

Award Number (for administrative use only:

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PROJECT ABSTRACT

Colorado Plateau Cooperative Ecosystem Studies Unit (Cooperative Agreement # H1200-09-0005)

Park: *Bryce Canyon National Park*

Project Title: **BRYCE CANYON NATIONAL PARK INVENTORY OF PALEONTOLOGICAL RESOURCES IN CRETACEOUS ROCKS: COLLECTION MANAGEMENT**

Funding Amount: \$36,787.00

CPCESU Partner Institution: *Weber State University*

Principal Investigator: *Dr. Jeff Eaton, Department of Geosciences, Campus Box 2507, Weber State University, Ogden, UT 84408-2507, (801) 626-6225, jeaton@weber.edu*

NPS Key Official/ATR: *Laura Schrage, Bryce Canyon National Park, Natural Resource Specialist, PO Box 640201, Bryce Canyon, Utah 84764, (435) 834-4751, laura_schrage@nps.gov*

Start Date: *May 1, 2010*

End Date: *December 31, 2011*

Abstract: *A paleontological inventory was initiated in Bryce Canyon National Park (BCNP) in 2006 because of the discovery of numerous significant Cretaceous vertebrate localities discovered over more than a decade prior to that. Over the past four years (2006-2009) Dr. Jeff Eaton, along with various students, has systematically prospected Bryce Canyon. Over 100 new localities were identified including vertebrate, invertebrate, and plant localities. To test and evaluate localities for microvertebrates, sacks of matrix were collected and processed by wet screen-washing (in 2009 3,500 lbs was collected). This project has supported numerous undergraduate and graduate research projects. Research continues on the fossils that were collected, with BCNP specimens included in papers on mammals, amphibians, fish, lizards, and crabs. The 2010 field season will focus on collection of better samples from important localities, collections management, and dissemination of findings.*

Keywords: **Geology – Paleontology**