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Pacific Northwest Cooperative Ecosystem Studies Unit News. Please share our newsletter!

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Cooperative Ventures

News from the [Pacific Northwest Cooperative Ecosystem Studies Unit](#)

The Pacific Northwest Cooperative Ecosystem Studies Unit (PNW CESU), hosted by the University of Washington, is a partnership for research, technical assistance, and education to enhance understanding and management of natural and cultural resources.

January 2016 Issue

- News from the Host
- New Member
- Partner Updates
- Funding Opportunities
- Upcoming Events
- PNW FY15 Funding
- Project Highlights

Previous issues are available online at [Cooperative Ventures](#).

News from the Host

We are pleased to start 2016 under a new five-year [master cooperative agreement](#). The National CESU Council reviewed our renewal packet (self-assessment, host letter of intent, peer feedback) and voted to approve the PNW CESU for its fourth term.

We are excited to welcome the Bureau of Indian Affairs as our newest federal agency member. See below for their current funding opportunities.

We held the PNW CESU Annual Meeting on December 14th, 2015. The meeting minutes are available [here](#).

New Member

Bureau of Indian Affairs



The Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) is joining the PNW CESU under Amendment 1 to our new master agreement. The BIA states that high importance is placed upon future work on climate change adaptation including the unique impacts to traditional cultural uses. Of particular interest for future work is the potential for shared benefits from integration of traditional ecological knowledge and current adaptive management to address ecosystem resilience. Find out more on our [BIA page](#) and see their current funding opportunities below.

Partner Updates

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

NOAA has started its first project under the PNW CESU. They are partnering with the University of Alaska Anchorage and have supplied \$594,000 in funding towards the *Kachemak Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve* project.

Bureau of Ocean Energy Management

The Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM) recently shared a [Fact Sheet](#) which includes some interesting project highlights. The Environmental Studies Program (ESP) at BOEM designs, funds, and manages scientific research on the marine, coastal, and human environments to inform the Federal offshore energy leasing program. The ESP currently manages more than 50 ongoing study projects in Alaska, in topical areas such as protected and endangered species; physical oceanography; fate and effects of pollutants; wildlife biology; food security; traditional knowledge; and economic forecasting. Completed study reports are available at <http://www.boem.gov/akstudies>.

National Park Service

The National Park Service is celebrating it's Centennial Year! The centennial will kick off a second century of stewardship of America's national parks and engaging communities through recreation, conservation, and historic preservation programs.

We invite you to find your park and discover the national parks and programs in your own backyard: <http://www.nps.gov/subjects/centennial/index.htm>

Heritage University

Heritage University has recently welcomed Alex Alexiades, PhD, Natural Resources. He will be developing a new Aquatic and Fisheries Science program and curriculum which will incorporate Traditional Ecological Knowledge into Environmental Science Education. He will also focus on developing GIS and Program R courses, outreach with Yakama Nation Fisheries and area K-12 students, and EnvironMentor for high school students on Yakama Indian Reservation, and is interested in developing a local fisheries and aquatic research program (focusing on salmonid population dynamics and ecosystem function) and continuing research in tropical Andean rivers. You can learn more about HU and Alex [here](#). Any PNW CESU members who wish to collaborate are encouraged to contact him at Alexiades_A@heritage.edu.

Funding Opportunities

Please visit our [Announcements](#) webpage for full details on these opportunities.

Internship/Fellowship Announcements

National Park Service Mosaics In Science Diversity Internship

The Mosaics In Science Diversity Internship Program provides college students and recent graduates with an opportunity to work with the National Park Service in positions in science, technology and engineering. The Interns are paid a \$4,800 stipend, all travel costs to and from the job are covered and, the Interns provided with housing (or a housing allowance.) More information on the Mosaics In Science Internship Program can be found at:

<http://www.mosaicsinscience.org/> and <http://www.nature.nps.gov/geology/mosaics/>

[George Melendez Wright Initiative for Young Leaders in Climate Change](#)

The National Park Service Climate Change Response Program and the University of Washington are pleased to announce paid summer internship positions to address climate change in national parks! The George Melendez Wright Initiative for Young Leaders in Climate Change (YLCC) offers twelve positions for the summer of 2016 in national parks and program offices all around the country. Applications will be accepted until 12:00 PM PST on January 28, 2016. For further information, list of available internships, and application directions please visit the program website: parksclimateinterns.org

See the PNW CESU Project Highlights below to find the Climate Change Response Newsletter featuring previous George Melendez Wright Initiative internship projects.

