**PR Number:** R7179110037

**Award Number:** **P11AT10800 UNM-71**

**Park/NPS Unit: Carlsbad Caverns National Park**

**Title of Project: Baseline Study on the Presence/Absence of *Geomyces destructans* in Park Caves**

**Administered through the: (pick from drop down list):** Colorado Plateau Cooperative Ecosystem Studies Unit Cooperative Agreement Number H1200-09-0005

**CESU Partner (pick from drop down list):** University of New Mexico

**Project Contacts**

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**Funding Information:**

**Amount Funded: $4000**

**Project Dates:**

**Start Date: 09/01/2011**

**Any Other Product Milestone Dates you need to include:** (full dates can go in with the project description) Progress Report, 2/29/2012

**End Date:** (please make end date the last day of the month if possible) 07/31/2012

**PROJECT ABSTRACT:**

Up to 20 soil and guano samples would be retrieved from Carlsbad Cavern (C1), and other caves identified as C7, C22, and C25. These caves are known to have significant summer bat use. Collected samples would be analyzed through DNA identification for the fungus Geomyces destructans. This fungus is the known agent that brings on White-Nose Syndrome in hibernating bats. This study would provide baseline information for the presence/absence of the fungus before it moves into the State of New Mexico. Other fungus would be identified from the collected samples as well.