



NATIONAL SUMMER YOUTH PRACTICUM FINAL REPORT

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2024

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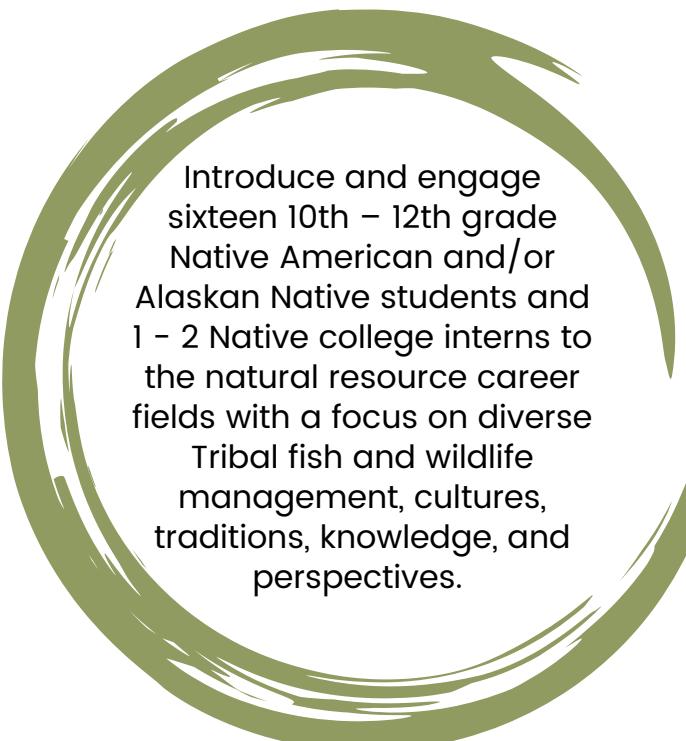
INTRODUCTION:

This year's Native American Fish and Wildlife Society's (NAFWS) National Summer Youth Practicum (NSYP) had 12 student participants and was held from July 21 – 28, 2024 at differing locations in Northern Colorado. Locations included Colorado State University Mountain Campus (CSU-MC), Fort Collins, Estes Park and Denver.

GOALS & OBJECTIVES

The NAFWS Education Coordinator, referred to EC hereinafter, established four goals with objectives to help guide planning and implementation of the National SYP as shown below.

GOAL 1:




Introduce and engage sixteen 10th – 12th grade Native American and/or Alaskan Native students and 1 – 2 Native college interns to the natural resource career fields with a focus on diverse Tribal fish and wildlife management, cultures, traditions, knowledge, and perspectives.

- Objective 1.1: Incorporate Tribal natural resource management as a focus in all sessions.
- Objective 1.2: Award a group of students (3–4) travel funding to attend a regional or national conference to present their wildlife management plan.
- Objective 1.3: Utilize NAFWS college interns (ages 18 – 30) to serve as counselors to students in addition to aid in planning, implementing and participating in NSYP.

GOAL 2:


- Objective 2.1: Provide financial aid for travel for Tribal employee(s), who are NAFWS members, to lead/chaperone the NSYP.
- Objective 2.2: Facilitate dialogue and mentorship between professionals and Native youth in a professional and educational setting.
- Objective 2.3: Update the professional relationship building and communication guide that contains tips and tricks to help both youth and instructor/role model/mentor.



Provide each Native American and Alaskan Native youth with the opportunity to connect/establish mentors and role models that are within the natural resource profession and/or have experience working with Tribal communities.

GOALS & OBJECTIVES CONTINUED

GOAL 3:




Build youth's college readiness and professional development skills.

- Objective 3.1: Integrate professional development skills and practices in sessions.
- Objective 3.2: Discuss diverse career paths and options such as higher education.
- Objective 3.3: Expose Native youth to a college environment through a university tour.

GOAL 4:

- Objective 4.1: Encourage students and NAFWS Staff to follow behavioral standards.
- Objective 4.2: Develop emergency and health procedures.
- Objective 4.3: Provide an option of purchasing an airport escort (parent/guardian pass).
- Objective 4.4: Host a travel logistics meeting for students, parents/guardians prior to travel.



Ensure a safe environment for students, NAFWS staff and guest lecturers to learn, build Native Pride and share their thoughts/opinions.

STUDENT APPLICATION & RECRUITMENT

The EC initiated recruitment for student applicants in February 2024 through social media, emailing contacts, presenting at conferences and hosting two informational webinars, see flier shown in Figure 1.

We continued to incorporate the creative submission options of submitting an essay, video and/or artwork. See Appendix 1 to view the student application.



Figure 1: Flier for Informational Webinar.

NATIONAL SYP STAFF



Ashley Mueller
Education Coordinator
NAFWS



Wade Reiter
Invasive Species Tech.
NAFWS



Dominick Harris
Fish & Wildlife Biologist
U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service



Ryan Gauthier
Chief Conservation Law
Enforcement Officer
Lac du Flambeau



Ariel Vaughan
Education Intern
NAFWS



**Katie Smith -
Easter**
Wildlife Corridor Intern
NAFWS



Heidi McCann
Office Manager &
Membership Coordinator
NAFWS



Judith McKenna
Administrative Assistant
NAFWS



OUR WEEK AGENDA

Our week was filled with tons of outdoor activities and lectures from a total of 24 speakers that included guest speakers and NAFWS staff. Twelve speakers were citizens of eleven Tribal Nations which were Cherokee Nation, Choctaw Nation, Chippewa Cree, Navajo Nation, Northern Arapahoe, Seneca, Lac Courte Oreilles Band of Lake Superior Chippewa, Lac du Flambeau Band of Lake Superior Chippewa, Menominee Indian Tribe of Wisconsin, Mandan, Hidatsa and Arikara Nation (Three Affiliated Tribes) and Unangaꝯ from the Pribilof Island Aleut Communities of St. Paul & St. George Island.

Speaker demographics are shown in Figure 2. See Appendix 2 for agenda.

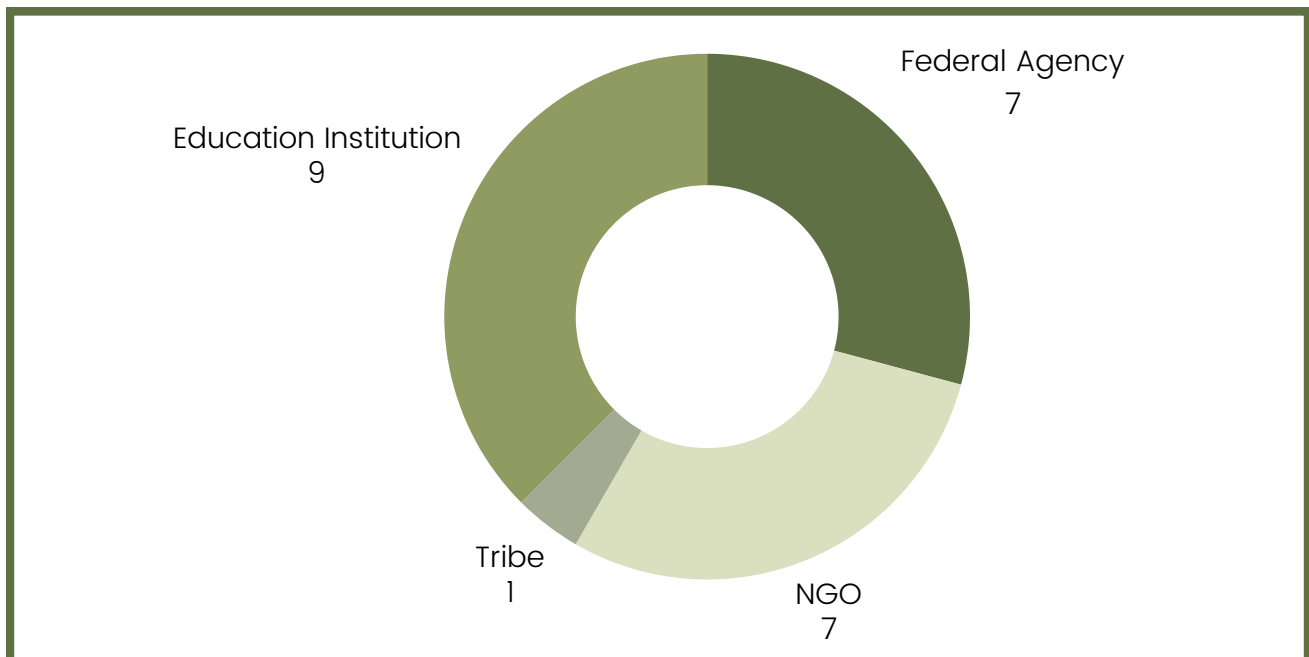


Figure 2: Demographics of organizations and agencies of National SYP speakers and lecturers.



