



Collaborative Conservation Fellows Program Call for Individual Proposals 2016-2017

The Center for Collaborative Conservation (CCC) at Colorado State University (CSU) invites applications for its Collaborative Conservation¹ Fellowship Program's *eighth cohort of fellows*. We welcome applications from CSU graduate students, CSU post docs, CSU faculty and research scientists, and conservation practitioners. We encourage applications from practitioner organizations/agencies and all CSU colleges and departments.

A. Purpose

The Center for Collaborative Conservation's Fellows Program is designed to strengthen the real world impact of the work of students, faculty, research scientists, and conservation practitioners by encouraging these groups to work together on joint conservation projects that use collaboration to address research, education or natural resource management issues. Projects must address critical issues that link conservation and livelihoods on landscapes around the world.

B. Timeline

The deadline for applications is **midnight MST, Wednesday, January 27, 2016**. **No late applications will be accepted**. Completed applications should be sent to Fellows@collaborativeconservation.org on or before that date.

(NOTE: The CCC Fellows webpage also contains a "Frequently Asked Questions" document. All other questions should be directed to Kim Skyelander, CCC Associate Director, at Kim.Skyelander@colostate.edu but Do **NOT** send applications to this address).

Decisions on successful applicants will be announced on March 1, 2016 and will be formally recognized at CSU through the CCC. This eighth cohort will run for 18 months from March 1, 2016 to August 31, 2017. Details on the program appear below and on the CCC webpage at www.collaborativeconservation.org/fellows.

¹ We define *collaboration* as action on a particular problem where multiple individuals, or organizations, must work together to solve a problem that none can solve alone. We define *conservation* as action that promotes the sustainability of linked natural and human communities and the resources they both depend upon.

C. Three Types of Fellows

The Collaborative Conservation Individual Fellows Program supports three types of fellows.

I. Conservation Practitioner Fellowships

Who can apply?

Practitioners are people acting on linked conservation-livelihood issues. These include people who use, own, or manage natural resources as individuals (like ranchers, foresters, farmers) or who work professionally as part of tribal nations, the private sector, NGOs, government agencies and other entities. Current conservation practitioners who are actively working on collaborative conservation initiatives, or who are or wish to be connected to CSU faculty / research scientists or students, may apply. These are 18-month fellowships with an award up to \$8,000, depending on the number and quality of applications. Final award amounts are at the discretion of the CCC.

(NOTE: if you work for CSU in any capacity other than graduate student, you may not apply as a practitioner and must apply under the faculty category, even if you are not faculty).

What can Practitioner Fellowship applicants propose to do?

We encourage conservation practitioner applicants to propose creative ways to build the collaborative aspect of their work through research, mentoring and scholarly activities in areas related to collaborative conservation. Practitioner fellows are required to collaborate with at least one person (student, faculty, or researcher) at CSU, and explicitly refer to this collaboration in the application. For some examples of past practitioner fellowships, please see the CCC website <http://www.collaborativeconservation.org/fellows>).

II. Faculty Fellowships

Who can apply?

Current CSU faculty members, research scientists, post docs, and extension agents who wish to take their engagement and conservation research to a new collaborative level through local partnerships, community action, citizen science and other new forms of exchange. These are 18-month fellowships with an award up to \$8,000, depending on the number and quality of applications. Final award amounts are at the discretion of the CCC. Applications from all CSU colleges and departments are welcome to apply.

What can Faculty Fellowship applicants propose to do?

We encourage faculty / research scientist applicants to propose creative ways to build the collaborative aspect of their research, and to propose mentoring and scholarly activities in areas related to collaborative conservation. Faculty fellows are required to collaborate with at least two conservation practitioners outside of CSU on their projects, and explicitly refer to this collaboration in the application. For some examples of past faculty fellowships, please see the CCC website <http://www.collaborativeconservation.org/fellows>).

III. Graduate Fellowships

Who can apply?

Graduate students enrolled in any CSU department who wish to add a practical collaborative aspect to their research and / or take their engagement with conservation stakeholders to a new level.

These are 18-month fellowships with an award of up to \$5,000. Final award amounts are at the discretion of the CCC. All registered students of Colorado State University can receive up to 6 independent study credits for their fellowship, if appropriate, after requirements have been fulfilled.

NOTE: Grad students must be officially admitted and registered at CSU to apply, and must be enrolled as a graduate student for two semesters of the fellowship (Spring 2016, Summer 2016, Fall 2017, Spring 2017).

Students who are enrolled for the whole 18-month fellowship period will receive preference over students who plan to graduate in the middle of the fellows program.

What can Graduate Fellowship applicants propose to do?