[Schoodic Institute Research Fellowship Request for Proposals 2016](#)

Schoodic Institute at Acadia National Park announces the availability of grants to support science research in or near Acadia National Park. Schoodic Institute has particular interests in bird ecology, forest ecology, and freshwater and ocean ecology, especially as they relate to environmental change, conservation, and resource stewardship. Each proposal may request up to \$5,000 for research, including stipend, supplies, and travel. Deadline: Proposals must be submitted by February 15, 2016. [Please see full details here.](#)

[University of Washington Climate Change video contest 2016](#)

The first-ever UW Climate Change Video Contest was such a hit last year that we're hosting it again this year! Last year's winners set a high bar—but let's see what you can do to top it! Check out the [winning videos](#) and get inspired to tell your story. Submissions are due on April 4, 2016, by 5 p.m. (PST). Complete details are available here: <https://apps.sefs.uw.edu/video/>

[Bureau of Indian Affairs, 2016 Tribal Student Climate Change Photo Contest](#)

Using a classroom or cell phone camera, take a picture of things of value in your community that climate change might affect, include a climate caption, and submit the photo or questions by e-mail to: bia_climate_photo_contest@bia.gov. DUE April 30th (2016 Spring Contest).

Funding Announcements

[National Park Service Scholars-in-the-Park Program Request for Letter of Research Interest \(LOI\), Sitka National Historical Park \(SITK\)](#)

In preparation for the 150th anniversary of the Alaska Purchase in 2017, Sitka National Historical Park would like to gain a better understanding of how both Native Alaskan and Russian cultures have contributed to the history of Alaska. This project requires that the principal investigator(s) have deep knowledge and experience in the study of Russian History or the colonial history of the North

Pacific, as well as knowledge about historic preservation and planning, and knowledge and experience with completing actionable planning documents at either the state or federal level. Deadline for responding to this letter of interest is January 30, 2016. More information is available [here](#).

[Bureau of Indian Affairs, A Program to Identify and Address Climate Science Needs for Improved Climate Change Adaptation](#)

[Funding Opportunity Number: BIA-climate-16-0001 at http://www.grants.gov](#)

BIA's Tribal Climate Resilience Program is pleased to announce a new Solicitation of Proposals for cooperative agreements between BIA and tribal organizations to hire 5-7 tribal climate science liaisons to address tribal climate science needs through extension work with tribes, research, and coordination. Please choose the direct access solicitation link above this description for further information and to apply. DUE Feb. 12, 2016, 5PM EST.

[National Park Service Letter of Research Interest \(LOI\) Roger Williams National Historic Site Ethnographic Study](#)

The Northeast Region Archeology and Ethnography Program is interested in conducting an Ethnographic Overview and Assessment (EOA) for Roger Williams National Memorial (ROWI). Partners of the national Cooperative Ecosystem Studies Unit Network (CESU: <http://www.cesu.psu.edu>) are invited to respond to this request for [Letters of Research Interest](#). Project funds available are \$90,000 that includes the CESU overhead rate of 17.5 percent. The project will be funded by the National Park Service. Only non-federal partners within the national CESU network are eligible to apply. Responses of interest should be directed before the closing date to Erik Kreuzsch (Erik_S_Kreusch@nps.gov). Additional questions can be answered by contacting Erik Kreuzsch, Cultural Anthropologist, Northeast Region Ethnography Program, National Park Service (978-970-5144). Deadline for responding to this letter of interest is March 25, 2016.

Employment Announcements

[USGS Permanent Supv. Research Ecologist GS-0408-12/13](#)

The Forest and Rangeland Ecosystem Science Center of the US Geological Survey will be hiring a full-time, permanent appointment to be responsible for designing, executing, and publishing results of research and monitoring with a primary focus on direct and indirect effect of natural and human disturbance on shrub steppe landscapes across western North America. All applicants must apply at www.usajobs.gov. Opens 01/13/2016 Closes 02/10/2016.

[Schoodic Institute Forest Ecology Program Director](#)

This is a new position contributing to the growth and development of Schoodic Institute. It is fully funded for the first year and expected to be a permanent role. Forest ecology and the response of forests to rapid environmental changes are priority research areas at the Institute. We seek a program director with academic qualifications, research interests, and skills and ambitions in building partnerships and connections between science, education, and resource management. Please send resume & cover letter as a .pdf attachment, using "Forest Ecology" in the subject line, to search@schoodicinstitute.org. Applications will be accepted until the position is filled. Schoodic Institute is an Equal Opportunity Employer. Please see full details about this position here.

