



## **Wyss Scholars Program for the Conservation of the American West 2021 Call for Applications Northern Arizona University**

### **Eligibility**

All matriculated master's degree candidates who entered ES&P during Fall 2020 and who will return Fall 2021 may submit applications. To be eligible, students must be in good academic standing and maintain a grade of B or above in all their graduate courses.

### **Application**

The following items must be completed and submitted, as a single PDF, to [Erik.nielsen@nau.edu](mailto:Erik.nielsen@nau.edu)

- An essay (500 word limit) detailing your past, present, and future commitment to the field of conservation in the American West and how becoming a Wyss Scholar will enhance your career development in the conservation field;
- A 1-2 page résumé;
- An outline of your remaining general course of study;
- Summer 2021 internship opportunities (organization and potential work)
- Thesis prospectus;
- A letter of recommendation from your graduate advisor addressing your potential as a future conservation leader;
- A copy of your undergraduate and graduate transcripts (these may be unofficial);
- Assistantship (GA or TA) supervisor evaluation from Fall 2020.

### **Selection Criteria**

Selection based on leadership potential, academic achievement, and demonstrated interest in pursuing a career in land conservation in the western United States. Financial need may also be considered. Two awards will go to MS ES&P students.

### **Selection Process:**

Applications will be reviewed by a panel and scored against the selection criteria. Top ranked candidates will interview with the selection committee in early February.

**Application Due Date:** Tuesday, January 19, 2021

## Award Details

- All Wyss scholars will be awarded an NAU out-of-state tuition waiver.
- Tuition assistance award: The award is provided for the second semester of the first year and both terms of the second year. The award will be up to half of the tuition for three terms depending on need;
- Award includes a stipend (\$5,000) for a summer internship with a nonprofit or public-sector conservation organization dedicated to the Intermountain West.
- Scholars' attend an annual Wyss Scholars summer retreat with costs covered by the program.
- Post-Graduation Award: Scholars who work for a non-profit organization or governmental agency devoted to furthering land conservation in the American West
- Positions are not required to be based in the West, but must focus on land conservation in Arizona, California, Colorado, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, Oregon, Utah, Washington, or Wyoming. Successful placement in a qualifying position will receive a post-graduation award of approximately \$19,000, payable in two installments over 30 months. These funds are intended for use by the student to repay student loans and other expenses incurred while obtaining their NAU graduate degree.
- Scholars become members in the Wyss Scholars network (students and alumni from NAU, as well as the University of Michigan, Yale, and University of Montana).

For more information about the Wyss foundation visit <http://www.wyssfoundation.org/>