OUR WEEK AGENDA CONTINUED

SUNDAY, JULY 21, 2024: Student Travel Day

Students traveled from 9 total states to Denver International Airport where they were met with NSYP Staff and transported to the CSU-MC.

Students started their first day with a student orientation. This allowed the establishment of guidelines, expectations, safety/health procedures and agenda.

MONDAY, JULY 22, 2024

The EC presented the NAFWS' mission, purpose, initiatives, and programs including a presentation on natural resources across Indian Country.

Students participated in a SYPER Tribal Council Meeting simulation which gave insight into how Tribal meetings may operate including the importance of gaining community awareness and involvement. The Natural Resource Stewardship Challenge was introduced through the discussions and script at the meeting. See Appendix 3.

NSYP Staff, Ryan Gauthier, Chief Conservation Officer of Lac du Flambeau Band of Lake Superior Chippewa led the Conservation Law Enforcement presentation and investigation exercise that encouraged students to practice their note taking and observation skills.

The afternoon was filled with teambuilding exercises moderated by the CSU-MC Challenge Course faculty allowed students to get comfortable with one another by having activities to involve communication, teamwork, competition, challenge by choice and laughter.

Our eventful Monday conclude with students and NSYP Staff sharing reflections while cozying up by a camp fire and making delicious s'mores.





OUR WEEK AGENDA CONTINUED

TUESDAY, JULY 23, 2024

Christopher Carrol and Aurelia DeNasha from U.S. Forest Service led the exercises of bat acoustic monitoring, electrofishing and water invertebrate sampling.

Students learned about the importance of wildlife data collection. CSU professor, Tanya Dewey Ph.D., invited students and staff to participate in bat sampling and identification. Students saw mist nets and learned about data collection and sampling of bats.



WEDNESDAY, JULY 24, 2024

Students participated in outdoor activity demonstrating the importance of Wildlife Corridors led by Katie Smith-Easter, NAFWS intern and grew to understand the differing impacts that Zebra Mussels and pollution can have in a water system through Ariel Vaughan's, NAFWS intern, water table exercise.

A critical presentation regarding invasive species, their impacts and differing management was given by NAFWS' Invasive Technician, Wade Reiter.



THURSDAY, JULY 25, 2024

Colorado State University - Main Campus

- Warner College of Natural Resources: Carmyn Ginnett, CSU Warner College Recruitment and Engagement Coordinator, presented Warner's programs, degrees and certificates regarding natural resources.
- Native American Cultural Center: Students visited the NACC in which they were greeted by Desiree Begay, CSU NACC Student Intern. They discussed resources like scholarships, printing services, tutoring available for Native students.
- USDA Wildlife Services: Timothy Linder provided A look into Wildlife Disease and Surveillance Work.





OUR WEEK AGENDA CONTINUED

FRIDAY, JULY 26, 2024

Our morning was filled with sunshine, history and elk as students learned about elk management in Rocky Mountain National Park from Ranger Abigail Miller, Ranger Kendall Kane and Ranger Jeremiah RisingBuffalo Maybee.

In the afternoon students explored downtown Estes Park, learned about First Nations Development Institute (FNDI) from Jacque Demko and Wolf Star Duran, and identified birds with Nellie Boyd-Owens from the Bird Conservancy of the Rockies.



SATURDAY, JULY 27, 2024

Students and Staff packed their bags to continue their journey to Denver to visit the CSU SPUR Campus where they witnessed a dog spay, created a roof garden blueprint and learned about water quality/distribution at the Water Table.

Final activities included the final proposal presentations from the student groups and awards ceremony.



SUNDAY, JULY 28, 2024

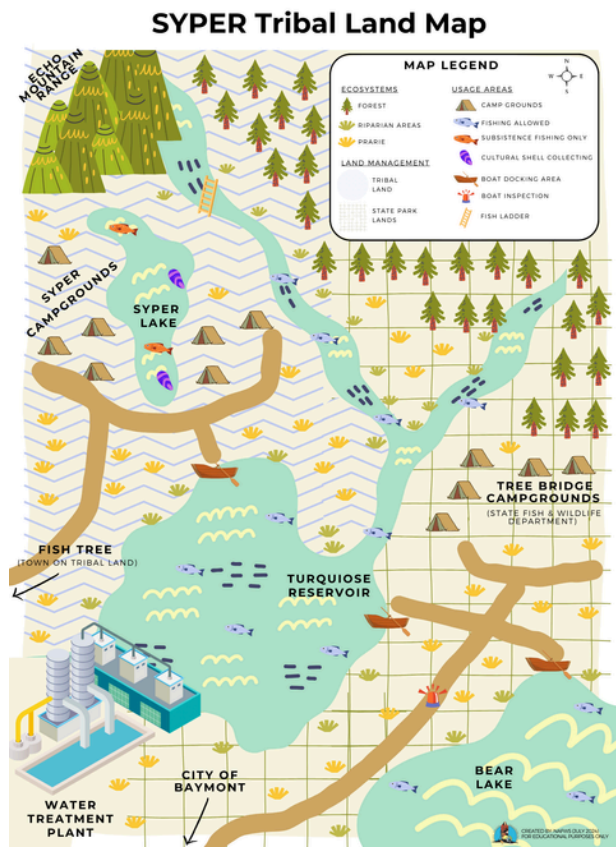
Students and staff travelled home from a great week of learning and laughter.



NATURAL RESOURCE STEWARDSHIP CHALLENGE

The Natural Resource Stewardship Challenge (NRSC) is a simulated exercise that includes students divided into groups with the goal of using their knowledge gained from the week's presentations to develop a solution to the conservation challenge or issue to present on the final day. See Appendix 3 for NRSC materials.

A student group was selected by the NAFWS Staff based on the quality of their proposal and presentation to attend the 2025 NAFWS National Conference to present their plan.






2024 NATIONAL SUMMER YOUTH PRACTICUM
SYPER TRIBAL COUNCIL MEETING
FINAL STUDENT PRESENTATIONS
JULY 27, 2024 | 6:00 P.M. - 7:30 P.M.

The banner features a background of a mountain range. On the left, there are two circular logos: the top one says '1875 ADVENTURE' and 'FISH AND WILDLIFE SOCIETY', and the bottom one says 'NATIVE AMERICAN FISH & WILDLIFE SOCIETY' and 'SUMMER YOUTH PRACTICUM'.

OUTCOMES & IMPACTS

The NAFWS had a total of 18 applications to the NSYP that resulted in the acceptance of 18 students (6 boys, 12 girls) to this year’s practicum. An additional 2 students (1 boy, 1 girl) were accepted into the practicum due to the cancellation of the Southwest Regional Summer Youth Practicum changing the total to 20 students (7 boys, 13 girls).

However, we had a total of 12 student participants (2 boys, 10 girls) due to various reasons such as travel predicaments (airline software outage) Participating students represented 10 federally recognized Tribes and four NAFWS regions as shown in Table 1.

Table 1: List of Students and their Tribal Affiliation and NAFWS Tribal Region.			
Student Name	Tribal Affiliation	Tribe Region	
G.T.	Native Village of Brevig Mission	Alaska	
K.B.	Manokotak Village Council		
K.R.	Hannahville Indian Community (Potawatomi)	Great Lakes	
H.M.	Ponca Tribe of Nebraska	Great Plains	
S.S.	Northern Arapaho		
B.G.	North Fork Rancheria of Mono Indians of California	Southwest	
E.C.	Mescalero Apache		
J.M.	Santo Domingo Pueblo		
J.T.	Navajo Nation		
K.H.	Navajo Nation		
T.K.	Navajo Nation		
T.Y.	Navajo Nation		

OUTCOMES & IMPACTS CONTINUED

We accomplished Goal 1 - 3 and most of Goal 4, specifically, we are continuing to improve Objective 4.2, so that a plan will be more comprehensive.

