RM-CESU NEWS & EVENTS

RM-CESU Announces the Annual Competition for Student and Project Team Awards: The Rocky Mountains CESU annually recognizes outstanding students and projects through an awards program.

The **RM-CESU Student Award** recognizes "above and beyond" accomplishments by students involved in Rocky Mountains Cooperative Ecosystem Studies Unit (RM-CESU) projects. Nominations may be submitted by any representative of the federal agency that sponsored the RM-CESU project, or by the student's RM-CESU university.

The **RM-CESU Project Team Award** program was established as a way for a Project Team (the academic institution and the federal agency) involved in Rocky Mountains Cooperative Ecosystem Studies Unit (RM-CESU) projects to be recognized for their outstanding accomplishments.

Nominations for both Student Award and Project Award are due August 1, 2012. The Award winners will receive a citation and give a presentation on their project results at annual RM-CESU Fall Meeting in October. For nomination instructions, go to the RM-CESU web site at: [http://www.cfc.umt.edu/cesu/NEWCESU/WhatsNew/default.htm](http://www.cfc.umt.edu/cesu/NEWCESU/WhatsNew/default.htm). For more information contact Lisa Gerloff, RM-CESU Executive Coordinator, at 406-243-5346, lisa.gerloff@umontana.edu

May 21-25, 2012: Strategic Management of Invasive Species in the Northwest United States The primary goal of this week-long workshop is to provide a comprehensive overview of invasive species issues and management strategies for natural resource personnel at Department of Defense installations across the Northwest United States. The workshop will provide participants with knowledge and resources that will enable them to improve land and water stewardship by building partnerships and effectively addressing invasive species problems in their particular sites and situations. Presented by MSU’s Center for Invasive Plant Management. Sponsored by the Department of Defense Legacy Resource Management Program through the RM-CESU. [http://www.weedcenter.org/dod2012/index.html](http://www.weedcenter.org/dod2012/index.html)
John L. Cotter Award for Excellence in National Park Service Archeology

The Cotter Award Committee announced the winners of the 2012 John L. Cotter Award for Excellence in NPS Archeology at the 2012 Society for American Archeology meeting in Memphis, Tennessee. This year, the Cotter Award recognized two categories of achievement: Project Excellence and Long Term Achievement.

NPS archeologist Jeffrey Richner was awarded the 2012 Cotter Award for Project Excellence for “The Bois Forte Ojibwe Study, Voyageurs National Park, 1979-2011,” a project that included a multidisciplinary team of scientists, students, Ojibwe tribal members, and volunteers. The project resulted in an archeological and ethnohistorical synthesis of the historic use of the area of the park by the Bois Forte Band of Minnesota Chippewa Indians. The Bois Forte project maintained high standards for ethnohistorical research and archeological data recovery, including a unique level of involvement with tribal descendants and stakeholders. The award also recognized Richner’s outstanding efforts to disseminate project results and NPS stewardship activities to local communities, interest groups, descendants, and park personnel.

Retired NPS archeologist Trinkle Jones, most recently of the Colorado Plateau CESU, was awarded the 2012 Cotter Award for Long Term Achievement for her 34-year career accomplishments in NPS archeology. Her excellence in scientific work and innovation in practice of the discipline is exemplified by her work at more than eight national park units. Jones was also instrumental in the creation and successful implementation of the NPS Archeological Sites Monitoring Information System (ASMIS), and conducted pioneering work investigating fire effects on cultural resources. She was very active in mentoring through internships and other initiatives. NPS Archeology has greatly benefited from Jones’ work.

