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Subject: PABIODIV: DCNR Environmental Careers Camps

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DCNR SEEKING STUDENT APPLICANTS FOR ENVIRONMENTAL CAREERS CAMPS Outdoor Activities, Instruction Offered in Cumberland, Luzerne Counties

HARRISBURG: Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (DCNR) Secretary Michael DiBerardinis today announced two summer residential camps for high school students interested in pursuing environmental careers.

"Buoyed by the success of our first three Environmental Careers Outdoors (ECO) Camps, we are expanding to include camps in southcentral and northeastern Pennsylvania," Secretary DiBerardinis said. "Attending students are the future stewards of this state's vast natural resources. When they leave camp, they will have a sharply honed awareness of the outdoor world and related careers found there."

Camps will be offered Sunday, June 19, through Saturday, June 25, at Kings Gap Environmental Education and Training Center, near Carlisle, Cumberland County; and Sunday, July 17, through Saturday, July 23, at the Kirby Episcopal House and Chapel, Glen Summit, Luzerne County.

The ultimate goal of the camps is to introduce students to conservation and environmental careers, and encourage their pursuit. From stream sampling of fish and aquatic life to forestry skills, daily activities are planned to get students out in the field to meet and observe environmental professionals.

Participants will take part in activities exposing them to a wide range of career experiences including water quality assessments, geology field studies and overnight camping experiences. There will be opportunities to meet conservation professionals to learn about career opportunities.

Offered without charge, the instruction and daily activities will be overseen by specialists and officials of DCNR's bureaus of state parks, forestry and topographic and geological survey. Selected students in grades 9-12 will be provided a hands-on, team-building learning experience in an outdoor setting.

For ECO Camp enrollment applications and information, contact Blue Knob State Park, near Imler, Bedford County at 814-276-3576. Deadline for early selection is Friday, April 1. DCNR CONTACT: Terry Brady, (717) 772-9101

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