

The National Conservation Foundation (NCF) and the USDA Forest Service (FS), share a mutual goal of encouraging students to expand their knowledge and explore the environment and natural resource conservation through participation in Envirothon and its five areas of study: Aquatic Ecology, Forestry, Soils and Land Use, Wildlife, and Current Environmental Issues. Recognizing that historically underserved communities and students often face significant barriers to participation, NCF and the FS collaborate to offer the Diversity Enhancement and Underserved Audience Grant program (*Diversity Grants*) to provide additional support and financial resources to recipients with the goals of:

- Increasing diversity, equity, and inclusion within local state and provincial Envirothon programs
- Improving access to hands-on, outdoor natural resource education opportunities
- Encouraging education exploration
- Educating young adults on the importance of conservation

The Colorado 2023 Diversity Grant will focus on helping teams from Tribal Nations, Inner City, and LatinX communities attend the competition by providing funds to help offset registration, travel, and hotel stays. The \$4,000 grant will be distributed as evenly as possible, based on need.

For more information, please contact Mark J. Platten at <u>mark.platten@colostate.edu</u> or 719-502-1864

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