Partner Organization Project Proposal
Conservation Leadership through Learning - Colorado State University

Thank you for your interest in CLTL. We are excited to work with you to develop Final Project opportunities for our students. Please read through our Project Partner webpage, and then fill out this project interest form to let us know about your project ideas.

Organization Information
Organization Name: Yampatika
Primary Contact: Kellie Gorman
Office Phone Number: Alternate Phone Number:
Primary Contact Email:

Project Information
Students will participate in coursework at CSU from August 2016 to May 2017. In-situ work will commence June 2017 and be completed by October 1, with all deliverables completed by December 1, 2017.

☑ Please check this box to acknowledge these dates.

Brief Project Description:
In 2017, we have an opportunity to re-design our Nature Center and store area located in the USFS building in Steamboat Springs. The student will work with Yampatika and USFS personnel to re-design the area including creating interpretive displays and interactive learning opportunities. The project may also include work at our Environmental Learning Center and with other community partners. The interpretive component of the project represents 1/2 of the student’s time. The other 1/2 would be spent helping discern what kind of Nature-based tourist visits Steamboat Springs and what s/he hopes to gain from the experience. Research may include intercept surveys with visitors and interviews with local tourism agencies (i.e. the Chamber of Commerce). In addition, the student will be immersed in the visitor experience, serving as the primary Naturalist on Yampatika’s summer adult programs.

Below are the project criteria. Please check each criterion the project would likely meet.

☑ Community-based: on-the-ground work at a community/regional level, including interactions with and/or exposure to local decision-makers and/or stakeholders
☐ Multi-disciplinary: analysis and investigation of a conservation issue through multiple lenses (e.g., ecological, economic, social, political)
☐ Cross-cultural: opportunities for students to interact with individuals and/or in a culture vastly different than their own
☑ Networking: opportunities for students to interact with other conservation professionals

Final projects should provide opportunities for students to apply knowledge from their CLTL coursework. Please check the topics the proposed project would address:
☐ Biodiversity ☐ Systems thinking
☑ Governance/Decision-making ☐ Policy
☐ Facilitation ☐ Ecosystem services
☐ Spatial analysis ☐ Collaborative conservation
☑ Social science research methods ☐ Ecological research methods
☐ Multi-level views of conservation ☐ Outreach
Students are required to provide their project partner with a professional-level deliverable (e.g., management plan, technical report, communication materials, set of policy briefs, series of podcasts, etc.). Please provide a brief description of potential deliverables for your project:

Students will be expected to design interpretive signage including writing text for interpretive displays and coordinating design and printing. Signs will be used at the Nature Center at the USFS Building, for the Environmental Learning Center at Legacy Ranch and potentially at other project sites (i.e. Steamboat Ski Area). Project work will also include a report in the student's findings regarding the Nature-based tourist in Steamboat Springs.

Please describe the project team, including who the student(s) would likely work with at the project site or if it would be mostly independent:

The student will be working closely with Yampatika staff and will be supervised by the Program Director.

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**Project Details**

Project location (city, state/province, country): Steamboat Springs, CO, USA

Desired Number of Students: Min 1 Max 2

Please indicate in-kind support, if any, the student would receive (check all that apply):

- [ ] Room and board during fieldwork
- [ ] Room and board during entire project
- [ ] Translators
- [ ] Research assistant(s)
- [ ] Travel to/from U.S. to project location
- [ ] Travel within/around project location
- [ ] Additional support Please describe:

Please elaborate on any of the checked items above:

**Preferred/Required skills and experience of the student(s):**

Language proficiency: [ ] Preferred [ ] Required Specify language:

Technical skills: [ ] Preferred [ ] Required 

Please specify:

Prior experience in country/region: [ ] Preferred [ ] Required

Please describe the connectivity at project site (e.g., internet access, mobile phone coverage):

Steamboat Springs has access to Internet and mobile coverage. The student will be provided computer and internet access at the Yampatika offices.

Additional Comments:

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Thank you for proposing a CLTL Final Project. We will contact you with any further questions about the proposed projects. If you have questions, please feel free to contact us at Terra.Smith@colostate.edu. We look forward to working with you.