



## January 2018 Update



### FUTURE PARK LEADERS of EMERGING CHANGE **FPL Application Period is Now Open**

The FPL program is pleased to announce the opening of the student application period. Upper level undergraduates, graduate students, and recent graduates are invited to apply for internship opportunities at 13 parks and program offices across the National Park System. [Internship descriptions](#) and [instructions for how to apply](#) can be found at [futureparkleaders.org](http://futureparkleaders.org). The student application period will launch on December 8 and remain open through January 26, 2018.

Next Month!

### Climate Change in America's National Parks Webinar Series

Thursday, January 11, 2pm EST | 11am PST

**Infectious Disease Management in the  
Climate Change Context**

Danielle Buttke, Veterinary Epidemiologist and One Health Coordinator, Wildlife Health Branch and Office of Public Health

Register here: <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/1901102170647595779>

Climate and other environmental change has implications for the emergence and spread of many pathogens and alternations to infectious disease processes. These implications pose a dilemma for agencies such as the NPS, which is charged with conserving natural resources while also providing for public enjoyment and protection of human health. The complexity of infectious disease ecology, range of projected environmental changes, and diversity of responses of disease-causing pathogens, vectors, and hosts will make it particularly challenging for managers to accurately predict outbreaks to protect resources and human health. Careful examination of the state of the knowledge and recognition of the knowledge gaps for any given system are integral to selecting an appropriate strategy for disease management. We will cover some of the observed and predicted impacts of climate change on wildlife diseases, and ways in which native disease impacts may be amplified due to climate change and other anthropogenic stressors on native wildlife and ecosystems. Managers are encouraged to address infectious disease from an ecosystem processes standpoint, and evaluate management options from the disease impact perspective rather than based on historic categorization of a specific organism or microbe.



**Danielle Buttke** is the One Health Coordinator for the National Park Service, a joint position between the Office of Public Health and Wildlife Health Branch. She is a public health service officer and one of two epidemiologists for the National Park Service and specializes in zoonotic disease and ecological drivers of infectious disease. Prior to joining the National Park Service, she served as an epidemic intelligence service officer at the CDC's National Center for Environmental Health. Dr. Buttke grew up on a working South Dakota dairy farm, and holds bachelors in ecology and political science, a Doctorate of Veterinary Medicine and PhD in comparative biomedical sciences from Cornell University, and a Masters in Public Health from Johns Hopkins University.

## Now open for registration: Interpreting Climate Change Virtual Course

Tuesday, February 27 - Thursday, March 1, 2018  
12:00pm to 5:00pm EST | 9:00am to 2:00pm PST

We're pleased to announce our next offering of the Interpreting Climate Change online course, providing an overview of the practical knowledge and skills that will enable interpreters to develop effective, engaging programming for both natural and cultural sites.

This course will occur through a distance learning, "virtual" classroom--each day will involve a schedule of WebEx plenary sessions, activities, and group discussions.

Students will consider a range of engagement techniques such as facilitated dialogue, skills for dealing with controversy, and presenting multiple perspectives. These and other techniques will be applied to an overview of climate science and audience research. Participants will engage in group discussions to share best practices, build confidence, and identify meaningful site connections.

This course is only available to National Park Service employees. [Additional information and registration instructions](#) are available on the Common Learning Portal. Contact [matt\\_holly@nps.gov](mailto:matt_holly@nps.gov) for more information.

## Free Unlimited On Demand Climate Change Training

The Climate Change Response Program invites interested NPS employees, partners, and volunteers to enjoy unlimited access to the Association of Climate Change Officers (ACCO) [library of on-demand and live online training](#) FREE for one full year. This opportunity affords participants unparalleled flexibility to customize training according to their needs and work around busy schedules.

Availability is limited and will be awarded strictly on a first-come, first serve basis. For instructions on how to register for this opportunity, please contact Larry Perez at [larry\\_perez@nps.gov](mailto:larry_perez@nps.gov).



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Want to submit an article? Contact [matt\\_holly@nps.gov](mailto:matt_holly@nps.gov) to learn more.