

## **Project Summary**

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

**Project Title:** UW-NPS Research Center Research Support, 2011-2012

**Discipline:** Interdisciplinary  
**Type of Project:** Education/Research  
**Funding Agency:** National Park Service  
**Other Partners/Cooperators:** University of Wyoming  
**Effective Dates:** 6/1/2011 - 12/31/2014  
**Funding Amount:** \$27,500

**Investigators and Agency Representative:**

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Investigator: Hank Harlow, Director, UWY/NPS Research Station; Department of Zoology and Physiology, POB 3166, University of Wyoming, Laramie, WY 82071; 307-766-4227; hharlow@uwyo.edu

**Project Abstract:** The UW-NPS Grand Teton Research Center cooperative research program includes shared funding between the University of Wyoming and the National Park Service to provide small research grants for projects conducted within the Greater Yellowstone Area to benefit science and understanding about the parks and surrounding areas. Grand Teton National Park annually provides a 'Research Needs' list on its website and through the UW-NPS small grants call for proposals.

Research funding will be advertised, administered, and awarded by the UW-NPS Research Center. Staff will advertise, by February 15, 2012, a call for small grants proposals. In response and/or as unsolicited proposals, researchers propose projects, which are reviewed by a panel of University of Wyoming faculty as well as Grand Teton and Yellowstone National Park personnel and are ranked based on merit, contributions to science, and applicability to park and ecosystem needs. These funds will be combined with a contribution c.a. \$25,000 from the UW and \$5,000-\$10,000 from Yellowstone NP to permit funding for 10-15 small grants, annually. UW-NPS staff will provide written notification of the amount of each award and the recipients to the awardees and to the park liaison.

Grand Teton NP and the research center also cooperate, as outlined in their 2010 General Agreement, to sponsor two student interns, housed for free at the UW-NPS AMK Ranch campus. Each signator provides \$2500 in support for the student interns; the NPS share is obligated through this agreement. Students will work 8-10 weeks during the summer season. The UW-NPS Research Center will administer payment, according to their usual means and schedule, to the students. The NPS will identify the needed summer tasks and recruit, with UWNPS assistance, for interns. The NPS will select the interns and provide general supervisory and technical oversight for the assignments. The NPS will determine the appropriate products to be completed by each intern, and advise the UWNPS regarding any problems with the interns' performance or products such as should affect payment. The UWNPS Center Director will provide on-site assistance and logistical support for the interns at the UWNPS campus, as agreed upon with the park liaison.

For 2011, the student intern projects are to:

- 1.) Assist the park curator in improving accountability for collections and reports associated with research permits - technical supervisor Alice Hart
- 2.) Add information on projects, references, and reports/publications to Grand Teton pages of the line Greater Yellowstone Science Learning Center (GYSLC) website - technical supervisor Sue Consolo-Murphy.

**Outcomes with Completion Dates:** December 31, 2014

**Keywords:** Grand Teton NP, University of Wyoming, small research grants, student interns, AMK Ranch