Table 2: List of 2024 NSYP Goals & Objectives and the Status & Outcomes

Goals & Objectives	Status & Outcomes
Goal 1	Completed. 12 student participants, 2 college interns
Objective 1.1:	Completed.
Objective 1.2:	Completed. We awarded 4 total students to attend and present at the 2025 NAFWS National Conference in Riverton, WY
Objective 1.3	Completed.
Goal 2:	Completed.
Objective 2.1:	Completed. Ryan Gauthier, Chief Conservation Officer of Lac du Flambeau Band of Lake Superior Chippewa served as a presenter and counselor.
Objective 2.2:	Completed.
Objective 2.3:	Completed.
Goal 3:	Completed.
Objective 3.1:	Completed.
Objective 3.2:	Completed.
Objective 3.3:	Completed.
Goal 4:	Completed.
Objective 4.1:	Completed.
Objective 4.2:	Ongoing. We are continuously updating and now including travel alternative protocols.
Objective 4.3:	Completed.
Objective 4.4:	Completed. 2 travel logistics meetings were held prior to travel.



EVALUATION

The students completed a post-evaluation (n=12 students) which indicated that their favorite activity was the ropes course (7 out of 12) followed by the electrofishing, bat lecture and elk management at Rocky Mountain National Park (2 out of 12). Six students indicated that the presentations that appealed to them the most were the lectures and talks about college preparation and personal college journeys.

Additionally, majority of students shared examples of Tribal conservation work that were shared throughout the week. By the end of the week, 10 out of 12 students shared that they know about NAFWS and the work that NAFWS does.

The NSYP will always be evolving and adapting based on evaluation and recommendations from student participants, guest speakers and staff.

A couple of lessons learned and recommendations that were voiced by staff, interns, and student participants include:

- Remote communication such as handheld radios to use in areas with no cell phone service
- Give students more time to explore the CSU Mountain Campus
- Possibly have first days in Denver to allow for easier flexibility and agenda adaptation for any airfare or travel delays
- Include cultural food or banquet

Some Student Recommendations:

- More wildlife encounters
- More breaks
- Longer than a week of camp
- More time for students to get to know one another





FUTURE OF THE NATIONAL SYP

As the longest-running NAFWS education program, the NSYP serves as a commitment and promise to Indian Country through providing an environment for Native Youth to learn and be inspired to be our future leaders, stewards and protectors of Mother Earth.

NAFWS will continue to work to improve the NSYP by building partnerships, seeking funding, and welcoming input/ideas.

Each summer, NAFWS staff and speakers of the NSYP share that their hopes for the future of conservation and natural resources are revived by interacting with the Native Youth that participate in the NSYP.

We are excited for what the future holds for each Native Youth and are excited for the change they will bring to the field of natural resources.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The Native American Fish & Wildlife Society would like to extend great appreciation to our funder and sponsor, the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) for their faith in our efforts to engaging Native Youth and connecting them with the field of natural resources. Funding was utilized towards staff travel, student travel, lodging, food, equipment and supplies which made the NSYP a valuable and quality program.

Special thanks to all the NAFWS Staff and interns for their flexibility, time and help in the implementation of the National SYP.

Thank-You to all the guest speakers that took their time to travel and present to our student's as well as sharing their personal career paths and encouragements.

Lastly, a huge thank you to all of the Native youth participants and their families, the National SYP would not exist without our future leaders.



APPENDIX 1

2024 NATIONAL SUMMER YOUTH PRACTICUM APPLICATION





The Native American Fish and Wildlife Society (NAFWS) is proud to announce our 2024 NAFWS National Summer Youth Practicum (SYP) will be having an in-person session this year.

Are you an incoming 10th – 12th grader or do you know of someone that will be in the 10th – 12th grade that is interested in learning more about: Natural Resources? Wildlife? Recreation? Fish? Rivers? Traditional Ecological Knowledge? Conservation Law Enforcement? Forestry? Watershed? Tribal Lands? OR the preservation, protection, conservation, enhancement of natural resources? Then, the SYP is for YOU! Please Apply!



DATE: July 21, 2024 – July 28, 2024



LOCATION: Multiple Locations through Northern CO - Colorado State University Mountain Campus, Estes Park and Denver



COST: FREE! Food, Travel and Lodging expenses covered.



APPLICATION DEADLINE: April 26, 2024 by 10 pm Mountain Time

The practicum is designed to provide Native American students (10th – 12th grade) an opportunity to gain hands-on and in-lecture experience in the interdisciplinary components of natural resource management and Indigenous knowledge. One of the goals of the Society is to educate Native American youth to understand the importance of professional natural resource management and the interconnectedness to culture, as well as encourage them to continue their education and pursue careers in the natural resource fields.

NAFWS Education Coordinator will be hosting an informational webinar on the application process and program:

Friday, February 16, 2024 at 6:00 pm Mountain Time on Zoom

Friday, March 15, 2024 at 6:00 pm Mountain Time on Zoom

For more information contact AND/OR to send complete applications to:

Ashley Mueller, NAFWS Education Coordinator

Website: nafws.org | **Email:** amueller@nafws.org | **Office Phone:** (720) 983-1010 Ext. 203 **Mobile:** (505) 862-3779



CHECKLIST

Make sure you submit the following materials and that they are all completed:

- Completed *Application for Admission*
- Creative Submission for Admission
- Student Emergency and Health Form & Media Release Statement*. Please review, complete and sign.
- Student Contract*. Please review and sign.
- Parent/Guardian Contract*. Please review and sign.
- COVID-19 Protocols for 2024 National Summer Youth Practicum: Acknowledgment and Agreement*. Please review and sign.
- NAFWS Liability Waiver and General Release for Summer Youth Practicum Relating to Coronavirus/COVID-19*. Please review and sign
- 1 Letter of Recommendation: To be submitted by your recommender by email. Student or student parent/guardian are not allowed to submit letter.

APPLICATION CLOSING DATE IS April 26, 2024 by 10 pm Mountain Time. PLEASE MAKE SURE THAT YOUR APPLICATION IS COMPLETE AND SUBMITTED BY EMAIL. EMAIL COMPLETE APPLICATION TO: amueller@nafws.org



APPLICATION FOR ADMISSION

STUDENT'S FULL LEGAL NAME: _____

STUDENT'S ADDRESS: _____ CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP CODE: _____

BIRTH DATE: _____ AGE: _____ GENDER: _____ PRONOUNS (OPTIONAL): _____

STUDENT'S PHONE: _____ STUDENT'S EMAIL: _____

WE ENCOURAGE STUDENTS/PARENTS/GUARDIANS TO BE PART OF THE COMMUNICATION THROUGHOUT THE PROGRAM

SCHOOL: _____ GRADE (UPCOMING FALL): _____

TRIBAL AFFILIATION: _____ ENROLLMENT # (IF AVAILABLE): _____

NAME & PHONE OF PARENT OR GUARDIAN: _____

EMAIL OF PARENT OR GUARDIAN: _____

T-SHIRT SIZE (CIRCLE):

XS S M L XL XXL XXXL

*** STUDENT MUST BE IN GOOD PHYSICAL CONDITION AS PHYSICAL ACTIVITIES ARE PART OF PRACTICUM ***

SHOE SIZE: _____, WOMEN SIZE MEN SIZE HEIGHT (ft, inch): _____ WEIGHT (lbs): _____

(This will help us pair waders and wader boots for our Fisheries Day)

SELECT CREATIVE SUBMISSION FOR ADMISSION OPTION (SEE NEXT PAGE FOR INFO):

OPTION 1: ESSAY

OPTION 2: VIDEO

OPTION 3: ARTWORK

YOUR CREATIVE SUBMISSION MUST ANSWER THESE CREATIVE SUBMISSION PROMPTS:

1. Tell us about yourself, your family, hobbies, favorite outdoor activities, etc.
2. Share your interests, jobs and/or activities regarding natural resources such as outdoor recreation, fisheries, wildlife, forestry, range management, watershed, conservation management and Traditional Ecological Knowledge?
3. What do you think is natural resource conservation? Why is it important? How does it connect to your culture, language and/or traditions?
4. What is your opinion of natural resource management on your reservation or community? How would you improve it?

