

Rocky Mountains Cooperative Ecosystem Studies Unit
Project Summary

Project Title: Train Student Intern in Fulfilling Cultural Resource Preservation Laws and Conducting Needs Assessments that Support American Indian and other Traditionally Associated Peoples Relationship with National Park Lands

Task Agreement #: P18AC00892 Modification(s): 2
Discipline: Cultural
Type of Project: Technical Assistance/Education
Funding Agency: National Park Service
Other Partners/Cooperators: University of Colorado - Denver
Student Participation: Yes - interns
Effective Dates: January 11, 2021 through May 31, 2021
Funding Amount: \$39,000

Investigators and Agency Representative:

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Project Abstract:

Project Goals – As a National Park Service Intermountain Regional (IMR) Anthropologist and manager of both the IMR Applied Ethnography Program and the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA) Program, ATR Sucec will mentor a student intern in conducting needs assessments of all 84 IMR national parks to learn what is needed related to “ethnographic resources” and related to compliance with NAGPRA. That will then determine the work both programs will conduct in subsequent years that will facilitate the resource management of ethnographic resources and NAGPRA items in all of the 84 parks, and especially for building and enhancing relationships of traditionally associated peoples, including American Indian tribes, with IMR’s 84 national parks.

Project Objectives – The needs assessment that the student intern will be conducting throughout the approximate year of work will include: (a) calling each park and learning what ethnographic informational needs they have related to helping their understanding of the resources they manage that are associated with stakeholders inclusive of American Indian tribes and other traditionally associated peoples. This can and will include requesting information about any contentious or conflictual relationships the parks may have with stakeholders and that additional information can provide to help resolve problems; (2) At the same time, the student intern will also ask about the NAGPRA items – human remains and associated funerary objects – they have in their Collection and what is needed to help them repatriation according to the NAGPRA law; and (3) produce a spreadsheet of needs by park for use in determining work plans for both programs in out-years, and ideally enable the funding of another student intern to help with accomplishing that work in out-years.

Keywords: Cultural Resource Preservation Laws, Needs assessment, Native American, American Indian, University of Colorado-Denver, National Park Service