



POSITION DESCRIPTION

Summer 2022

NPS UNIT: Golden Gate National Recreation Area, Point Reyes National Seashore		Position #: 193
<p>Position Title: Biology Assistant</p> <p>Position Type: Mosaics PLC</p> <p>Primary natural resource discipline: Biological Sciences</p> <p>Position Keywords: coho: monitoring: steelhead: salmonid: restoration</p> <p>Location: Point Reyes Station, California</p>		
COVID-19 NOTICE		
<p>As the COVID-19 pandemic continues to change and evolve, project timelines and structure remain flexible and it may be necessary to postpone start dates, begin work remotely, or reformulate the project's description. Should any development in the COVID-19 outbreak impair a project's timeline or results, the SIP Team will work with the park and project mentors to assess the situation and determine the best course of action at that time.</p>		
POSITION DESCRIPTION AND WORK PRODUCTS		
<p>Project Description: This proposed project requests one Intern to assist with the San Francisco Area Network (SFAN) Coho and Steelhead Monitoring Program (CSMP) based at Point Reyes National Seashore (PORE). The SFAN CSMP collects vital population data on salmon within PORE and Golden Gate National Recreation Area (GOGA) lands. Coho salmon (<i>Oncorhynchus kisutch</i>) populations are estimated to be at less than 1% of their historic population size within California and the populations residing in GOGA and PORE are considered to be a stronghold against regional population extinction. The Intern will be paired with the SFAN Inventory and Monitoring Program (I&M) fishery biologist in a 12 week (May, 2021 through August, 2021 time frame) biological field assistantship where they will collect vital information on endangered coho salmon and threatened steelhead within PORE and GOGA. By assisting with the SFAN I&M CSMP, the Intern will receive in-depth education on techniques used to monitor endangered coho salmon and threatened steelhead along with other fish species. In addition, members will be exposed to restoration techniques being applied to increase the chance of species survival for the enjoyment of generations to come. As a goal of this position, the Intern will be tasked with an independent project evaluating restoration sites and performing site treatments as needed. The outcome of this work will be to further advance park management understanding of current areas needing restoration treatment and direct treatment where feasible to improve instream habitat conditions for juvenile coho salmon and steelhead. Intern will be integrated into the summer coho and steelhead monitoring team based at PORE. They will work directly with other CSMP staff including the program lead fishery biologist, fisheries technicians, Watershed Stewards Program members, and program volunteers. During their service term, the Intern will learn fisheries monitoring techniques including but not limited to: seining, electrofishing, juvenile coho habitat typing, snorkel census, water quality monitoring, and tagging. The Intern will be tasked with ensuring all equipment is ready for each field day, collecting field data, verifying collected field data, and data entry. In concert with these ongoing monitoring efforts, the Intern will be assigned an independent restoration assessment project under the guidance of the PORE rangeland ecologist, to evaluate recent restoration activities within PORE. The goal of this position is to continue to develop future resource management professionals in the NPS. The Intern will continue their education by learning field techniques that build off of their previous educational experiences. Young adults often receive education at a conceptual level in the field of natural resource management, but due to socioeconomics or access to wildland areas may never physically experience these techniques in the field. By the end of this position, the Intern will understand issues surrounding threatened and endangered (T&E) species within the park, management techniques used for T&E species recovery, and a mastery of coho and steelhead field monitoring techniques. Without a funded Intern, both PORE and GOGA would not collect the data needed to fully understand the impacts and make management decisions on threatened and endangered aquatic species residing within the park.</p>		
<p>Work Products: There are two main deliverables for this project. The first is to collect juvenile coho habitat and population metrics on at least two watersheds within PORE and GOGA managed lands. The second is to complete one resource brief based on the restoration evaluation project, that will further advance our knowledge of the ecological processes and post restoration treatments needed within the Lagunitas Creek watershed. Both of these deliverables will contribute to further restoration activities to increase the likelihood of coho salmon and steelhead survival for the enjoyment of future park visitors.</p>		



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NATURAL & PHYSICAL WORK ENVIRONMENT

This is a coastal position in the small community of Point Reyes Station which is located approximately 3 miles from the Intern's duty station. Point Reyes Station contains a few restaurants, grocery store, library, gas station, and medical services. Point Reyes Station has one major grocery store and is a popular vacation site for tourists. Summer temperatures range from 60-90 degrees Fahrenheit. Typically the morning will start with fog and then becoming sunny by mid-morning before the fog returns in the late afternoon to early evening hours. This position is 80% in the field working in creeks within GOGA and PORE. The Intern will be trained on how to identify field hazards such as poison oak, stinging nettle, and ticks. All field equipment and Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) will be provided by the National Park Service. Field work consists of stream surveys performed over rough terrain in water averaging 55-65 degrees Fahrenheit in temperature. The Intern should be prepared to spend up to 8 hours daily in an outside setting. The Intern should be prepared with layers of clothing to regulate body temperature as the weather changes throughout the day. Field work activities include but are not limited to: habitat surveys requiring walking in streams wearing waders, snorkel surveys requiring emersion and walking in streams wearing a wetsuit, electrofishing or seining requiring the capture of fish, and small scale restoration projects requiring pulling weeds and removing fencing. It is anticipated that field work will be conducted within Redwood Creek, Olema Creek, and Pine Gulch Creek watersheds located within Marin County, California.

QUALIFICATIONS

The ideal candidate is able to work independently on complex projects while maintaining open lines of communication with project staff. The most important Intern quality will be the enthusiasm towards field work in the life sciences and a strong work ethic. The Intern would ideally have a degree or working towards a degree in fisheries, freshwater ecology, marine biology, or other life science but it is not necessary for this position. The candidate will ideally be in good physical fitness and can work full days in an outdoor field setting.

The applicant must be a U.S. citizen or U.S. permanent legal resident ("green-card-holder") between the ages of 18 and 30 years old, inclusive, or veterans up to age 35. Prior to starting this position, a government security background clearance will be required.

VEHICLE AND DRIVER LICENSE REQUIREMENTS

Applicant must have a valid driver's license to drive a government vehicle.

A personal vehicle is REQUIRED for this position.

HOUSING

Park housing is available and will be provided at no cost to the participant. The type of housing will depend on required Covid mitigation measures and type of housing available at the time of this internship. If Covid mitigation measures are no longer needed, the housing will likely be a shared bunkhouse style unit. Both males and females are allowed but do not share bedrooms. The housing unit is not located within walking distance of the reporting office. Transportation to and from the housing unit to the duty station will need to be provided by the Intern. Bed and bathroom linens, personal care items, and food are not provided. If Covid mitigation measures are still in place, housing will consist of a shared house with the Intern receiving their own bedroom. For many who have stayed in PORE housing units, the scenic beauty of these locations has been a memorable experience.

INTERNSHIP DATES

Start Date: 06/06/2022

End Date: 08/29/2022

Number of Weeks: 12

Flexible Start Date: Yes

Eleven weeks of the internship will be in the park. A mandatory Professional Development Workshop will be held in Washington, D.C. from August 1 - 4, 2022.

LIVING ALLOWANCE



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12 weeks (\$600/week=\$7,200)

Partners

This position is offered through the National Park Service's Scientists in Parks (SIP) Program in partnership with various organizations.



PLEASE DIRECT ANY QUESTIONS TO ENVIRONMENT FOR THE AMERICAS

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