

Project Completion Report Rocky Mountains Cooperative Ecosystem Studies Unit (RM-CESU)

Project Title: Jerry O'Neal NPS Student Fellowship Program

Project Code (such as UMT-72 and/or the "J" number): UMT-111; J1434060050

Type of Project (Research, Technical Assistance or Education): Education/Research

Funding Agency: National Park Service

Partner University: University of Montana

NPS Agreements Technical Representative (with complete contact information):

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Principal Investigators (with complete contact information):

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Start Date of Project: August 31, 2006

End Date of Project: August 1, 2011

Funding Amount: \$21,738

Number of Students Involved, and Type of Student (Undergraduate, Graduate, Post Doctorate): 7 Graduate Students

Project Summary, including descriptions of project deliverables, work accomplished and/or major results. If the information is restricted (e.g. location of endangered species or cultural resources), indicate the title and location of the final report.

2007 O'Neal Awardees

Erich Peitzsch, Earth Sciences graduate student at Montana State University. "Forecasting Wet Slab Avalanches, Glacier National Park". Award: \$3000

Brief:

http://www.cfc.umt.edu/CESU/NEWCESU/Assets/Individual%20Project%20Reports/NPS%20Projects/UMT/2006/O'Neal%20Fellowship%202007_Erich%20Peitzsch.pdf

Thesis:

http://www.cfc.umt.edu/CESU/NEWCESU/Assets/Individual%20Project%20Reports/NPS%20Projects/UMT/2006/O'Neal%20Fellowship07_peitzsch_ms_thesis_final.pdf

Sarah Wilson, Anthropology graduate student at University of Montana, “Underwater Archaeological Survey of former townsite of Altyn, Lake Sherburne, Glacier National Park”. Award: \$5000

Note: Ms. Wilson spent \$1,925 before leaving the program. The remaining \$ were redirected to other awards.

David McKenzie, Botany graduate student at University of Wyoming, “Early post-fire successional trajectories in Glacier National Park, Montana”. Award: \$5000

Brief:

http://www.cfc.umt.edu/CESU/NEWCESU/Assets/Individual%20Project%20Reports/NPS%20Projects/UMT/2006/O'Neal%20Fellowship07_McKenzie%20Brief.pdf

Thesis:

<http://www.cfc.umt.edu/CESU/NEWCESU/Assets/Individual%20Project%20Reports/NPS%20Projects/UMT/2006/D%20%20McKenzie%20O'Neal%20Report.pdf>

2008 O'Neal Awardees

Lauren Barringer, biology graduate student at the University of Colorado-Denver, “Determine the relationship between whitebark pine tree-and-stand-level health and seed dispersal by Clark’s nutcrackers: What is the Potential for Regeneration?” Award: \$4000

Brief:

http://www.cfc.umt.edu/CESU/NEWCESU/Assets/Individual%20Project%20Reports/NPS%20Projects/UMT/2008/O'Neal%20Fellowship08_Barringer_Brief.pdf

Thesis:

http://www.cfc.umt.edu/CESU/NEWCESU/Assets/Individual%20Project%20Reports/NPS%20Projects/UMT/2008/O'Neal%20Fellowship08_Barringer_Thesis.pdf

Michael Machura, biological sciences graduate student at the University of Montana, “The Importance of Genetics in Understanding Global Amphibian Decline: An Application of Conservation Genetics to Boreal Toads (*Bufo boreas*) in Glacier National Park” Award: \$4000

Note: Mr. Machura left his dissertation for family medical reasons. The baseline data he collected is being utilized by Brett Addis (a 2011 O'Neal awardee) for her Master’s thesis.

Karin Riley, geology graduate student at the University of Montana, “Assessing Wildfire Effects from Microscale to landscape Scale in the Red Eagle Fire Area, Glacier National Park, Montana” Award: Ms. Riley’s total award was \$4000; \$1275 of which came out of this TA.

Note: Ms. Riley is still actively working on her dissertation. We expect to have a brief from her in early 2012 and a copy of her thesis in March of 2012.

2011 O'Neal Awardees

Matt Wilson, Wildlife Biology M.Sc. candidate at the University of Montana: “Are alpine freshwater macroinvertebrates shifting upstream in response to climate change?” Award: Mr. Wilson’s total award was \$4000; \$3681 of which came out of this TA.

Note: Mr. Wilson is still actively working on his Master’s thesis. We expect brief and thesis in the Spring of 2012.