

**Rocky Mountains Cooperative Ecosystem Studies Unit
Project Summary**

Project Title: UWNPS Research Center Support, 2019-20

Discipline: Interdisciplinary

Type of Project: Technical Assistance/Research/Education

Funding Agency: National Park Service

Other Partners/Cooperators: University of Wyoming

Student Participation: Yes, Undergraduate and Graduate

Effective Dates: July 1, 2019 – December 31, 2022

Funding Amount: \$32,500

Investigators and Agency Representative:

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Project Abstract: The UW-NPS Research Center has a cooperative research program, a shared funding initiative between the University of Wyoming and the National Park Service, to promote cost-effective research in the NPS units of the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem. Individual research projects are presented to the University of Wyoming in response to a request for proposals. Proposals are reviewed by a panel of University of Wyoming faculty as well as Grand Teton and Yellowstone National Park personnel, in whose parks research projects are conducted. Projects are ranked and selected based on merit, contributions to science, and applicability to park and ecosystem needs. Final projects include individual annual investigators' reports submitted to the NPS research permitting website, project reports in the UWNPS Research Center annual report series, potential talks in the UWNPS Harlow Summer Seminar series scheduled by the UWNPS Center Director, and presentations or publications in other forums such as scientific conferences and publications. Research is supervised by various university professors from across the nation, and accomplished involving graduate and undergraduate students from those institutions, providing an in-field learning experience about parks, and how research is accomplished in and for the benefit of NPS managers and ultimately park users.

Grand Teton NP and the research center also cooperate, as outlined in their 2010 General Agreement, to sponsor two student interns, housed for no charge at the UW-NPS AMK Ranch campus. Each signatory 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 at Grand Teton NP contributing to park priority projects in the natural, cultural, and/or social sciences and resource stewardship.