In 1999, the John L. Cotter Award for Excellence in NPS Archeology was established to honor Cotter’s distinguished career and his pioneering contributions to professional archeology within the National Park System. The award inspires archeologists to continue Cotter’s model of excellence in scientific archeology. The award is unofficial peer recognition of exemplary archeological activities in the Service’s Park Archeology Program. The Cotter Award Committee Chair is Pei-Lin Yu, Cultural Specialist with the Rocky Mountains CESU.
Ice Patch Archaeology Project Team to Give Public Talk at UM on Collaborative Approaches to Climate Change Impacts to Archaeology in Glacier National Park  

The Rocky Mountains Cooperative Ecosystem Studies Unit is sponsoring a public talk and short video presentation at the University of Montana about the effects of warming climate on ice patches in Glacier National Park and other high elevation areas. Ice patches, unlike glaciers, are stable and have potential to preserve ancient artifacts as well as the remains of plants and animals for thousands of years. Ice patches are attractive to animals because they are good sources of water, and because they offer cool, insect free zones. Therefore hunters have tracked game into these areas for millennia.

Glacier National Park is partnering with the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes, the Blackfeet Nation, the University of Wyoming, the University of Colorado Boulder, and the University of Arizona in an innovative project that is funded by the National Park Service’s Climate Change Response Program. The project is designed to preserve and protect ancient items at risk of loss or destruction by exposure in melting ice patches, in close collaboration with tribal heritage experts. Come hear all about it on May 8th, at 4:30-5:30 p.m. on the University of Montana campus at the University Center in Room 332/333. For more information, call Pei-Lin Yu, cultural specialist for the Rocky Mountains Cooperative Ecosystems Study Unit, at 406-243-2660 or email pei-lin.yu@cfc.umt.edu

RM-CESU “SPOTLIGHT”

Thomas Stuart Homestead Historic Context Report  
Grant-Kohrs Ranch National Historic Site

In March, the Public Lands History Center completed a historical context report for the Thomas Stuart homestead. The report will assist the Grant-Kohrs Ranch National Historic Site in determining if the homestead area is eligible to the National Register. The Stuart homestead originally featured a frame home, two barns, and an outhouse, but currently consists of little more than several depressions and scatters of broken glass, brick, and stone. The home was the residence of the Stuart and Menard families from tail-end of western ranching expansion in the 1880s through the increasingly settled agricultural 1920s. The site nevertheless maintains local historical significance for the town of Deer Lodge and the Deer Lodge Valley, and is representative of the area’s late-nineteenth and early-twentieth-century social and cultural milieus as they were experienced by residents Thomas and Ellen Stuart, and Antoine Menard.
Thomas Stuart, a foundational figure in early Deer Lodge, contributed in significant ways to the town’s initial establishment and continued survival as a settlement on the western frontier. Like many during that time, Thomas played many community and economic roles: miner, horse-breeder, philanthropist, and active community member. Unlike his older brother Granville Stuart, Thomas was not a prominent territorial or state figure, but he was one of Deer Lodge’s recognized “fathers.” Thomas’s wife Ellen was of French-Canadian and Piegan (Blackfeet) ancestry. Thomas Stuart’s ‘mixed’ or ‘métis’ family lived at the ranch property from 1880 to 1884, but lived in a separate residence in Deer Lodge City into the twentieth century. The cultural plurality that characterized early Deer Lodge echoed the last vestiges of the fur trade era, which was in decline since the mid-19th century but had forged a unique socio-cultural milieu. In the late 19th century, Montana’s mining rush and open-range cattle boom drew settlers from the East who brought with them strict Victorian-era norms that permanently changed Deer Lodge’s social landscape. While some families retreated northward to escape the coming change, others, like Granville and Thomas Stuart, stayed and faced increasing ostracism from a society that was increasingly intolerant of mixed families.

Although the Stuart-Menard homestead was not one of the earliest homes in the valley, it represents the métis community that established the small settlement of Deer Lodge. The Menard family’s residence at the homestead reflects a large-scale pattern of French-Canadian immigration. Antoine Menard, a Quebecois, moved to the valley from Manitoba in the mid-1890s to work as a maintenance man for the Kohrs and Bielenberg Ranch. In 1899 he brought his family, including daughters Alice and Lillian. These two women lived at the homestead until 1924. Like their counterparts in “Frenchtown Valley,” near present-day Missoula, the Menards maintained their cultural heritage along with Deer Lodge’s French-Canadian community through dances held regularly at the family home. Therefore the homestead site represents both the métis and French-Canadian communities in Deer Lodge, and reveals the nuanced character of the valley’s early history.

