

Project Summary

Rocky Mountains Cooperative Ecosystem Studies Unit

Project Title: Innovations in Communicating Science at Yellowstone National Park, Phase 3

Discipline: Interdisciplinary
Type of Project: Technical Assistance/Education
Funding Agency: National Park Service
Other Partners/Cooperators: University of Idaho
Student Participation: Yes, intern
Effective Dates: 6/1/2016 - 12/31/2017
Funding Amount: 26,037

Investigators and Agency Representative:

NPS Contact: Sarah Haas, Science Program Coordinator, Yellowstone Center for Resources, PO Box 168, Yellowstone NP, WY 82190-0168, 307-344-2265 (office), 307-344-2211 (fax), sarah_haas@nps.gov

Investigator: Patrick Wilson, Ph.D., Associate Professor of Natural Resource Policy, Department of Conservation Social Sciences, P.O. Box 441139, University of Idaho, Moscow, ID 83844-1133, 208-885-7431 (office), 208-885-6226 (fax), pwilson@uidaho.edu

Project Abstract: The scope of this CESU is a continuation of work (Phase 3), building off of an existing agreement with the Recipient and includes technical assistance with science communications including several products produced by the Yellowstone Center for Resources such as: Annual Reports (Wolf, Bird Monitoring, Fish), data calls from funding sources, presentations for public use, and issues of *Yellowstone Science*. Technical editing and proofing of these documents for print and web distribution will comprise a portion of the work outlined in this agreement. Additional assistance will be in the form of improvements to the park's webpages associated with science communications, idea generation for social media posts/programs, management of the *Yellowstone Science* email distribution system (Constant Contact platform), and at least one independent project to be developed cooperatively between the intern, University of Idaho PI, and Yellowstone NP and will require submission of quarterly updates to the park on the progress of the project. Additionally, the University will assist the park with implementing and managing a "Monitoring Change" project initiated by a former student working under a previous task agreement. This project is critical to support data gathering on the park's visitor use patterns throughout the park, including documenting challenges associated with crowding, resource impacts, and effects on visitor enjoyment. The selected intern will also assist the park's Social Science Program with visitor use analysis, report preparation, data gathering, and communication of findings to park staff and the public. The intern will be assisting with a wide spectrum of the park's summer visitation challenges, including assessment of the park's capacity, transportation and infrastructure needs, and messaging to the public.

Keywords: science communication, technical editing, intern, University of Idaho, Yellowstone National Park - Science Communications Program