

## **Project Summary**

### **Rocky Mountains Cooperative Ecosystem Studies Unit**

**Project Title:** BLM/SKC Student Internship Program

**Discipline:** Interdisciplinary  
**Type of Project:** Education/Technical Assistance  
**Funding Agency:** Bureau of Land Management  
**Other Partners/Cooperators:** University of Montana  
**Effective Dates:** 6/12/2012 to 6/10/2017  
**Funding Amount:** \$131,000

**Investigators and Agency Representative:**

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Investigator: Robert Kenning, Salish Kootenai, College, PO Box 70, Pablo, MT 59855;  
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**Project Abstract:** The purpose of this program is to fund BLM internships with Native students, as to give students valuable experiential learning opportunities, and increase the number of students pursuing future careers with the BLM. Internships duties will be of a natural resources theme, for example: forestry, recreation management, and water resource management.

Internships may be full time positions during students' ~12-week summer break, or part-time positions during the academic year. Timing of internships can be flexible, as agreed upon by BLM & SKC, dependent on BLM project needs, and student schedules.

Students often develop research/management posters of summer internships, or expand their internship experience into Senior Thesis projects. Participating students will be encouraged to expand their internship experience thus, under mentorship of SKC faculty. Posters & thesis presentations will allow interns to compile & summarize what they have learned, and, being displayed at SKC, advertise the BLM internship opportunity to future applicants.

Funding increased in 2014 for Lewistown - 1 Recreation Intern, 1 Realty Program Intern, Missoula - 1 Forestry Intern, Fort Benton - 2 Recreation Program Interns.

**Keywords:** Bureau of Land Management, Montana, Salish Kootenai College, student interns.