HOW DID YOU HEAR ABOUT AND GET THIS APPLICATION? (SCHOOL, TRIBAL NATURAL RESOURCE DEPT., WEBSITE, FACEBOOK, NAFWS MEMBER, FRIEND, PARENT, EMAIL, POSTED, ETC): _____

CREATIVE SUBMISSION FOR ADMISSION: INSTRUCTIONS & INFORMATION

The NAFWS is incorporating a new idea of implementing a creative submission to allow student applicants to better express their interests in the 2024 NAFWS National Summer Youth Practicum. We hope that through this application process, that it will be more fun, inspiring, unique and motivating for student applicants to apply, express their interests, and exercise their creativity.

We encourage student applicants to step out of their comfort zones and use their imagination, creativity, and Indigenous minds to submit a beautiful creative submission. Selection committee will base their selections on student's efforts and answers to the 4 prompts (see page 3). The creative submission options are below:

OPTION 1: ESSAY

You may submit an essay that is 250 – 500 words (maximum). Your essay can include or be a poem, a story, song lyrics, Native language (with English translation), wordle and etc., as long as it addresses the four creative submission prompts. Essay can be typed or handwritten, please use eligible font(s).

Submission for Essay:

- Submit your essay as an email attachment with completed *Application for Admission* and documents (refer to checklist on Page 2)

OPTION 2: VIDEO

You may create a video of yourself that must be 2 - 3 minutes long. Your video can include or be you reciting a poem, telling a story, singing a song, interpretive dance, include Native language (with English translation) and etc., as long as it addresses the four creative submission prompts. Ensure that song choice for singing, overlaying in video and/or dancing are appropriate (no foul language).

Submission Options for Video:

- Option 1: Tag us in your video caption. You can tag us on Facebook, Instagram, TikTok and/or YouTube. See social media handles on Page 5 (next page).
- Option 2: Email your video or a link to the education coordinator.

OPTION 3: ARTWORK

You may submit a painting, drawing, sculpture or collage that you created. If you do the artwork option, you must also submit a 250 word (max) explanation (can be bullet points). This is to ensure that we are interpreting your answers correctly, and that it addresses the four creative submission prompts.

Submission Options for Artwork:

- Option 1: Send by mail with completed *Application for Admission* and Important & Vital Documents (5 total documents).
Mailing Address: 10645 Melody Dr. Ste. 307 Northglenn, CO 80234
- Option 2: Scan or take a good quality photo of your artwork and attach to an email with your completed *Application for Admission* and documents (refer to checklist on Page 2)
- Option 3: Email digital artwork to the education coordinator with your completed *Application for Admission* and documents (refer to checklist on Page 2)

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[@nafwstiktok](https://www.tiktok.com/@nafwstiktok)



[@native_wildlife](https://twitter.com/native_wildlife)



[Native American Fish & Wildlife Society](https://www.linkedin.com/company/native-american-fish-and-wildlife-society)



[nativeamericanfishandwildlifesociety](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC...)



STUDENT EMERGENCY & HEALTH FORM

(To be filled out by parent or guardian)

STUDENT NAME: _____ PHONE: _____

ADDRESS: _____ CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP CODE: _____

PARENT/GUARDIAN NAME: _____

WORK PHONE: _____ MOBILE PHONE: _____ EMAIL: _____

****Please submit phone numbers and emails that are in service & that are checked frequently****

EMERGENCY CONTACT 1: (IF SAME AS PARENT/GUARDIAN LEAVE "EMERGENCY CONTACT 1 BLANK", FILL OUT EMERGENCY CONTACT 2)

NAME: _____ PHONE: _____ RELATIONSHIP: _____

EMERGENCY CONTACT 2:

NAME: _____ PHONE: _____ RELATIONSHIP: _____

PHYSICIAN NAME & ADDRESS: _____

PHONE: _____ MEDICAL COVERAGE: _____

IS YOUR CHILD ELIGIBLE FOR CONTRACT HEALTH CARE COVERAGE FROM INDIAN HEALTH SERVICE (IHS): YES NO

IHS CLINIC NAME, LOCATION, PHONE: _____

HAS YOUR CHILD RECEIVED THEIR COVID-19 VACCINATION? IF YES, PLEASE STATE TYPE OF VACCINE (I.E. MODERNA) AND DATE RECEIVED OF DOSE(S): _____

***** IF YOUR CHILD HAS NOT RECEIVED THEIR COVID-19 VACCINATION, NAFWS WILL REQUIRE A NEGATIVE COVID-19 TEST 48 HOURS PRIOR TO THEIR DEPARTURE TO THE NATIONAL SYP. *****

DOES YOUR CHILD HAVE ANY PHYSICAL DISABILITIES? (EXPLAIN): _____

DOES YOUR CHILD WEAR GLASSES AND/OR CONTACT LENSES: YES NO

DIETARY RESTRICTIONS OR ALLERGIES: _____

ALLERGIES (HAY, ANIMALS, BITES, STINGS, FOOD, DRINKS, MEDICATION) (EXPLAIN): _____

_____ ASTHMA? _____

HAS YOUR CHILD HAD ANY MAJOR ILLNESSES IN THE PAST 5 YEARS? _____

IS YOUR CHILD CURRENTLY TAKING ANY MEDICATION(S)? _____

DOES YOUR CHILD REQUIRE ANY SPECIAL (EMERGENCY) MEDICATION? _____

PLEASE LIST ANY OTHER INFORMATION WHICH YOU FEEL IS IMPORTANT:

MEDIA RELEASE STATEMENT

I, _____ PARENT OR GUARDIAN, OF _____
give permission for Native American Fish & Wildlife Society and partnering organizations of the National SYP to take pictures, videos, of my student which may be shared with partnering organizations and/or used in newspapers, television, magazine articles, websites, NAFWS social media pages (Twitter, Facebook, Instagram), LinkedIn, YouTube, TikTok, etc.), documentations, presentations and talks concerning the National SYP and NAFWS without compensation.

Parent or Guardian, I have read, understand, and accept all the conditions above:

Name of Parent (Printed): _____

Signature of Parent or Guardian: _____ Date: _____



STUDENT CONTRACT

Acceptance to the 2024 National Summer Youth Practicum is an opportunity and privilege. To ensure a safe, fun and learning environment, we request students and parents/guardians to assume certain responsibilities.

STUDENT: I, _____, as part of the 2024 National Summer Youth Practicum accept the conditions stipulated below:

1. I will participate in and be on time to all session and activities, unless excused by a staff member.
2. I will conduct myself in an appropriate manner and be respectful and courteous as a representative of my Tribe.
3. I will sleep where assigned and realize that I may be roommates with students I have never met.
4. I understand that no one is allowed outside of sleeping quarters after 10:00 pm and that all lights must be out by 10:30 pm and that there will be a bed check every night by a chaperone. I understand that there must be quiet time between 10:30 pm and 6:30 am.
5. I will not use, bring or attain drugs or alcohol during the National SYP and I understand that by doing this, I will be sent home AT MY PARENTS'/GUARDIANS' EXPENSE.
6. I understand that I may be held responsible for any damage to National SYP equipment or facilities due to negligence, recklessness or destructive behavior.
7. I understand that no water balloons, firework, lighters, or fire matches will be allowed.
8. I understand that NAFWS is not responsible for any loss or stolen items.
9. I understand that there will be no smoking nor vaping allowed, tobacco is allowable for Traditional purposes only (as approved by staff member).
10. I understand that foul language and/or cursing will not be tolerated.
11. I understand that during National SYP sessions and activities, I will not wear (i.e. earphones hanging from shirt collar) any headphones, earphones, and/or air pods, UNLESS given permission by staff.
12. I understand that no visitations from family, friends, etc. is allowed during the entirety of the program. If parents/guardians want to pick up or drop off student at the program, pre-arrangements must be made.
13. I understand that bullying and/or hazing (physical, verbal, emotional, sexual, mental) is not acceptable. I understand that by doing this, I will be sent home AT MY PARENTS'/GUARDIANS' EXPENSE.
14. I will adhere to these and all other rules of the National SYP including COVID-19 guidelines and Colorado State University Mountain Campus and YMCA of the Rockies.
15. I release and waive my right to bring any claims I may have against the NAFWS and their officials, employees and agents for personal injury or property damage due to my participation in the 2024 National Summer Youth Practicum.

