of the meeting proceedings. He produced and brought the handouts and materials to be distributed at the meeting, and made sure that all AV equipment were available and in working order.

-Following the meeting Scott Bischke wrote up the notes, summarized recommendations, and worked with the NPS meeting organizers to assign follow up actions by participants. He wrote up and distributed a final report of the proceedings to the partners and the public.

Number of students participating in this project: undergraduates, graduate students, degrees conferred. One MSU student intern participated during the summer of 2012

Lessons Learned from this project:

Montana State University (MSU) is developing a strong partnership with the Great Northern LCC (GNLCC). In particular, MSU has worked to provide relevant scientific results as well as communications and facilitation support to the GNLCC through hosting the GNLCC Interim Website (www.nrmssc.usgs.gov/gnlcc) and current website (<http://greatnorthernlcc.org>), providing staff and technical expertise to develop a Directory of Conservation Landscape Initiatives, Conservation Organizations, and Inventory and Monitoring, and providing expertise for facilitating GNLCC Steering Committee and other Meetings. GNLCC maintains offices adjacent to Montana State University for the purpose of acquiring academic and student input into the preparation and implementation of landscape conservation programs. The newly-formed Institute on Ecosystems (IoE) shares a similar mission to the GNLCC—to synthesize and communicate scientific understanding about the Greater Yellowstone and other large, complex ecosystems—and we expect that, as the two organizations grow, we will find opportunities to leverage both to achieve our complementary missions.

Other RM-CESU agencies or research partners who participated in this project:

Attendees at these meetings will include managers from multiple state and federal agencies including the Bureau of Land Management, National Park Service, US Forest Service, US Fish & Wildlife Service, and US Geological Survey

Project Completion Report

Rocky Mountains Cooperative Ecosystem Studies Unit (RM-CESU)

Project Title: Provide Technical Assistance to the Great Northern LCC

Project Code (such as UMT-72 and/or the “J” or “P” number): P14AC00795 (MSU 262)

Type of Project (Research, Technical Assistance or Education): Technical Assistance

Funding Agency: National Park Service

Partner University: Montana State University

NPS Agreement Technical Representative (with complete contact information): Tom Olliff, GNLCC, National Park Service, 2327 University Way, Suite 2, Bozeman, MT 59715, (406)-994- 7920; tom_olliff@nps.gov

Principal Investigators (with complete contact information): Cathy Whitlock, Director of Interdisciplinary Science Initiatives and Professor Earth Sciences, Montana State University, 200 Traphagen Hall, Bozeman, MT 59715, (406) 994-6910, (406) 994-6923, whitlock@montana.edu

Start Date of Project: Start Date: July 1, 2014

End Date of Project: December 31, 2015

Funding Amount: \$27,500

Project Summary,

-Helped plan and facilitate Steering Committee meetings for the GNLCC, including logistics, facilitation, and providing light snacks and occasional sponsored lunches and meeting room rental. Attendees at these meetings included managers from multiple state and federal agencies including the Bureau of Land Management, National Park Service, US Forest Service, US Fish & Wildlife Service, and US Geological Survey, along with the States of Idaho, Montana, Oregon, Washington and Wyoming, Tribal Governments and Canadian Provinces. The purpose of the meetings is to formulate the Steering Committee and get agreement on the structure and method of GNLCC operation, priorities for the LCC and to allocate funding. As planner and facilitator Scott helped translate the Advisory Team recommendations into documents such as meeting prospectus, purpose and needs statement, and web site content. Meetings included Steering Committee Meetings in Salmon, ID, October 2014; Walla Walla, WA, May 2015; and planning for the Steering Committee Meeting in Missoula, MT, November 2015.

-Handled meeting logistics before and during the meetings. This includes reserving the meeting facilities, sending out notices to participants, arranging for delivery of advanced materials and handouts, and design

of the meeting agendas. Responsible for sending out invitations and assisting with individual speaker's travel arrangements.

-During the 3-4 multi-day meetings, Scott Bischke worked as the facilitator and recorder of the meeting proceedings. He produced and brought the handouts and materials to be distributed at the meeting, and made sure that all AV equipment were available and in working order.

-Following the meeting Scott Bischke wrote up the notes, summarized recommendations, and worked with the NPS meeting organizers to assign follow up actions by participants. He wrote up and distributed a final report of the proceedings to the partners and the public.

All notes, meeting agendas, and presentations can be found on the Great Northern LCC Website at greatnorthernlcc.org.

In addition, MSU 262 provided support for the 12th Biennial Scientific Conference on the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem. This support allowed six students to attend the conference on scholarships. The conference theme, "Crossing Boundaries in Science, Management, and Conservation," focused on the challenges and opportunities posed by crossing environmental, disciplinary, and jurisdictional boundaries in the quest to achieve one greater Yellowstone ecosystem. It was held October 6 – 8, 2014 in Mammoth Hot Springs, Wyoming. The conference brought together scientists, managers and other decision makers to examine resource challenges throughout the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem (GYE) from a variety of perspectives. The goals were to exchange science-based information relevant to management and to identify resource challenges that demand new research.

Number of students participating in this project: undergraduates, graduate students, degrees conferred. Six students attended the Biennial Science Conference.

