

# ANNOUNCING

## 2012 NPS GEORGE MELENDEZ WRIGHT CLIMATE CHANGE FELLOWSHIP

On behalf of the **National Park Service**, the **University of Washington College of the Environment** will be accepting applications for the **2012 George Melendez Wright Climate Change Fellowship**. Applications are due January 18, 2012.

The goals of this student fellowship program are to support new and innovative research relevant to managing climate change impacts in US National Parks, including transboundary issues and comparisons to Mexican or Canadian protected areas. Awards will be made in the range of \$5,000 to \$20,000 per fellowship for research to be undertaken in calendar years 2012-13. 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 encouraged for 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 natural resources and cultural resources (e.g., cultural landscapes, archeological, traditional cultural/ethnographic, and historic structures).

**Eligibility:** Students enrolled in Masters and PhD programs in the US, Canada, and Mexico may apply. Both U.S. citizens and non-citizens are eligible. NPS employees are not eligible to apply. Recipients of previous George Melendez Wright Climate Change Fellowships are not eligible to apply.

**Requirements:** Proposed research should be conducted on or around National Park lands and must be **relevant** to NPS resource management needs. Upon completion of the fellowship, 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 will 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.

The deadline for submission is **January 18, 2012**. All applicants will be notified of selection decisions in mid-April, 2012. 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 2012 and may be completed in one or two field seasons (summers of 2012 and 2013). Awardees will submit either a progress report or a final report by September 2012. Final reports for projects conducted over two field seasons will be due by September 30, 2013.



### **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 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 in the Service 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.

Complete application packages must be received by 5:00 p.m. PST, January 18, 2012. For more information, please go to: [http://coenv.washington.edu/students/melendez\\_wright/](http://coenv.washington.edu/students/melendez_wright/)



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