Student, I have read, understand, and accept all the conditions above:

Signature of Student: _____ Date: _____

Parent or Guardian, I have read, understand, and accept all the conditions above and overviewed them with student:

Signature of Parent or Guardian: _____ Date: _____



PARENT/GUARDIAN CONTRACT

(To be filled out by parent or guardian)

PARENT/GUARDIAN: I have read, understand, and agree with the following terms. Permission is given for my child to participate in all activities and events, and for my child to receive all necessary medical attention should the need arise, with the understanding that I will be contacted immediately. Furthermore:

1. I understand that the Native American Fish & Wildlife Society (NAFWS) or the chaperones will not be responsible for any theft, injury, or illness where my child is concerned.
2. I give permission for any chaperone or staff member to render first aid, if necessary.
3. I give my consent and permission for hospital staff to treat my child if needed in the case of an emergency, with the understanding that I will be contacted immediately.
4. I understand that the youth will be chaperoned responsibly, and every effort will be made to ensure a safe and enjoyable experience.
5. I understand that drugs or alcohol use are NOT permitted and that if my child is caught under the influence, I will pick him/her/them up immediately AT MY OWN EXPENSE.
6. I understand that bullying and/or hazing is NOT permitted and that if my child is caught bullying and/or hazing, I will pick him/her/them up immediately AT MY OWN EXPENSE.
7. I understand that as part of my child's application, the STUDENT EMERGENCY INFORMATION FORM is required to be completed and will be on file.
8. I understand that if my child withdrawal's their participation within fourteen days prior to travel date, I will be responsible for returning travel costs that were sent by check. Further, I may be responsible for returning the travel costs that are associated with the purchased airfare ticket.
9. I understand that if my child is not vaccinated, my child must have a negative COVID-19 test 48 hours prior to their departure for the National SYP including submitting a negative COVID-19 form to the NAFWS.
10. I release and waive any claims I may have against the NAFWS and their officials, employees and agents for personal injury or property damage due to my child's participation in the 2024 National Summer Youth Practicum.

Name of Parent or Guardian (Printed): _____

Signature of Parent or Guardian: _____ Date: _____



COVID-19 PROTOCOLS FOR 2024 NATIONAL SUMMER YOUTH PRACTICUM

The 2024 National Summer Youth Practicum (National SYP) is being planned for an in-person session for Sunday, July 21 – Sundays, July 28, 2024 at multiple locations (Colorado State University Mountain Campus, Estes Park, Denver) . We are looking forward to engaging with Native high school students, exploring the natural resources fields and enjoying the great Rocky Mountains alongside our wonderful National SYP staff.

With the uncertainties and concerns regarding COVID-19 and for the safety of the National SYP participants, staff, and instructors, we have constructed a COVID-19 Protocol. Decisions and operation of the National SYP will be based on state, federal and host orders and COVID-19 guidelines. This may cause the National SYP to run differently, but we did our best in developing our COVID-19 Protocols for the 2024 National Summer Youth Practicum and may be subject to change depending on new developments, recommendations, and health orders, this is not excluding the possibility of cancelling the in-person session at any time.

The NAFWS is working hard to ensure that the students and staff are safe while having a fun, enjoyable, and learning experience.

PARTICIPANT AND STAFF SAFETY GUIDELINES AND PRACTICES

PRIOR TO THE NATIONAL SYP (BEFORE SUNDAY, JULY 21, 2024)

- NAFWS will provide students/staff with appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE) such as masks and hand sanitizer, if needed/requested
- Highly encouraging and [requiring our counselors](#) and instructors to receive their COVID-19 vaccination (s) prior to the National SYP
- Highly and strongly encouraging our SYP students to receive their COVID-19 vaccination prior to their participation in the National SYP
- Requesting staff and student's information regarding COVID-19 vaccinations
- Students and counselor staff, who are not fully vaccinated, are required to submit a negative COVID-19 test 48 hours prior to their departure for the National SYP. NAFWS will send a form, for students and instructors to fill and submit.
- Parents/Guardians will have to review and sign a NAFWS COVID-19 Liability form.

DURING THE NATIONAL SYP (SUNDAY, JULY 21– SUNDAY, JULY 28, 2024)

LODGING & CLASSROOM

- Counselors will sanitize all the rooms prior to student's arrival
- Since students will be **required** to have a negative COVID-19 test prior to the National SYP or have received their COVID-19 vaccination, students will lodge together

- Students and staff will follow mask guidelines set by visiting locations and host site (per CDC guidelines)
- Students will be highly encouraged to wash and/or sanitize their hands regularly
- Students will be kept in minimal contact with other guests and groups
- Sanitation of classroom and equipment, before and after use with CDC recommended cleaning and sanitation materials

FOOD & DINING

- The CSU Mountain Campus and YMCA of the Rockies have dining halls that is open daily which is where we will be having our meals. In-sitting dining is currently open.

IF A STUDENT OR STAFF, STARTS TO FEEL COVID19-LIKE SYMPTOMS AT THE NATIONAL SYP

- We will follow the [State of Colorado guidelines for Cases and Outbreaks in Child Care and Schools](#) as best as we can.
- If a student or staff starts to show COVID-19 symptoms, we will provide an at-home COVID-19 test.
- If student or staff receives a positive COVID-19 test, the student or staff will immediately be quarantined in their room while awaiting results and if test is positive. Student’s parents/guardians will be notified. Staff will check on student or staff, consistently throughout quarantine, while keeping themselves safe (i.e. possibly talking through the door or calling their cell phone).
 - If symptoms, are resolved within 24 hours, student/staff will be allowed to be out of quarantined based on the “[Return to Learn](#)” tool.
 - If symptoms worsen or do not resolve, student’s parents/guardians will be notified. NAFWS will prepare student to remain in quarantine, travel home and/or visit the local hospital.

ACKNOWLEDGE AND AGREEMENT

Student, I have read, understand and accept all the conditions above:

Name of Student: _____

Signature of Student: _____ Date: _____

Parent or Guardian, I have read, understand and accept all the conditions above and overviewed them with student:

Name of Parent: _____

Signature of Parent: _____ Date: _____

FOR MORE COVID-19 INFORMATION:

CENTER OF DISEASE CONTROL (CDC)

<https://www.cdc.gov/>

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/schools-childcare/summer-camps.html>

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/recommendations/adolescents.html>

STATE OF COLORADO

<https://covid19.colorado.gov/for-coloradans>

NAFWS LIABILITY WAIVER AND GENERAL RELEASE
FOR SUMMER YOUTH PRACTICUM RELATING TO CORONAVIRUS/COVID-19

The novel coronavirus, COVID-19, has been declared a worldwide pandemic by the World Health Organization. COVID-19 is contagious. The state of medical knowledge is evolving, but the virus is believed to spread from person-to-person contact, by contact with contaminated surfaces and objects, and in the air. People reportedly can be infected and show no symptoms and therefore spread the disease. The exact methods of spread and contraction are unknown. Evidence has shown the COVID-19 can cause serious and potentially life-threatening illness and death. Even with social distancing, mask-wearing and development of vaccines, new and emerging variants of COVID-19 may increase risk of transmission and/or mortality.

The Native American Fish and Wildlife Society (NAFWS), which conducts the Summer Youth Practicum (SYP), including each of their affiliates, members, employees, officers, instructors, aides, and/or agents (the “Released Parties”) cannot prevent you from becoming exposed to, contracting, or spreading COVID-19 while participating in the SYP. While the NAFWS will require all SYP participants and staff to have either received their COVID-19 vaccination or to have a negative COVID-19 test result within 48 hours of their departure for the SYP, it is not possible to prevent against the presence of the disease. Therefore, if you choose to participate in the SYP, you may be exposing yourself to and/or increasing your risk of contracting or spreading COVID-19.

ASSUMPTION OF RISK: I have read and understand the above warning concerning COVID-19. I hereby choose to accept the risk of contracting COVID-19 for myself, and for my family members or others who I may expose, in order to participate in the SYP. These services are of such value to me that I accept the risk of being exposed to, contracting, and/or spreading COVID-19 in order to participate in the SYP.

WAIVER OF LAWSUIT/LIABILITY: I hereby forever release and waive my right to bring suit against the Released Parties in connection with exposure, infection, and/or spread of COVID-19 related to my participation in the SYP. I understand that this waiver means I give up my right to bring any claims including for personal injuries, death, disease or property losses, or any other loss, including but not limited to claims if negligence, and give up any claim I may have to seek damages, whether known or unknown, foreseen or unforeseen.

OTHER TERMS: I fully understand and agree that (a) this Release is intended to be as broad and inclusive as permitted by the laws of the State of Colorado; (b) if any portion of this Agreement is for any reason held invalid or legally unenforceable, then the balance shall, notwithstanding, continue in full force and legal effect; and (c) I have had the opportunity to ask questions about this Agreement and I fully understand its terms and meaning.

