Greetings.

My name is Steven Bekedam and I am the botanist here at Craters of the Moon NM and Preserve outside of Arco, ID. I email you all with a request. I am asking you all to spread the word of a great opportunity to all of your enthusiastic students interested in field ecology.

The opportunity? Craters of the Moon NM would like to support a local youth intern here at the park this summer. I underline local because it is rare that we have much in the way of local (regional) interest when hiring field staff each summer and I am hoping your involvement might change that trend.

We plan on hiring this intern through the Chicago Botanical Garden (CBG) Conservation and Land Management Internship Program. Please see attachment and distribute as you see fit. For those of you who are not familiar, CBG is a nonprofit organization based outside Chicago that recruits students from all areas and backgrounds to work for federal agencies like BLM, USFS, and NPS. If you are aware of the Student Conservation Association, CBG is similar but more involved in the personal development of each intern with the end goal of keeping them in federal service. CBG promotes responsible citizenship, productive community involvement, and furthering the understanding and appreciation of natural and cultural resources of our nation’s public lands.

Each interested student would apply using the following link to the program. Applications are still being accepted for a few more weeks. Individuals will be contacted and interviewed for positions all over the western U.S. The selected individual would serve for 5 months, living and working at an agency location. Housing, where available, would be paid and they would receive a work stipend paid bimonthly. Shared housing is available here at Craters of the Moon NM&P. The selected individual would be expected to attend a one-week training session to learn more about the program and work expectations. They would also be given opportunities to obtain training on rare and threatened plants and animals and to network with other ecologists at local conferences/symposia.

Craters of the Moon NM&P is looking for a student that is driven, enthusiastic, and willing and able to work in a field environment. His/her major duties would be vegetation monitoring, seed collection, and museum and herbarium curation. Outreach and education of park visitors would be another important task required of the intern. He/she would present natural resource data collected in the park to visitors and local communities. He/she would also be asked to initiate a park program working with visiting students and teachers to sample plant phenology and its relationship to climate change.

Steven Bekedam  
Vegetation Ecologist  
Craters of the Moon NM and Preserve  
P.O. Box 29, Arco, ID 83213  
(208) 527-1351  
(208) 527-3073 fax  
steven_bekedam@nps.gov  

(See attached file: Internship Opportunity for Summer 2010.doc)

http://www.chicagobotanic.org/internship/CLM.php