

Other NPS Projects for 2016 not on the Schedule

The National Park Service can use some volunteers for work that is not on the published schedule. Set dates for these projects/collections have not been established and this work will be scheduled on short notice.

The project work involves the following:

Anthony Creek Prep Work - Prior to rainbow trout removals in June, NPS needs to re-verify the upper distribution, lay-in and tag sites, clear some limbs and prep the treatment area for the June electrofishing.

We would like to tackle these items in April and May.

Nationwide mercury in fish study - GRSM will partner with USGS to collect brook trout and smallmouth bass throughout the park to determine mercury levels in fish tissue.

The study started in 2015 collecting mostly in western parks (GRSM sent some fish in), but will focus on eastern parks in 2016. The attached report has data from many western parks and may be of interest to your members who fish out west.

[https://mail.google.com/mail/u/0/?](https://mail.google.com/mail/u/0/?ui=2&ik=d57fb21912&view=att&th=153aa21cccdb14d4&attid=0.1&disp=safe&realattid=f_im6ohp1l0&zw)

[ui=2&ik=d57fb21912&view=att&th=153aa21cccdb14d4&attid=0.1&disp=safe&realattid=f_im6ohp1l0&zw](https://mail.google.com/mail/u/0/?ui=2&ik=d57fb21912&view=att&th=153aa21cccdb14d4&attid=0.1&disp=safe&realattid=f_im6ohp1l0&zw)

E. coli sampling of Horse Concession Areas - For the last 3 years, NPS has been working with the City of Gatlinburg, TDEC and the Smoky Mountain Riding stables to address *E. coli* issues in the streams near the trail system. In 2016, park management asked us to sample all the riding stables to test levels of *E. coli* in nearby park streams.

We (NPS Fisheries) will be testing the Cades Cove, Sugarlands and Oconaluftee Riding Stables.

Sampling will be during the months of July/August. We will sample once a week for 5 weeks during this time and all the analyses will be done in-house using an innovative technique called Colilert. We are happy to train folks on how to run the analyses.

If you want to help, please let us know which work you are willing to do. We will start a call list of people for the NPS to use on short notice.

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