I HAVE CAREFULLY READ AND FULLY UNDERSTAND ALL PROVISIONS OF THIS WAIVER AND GENERAL RELEASE, AND FREELY AND KNOWINGLY ASSUME THE RISK AND WAIVE MY RIGHTS CONCERNING LIABILITY AS DESCRIBED ABOVE;

Signature: _____

Date: _____

Name (printed): _____

I am the parent or legal guardian of the minor named above. I have the legal right to consent to and, by signing below, I hereby do consent to the terms and conditions of this Waiver and General Release.

Signature: _____

Date: _____

Name (printed) _____

APPENDIX 2

2024 NATIONAL SUMMER YOUTH AGENDA



2024 National Summer Youth Practicum: Agenda

JULY 21 – SUNDAY:

STUDENT TRAVEL DAY

- 6:20 a.m. - 3:45 p.m.: **Students fly and arrive to Denver Interational Airport (DIA)**
- 2:00 p.m. - 2:30 p.m.: **Depart DIA to the CSU Mountain Campus**
*** CSU Mountain Campus is 3.5 Hours ***
- 5:00 - 5:15 p.m.: **Arrive at CSU Mountain Campus**
- 5:15 p.m. – 5:45 p.m.: **CSU Mountain Campus Orientation & Introductions**
Location: Hotchkiss Lodge Classroom
Presenter(s): Ashley Mueller, NAFWS Education Coordinator
Jessica Smolenski, CSU Mountain Campus Event Manager
- 6:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.: **Dinner**
Location: CSU Mountain Campus Dining Hall
- 7:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.: **Settle In & Ice breakers**
Location: Hotchkiss Lodge Classroom, Cabins & Field
- 8:00 p.m. – 9:45 p.m.: **Free Time & Settle In**
- 9:45 p.m. – 10:00 p.m.: **Get Ready for Bed**
- 10:00 p.m.: **Bed & Room Checks**
- 10:30 p.m.: **Lights Out**

JULY 22 – MONDAY

CSU MOUNTAIN CAMPUS

- 7:30 a.m. – 8:20 a.m.: **Breakfast**
Location: CSU Mountain Campus Dining Hall
- 8:30 a.m. – 9:00 a.m.: **SYPER Tribal Council Meeting**
Location: Hotchkiss Lodge Classroom
Presenter: National SYP Staff
What You Need: Notebook, Pencil/Pen, Waterbottle

- 9:00 a.m. – 9:30 a.m.: **NAFWS 101**
Location: Hotchkiss Lodge Classroom
Presenter: Ashley Mueller, Education Coordinator, NAFWS
What You Need: Notebook, Pencil/Pen, Waterbottle
- 9:30 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.: **Conservation Law Enforcement**
Location: Hotchkiss Lodge Classroom & Outdoors
Presenter: Ryan Gauthier, Chief Conservation Officer, Lac du Flambeau Band of Lake Superior Chippewa
What You Need: Notebook, Pencil/Pen, Waterbottle, Observant eyes/ears
- 10:30 a.m. - 10:45 p.m.: **Breaks & Snacks**
- 10:45 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.: **Conservation Law Enforcement Continued**
Location: Hotchkiss Lodge Classroom & Outdoors
Presenter: Ryan Gauthier, Chief Conservation Officer, Lac du Flambeau Band of Lake Superior Chippewa
What You Need: Notebook, Pencil/Pen, Waterbottle, Observant eyes/ears
- 11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.: **Crash Course: Natural Born Leaders & Communication**
Location: Hotchkiss Lodge Classroom
Presenter: Ashley Mueller, Education Coordinator - NAFWS
What You Need: Notebook, Pencil/Pen, Waterbottle
- 12:00 p.m.- 1:00 p.m.: **Lunch**
Location: CSU Mountain Campus Dining Hall
- 1:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.: **Challenge Course at CSU Mountain Campus**
Location: Challenge Ropes Course
Presenter: CSU Mountain Campus Staff
What You Need: Water bottle, close-toed shoes, hat, sunscreen, bugspray, pants or long shorts (mid-thigh, so wearing a harness is not uncomfortable)
- 5:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.: **Free Time**
- 6:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.: **Dinner**
Location: CSU Mountain Campus Dining Hall
- 7:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.: **Talking Circle & S'mores**
Location: Firepit #1
Activity: Placing Worries into the Fire
What You Need: waterbottle, warm clothes
- 8:00 p.m. – 9:45 p.m.: **Free Time**
- 9:45 p.m. – 10:00 p.m.: **Get Ready for Bed**
- 10:00 p.m.: **Bed & Room Checks**
- 10:30 p.m.: **Lights Out**

JULY 23 – TUESDAY CSU MOUNTAIN CAMPUS

7:30 a.m.– 8:30 a.m.: **Breakfast**
Location: CSU Mountain Campus Dining Center

9:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.: **U.S. Forest Service Presentation**
Presenter(s): Christopher Carroll, Fisheries Biologist, U.S. Forest Service
Aurelia DeNasha, Wildlife Biologist, U.S. Forest Service
Location: Hotchkiss Lodge, Outside
What You Need: High Socks, Hat, Sunscreen, Water bottle

10:00 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.: **Break & Prepare Students for Days Activities**

10:30 a.m. - 11:40 p.m.:

Group 1:	Group 2:	Group 3:
Hike to Set-Up Bat Acoustics	Electrofishing	Hike to Set-Up Wildlife Cameras

11:40 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.: **Prepare & Head to Lunch**

12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m.: **Lunch**
Location: CSU Mountain Campus Dining Center

1:00 p.m. - 2:10 p.m.:

Group 1:	Group 2:	Group 3:
Hike to Set-Up Wildlife Cameras	Hike to Set-Up Bat Acoustics	Electrofishing

2:10 p.m. - 3:20 p.m.:

Group 1:	Group 2:	Group 3:
Electrofishing	Hike to Set-Up Wildlife Cameras	Hike to Set-Up Bat Acoustics

3:20 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.: **Break**

3:30 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.: **Wildlife Data Collection**
Location: Hotchkiss Lodge Classroom
Presenter: Ashley Mueller, Education Coordinator, NAFWS

4:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.: **Group Time**

6:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.: **Dinner**
Location: CSU Mountain Campus Dining Center

7:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.: **Talking Circle**
Activity: Bat I.D.

8:30 p.m. – 9:45 p.m.: **Free Time and/or Group Time**

9:45 p.m. – 10:00 p.m.: **Get Ready for Bed**

10:00 p.m.: **Bed/Room Checks**

10:30 p.m.: **Lights Out**

JULY 24 – WEDNESDAY CSU MOUNTAIN CAMPUS

7:30 a.m. – 8:30 a.m.: **Breakfast**
Location: CSU Mountain Campus Dining Hall

8:45 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.: **Bat Monitoring & Trail Cameras Data Analysis**
Location: Hotchkiss Classroom & Outdoors
Presenter: Aurelia DeNasha, Wildlife Biologist - U.S. Forest Service
What You Need: Hat, Sunscreen, Bugspray, Notebook, Pencil/Pen, Waterbottle

10:00 a.m. – 10:15 a.m.: **Break & Snacks**

10:15 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.: **Water & Tribal Corridors**
Location: Hotchkiss Classroom & Outdoors
Presenters: Ariel Vaughan & Katie Smith-Easter
What You Need: Notebook, Pencil/Pen, Waterbottle

12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m.: **Lunch**
Location: CSU Mountain Campus Dining Hall

1:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.: **Our College Experiences**
Location: Hotchkiss Classroom
Presenter: Katie Smith-Easter and Ariel Vaughan, NAFWS Summer Interns
What You Need: Notebook, Pencil/Pen, Waterbottle

2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.: **Climate Change**
Location: Hotchkiss Classroom
Presenter: Dominick Harris, U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service
What You Need: Notebook, Pencil/Pen, Waterbottle

4:00 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.: **Invasive Species**
Location: Hotchkiss Classroom
Presenter: Wade Reiter, Invasive Species Technician - NAFWS
What You Need: Notebook, Pencil/Pen, Waterbottle

6:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.: **Dinner**
Location: CSU Mountain Campus Dining Hall

7:00 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.: **Talking Circle**
Activity: Braiding Sweet Grass