Events

February 8 - 12, 2016: [Alaska Forum on the Environment](#), Anchorage, AK, [Website](#)

The Alaska Forum on the Environment (AFE) is Alaska's largest statewide gathering of environmental professionals from government agencies, non-profit and for-profit businesses, community leaders, Alaskan youth, conservationists, biologists and community elders. The diversity of attendees and comprehensive agenda sets this conference apart from any other. [Read more & register](#)

February 24 - 25, 2016: Sagebrush Ecosystem Conservation: All Lands, All Hands Conference, Salt Lake City, UT

The Great Basin Consortium, the Western Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies, and Utah State University are co-sponsoring this conference to continue sharing the latest information and to plan for the conservation, restoration, and maintenance of resilient sagebrush ecosystems. Website: <http://sagebrushconference2016.org/>

March 8 - 10, 2016: Climate Science Leadership Conference

<http://www.climateleadershipconference.org/>

The annual Climate Leadership Conference convenes a global audience of climate, energy, and sustainability professionals to address climate change through policy, innovation, and business solutions. Now in its fifth year, the 2016 event will host the first U.S. climate conference post-Paris to further accelerate climate solutions and a low-carbon economy.

PNW CESU Funding

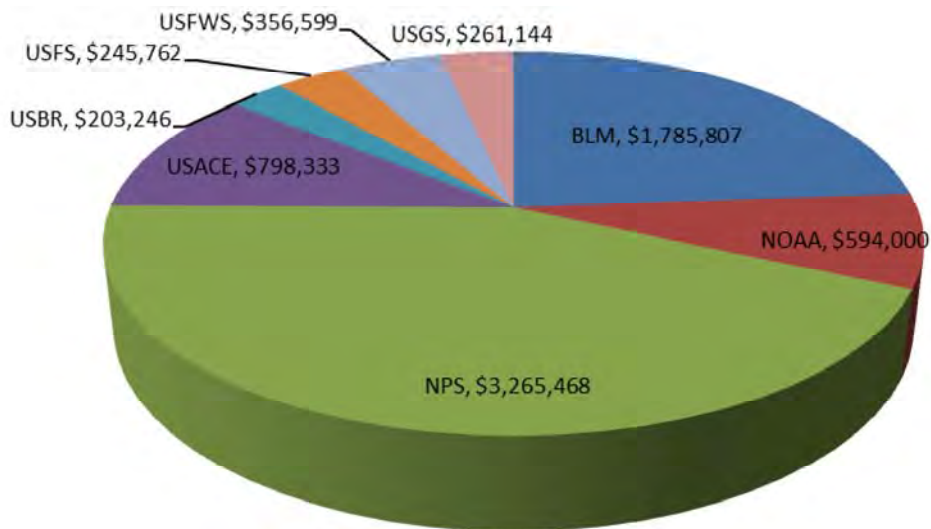
Since inception (2000) the PNW CESU has facilitated the collaboration of our university partners with our federal agency members to produce **764 projects** with over **\$90 million** of funding.

Fiscal Year 2015

- **\$7.5 million** in funding
- **8** Federal Agencies participated
- **15** University or State Partners received project funding
- **62** New projects were created
- **59** Existing projects received additional funding

The National Park Service (NPS) was the largest contributor, followed by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM). The chart below displays the amount of funding per federal agency.

FY15 Agency Funding



PNW CESU Project Highlights

Please visit our [Project Library](#) for more information about these projects.

George Melendez Wright Initiative for Young Leaders in Climate Change



The National Park Service showcased this PNW CESU project in their [Climate Change Response Program Newsletter](#). The George Melendez Wright Initiative for Young Leaders in Climate Change project is a partnership between the NPS with Melanie Wood as Agreement Technical Rep and the University of Washington, College of the Environment, with Dean Lisa Graumlich as PI. The NPS has supplied almost \$1.5 million over the past five years to support the George Melendez Wright internships. (Project # P14AC01396).

Pikas in Peril: A Multi-Regional Vulnerability Assessment of a Climate-Sensitive Sentinel Species

The North Pacific Landscape Conservation Cooperative (NPLCC) recently held a [webinar](#) based in part on this PNW CESU project to study the genetic connectivity of pika populations in five NPS units. The National Park Service, with Gordon Dicus as Agreement Technical Representative, partnered with Oregon State University, with Clinton Epps, PhD, as PI (Project # J8W07100025).



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