Despite the removal of buildings and later impacts, historic archeological investigation may provide further information that may demonstrate the extent to which the homestead reflects its historic contexts, potentially clarifying existing questions regarding the buildings’ location and orientation.
PARTNER NEWS & EVENT

Announcements:

University of Calgary

Banff highway ecology highlighted The University of Calgary-based Miistakis Institute, in partnership with Parks Canada, the Woodcock Foundation, the Wilburforce Foundation, and the Western Transportation Institute have launched one of the world's most current and comprehensive resources for transportation planners and decision makers in roadway ecology, an emerging field of study.

The website, www.highwaywilding.org, will raise awareness and improve decision making around road development in sensitive ecological areas such as national parks and beyond. Read more here: http://www.ucalgary.ca/news/utoday/april4-2012/highway

University of Montana


University of Colorado Boulder

CU research shows warming climate threatens ecology at mountain research site west of Boulder A series of papers published this April on ecological changes at 26 global research sites -- including one administered by the University of Colorado Boulder in the high mountains west of the city -- indicates that ecosystems dependent on seasonal snow and ice are the most sensitive to changes in climate.

The six papers appeared in the April issue of the journal BioScience. The papers were tied to data gathered at sites in North America, Puerto Rico, the island of Moorea near Tahiti, and Antarctica, which are known as Long-Term Ecological Research, or LTER, sites and are funded by the National Science Foundation. CU-Boulder's Niwot Ridge site, one of the five original LTER sites designated by NSF in 1980, encompasses several thousand acres of subalpine forest, tundra, talus slopes, glacial lakes and wetlands stretching up to more than 13,000 feet on top of the Continental Divide.

As part of the new reports, LTER scientists in association with NSF have come up with a new evaluation system of the research sites that brings in the "human dimension," said CU-Boulder Professor Mark Williams, the principal investigator on CU’s Niwot Ridge LTER site. "In the past we tried to look at pristine ecosystems, but those are essentially gone," said Williams. "So we've come up with an approach that integrates human activities with our ecological research." Read more at http://www.colorado.edu/news/releases/2012/04/18/cu-research-shows-warming-climate-threatens-ecology-mountain-research-site
University of Idaho
New U-Idaho Rangeland Center Collaborative Resource for Conservation, Stewardship
Rangelands cover half of Idaho, half of the West and half of the globe. They affect the ecological health and economic livelihood of the state and region. The challenges that face rangelands are complex and large-scale, and require integrative thinking and innovative practices to maintain and restore these lands and the human communities that rely on them.

To address these challenges, the University of Idaho has created a new, collaborative resource. The Rangeland Center, formally launched Aug. 19, is not a place or a building. It is a group of people that will collectively advance the understanding and stewardship of rangelands.

Through the combined efforts of the University of Idaho College of Natural Resources, College of Agricultural and Life Sciences and University of Idaho Extension, the virtual center promotes active partnerships with individuals, organizations and communities who work and live on these expansive, iconic and economically important western landscapes. Read more: http://www.uidaho.edu/research/featuredresearch/stories/new-rangland-center

National Park Service
The current issue of Yellowstone Science is available online at http://greateryellowstonescience.org/sites/default/files/YS20_1_FINAL_web.pdf

New Yellowstone Park Archeologist Staffan Peterson, PhD. as park archeologist at Yellowstone National Park. Staffan has a broad anthropological background that includes historical and prehistoric North American archaeology, geophysical investigation, and Geographic Information Systems (GIS). Staffan began working for the State of Indiana in 2008 and now manages the Cultural Resources Office for the Indiana Department of Transportation where he is the cultural resources subject matter expert, overseeing compliance matters for hundreds of transportation projects. He completed his PhD. in Anthropology at Indiana University in Dec. 2010. Prior to and concurrent with his employment at the state he taught various courses in Anthropology and GIS at Indiana University. He has archaeological experience from 1996 to present, at various institutions in the Eastern US and Great Plains, having supervised the excavation of dozens of prehistoric sites ranging in time from the Archaic to the late prehistoric periods, as well as historic sites from the early nineteenth-century to the late twentieth-century. Staffan will start his new position on June 4th.

