

1. COVER LETTER

Describe your interest in conducting research in Rocky Mountain National Park and why you are uniquely qualified for this research fellowship. Also indicate your career aspirations and why you are applying to this program.

2. INTRODUCTION

a. Applicant Information

Provide your name, address, telephone number (work and home), FAX number, email address and institutional affiliation. Include major and minor subjects in both undergraduate and graduate work, and the dates and degrees acquired.

b. Dates of fellowship availability

Please indicate the specific dates that you will be available for this research fellowship.

c. Title of research proposal

d. Dates of research period

Please indicate additional follow-up work timelines beyond the fellowship period in the park, if needed.

3. QUALIFICATIONS

Provide a current resume identifying training and qualifications relevant to the proposed research project and the ability to conduct field activities in the environment of the proposed study area. Include a list of publications, if any, a list of academic honors received, most recent university transcripts, and names and contact information of three professional references.

4. OVERVIEW

Summarize the proposed research project by generally describing the problem or issue being investigated as well as any previous pertinent research.

a. Statement of issue

Describe the issue to be investigated and its importance and relevance to science and to the park.

b. Scope of study

Describe the overall geographic and scientific scope of the project.

c. Intended use of results – Describe how the products will be used, including any anticipated commercial use.

5. OBJECTIVES/HYPOTHESES TO BE TESTED

Describe the specific objectives of the proposed project. Where appropriate, the objectives should be stated as specific hypotheses to be tested.

6. METHODS

Describe how the proposed methods and analytical techniques will achieve the study objectives or test the stated hypothesis/question. Provide pertinent literature citations. (Please note section VIII – Special Concerns.)

- a. Description of study area
Clearly describe the study area in terms of park name(s), geographic location(s), and place names.
- b. Procedures
Describe the proposed study design that addresses the stated objectives and hypotheses. Explain the methods and protocols to be employed in the field, library, museum and/or laboratory.
- c. Collections
Describe anything that you might need to collect from within the park during the course of your research and indicate how that collected material would be used and what the final disposition would be.
- d. Analysis
Explain how the data from the study will be analyzed to meet the stated objectives or test the hypotheses. Include any statistical techniques or mathematical models necessary to the understanding of the analysis.
- e. Schedule
Provide a schedule that includes start of project, approximate dates or seasons of fieldwork, analysis, reporting and completion dates for all products that will be furnished at the conclusion of the Fellowship or research period.

7. PRODUCTS

A final report consisting of both hard and electronic copies and all data collected during the study will be required at the conclusion of the research fellowship period for the park files.

- a. Publications and reports
Describe the expected publications or reports that will be generated as part of this study.
- b. Collections
Describe the proposed disposition of collected specimens or materials. If you propose that the NPS lend the specimens or samples to a non-NPS institution for long-term storage, identify that institution and give a brief justification for this proposal.
- c. Data and other materials
Describe any other products to be generated as part of the research project, such as, photographs, maps, models, handouts, exhibits, software presentations, raw data, GIS coverages, or videos, and the proposed disposition of these materials. Note: Collection of data from park visitors (surveys, interviews, focus groups, etc.) is tightly controlled by federal regulations. Approval from the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) is required and can take months to receive. Hence, social science research within the park boundaries is not encouraged due to the short duration of the fellowship.
- d. Public presentation
An important aspect of this research fellowship is to create a vehicle by which scientific research is conveyed to the general public, both during the fellowship period and after. This can be accomplished in a variety of ways, including, but not limited to; campground, seminar, park staff and other local public presentations,

website and brochure development and professional presentations. Please indicate what methods of communication you plan to generate.

8. SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION AND SPECIAL CONCERNS

Provide any supporting documentation that you believe is pertinent to the research you propose to conduct in the park (i.e. any additional funding commitments or university commitments that might be a part of your fellowship). Any special needs should be stated here and note the following special concerns:

- a. A majority of the park is recommended wilderness and by National Park Service policy is managed as congressionally authorized or designated wilderness. Some activities and methods may be limited in the backcountry due to this classification (i.e. no motorized vehicles or equipment, etc.).
- b. Archeological research that involves testing or excavation will require an Archeological Resources Protection Act permit that may necessitate additional research design; allow a minimum of 3 months for processing.
- c. Any disturbance of soils may require archeological clearance in advance and should be noted.
- d. Use of vertebrate species in your research will require review by your Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC) according to the Animal Welfare Act. The National Park Service cannot provide this review