

**National Park Service Launches New Intern Program** The National Park Service, Division of Risk Management is collaborating with the Student Conservation Association (SCA) to launch a first-ever risk management student internship program. The objective of this pilot project is to design a sustainable program that will support park efforts to prevent drowning, fall injuries, hypothermia, dehydration, carbon monoxide poisoning, animal bites or attacks, and trauma from crashes in cars, boats, bikes, and other forms of transportation, among many other injuries that occur in parks. The program will provide opportunities for undergraduate and graduate level students to apply skills in risk management, injury prevention, epidemiology and health behavior and education to enhance NPS injury prevention and control efforts to mitigate unintentional injuries to park visitors within the National Park Service, and in some cases to assist in the response to park incidents. The goals of this project are to:

- . Build a cadre of future leaders and park staff who apply and further develop skills/understanding of wilderness risk management techniques.
- . Increase capacity of current park staff to undertake risk management and injury prevention initiatives.
- . Provide resources to strengthen parks' risk management programs.
- . Provide safety outreach and education to park visitors.

This year, the NPS and SCA will select up to 15 parks to participate in the pilot phase of this program. Risk Management and SCA will work with each park to identify the particular need in that park and to find an intern with the necessary skills to meet that need. Interns will receive a weekly stipend, housing, transportation, training, and may be eligible for an AmericaCorps student grant of up to \$1500. In addition, students may be able to fulfill practicum requirements through this opportunity.

Students interested in learning more about the program should contact Dr. Sara Newman, Director, Public Risk Management Program at 202-513-7225 or ([sara\\_newman@nps.gov](mailto:sara_newman@nps.gov)).