Calendar of Events:
May 22-24, 2012: 17th Wildland Shrub Symposium, Las Cruces, NM. The Wildland Shrub Symposium series was developed by The Shrub Research Consortium (SRC), which was formed in 1983 and now has 27 institutional members. The program includes plenary sessions, oral and poster sessions, and mid-conference field tours. Contributed oral and poster presentations on all aspects of shrublands are encouraged. Contributed papers will be peer-reviewed after the symposium and published as a proceeding. The
registration fee is $75 ($85 after 4/20/2012) and will include a conference dinner (5/23) and choice of field tour.  http://jornada.nmsu.edu/wildland-shrub-symposium

June 6-8, 2012: Natural Resource Law Center’s Martz Annual Summer Conference: A Low-Carbon Energy Blueprint for the American West, University of Colorado at Boulder, Boulder, CO. The future of the planet may depend upon on our ability to increase energy supplies even as we reduce carbon emissions. This conference addresses how a low-carbon energy program might evolve with a particular focus on the American West. http://www.colorado.edu/law/centers/nrlc/

September 24-27, 2012: Pathways to Success Conference & Training: Integrating Human Dimensions into Fish and Wildlife Management, Breckenridge, CO. The intent of this conference is to provide a forum where scientists and practitioners can address a wide variety of topics that are critical to the state of the human dimensions of fish and wildlife profession. http://www.hdfwconference.org/

October 1-2, 2012: Pacific Northwest Climate Science Conference, Boise, ID. This conference provides an annual forum to exchange scientific results and policy and management options related to climate change and climate impacts research focused on the Pacific Northwest. The conference attracts a wide range of interested participants, including policymakers, resource managers, public agency staff, NGO personnel, and agency and university scientists. The deadline for proposals is 15 May 2012. http://pnwclimateconference.org/

TRAINING AND COURSE OPPORTUNITIES
Wetland Restoration Course: Planning for Success The Montana Water Center will offer a three day course, Wetland Restoration and Management with a Focus on Monitoring for Success, at MSU Bozeman on September 18-20, 2012. Visit the Montana Water Center website, http://watercenter.montana.edu/training/wetlands/default.htm, for more information about this course and registration options as it becomes available.

May 7-9, 2012: Geomorphic Change Detection - Restoration Monitoring Workshop, Logan, UT. Cost: $1000. This intensive 3 day workshop is intended for resource managers, restoration practitioners, researchers and others involved in the monitoring of rivers and/or streams. Participants will come away with a) an understanding of the theory and tools behind geomorphic change detection from repeat topographic surveying using a variety of ground-based and remotely-sensed surveying technologies; as well as b) a working knowledge of how to apply the Geomorphic Change Detection software (provided) to their own monitoring data. Examples will be used from both baseline monitoring and post-project monitoring of restoration projects. https://cnr.usu.edu/streamrestoration/htm/course-information/#Geomorphic

August 6-10, 2012: Sediment Transport in Stream Assessment and Design, Logan, UT. Cost: $1850 ($1600 Early Bird Special if Registered Before June 1st). This course is intended for those who wish to understand and apply the principles of sediment transport to alluvial channel assessment and design. Principles of open channel flow and sediment transport are combined with watershed-scale, hydrologic and sediment source analysis to place channel assessment and design in the appropriate context. Threshold and alluvial channel design methods are presented along with guidelines for assessing and incorporating uncertainty. The course balances advance reading, lecture, field work, and hands-on exercises for estimating sediment supply, calculating sediment transport rates, and forecasting channel response to water and sediment supply. This course is intended for participants who are familiar with basic principles of river geomorphology. https://cnr.usu.edu/streamrestoration/htm/course-information
October 23-25, 2012: Partnering with Beaver in Restoration Design Workshop, Logan, UT. Cost: $1,000. This 3-day workshop is intended for resource managers, restoration practitioners, researchers and others interested in the use of beaver for restoring rivers and/or streams. Participants will come away with a) an appreciation of beaver ecology and the complex feedbacks between beaver activity, hydrogeomorphic responses, riparian vegetation and fish ecology; b) knowledge of past and ongoing restoration projects using beaver; c) a working understanding of considerations in restoration designs using beaver; d) an introduction of how to develop dynamic designs utilizing beaver; and e) how to manage public expectations regarding potential restoration responses involving beaver. The workshop will include field trips to a number of active local beaver colonies, hands-on design exercises, and some interactive lectures and discussions. https://cnr.usu.edu/streamrestoration/htm/course-information/#beaver