Lessons Learned from this project:

Montana State University (MSU) is developing a strong partnership with the Great Northern LCC (GNLCC). In particular, MSU has worked to provide relevant scientific results as well as communications and facilitation support to the GNLCC through hosting the GNLCC Interim Website (www.nrmssc.usgs.gov/gnlcc) and current website (<http://greatnorthernlcc.org>), providing staff and technical expertise to develop a Directory of Conservation Landscape Initiatives, Conservation Organizations, and Inventory and Monitoring, and providing expertise for facilitating GNLCC Steering Committee and other Meetings. GNLCC maintains offices adjacent to Montana State University for the purpose of acquiring academic and student input into the preparation and implementation of landscape conservation programs. The Institute of the Environment (IoE) shares a similar mission to the GNLCC—to synthesize and communicate scientific understanding about the Greater Yellowstone and other large, complex ecosystems—and we expect that, as the two organizations grow, we will find opportunities to leverage both to achieve our complementary missions.

Other RM-CESU agencies or research partners who participated in this project:

Attendees at these meetings will include managers from multiple state and federal agencies including the Bureau of Land Management, National Park Service, US Forest Service, US Fish & Wildlife Service, and US Geological Survey

Project Completion Report Rocky Mountains Cooperative Ecosystem Studies Unit (RM-CESU)

Project Title: Provide Technical Assistance to the Great Northern LCC

Project Code: P15AC00355 (MSU 275)

Type of Project (Research, Technical Assistance or Education): Technical Assistance

Funding Agency: National Park Service

Partner University: Montana State University

NPS Agreement Technical Representative (with complete contact information): Tom Olliff, GNLCC, National Park Service, 2327 University Way, Suite 2, Bozeman, MT 59715, (406)-994- 7920; tom_olliff@nps.gov

Principal Investigators (with complete contact information): Cathy Whitlock, Director of Interdisciplinary Science Initiatives and Professor Earth Sciences, Montana State University, 200 Traphagen Hall, Bozeman, MT 59715, (406) 994-6910, (406) 994-6923, whitlock@montana.edu

Start Date of Project: Start Date: April 10, 2015

End Date of Project: June 30, 2016

Funding Amount: \$20,000

Project Summary,

-Helped plan and facilitate Steering Committee meetings for the GNLCC, including logistics, facilitation, and providing light snacks and occasional sponsored lunches and meeting room rental. Attendees at these meetings included managers from multiple state and federal agencies including the Bureau of Land Management, National Park Service, US Forest Service, US Fish & Wildlife Service, and US Geological Survey, along with the States of Idaho, Montana, Oregon, Washington and Wyoming, Tribal Governments and Canadian Provinces. The purpose of the meetings is to formulate the Steering Committee and get agreement on the structure and method of GNLCC operation, priorities for the LCC and to allocate funding. As planner and facilitator Scott helped translate the Advisory Team recommendations into documents such as meeting prospectus, purpose and needs statement, and web site content. Meetings included Steering Committee Meetings in Missoula, MT, November 2015 and Jackson Hole, WY, May 2016.

-Handled meeting logistics before and during the meetings. This includes reserving the meeting facilities, sending out notices to participants, arranging for delivery of advanced materials and handouts, and design of the meeting agendas. Responsible for sending out invitations and assisting with individual speaker's travel arrangements.

-During the 3-4 multi-day meetings, Scott Bischke worked as the facilitator and recorder of the meeting proceedings. He produced and brought the handouts and materials to be distributed at the meeting, and made sure that all AV equipment were available and in working order.

-Following the meeting Scott Bischke wrote up the notes, summarized recommendations, and worked with the NPS meeting organizers to assign follow up actions by participants. He wrote up and distributed a final report of the proceedings to the partners and the public.

All notes, meeting agendas, and presentations can be found on the Great Northern LCC Website at greatnorthernlcc.org.

In addition, Scott facilitated the Resource Managers Connectivity Workshop in April 2015, held in Bozeman, Montana. This workshop brought together over 60 land managers from 5 states and 2 provinces, from federal, state, and provincial agencies, NGOs, and tribes to discuss how to develop a connectivity strategy for the entire Great Northern LCC. This project has since been scoped as a five-year project with 11 focal areas. Funds have been allocated for two years to help focal areas convene local connectivity teams, to facilitate the project and to build tools, like the Connectivity Atlas, to help practitioners develop strategies.

Number of students participating in this project: undergraduates, graduate students, degrees conferred. One graduate student participated directly in the phase of the project.

Lessons Learned from this project:

Montana State University (MSU) is developing a strong partnership with the Great Northern LCC (GNLCC). In particular, MSU has worked to provide relevant scientific results as well as communications and facilitation support to the GNLCC through hosting the GNLCC Interim Website (www.nrmc.usgs.gov/gnlcc) and current website (<http://greatnorthernlcc.org>), providing staff and technical expertise to develop a Directory of Conservation Landscape Initiatives, Conservation Organizations, and Inventory and Monitoring, and providing expertise for facilitating GNLCC Steering Committee and other Meetings. GNLCC maintains offices adjacent to Montana State University for the purpose of acquiring academic and student input into the preparation and implementation of landscape conservation programs. The Institute of the Environment (IoE) shares a similar mission to the GNLCC—to synthesize and communicate scientific understanding about the Greater Yellowstone and other large, complex ecosystems—and we expect that, as the two organizations grow, we will find opportunities to leverage both to achieve our complementary missions.

Other RM-CESU agencies or research partners who participated in this project:

Attendees at these meetings will include managers from multiple state and federal agencies including the Bureau of Land Management, National Park Service, US Forest Service, US Fish & Wildlife Service, and US Geological Survey