

## **Project Summary**

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

**Project Title:** Native American Student Employment Project

**Type of Project:** Education  
**Discipline:** Interdisciplinary  
**Funding Agency:** National Park Service  
**Other Partners/Cooperators:** University of Montana  
**Effective Dates:** 9/1/2011 - 3/31/2014  
**Funding Amount:** \$20,000

**Investigators and Agency Representative:**

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**Project Abstract:** The objective of this project is to maintain and further develop a program to recruit, train, and retain Native Americans in the NPS workforce. The University of Montana, through the NANRP and other programs, has developed expertise in advising and mentoring Native American students and placing them in internships and summer employment positions with federal agencies. The NPS is benefiting from the experience and expertise of University of Montana staff in recruiting, training, and retaining Native American employees. The first summer of the program, 2010, the park hosted one student in natural resources who returned to the park in summer 2011 in a seasonal government position as a student hire. In summer 2011, the park is hosting two interns, one in cultural resources and one in interpretation.

**Outcomes with Completion Dates:**

- 1) Recruit and orient 2 Native American students to work in natural resources programs in Yellowstone National Park during summers 2012 and 2013—Due Date February 28, 2012 and 2013
- 2) Advise and mentor students before and during employment season—Due date September 30, 2012 and 2013
- 3) Train and mentor National Park Service employees before and during employment season—Due Date September 30, 2012 and 2013
- 4) Final Report on program—Due Date March 31, 2014

**Keywords:** Native American, student intern, Yellowstone National Park, University of Montana