Proposed projects should add a practical collaborative aspect to the graduate students' research and / or take their engagement with conservation stakeholders to a new level; it should also include a field work component. Graduate students are required to collaborate with at least two conservation practitioners outside of CSU on their projects, and explicitly refer to this collaboration in the application. For some examples of past graduate student fellowships, please see the CCC website <http://www.collaborativeconservation.org/fellows>).

CCC Interns

Cohort 8 fellows will be given the opportunity to compete for funds for a limited number of CSU undergraduate interns to assist with their projects. The goals of this internship program are to give undergraduates experience in meaningful collaborative conservation projects, and to give fellows the opportunity to mentor undergraduate students.

D. Requirements of All Individual Fellows

****NOTE:** If you cannot commit to these activities, timeframes, and/or deliverables, please do NOT apply.

1. Activities

These activities are designed to grow the overall collaborative conservation program at CSU, and enhance the engagement, teaching and learning of all fellows.

- Attend the Cohort 8 official Reception to introduce yourselves and your project (early-mid April 2016).
Required attendance (if overseas, you may send a video to play at the reception).

- Attend the annual CCC Fellows Retreat / training from Tuesday May 17th through Thursday May 19, 2016 (3 days). This is an overnight Retreat that takes place at the CSU Mountain Campus.
Required attendance: ALL fellows
- Meet monthly from September 2016 through April 2017 with other fellows and CCC staff to discuss your project as well as topical issues in collaborative conservation (may call/Skype in if not physically located near Fort Collins).
Required attendance: ALL fellows
- Select a project partner who will be invited to participate with the team members in CCC retreats, meetings, trainings and other activities (though actual participation of partners is not mandatory).
- Assist other fellows as mentors and colleagues with the challenges they face.
Required: ALL fellows
- Contribute to short courses, classes, and/or trainings in collaborative conservation that are hosted by the CCC (dates TBD).
Required: ALL fellows (may do so remotely).
- Participate in CCC conferences, workshops and/or special events.
- Continue engagement with the CCC beyond the term of the fellowship. Fellows will be welcome to attend CCC activities that occur after the fellow's own cohort term ends. Such activities may include participating on future fellowship review panels, acting as trainers for future retreats or short courses, contributing to CCC blogs, attending CCC social / partnership / networking functions, and other activities.
Required: ALL fellows (may do so remotely)

2. Deliverables

All fellows are **required** to produce the following deliverables:

a. Storytelling Video/Film

Tell the story of your fellowship project in a format that any audience can understand. Be creative. Show your field sites, do some interviews with community members or partners, but be sure to include the following requirements:

- 1) talk about the objectives of your project,
- 2) why the project is collaborative - and who you collaborated with and why,
- 3) any challenges and/or successes you have had,
- 4) lessons you have learned *about collaboration* while conducting the project, and
- 5) how your project is benefitting *both* people and the environment.

Videos are due NO LATER than August 1, 2017. Do NOT wait until the end of the fellowship to get started. Start filming and story boarding from the beginning. CCC will provide some training on this.

b. Products

Faculty and graduate student fellowships are required to produce one research product and one practical product.

Practitioners are required to produce two practical products.

Examples of research products are: conference presentations, publishable manuscripts, models, case studies, dissertation or thesis chapters, etc.

Examples of practical products: these are products that communities want and/or can use. These might include training guides, handbooks, films documenting lessons learned from a project, photos documenting outputs or outcomes, policy briefs for policy makers, workshop agendas and notes, digital and non- digital maps, community reports, etc.

These products will be included on the CCC's website. **ALL products are due before August 31, 2017,** the official end of the fellowship.

c. Project Report

Complete a standard report of the fellows' project **before August 31, 2017.** These reports help the CCC to quantify the impact of the project on conservation and livelihoods in the project area, and to the field of collaborative conservation as a whole. Report guidelines will be sent to the fellows in late spring of 2017.

d. Fellows Program Evaluation

Each fellow is required to fill out a CCC program evaluation form to evaluate the Fellows Program as a whole and offer suggestions for improvement. These evaluations are used to improve the program. Evaluation guidelines will be sent to the fellows in early summer and are due **before August 31, 2017.**

E. Application Package

Directions

The proposal **must contain:**

- 1) the following sections for a maximum of 6 pages of text
- 2) a budget template, and
- 3) a CV or resumé for the applicant

All materials other than the CV/resume should be completed in 11-point font or greater, single-spaced, with 1" margins.

- Please submit the proposal, budget template, and the CV/resume ALL together as a single PDF document. Separate Word or PDF documents will *not* be accepted.

