ANNOUNCEMENTS

2017 Graduate Student Award Recipient

On behalf of the entire Great Plains Cooperative Ecosystems Studies Unit Staff, it is our pleasure to award the 2017 Graduate Student Award to Mr. Andrew Taylor. Andrew was selected for the award because of his accomplishments on the project: “Assess genetic integrity, population status, and long-term viability of isolated populations of shoal bass in Chattahoochee River National Recreation Area.” His research project was funded through a Great Plains CESU funding agreement between Oklahoma State University and the National Park Service. Andrew has clearly demonstrated the outstanding qualities we look for in our student recipients of this award.

We are also grateful to Andrew’s graduate adviser, Dr. James Long, for his nomination of Andrew. We also received a generous statement of support from our agency partner, William Cox, with the National Park Service.
CESU National Network News

SAVE THE DATE!
The 2018 CESU National Network Meeting will be held June 5-7, 2018 at the National Conservation Training Center (NCTC) in Shepherdstown, WV. This meeting brings together the CESU Network Council, CESU Directors and partners from across the nation.

This meeting is open to all partners! We encourage our members to consider sending representatives to attend the meeting to network with federal and non-federal partners.

SPOTLIGHT PROJECT

**Project Title:** Avian monitoring on Kirtland Air Force Base, with emphasis on Gray Vireo (Vireo vicinior), Loggerhead Shrike (Lanius ludovicianus), and Pinyon Jay (Gymnorhinus cyanocephalus) populations

**Federal Agency:** Department of Defense

**Academic Institution:** Oklahoma State University, Department of Integrative Biology

**Principal Investigators:** Scott McMurry, Ph.D. and Loren Smith, Ph.D.

**Graduate Students:** Jonathan Harris and Michael Novak

Researchers at Oklahoma State University are studying the life history and habitat requirements of Gray Vireos, Loggerhead Shrikes, and Pinyon Jays on Kirtland Air Force Base (KAFB) in Albuquerque, NM. Loggerhead Shrikes and Pinyon Jays have experienced precipitous declines throughout their ranges, thus warranting a renewed understanding of their habitat requirements to optimize conservation efforts. Specific goals of the project include identifying habitat features of breeding territories at multiple spatial scales, determining nest-site selection patterns and indicators of nest fate, estimating local productivity, and describing movement patterns at large spatial scales using radio telemetry.

If you have updates & would like to be included in our next issue, please send information to Kat Krutak-Bickert at kbickert2@unl.edu

Support for Cooperative Projects funded by Federal Partners

http://gpcesu.unl.edu/