7:30 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.: **Free Time**

9:45 p.m. – 10:00 p.m.: **Get Ready for Bed**

10:00 p.m.: **Bed & Room Checks - pack up & pack up classroom**

10:30 p.m.: **Lights Out**

JULY 25 – THURSDAY TRIP TO CSU MAIN CAMPUS | YMCA OF THE ROCKIES

7:30 AM – 8:30 AM: **Breakfast**
Location: CSU Mountain Campus Dining Center

8:45 AM – 10:40 AM: **Depart and Arrive at Fort Collins, CO**

10:40 AM – 11:00 AM: **Break for Snacks/Restroom**

11:00 AM – 12:00 PM: **CSU Warner College of Natural Resources**
Location:
Presenter: Carmyn Ginnetti, College Recruitment and Engagement Coordinator,
Warner College of Natural Resources – Colorado State University
What You Need: Notebook, Pencil/Pen, Waterbottle

12:15 PM – 1:00 PM: **Native American Cultural Center (NACC)**
Location: LSC 327, CSU Main Campus
Presenter: NACC Student Intern
What You Need: Notebook, Pencil/Pen, Waterbottle

1:00 PM – 2:30 PM: **Lunch** (Sack Lunch from CSU Mountain Campus) + CSU Bookstore

3:00 PM – 4:00 PM: **U.S. Department of Agriculture – Wildlife Services, A look into Wildlife Disease and Surveillance Work**
Location:
Presenter: Timothy Linder, USDA-APHIS
What You Need: Notebook, Pencil/Pen, Waterbottle

4:50 PM – 5:00 PM: **Depart Fort Collins, CO to Estes Park, CO**
(1 hour, 12-minute drive)

6:30 pm – 7:30 pm: **Dinner**
Location: Aspen Dining Center

7:30 pm – 8:00 pm: **Talking Circle**
Location: Arkansas Meeting Room
Activity:

8:00 pm – 9:45 pm: **Free Time**

9:45 p.m. – 10:00 p.m.: **Get Ready for Bed**

10:00 a.m.: **Bed Checks**

10:30 pm: **Lights Out**

JULY 26 – FRIDAY **YMCA OF THE ROCKIES**

7:30 a.m. – 8:00 a.m.: **Breakfast**
Location: Aspen Dining Center

8:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.: **Rocky Mountain National Park: Elk Management**

Location: Meet at 8:30 a.m. at Beaver Meadows Visitors Center & Caravan into Rocky Mountain National Park (RMNP)

Presenters: Ranger Abi and Ranger Kendall – National Park Service

What You Need: Water, Sunscreen/Bug Spray, Notebooks, Hat, Long pants, Long sleeve, Closed-toed shoes

12:00 p.m.- 1:00 p.m.: **Lunch**
Location: Sack Lunches from YMCA of the Rockies

1:00 p.m. – 2:15 p.m.: **Downtown Estes Park Adventure**
Instructions:

- Stay in Groups of 3 or more
- Stay in Downtown Area – Mentors will be walking between the streets
- Do not leave a store without your group members, stay together
- Meet by Vans at 2:15 p.m.

2:15 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.: **Drive back to YMCA of the Rockies**

2:30 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.: **First Nations Development Institute**
Location: Arkansas Meeting Room
Presenters:
Jacque Demko, Stewarding Native Lands Associate Director – First Nations Development Institute
Wolf Star Duran, Program Associate – First Nations Development Institute

3:30 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.: **Crash Course: Presentation Skills & Public Speaking**
Location: Arkansas Meeting Room
Presenter: Ashley Mueller, Education Coordinator, NAFWS
What You Need: Notebook, Pencil/Pen, Waterbottle

4:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.: **Group Time**

5:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.: **Dinner**
Location: Aspen Dining Center

6:00 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.: **Bird Walk**
Location: Arkansas Meeting Room

Presenter: Sherry Nickolaus, Education Director - Bird Conservancy of the Rockies

7:30 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.: **Talking Circle**
Location: Arkansas Meeting Room

8:00 p.m. – 9:45 p.m.: **Free Time or Group Time**

9:45 p.m. – 10:00 p.m.: **Get Ready for Bed**

10:00 p.m.: **Bed/Room Checks**

10:30 p.m.: **Lights Out**

JULY 27 – SATURDAY YMCA OF THE ROCKIES & DENVER, CO

7:00 a.m. – 7:45 a.m.: **Breakfast**
Location: Aspen Dining Center

8:00 a.m.: **Depart YMCA of the Rockies (2 hours)**

10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.: **CSU SPUR**
Location: 4777 National Western Dr, Denver, CO 80216

12:00 p.m. – 12:30 p.m.: **Lunch**

12:30 p.m. – 1:00 p.m.: **CSU SPUR**
Location: 4777 National Western Dr, Denver, CO 80216

1:00 p.m. – 2:20 p.m.: **Travel to Hotel/Check In**
Hotel Address: Delta Hotels Denver Thornton 10 E 120th Ave, Northglenn, CO 80233

2:20 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.: **Group Work & Free Time**
Hotel Address: 10 E 120th Ave, Northglenn, CO 80233

4:30 p.m.: **Walk to Dinner, Parry's Pizzeria**
Location: 100 E 120th Ave, Northglenn, CO 80233

4:45 p.m. – 5:45 p.m.: **Dinner**

5:45 p.m.: **Walk back to Delta Hotels**

6:00 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.: **Final Presentations, 6:00 pm Call to Order**

- Location: Delta Hotel, Crested Butte Meeting Room
- Five 10 – 12 minute presentations

7:30 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.: **Awards Ceremony**

8:00 p.m. – 9:45 p.m.: **Free Time**

9:45 p.m. – 10:00 p.m.: **Be in Your Rooms & Get Ready for Bed**

10:00 p.m.: **Bed/Room Checks**

10:30 p.m.: **Lights Out**

JULY 28 – SUNDAY: NATIONAL SYP STUDENT & STAFF TRAVEL DAY

7:00 a.m. – 8:30 a.m.: **Breakfast**
Location: Delta Hotels Dining Area

7:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.: **Airport Runs and Drop-Offs**

APPENDIX 3

NATURAL STEWARDSHIP CHALLENGE MATERIALS

Office of the President
SYPER Tribal Council
CSU Mountain Campus, CO 80526



DATE: July 21, 2024

Dear Assistant Directors of the SYPER Tribe Natural Resources Department,

The SYPER Tribal Council President has called an emergency Tribal Council Meeting and requests your presence.

The meeting will be held at 8:30 a.m. at the Council Chambers (Hotchkiss Classroom).

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to reach out.

Many Blessings,

Ashley Mueller, SYPER Tribal Council President

Email: President@SYPERTribe-nsn.gov



SYPER TRIBAL COUNCIL EMERGENCY MEETING AGENDA

Monday, July 21, 2024

8:30 a.m. – 9:00 a.m.

8:30 a.m.

Welcome and Call Meeting to Order – Tribal Council President

8:35 a.m.

Emergency Business

A. Cultural Shell Collecting

12:00 p.m.

Next Meeting

July 27, 2024 at 6:00 p.m. Mountain Time

Adjourn:

NATIONAL SYP: TRIBAL COUNCIL SCRIPT

Monday, July 21, 2024

Characters and Roles:

- Tribal Council President – Ashley Mueller, NAFWS
- Jess Moore, Tribal Fish & Wildlife Director – Katie Smith-Easter
 - o You are the Tribal Fish and Wildlife Director that was invited by the Tribal Council President to hear concerns of concerned Tribal Citizens. Additionally, you will provide some “key” information of the Zebra Mussel that will aid the Assistant Directors of the Tribal Fish and Wildlife (students) to understand more about invasive species on SYPER Tribal Land.
- Jim Smokefeather, Tribal Citizen (Elder) – Ryan Gauthier
 - o You are a Tribal Elder of the SYPER Tribe. You are voicing concern and sharing testimony regarding cultural shell collecting and the cultural importance of the “Whiteshell”.
- Peggy WhiteShell, Tribal Citizen (Elder) – Ariel Vaughan
 - o You are a Tribal Elder of the SYPER Tribe. You are voicing concern and sharing testimony regarding cultural shell collecting and the cultural importance of the “Whiteshell”.
- Timothy Black, Tribal Citizen – Wade Reiter
 - o You are a Tribal Citizen and Water Plan Worker that will share the news of Zebra Mussel infestation in Turquoise Reservoir and it’s possible impact to the Water Treatment Plant. Additionally, you are a family man and avid recreationist that provides the connection between the SYPER Lake and Turquoise Reservoir including the “mode of transport” of the Zebra Mussel into the SYPER Lake.
- Grant North, Tribal Citizen – Dominick Harris
 - o You are a Tribal Citizen and will interrupt the flow of the script and conversation by trying to move us away from the agenda which can be a common occurrence in a Tribal Council Meeting. It’ll add in some Native Humor, LOL.
 - o Bringing up items like (i.e.):
 - “When are we going to gravel the dirt road leading to the campgrounds?”
 - “The SYPER Lake is always crowded by people coming in from Turquoise Reservoir”

Script:

Tribal Council President: Good Morning and Welcome Everyone! We will get started soon with today's SYPER Tribal Council Meeting. We will open with a prayer from our elder.

