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Park/NPS Unit: CARE

Title of Project: Year 2, Paiutes of Capitol Reef National Park

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): Utah State University

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Funding Information:

Amount Funded: \$10,000

Project Dates:

Start Date: May 5, 2011

End Date: December 31, 2012

PROJECT ABSTRACT:

The Koosharem Band of the Paiute Indian Tribe of Utah has strong ancestral ties to Capitol Reef National Park. The Koosharem Band Council and the Paiute Tribal Council is interested in collecting Traditional Ecological Knowledge from its elders, as well as obtaining other available data and research from agencies, universities, and other sources to compile into useable reports and maps for the creation of a Paiute Land Use Plan. The Paiute tribe is a growing tribe of about 850 people. The Koosharem band, headquartered in Richfield, Utah, has 130 members, and is comprised of bands that coalesced following pioneer settlement in the 19th century. The outcomes and products (including oral histories, historical and natural history reviews, a Paiute ethnographic map, and field trips) of this proposal will provide an important and essential source of information supplementing the park's current resource base of documents, studies and artifacts. Research into these new materials would increase the ability of park interpreters to better express this theme, and provide opportunities for the public to more deeply understand the resources and landscape of Capitol Reef from the perspective of the Paiute people. Students would learn about and apply methods for understanding the connections between Native American Indian people and the land, and how management of the national parks and other lands may affect those connections.