Note: PDF naming conventions should follow

“*Lastname- Firstname_Prac/Fac/Grad_Application*” **You MUST identify which category you are applying for.** Example: Skyelander- Kim_Prac_Application or Skyelander-Kim_Grad_Application

Completed applications should be sent to Fellows@collaborativeconservation.org before midnight MST, Wednesday, January 27, 2016

Sections

1. **Summary of the fellowship, 1/2 page maximum**

This must contain:

- a) the title of your project,
- b) your name, your title and affiliation if you are a practitioner,
- b) your name, your title and department if you are a faculty/grad student (example: M.S. grad student in Ecology; Faculty in the HDNR department of WCNR, etc.),
- c) where the project is located,
- d) what the project is about and its outcomes, and
- e) who your collaborators or partners are

Summaries will be used for the news release, for the CCC webpage, and other program publicity, so please *write them for a lay audience*.

NOTE: You must include items a-e above in your summary or your application will NOT be considered.

2. **Overall description of the fellowship, 2 pages maximum, including the above summary**

A statement of what you will do during the fellowship, and how this will raise the level of your engagement with any of the following: faculty and students at CSU, landowners, land users and land managers, community members, government agencies, the private sector, tribal nations or other stakeholders.

If the proposed work will form part of a larger research project, or build on or enhance an existing program, part of this description should provide a short background and explain how the proposed work fits into the bigger picture.

Also include how you will *communicate your findings* to stakeholders, communities, and other publics. Be specific.

3. **Potential for impact in the geographic location of the project, 1 page maximum**

1) You must describe how your proposed work will promote sustainable action for BOTH conservation and livelihood issues, 2) how the project will engage stakeholders in the project location, and 3) the anticipated short-term and long-term outcomes of your project.

4. **Measuring project success, ½ page maximum**
Describe how you will measure or determine the success of your project and whether or not you met your goals and your outcomes.
5. **Potential for impact on you, the fellows program, the CCC, and the greater collaborative conservation-oriented community, ½ page maximum**
You must describe how your proposed work will contribute to your professional and personally growth, the fellows program specifically, the CCC, and the goals of the collaborative conservation community more generally.
6. **Fellowship products. ½ page maximum**
A description of the expected products of the fellowship (no more than three). (see the E2-Deliverables section).
7. **Names of collaborators and CSU connection(s), ½ page maximum**
If you are applying as a Practitioner: A list of the names, titles and affiliations of the CSU faculty and/or CSU students with whom you will work during the fellowship, *including their roles* in the fellowship.
If you are applying as Faculty: A list of the names, titles and affiliations of *at least two* conservation practitioners outside of CSU with whom you will work during the fellowship, including the practitioner's *role* in the fellowship.
If you are applying as a Graduate Student: A list of the names, titles and affiliations, and contact information for: 1) your graduate faculty advisor or a mentor of your choosing who will work with you during the fellowship, and 2) *two* conservation practitioners outside of CSU with whom you will work during the fellowship, *including a description of their anticipated roles.*

The panels that review the fellowship applications may speak with the conservation practitioners and/or the faculty and students about their involvement in your application and proposed work.

8. **Budget statement (½ page of text) plus the budget template**
This statement should include a *description* of how you plan to use the funds in the fellowship and *general justification* of these expenditures. (If the proposed work will form part of a larger project, an explanation of funding already received and a justification for these additional funds should be given).

You must also fill in the budget template on the CCC webpage <http://www.collaborativeconservation.org/fellows> under application materials.

Categories should include:

- **Salary/stipend** (can be used for local collaborators or a local person to help with the project, for the applicants themselves, a student helper, etc.)
- **Services** (meeting expenses, publications, translation, etc.)
- **Supplies** (supplies and equipment; NOTE: we do *not* fund computer type equipment)

- **Travel** (local and international, including food, accommodation and transport). *If travel is planned for more than one trip or more than one person, please give details that explain this.*
- **Other** if needed.

NOTE : You must use all of your funding by the end of the fellowship, August 31, 2017. Extensions will only be granted for special circumstances out of the fellows' control. Request for extensions must be in writing.

9. A current CV or resume, 3 page maximum

Individual formats are acceptable, but please keep font size appropriate and lists (publications, awards, etc.) *brief and relevant* to the proposed fellowship.

F. Accountability

Upon acceptance of the fellowship, you will be required to sign a contract saying you will submit the required products by the due dates (exceptions will only be granted on a case by case basis - we realize not everything goes according to plan). The CCC reserves the right to withhold final fellowship funds until these products are turned in.

G. Evaluation of Applications

***For a list of application evaluation criteria, please see the “Criteria for Evaluating All Fellows Applications” on the CCC Fellows webpage, under Application Materials.*