



Mission: To cultivate a passion for science, leadership, and service in a diverse community of learners

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

November 6, 2013

**EcoFlight's Flight Across America Student Program
Sergio Duran, ELK Alumnus and Wildlife Biology Student at Arapahoe Community College,
Denver CO to accompany EcoFlight on a week-long environmental student program
Monday November 4th – Friday November 8th**

EcoFlight, a non-profit based out of Aspen, CO, will be conducting its 10th annual Flight Across America (FLAA) Student Program from Monday, November 4th to Friday, November 8th, 2013.

The focus of this year's program is the "alphabet soup" of designations and protections of public wild lands and the threats facing wilderness-quality lands in the West.

Using flight and ground-based education, EcoFlight's FLAA program is designed to involve and inform college age students about current conservation issues from a broad range of perspectives and show them through flight how such issues personally impact their lives and the world around them.

Sergio Duran, alumnus of Environmental Learning for Kids (ELK) and a wildlife biology student from Arapahoe Community College, Denver will be one of eight college students accompanying EcoFlight on overflights of protected and threatened areas in Colorado, New Mexico and Utah. They will meet with national and local conservation organizations, sportsmen, business leaders, government officials, the media, local high schools and Navajo youth along the route.

Sergio joined the ELK team in February of 2012 as an Intern though Pitkins Technical College. He assisted in ELK's programs by mentoring younger, urban youth on fishing, camping, and other outdoor science and environmental education programs. Sergio intends to share his Flight Across America experience by producing an article for the wider Latino community.

ABOUT ENVIRONMENTAL LEARNING FOR KIDS

Environmental Learning for Kids (ELK), is a Denver-based, 501(c)3 organization established in 1996 by two wildlife biologists who saw a growing need to introduce and educate Colorado's urban youth about science, leadership, and careers. Both scientists had the shared experience of being the only ethnically diverse people in many of their college science classes and decided they wanted to change that fact by creating an environment for diverse youth to excel in science related fields by providing education and leadership training skills. Sixteen years later, ELK continues to provide strong educational support, good role models, and opportunities for positive community action for youth, helping them to become engaged, productive, and successful members of society. For more information about ELK please visit www.elkkids.org.