

A N N O U N C I N G

NPS GEORGE MELENDEZ WRIGHT CLIMATE CHANGE FELLOWSHIP

The National Park Service is now accepting applications for the George Melendez Wright Climate Change Fellowship. The goals of this student fellowship program are to support new and innovative research on climate change impacts to protected areas and to increase the use of scientific knowledge toward resource management. Awards will be made in the range of \$5,000 to \$20,000 per fellowship for research to be undertaken in calendar year 2010. Projects may consist of exploratory research that could lead to a larger project funded by other sources but must result in tangible outcomes that are aimed at informing resource decisions. Applications are welcomed for proposed research in any area relevant to the natural and cultural resources of units of the National Park System. Examples include projects addressing vulnerability and risk assessment; adaptation strategies; public perceptions and values; and impacts to cultural landscapes and ethnographic resources.

Eligibility: Graduate students or superior upper-level undergraduate students (3.5 GPA or above) currently enrolled in a U.S. accredited college or university.

Requirements: Proposed research should be conducted on or around National Park lands. Upon completion of the research, students are required to provide a summary report of their results and one or more educational products or publications to help facilitate information transfer beyond the scientific audience. Deliverables may include a presentation to the site manager, public seminar, or non-technical article. Housing may be available within the park where research will be conducted. Requests for housing should be made as part of the application process and must be arranged through the park after the fellowship has been awarded and well in advance of the project start date.

Research proposals must be received by March 15, 2010, and all applicants will be notified of selection decisions by April 5, 2010. Proposals will be selected based on the following criteria: relevance and technical soundness of the proposed research; feasibility of the proposed study; qualifications of the student; and the clarity and completeness of the proposal. Research projects are to begin in the summer of 2010, with progress or final reports due by September 30th of that year.



The Legacy of George Melendez Wright (1904-1936):

George Melendez Wright's contribution to elevating the role of science in the National Park Service is unparalleled. As a park naturalist, Wright spearheaded the first wildlife survey ever conducted in the NPS system, which aimed to determine original and current wildlife conditions, identify causes of adverse changes, and recommend actions that would restore park wildlife to its original status. The findings in this landmark survey helped formulate the first wildlife-management policies and instituted science as a vital ingredient in park management decisions. Wright also led collective efforts to identify habitat and landscapes of highest value for public protection and enjoyment. This fellowship recognizes and memorializes Wright's commitment to science-based decision making and embraces his philosophy of protected area management that promotes ecosystem health and resilience.

Applications must be received electronically by: March 15th, 2010
Email application materials and questions to: Elliot_Dale@contractor.nps.gov



NPS GEORGE MELENDEZ WRIGHT CLIMATE CHANGE FELLOWSHIP APPLICATION FORM

Application Must Include:

1. Brief resume (3 pp. maximum) including name, address, email address, phone number, academic program and institution, name of faculty advisor, relevant work experience and/or education
2. Scan copies or submit electronic version of all college transcripts showing degrees conferred and current course of study
3. Project proposal (10 pp. maximum, 12 pt font) with the following elements:
 - Project Title
 - Abstract
 - Statement of Research Need
 - Objectives
 - Project Description – including NPS Study Area
 - Methodology – including proposed timeline
 - Relevance of Proposed Research to Resource Conservation
 - Anticipated Research Product(s) (i.e., thesis, publication(s), report to park, presentation to park managers, public lecture)
4. Budget – including salary, equipment, supplies, travel, matching funds (if available) and any other relevant categories
5. Budget Justification
6. List of Cited References
7. Additional support requested from park(s), if any (e.g., housing and dates needed, transportation, assistance with equipment or park access)
8. Statement(s) of support (email messages are ok) from appropriate park personnel addressing the relevance of the research to park management
9. The subject line should include, “Climate Change Fellowship” for all e-mail submissions
10. Applicants are requested to consolidate all materials into a single PDF file for submission

Applications will be judged on the relevance and technical soundness of the proposed research, feasibility of the proposed study, qualifications of the student, and clarity and completeness of the proposal.

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