**PR Number:** R1360110066

**Award Number:** **P11AT00220 SUU-31**

**Park/NPS Unit:** Cedar Breaks National Monument

**Title of Project:** YPP: Intergovernmental Internship Cooperative (IIC) Youth Partnership Project PMIS -153291 B

**Administered through the: (pick from drop down list):** Colorado Plateau Cooperative Ecosystem Studies Unit Cooperative Agreement Number H1200-09-0005

**CESU Partner (pick from drop down list):** Southern Utah University

**Project Contacts**

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**NPS Technical Expert (if appropriate):** Name, Title, Address, Phone, Fax, Email

**Funding Information:**

**Amount Funded:** $67,085

**Project Dates:**

**Start Date:** April 1, 2011

**Any Other Product Milestone Dates you need to include:** (full dates can go in with the project description)

**End Date:** April 1, 2014

**PROJECT ABSTRACT:**

This task agreement outlines the working relationship between Southern Utah University (SUU) and the National Park Service and how they will work together to meet the goals and program objectives of the Intergovernmental Internship Cooperative (IIC). For purposes of this task agreement, Cedar Breaks National Monument serves as the lead and signatory national park unit that is responsible for meeting the terms, conditions and timetables outlined in this agreement. As such, Cedar Breaks NM will work with the four other NPS units (Zion and Bryce Canyon National Parks, and Pipe Spring and Grand Canyon Parashant National Monuments), three federal agency partners (Dixie National Forest, Bureau of Land Management, the Bureau of Indian Affairs), the Utah Department of Natural Resources and Paiute Indian Tribe of Utah.

In 2007, through a National Park Service Challenge Cost Share Grant, the seven founding partners (Southern Utah University, Cedar Breaks and Pipe Spring National Monuments, Zion and Bryce Canyon National Parks, Dixie National Forest and the Utah Division of Parks and Recreation) created the IIC. Since finalizing the originating task agreement (August, 2008), the IIC has placed over 200 interns, has produced a number of service-learning projects, and has expanded to include two new partner units, Grand Canyon-Parashant National Monument (NPS/BLM) and Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument (BLM). The IIC’s mission is to develop a work- and project-based internship and service-learning program to serve the Southern Utah region by matching the needs of land management government agencies with college students and departments seeking meaningful opportunities. The Cooperative promotes professionalism in land stewardship and creates opportunities to conserve and preserve cultural and natural resources while effectively serving communities and visitors. Interns, both paid and unpaid, in the IIC receive on the job experiences working in parks as interpreters, natural and cultural resource staff members, fee collectors, researchers, trail builders, and other similar positions.

The Youth Partnership Program (YPP) funds provided through this task agreement will significantly further the work of the IIC educational and outreach programs to youth and minorities as outlined in Article VI –“Products” section of this agreement. The Cedar Breaks NM superintendent and key park staff from Cedar Breaks and Pipe Spring National Monuments, Zion and Bryce Canyon National Parks will have substantial involvement working with SUU and the other federal and state agency members of the IIC to accomplish the tasks and goals outlined herein.

During 2008/2009, the IIC established a Steering Committee made up of at least one representative from the NPS, USFS, BLM, SUU, Utah State Parks partner agencies. The IIC Steering Committee makes decisions consistent with the mission, goals, and objectives of the IIC, which are outlined in an Annual Plan of Work.

As the IIC continues to mature, the program is committed to developing career track opportunities using Student Career Employment Program (SCEP) and other authorities to recruit the best and brightest students for long-term agency employment. The IIC is developing outreach strategies to minority groups throughout the region--including southern & central Utah, northern Arizona, and southern Nevada--and focusing on regional groups such as the Paiute Indian Tribe of Utah (their tribal offices are located in Cedar City), Kaibab Paiute Tribe and the U.S Department of Interior Bureau of Indian Affairs Southern Paiute Agency. Additionally, the IIC is continuing its minority outreach efforts to SUU’s on campus clubs including the Asian Club, the Black Student Alliance, the Feminist Education and Motivation Society, the Hispanic Club, the Native American Student Association, the Polynesian Club, and other similar campus clubs & organizations. IIC Partners & staff actively work with Bill Gwaltney of the NPS Intermountain Regional office (IMR) to encourage minority students to participate in the Building a Better Future program and to enroll in the IMR diversity database. SUU has agreed to assist with making student housing available for rent on campus for these students, as well as other IIC interns.

In addition, the IIC works closely with SUU’s Outdoor Recreation in Parks and Tourism Program faculty for development of relevant curriculum and to establish a Youth Conservation Corps (YCC) and Career Internship Corps (CIC) recruitment and training program. IIC will also provide for an on-campus contact for area teachers to participate in the "teacher - ranger - teacher" program. IIC is also developing a series of broad strategies to create a ladder of land management agency orientation programs and hands on educational outreach opportunities that target students from 4th grade through college. Over time, some of these students may become the IIC interns of the future and potentially land management agency career employees.