Concerned Tribal Citizen (Elder): Creator, we thank you for bringing us all here today so that we can discuss the future of our Tribe and People. May you bless us with open and clear minds and hearts as we convene today. A'ho.

Tribal Council President: Thank-You Elder. Let's get started with calling the meeting order at *check watch and say the time*. We are calling meeting to order at *says time*.

Okay, I know want to get going and I do not want to waste more time than we should. I called this emergency Tribal Council Meeting because I think it's important that we talk and discuss an issue that is happening in our Tribal lands.

We have had our Tribal citizens come to me with concerns regarding cultural shell collection and I invited Jess Moore our Tribal Fish & Wildlife Director b/c she may have some insight. I see a couple of those members here today, I want to open the floor for comments and concerns.

Elder Jim Smokefeather: *Raises hand*

Tribal Council President: Yes.

Elder Jim Smokefeather: Morning everyone, I am Jim Smokefeather, I have been collecting shells from the SYPER Lake for a long time and my family has been making jewelry from the shells we collect and providing them to families for ceremonies. And last week ... we, well I will have Peggy talk about it *gestures to Elder Peggy*.

Elder Peggy Whiteshell (Elder, concerned): Yeah, good morning everyone, I am Peggy Whiteshell. My cousin-brother Jim said we have to bring this up to council so, I thank him for getting in contact with you President. As he was saying, we went out last week to collect some shells and we picked up a white shell for jewelry and there were 2 smaller shells or mussels stuck to it. It was a weird looking shell that we have never seen before and we been collecting from SYPER Lake for a very long time and I would say we know that lake like the back of our hands.

Jess Moore: *shifts to the edge of their chair, quickly* Can you describe what it they looked like?

Elder Jim Smokefeather: They were small and it definitely wasn't the white shells that we collect. These were dark brown almost black and white *interrupted by Elder Peggy*

Jess Moore: *takes out phone to look up Zebra Mussel, have photo out and ready on phone*

Elder Peggy Whiteshell: It was stripe-y looking and it was really really latched onto the whiteshell we had. We couldn't scrape it off at all and the stripes also looked jagged. We just put it on the side of the lake.

Elder Jim Smokefeather: We should have brought it!

Jess Moore: Did it look like this? *walks over to Elder Jim and shows him her phone*

Elder Jim Smokefeather: Yes! That's it! Show Peggy.

Head of SYPER NR: *walks over to Elder Peggy and shows him her phone*

Elder Peggy Whiteshell: Yup, that's it alright, I may be an elder but I got a sharp tip top memory.

Jess Moore: I am not sure, until I go out there myself, but I think we may have our first evidence of Zebra Mussels in our SYPER Lake.

Tribal Council President: What is a Zebra Mussel? Do we need to be concerned?

Jess Moore: They are a small bivalve mollusk; they are invasive to the United States and are harmful to our water systems. They have been known to over filter feed, out compete Native species, change fish habitat/behavior, change plant growth and harm wildlife. Those buggards stick to everything and everywhere, they can cause damage to boats, water infrastructure, buoys, hydroelectric plants and water plants. They are expensive to remove and they reproduce quickly.

I'd say if we have confirmed Zebra Mussels in our SYPER Lake – it is a concern, but it seems like we caught and found 'em early so we have that advantage on our side for Early Detection and Rapid Response.

Tribal Council President: Oh, good. Where do they even come from or how could we have got them in our SYPER lake? I'm concerned b/c our Tribal Citizens use that lake for cultural shell collecting, subsistence fishing and for recreation like paddle boarding, canoeing, it is important to us and the Tribe.

Head of SYPER NR: They can be easily transferred between bodies of water because they attach like no other to solid surfaces. So, I can assume that they latched on to something like a kayak and that kayak came into the SYPER Lake and that's where the Zebra Mussel detached.

Timothy Black: *raises hand*

Tribal Council President: Yes, Mr. Black.

Timothy Black: Morning Everyone, I am Timothy Black and am from Fish Tree, and live in City of Baymont. I work for the Water Treatment Plant and we had a visit from the State Fish and Wildlife Department about month ago letting us know that they detected Zebra Mussels in

Turquoise Reservoir. And, in couple weeks, we got to check the filtration systems at the plant to make sure no mussels are attaching those.

They said they are heavily inspecting boats at the Boat Inspection point on that dirt road that runs between Turquoise Reservoir and Bear Lake. That Water Treatment Plant also provides clean water for not only City of Baymont but also Fish Tree.

And last weekend, I went fishing with my kiddos at Turquoise Reservoir and people were saying that they were leaving Turquoise Reservoir b/c it got crowded and they want to canoe and paddle board in calmer waters, so they were going to SYPER Lake.

Jess Moore: Thank you for sharing Tim and for everyone for sharing today, all this information is helpful to the natural resources department as we plan next steps.

Elder Jim Smokefeather: I am more concerned now and am worried about what Zebra Mussels can do to our SYPER Lake. The fish, whiteshells and plants in SYPER Lake are important to us because they all provide food for our bellies, medicines, jewelry, provide materials for our songs/ceremonies, the whiteshell is part of our creation story. They are all important to us Tribal Citizens. We need to take care of that SYPER Lake, it even provides fun activities for our youth like kayaking, paddle boarding, fishing so that they stay out of trouble and learn of our ways.

Elder Peggy Whiteshell: We need to think about our grandchildren and keeping our culture alive. Timothy says that we get our water from that Water Treatment Plant too, What is the path forward?

Tribal Council President: Yes, thank you Mr. Smokefeather, Mrs. Whiteshell, Mr. Black and Mrs. Moore, we appreciate your time, wise words and concerns. This is why we are meeting today and that this is on our agenda.

I request that our natural resources team who are all hear listening to this, that you all work together to listen and attend the National SYP hosted by Native American Fish and Wildlife Society. You all will learn important information that will help you all work together and develop a solution to this conservation issue. You will present to the Tribal Council Meeting this upcoming Friday, July 27th at 6:00 pm.

Okay, that is all we have for today's meetings, Motion to Adjourn?

Elder Peggy Whiteshell: *raises hand*

Tribal Council President: Motion by Whiteshell. 2nd Motion?

Timothy Black: *raises hand*

Tribal Council President: Question?

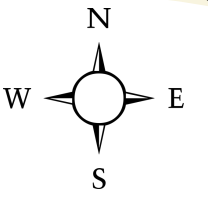
Elder Jim Smokefeather: *raises hand*

Tribal Council President: Perfect, thank -you Mr. Smokefeather. We are adjourned.

SYPER Tribal Land Map - Region II

MECHO MOUNTAIN RANGE


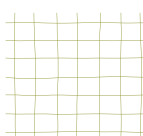
MAP LEGEND



ECOSYSTEMS

-  FOREST
-  RIPARIAN AREAS
-  PRARIE

LAND MANAGEMENT

-  TRIBAL LAND
-  STATE PARK LANDS

USAGE AREAS

-  CAMP GROUNDS
-  FISHING ALLOWED
-  SUBSISTENCE FISHING ONLY
-  CULTURAL SHELL COLLECTING
-  BOAT DOCKING AREA
-  BOAT INSPECTION
-  FISH LADDER

SYPER CAMPGROUNDS

SYPER LAKE

TREE BRIDGE CAMPGROUNDS
(STATE FISH & WILDLIFE DEPARTMENT)

FISH TREE
(TOWN ON TRIBAL LAND)

TURQUIOISE RESERVOIR

WATER TREATMENT PLANT

CITY OF BAYMONT

BEAR LAKE