**PR Number:** R8100110357

**Award Number:** **P11AT10613 UAZCP-271**

**Park/NPS Unit:** Intermountain Region Museum Services Program

**Title of Project:** Provide Assistance to Identify Natural History Collections at Non-Federal Repositories

**Administered through the:**

[x] Colorado Plateau Cooperative Ecosystem Studies Unit Cooperative Agreement Number H1200-09-0005

[ ] Desert Southwest Cooperative Ecosystem Studies Unit Cooperative Agreement Number H1200-10-0001

[ ] Rocky Mountains Cooperative Ecosystem Studies Unit Cooperative Agreement Number H1200-09-0004

**CESU Partner:** University of Arizona Board of Regents

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**Researcher (if appropriate):** None

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**Funding Information:**

**Amount Funded:** $25,000.00

**Project Dates:**

**Start Date:**  September 16, 2011

**Any Other Product Milestone Dates you need to include:** Final Project Report – July 30, 2013

**End Date:**  October 31, 2013

**PROJECT ABSTRACT:**

Research of all kinds has been taking place in National Park Service (NPS) units for over a century. While the NPS traditionally has had control of the cultural specimens derived from archeological research, natural history specimens and their associated field records are largely unknown and undocumented, unless they were collected by park staff and immediately deposited with the park unit. The results of outside research in NPS units have not been captured appropriately and as a result, the specimens resulting from this collecting activity have been deposited in institutions all over the United States and some internationally. Because little information exists for natural history collections stored in non-federal repositories parks are not able to plan for permanent curation for or able to report on these specimens as backlog collections on individual park Collection Management Reports (CMR). This project is designed as a pilot study to create and test a process that could be used for identifying NPS-owned natural history museum collections that are currently stored in non-federal repositories (universities or private/state museums) and inform on costs for this work. The focus is specimens, samples, and field records from parks in the Intermountain Region. The project will provide diverse entry-level opportunities in the areas of museum collections research and museum database work for students.