Application Deadline extended for Jerry O'Neal National Park Service Student Fellowship

Applications are now being accepted for the Jerry O'Neal Fellowship for work in Glacier National Park, Grant-Kohrs Ranch NHS, and Little Bighorn Battlefield NM. The fellowship aims to provide educational assistance for students seeking to understand natural and cultural resources issues and how these interact with human values. Special consideration will be given to proposals that address the following:

1. natural resource issues such as aquatic ecology, terrestrial ecology, fire ecology, invasive plants, and climate change
2. cultural resource issues, such as history and architectural studies, cultural landscape reports, ethnographic research and archeology
3. social science that informs resource management about a natural or cultural topic and/or that addresses visitor impacts to park resources

Competition is open to graduate students or superior upper division undergraduate students at RM-CESU universities and colleges only. Awards range from $1000-5000. Applications must be submitted electronically by March 23, 2015. For details on the application process please visit http://www.cfc.umt.edu/CESU/files/Announcements/ONeal_announcement_15.pdf

PARTNER NEWS & EVENTS

Announcements:

Montana State University: Research proves grizzlies prefer overpasses

Grizzly bears prefer to use overpasses to cross the deadly Trans-Canada Highway in Banff National Park. That’s according to the findings of 17 years of ongoing research led by Bow Valley-based scientist Tony Clevenger, who is looking into the effectiveness of highway overpasses and underpasses for wildlife.

Clevenger said there is a clear threshold for what crossing structure type grizzly bears will use and not use. Overpass and large span structures are preferred, while smaller structures are not used well by grizzlies and are of little conservation value.
“The males have adapted to and eventually used all types of crossing structures, even the smaller ones, but not nearly as often as the larger ones,” said Clevenger, a research wildlife scientist at Western Transportation Institute—Montana State University. Read more: http://www.rmoutlook.com/article/20150219/RMO0801/302199998/-1/rmo?utm_source=Conservation+News+-+February%252C+2015&utm_campaign=CN%2bFebruary%252C+2015&utm_medium=email

University of Montana: Student to Investigate Treeline as Refuge for Whitebark Pine from Beetle Outbreak
UM doctoral student Colin Maher recently was awarded a $1,000 competitive grant from the Whitebark Pine Ecosystem Foundation for his research on whitebark pine tree survival at high elevation.

Maher studies with professors Andrew Larson and Cara Nelson in UM's College of Forestry and Conservation. He studies how the “krummholz” form of whitebark pine trees - the smaller, more shrub-like version that grows at treeline elevation - might be more resistant to mountain pine beetle attacks than other forms of the tree. Read more: http://news.umt.edu/2015/02/021815pine.php

National Park Service: NPS Intermountain Region announces Wilderness Stewardship Awards for 2014

Wilderness Champion: Dave Pettebone, Wilderness Program Manager, Rocky Mountain National Park. Dave is recognized for his contribution to wilderness stewardship at Rocky. In this capacity, he has established interdisciplinary collaboration between park staff and partners to ensure responsible decision making through the Minimum Requirements Analysis process, with a specific goal of improving an understanding of science and research in wilderness.

Leaders in Wilderness Stewardship: Resources Stewardship Division, Rocky Mountain National Park. The Resources Stewardship Division at Rocky is recognized for their commitment to integrate wilderness stewardship into daily operations for staff and visitors.

Leaders in Wilderness Stewardship: Zion National Park (ZION), Lake Mead National Recreation Area (LAKE), and Parashant National Monument (PARA). The three park group consisting of ZION, LAKE, and PARA are recognized for efforts to engage with many partners to successfully implement education and interpretation, also known as the Concrete to Canyons program. The program connected 100 underserved youth and families for Las Vegas, Nevada to build life-long connection to wilderness through classroom instruction, hiking, camping and outdoor activities for a three-day and two night wilderness experience.

Calendar of Events:

March 17-19, 2015: 2015 Crown Managers Partnership Forum -Climate, People & Invasive Species: Taking Collective Action to Assure Trans-Boundary Landscape Health in the Crown of the Continent Ecosystem, Lethbridge Alberta. The Crown Managers Partnership (CMP) is a voluntary multi-jurisdictional, trans-boundary partnership formed in 2001 by a collection of agencies seeking to demonstrate leadership in addressing the environmental management challenges in the Crown of the...
Continent region. The annual CMP Forum is an opportunity for participants to share information and explore opportunities for improved interagency cooperation. www.crownmanagers.org

STUDENT OPPORTUNITIES

**Donald G. Willems Scholarship**, named for an eminent Montana water professional, is sponsored by the Montana Section of the American Water Works Association, the professional organization of the drinking-water industry. Any Montana university student planning a career in a water field is eligible. **Deadline to apply is March 15, 2015.** Application information is available from the MTAWWA website http://www.montana.awwa.org/scholarships/

JOB OPPORTUNITIES

Postdoctoral Research Associate (Social Scientist), Department of Crop and Soil Sciences, Washington State University, Pullman, WA (screening to begin 3/20/2015)

Outdoor Recreation Planner, Bureau of Land Management, Winnemucca, NV (closes 3/17/2015)

Hydrologist (Groundwater), US Geological Survey, Tacoma, WA (closes 3/16/2015)

Assistant Professor of Soil Microbiology, Department of Ecosystem Science & Management, University of Wyoming, Laramie, WY (screening to begin 3/15/2015)

Natural Resources Specialist (Wilderness), Bureau of Land Management, Las Vegas, NV (closes 3/13/2015)

Natural Resources Specialist, Bureau of Land Management, Ely, NV (closes 3/13/2015)

Professor, Department Head - Forest and Rangeland Stewardship, Colorado State University, Fort Collins, CO (closes 3/10/2015)

Instructor of Tourism Management, Human Dimensions of Natural Resources, Colorado State University, Fort Collins, CO (closes 3/8/2015)

For details on job opportunities visit http://www.cfc.umt.edu/cesu/Postings/Jobs.php

MEETINGS OF INTEREST

March 25-27, 2015: **Science for Parks, Parks for Science: The Next Century**, UC Berkeley. The goal of the summit is to envision and contribute to strategies for science for parks and science using parks, for the coming decades. Participants will build on the historic linkage that has continued to grow between NPS and scientists at leading universities and other organizations around the world. http://www.parksforscience.berkeley.edu/


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.