

Project Summary

Rocky Mountains Cooperative Ecosystem Studies Unit

Project Title: Jerry O'Neal, National Park Service Student Fellowship Program

Discipline: Interdisciplinary
Type of Project: Education/Research
Funding Agency: National Park Service
Other Partners/Cooperators: University of Montana
Effective Dates: 9/1/2011 - 6/30/2015
Funding Amount: \$15,000

Investigators and Agency Representative:

NPS Contact: Tara Carolin, Director, Crown of the Continent Research Learning Center, Glacier National Park, P.O. Box 128, West Glacier, MT 59936; 406-888-7919, tara_carolin@nps.gov

Investigator: James Burchfield, Dean, College of Forestry and Conservation, University of Montana, Missoula, MT 59812; phone: (406) 243-650, james.burchfield@umontana.edu

Co-Investigator: Lisa Gerloff, Executive Coordinator, RM-CESU, University of Montana, Missoula, MT 59812, 406-243-5346, lisa.gerloff@cfc.umt.edu

Project Abstract:

The National Park Service will work with the University of Montana to organize and administer a student fellowship program to allow students to work on projects at Glacier NP, Little Bighorn Battlefield NM, and Grant-Kohrs Ranch NHS.

Applications will be judged on scientific merit, technical feasibility, and relevance of the proposed work to park managers. Proposals may cover a portion of an ongoing research project, a one-time survey or project, or the expansion of an existing project that includes the above mentioned criteria. Projects may be of one to three year duration. Projects will need to comply with appropriate agency regulations and permits (separately administered from this fellowship.). For the first year of this program, the student applicants must be graduate students or superior upper division undergraduate students (3.2 GPA or above) at one of the RM-CESU member universities.

Fellowships will range from \$1,000-\$5,000 per project, and may include housing provided at Glacier National Park. In addition to a summary report or publication, students are expected to provide one or more educational products to facilitate information transfer beyond the scientific audience, such as a presentation to site managers, a public seminar, CD, or non-technical article.

The next call for proposals will go out in November 2011.

Outcomes with Completion Dates:

Early November - release call for proposals
January - February - select members for review panel
Mid-February - deadline for submission of student applications to the RM-CESU
Early March - RM-CESU will provide the panel with proposals for review
Mid-March - review panel meets by this date to rank student proposals (one day; may be done via conference call)
Early April - award announcements
April - June - funds dispersed; support arrangements made with park(s)

Keywords: Jerry O'Neal Student Fellowship Program, Glacier NP, Grant-Kohrs Ranch NHS, Little Bighorn Battlefield NM, University of Montana, RM CESU universities
