Seattle University Center for Environmental Justice and Sustainability 2016-2017 CEJS Fellow Final Report

Rob Efird

Project Title: Environmental Education in Three Nations: An Ethnographic Analysis of Environmental Learning Centers and "Nature Schools" in Japan, China and the United States

As noted in my mid-year report, my project's overarching objective is an empirically informed, cross-cultural understanding of how environmental learning centers and "nature schools" can foster ecological sustainability and environmental justice. My research attempts to clarify and compare the goals, methods, outcomes and institutional circumstances of ethnographic case studies from three different nations: Japan, China and the United States.

Over the past year, my fellowship-supported activities included a fieldwork trip to China in Summer 2016, two public lectures on my research, and the preparation and submission of a chapter manuscript entitled "Nature Schools and China's Environmental Education," which is slated to be published in the *Routledge Handbook on Schools and Schooling in Asia – Special Section:* Sustainability in Asia before the end of 2017.

In addition, the CEJS fellowship also enabled me to prepare a second manuscript, an invited book chapter for an edited volume entitled *Environmentalism in East Asia*. The book manuscript will be submitted this summer to University of Washington Press, which has shown an interest in publishing it. Before completing the chapter, I will make a final fieldwork trip to China in June to update my findings.

In conclusion, I would simply like to express my sincere gratitude to the Center for Environmental Justice for generously supporting my research, presentation, and publication.