A Unique Internship Opportunity for an undergraduate student who has interest in communicating science/stories through video and has competencies for conducting interviews with ranchers and community members about the return of bison to northern Colorado.

Please note that this request is very time sensitive.

Project Title: Co-Creating Conservation Solutions - Enhancing Grassland Stewardship and Bison Conservation through Private Landowner Engagement in the Laramie Foothills of Northern Colorado

Project Location: Soapstone Prairie Natural Area, Red Mountain Open Space (Laramie Foothills Bison Herd reintroduction sites that are publicly-owned but also working landscapes grazed by cattle ranchers) and surrounding private ranchlands in Northern Colorado

Project Description. This highly collaborative conservation project will advance bison conservation and grassland stewardship in northern Colorado by engaging ranchers with landholdings and livelihoods linked to Soapstone Prairie Natural Area and Red Mountain Open Space in northern Colorado – the site of the 2015 Laramie Foothills Bison Herd reintroduction. The research team will actively work with two grazing associations, which graze their cattle on these public lands, and other ranchers to identify their land stewardship priorities, grazing management questions and perceptions of the regional bison reintroduction. Then the research team will organize collaborative workshops with project ranchers, managers and scientists to integrate this local knowledge with scientific knowledge to co-create and implement a research program to examine shared grassland stewardship topics. Ultimately, the proposed project will build a solid foundation for a long-term public-private land management partnership to advance the social and ecological sustainability of this high plains grassland system in northern Colorado. Outcomes: This collaborative conservation project will result in three key outcomes: 1) integration of local knowledge into a program of scientific research 2) partnership-building to advance ecological restoration – a team of interdisciplinary and applied conservation researchers, two land management agencies and 30-60 ranchers will work together to develop a set of shared questions about grassland stewardship across public and private lands to enhance biology integrity and strengthen livelihoods in the short-grass steppe of northern Colorado, and 3) model dissemination – this project will result in an innovative and collaborative public-private conservation model that incorporates multiple types of knowledge, voices and view, and can be applied to other bison reintroductions in grassland systems across North America.

Project Partners: City of Fort Collins Natural Areas Department, Larimer County, Folsom Grazing Association, Natural Fort Grazing Association, private landowners, CSU

Project Needs and Videography Proposal for an Undergraduate Member
The CCC grant requires that our undergraduate member commit to being an active team member. Undergraduates may include their experience as part of a senior project, as a fulfillment of an internship requirement, or apply it as independent study credits toward their degree. This entails
participating in all required team activities and meetings, and submitting at least three blogs and a written report or video to the CCC about the fellowship experience. The blogs could certainly be video blogs related to project videography. See attached for more details.

There is a videography piece to our project. We would like the participating undergraduate to produce a promotional and educational short video about our project for social media. How long do you think this video or set of videos should be? Probably 3-5 minutes, right? We are offering the student a $2,000 stipend to complete this work. We would want some filming of our initial group discussion in March, if we receive the grant, followed by several days of filming of project context (of bison and landscape and city and county partners) in the summer, and then filming of a few "special" interviews with rancher stakeholders in the fall to get footage of landowners/stakeholders.

If interested, immediately contact:

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