JOB OPPORTUNITIES
Archeologist, Idaho Panhandle National Forests, St. Joe Ranger District, in St. Maries, ID (closes 5/17/2012)
Archivist - Term, Glacier National Park Service, West Glacier, MT (closes 5/15/2012)
Forestry Technician (Recreation), US Forest Service, Huson, MT (closes 5/14/2012)
Hydrologist, BLM, Eastern Montana/Dakotas District Office, Miles City Field Office, Division of Renewable Resources, Miles City, MT (closes 5/10/2012)
Professional Historian, Center for Environmental Management of Military Lands (CEMML), Fort Wainwright, Alaska (closes 5/8/2012)
Natural Resources Specialist, Center for Environmental Management of Military Lands (CEMML), Donnelly Training Area, Alaska (closes 5/7/2012)
Program Manager- Loch Vale Long-Term Ecological Research and Monitoring Program, Natural Resource Ecology Laboratory (NREL), Colorado State University, Fort Collins, CO (closes 5/7/2012)
Tenure Track Assistant Professorships at the Institute for Behavioral Genetics, University of Colorado Boulder, Boulder, CO (Screening begins 5/1/2012)
Postdoctoral Research Associate in Remote Sensing Ecology, Flathead Lake Biological Station/NTSG, University of Montana, Missoula, MT. (Screening begins 5/1/2012)
For details on all opportunities visit http://www.cfc.umt.edu/CESU/NEWCESU/Postings/default.htm and click on “Jobs”.

MEETINGS OF INTEREST
July 12-13, 2012: Fourth International Conference on Climate Change: Impacts and Responses, University of WA, Seattle, WA. This interdisciplinary conference is for scholars, teachers, and practitioners from any professional discipline who share an interest in-and concern for-the societal impacts of climate change. Within this broad context, this year's conference theme emphasizes local and regional
responses to global issues of climate change and impact. Proposals for paper presentations, workshops, posters/exhibits, or colloquia are invited.  http://www.Climate-Conference.com

July 15-18, 2012: North America Congress for Conservation Biology - Bridging the Gap: Connecting People, Nature, & Climate, Oakland, CA. This Congress will feature numerous symposia, concurrent sessions, workshops, short courses and field trips. Symposia topics will include such diverse topics as: protected area planning for climate change resilience; Landscape Conservation Cooperatives; freshwater conservation; bridging the implementation gap; decision support tools for policy evaluation; employing traditional ecological knowledge; and marine protected area planning. The mascot for NACCB is the Stoney the Pika. There will be a symposium titled Pikas in Peril? - Distribution, Population Trends, and Resilience of the American Pika (Ochotona princeps). http://www.scbnacongress.org/


August 19-23, 2012: Annual Meeting of the American Fisheries Society, St. Paul, MN. The 2012 AFS Annual Meeting will bring professionals together to network and share knowledge in fisheries science and management. Speakers will present a broad range of Fisheries topics at the plenary session, technical symposia and poster session as well as in continuing education courses. http://afs2012.org/


November 17-19, 2012: 4th International Conference on Science in Society, University of California, Berkeley. This conference addresses the social impacts, values, pedagogies, politics and economics of science. It is an inclusive forum that welcomes a breadth of perspectives on science from practitioners, teachers and researchers representing a wide range of academic disciplines. http://science-society.com/conference-2012/

If you would like to post an announcement in the next RM-CESU Newsletter or on the website, please contact the RM-CESU Coordinator at rmcesu@cfc.umt.edu.