



Volunteer Position Description for Youth Internship (Dune Restoration), FY 2010

Supervisors:

Lorraine Parsons (Vegetation Ecologist), Amelia Ryan (Bioscience Technician) and Sarah Minnick (Bioscience Technician), Natural Resource Management, Point Reyes National Seashore

Location: Point Reyes National Seashore

Project Duration: May 1 – August 30

Time commitment: 4 months, 40 hours/week

Age: 18-25 years

Goals/Outcome of Position:

This internship is an opportunity for youth aged 18-25 to get exposure to and experience working in multiple disciplines and divisions within the National Park Service. This internship will involve working with the Vegetation Management Program of the Natural Resources Division at Point Reyes National Seashore. The primary duty within this position is the Dune Restoration Project: to assist park staff in performing monitoring and restoration tasks for the Dune Restoration Project. The secondary duty of this position is to assist park staff in performing monitoring and restoration tasks for the Giacomini Wetlands restoration project and/or other park projects that entail working with vegetation, soils, and hydrology.

Funding for this internship is provided by the National Park Service Youth Internship Program. Minorities are encouraged to apply.

Description of Duties

- Assist with monitoring of resources in the Dune Restoration project area and other park locations, including vegetation monitoring and plant surveys. May involve use of GPS and GIS, so experience in those areas is a definite plus
- Assist with data entry of monitoring data, validation of data, and cleaning up of existing databases
- Assist with restoration activities, including, but not limited to, invasives removal, overseeing volunteer or contract invasive removal efforts, and oversight of other restoration-related activities

Tools and Equipment to be Used in the Performance of Duties

- Personal protective equipment (e.g., gloves)
- Various monitoring equipment, including, but not limited to waders, nets, seines, stadia rods, measuring boards, sampling quadrats, and weighing scales
- GPS unit, measuring tape, digital camera, binoculars, compass
- Plant identification manuals and hand lens
- Hand tools such as hand picks, pulaskis, handsaws, rakes, loppers, and weed wrenches
- NPS two-way radio
- Government-owned vehicle

Training Provided and/or Required

Training on specific monitoring protocols will be provided. Some plant identification skills would be helpful, although not necessarily a requirement.

Knowledge/Skills/Experience Desired

- Interest in botany or plant ecology, in wetlands and/or restoration
- Interest in native plants, ability (with training) to identify target native and non-native plant species
- Ability to use hand tools safely and effectively
- Ability to work outside for long periods in a range of conditions, hiking over occasionally rugged terrain and wading through water
- Ability to work long field days in difficult terrain (including vegetation with a poison oak component) in adverse weather conditions (windy, hot, cold)
- Ability to learn use of compass and GPS units
- Interest in and ability to work effectively with diverse volunteers

Special Requirements of the Position

- The intern must complete the “Valid DL Self-Certification Statement” to drive government vehicles.
- The intern must complete the “California Law Enforcement Telecommunications System Statement Form” regarding access to confidential information.
- The intern must provide personal hiking gear, sunscreen, and water bottles.

Benefits to the Intern

- The intern will receive education on dune ecology, rare plants, the impacts of non-native species, and the benefits of restoration
- The intern will learn valuable field skills in monitoring vegetation, fish, hydrology, water quality, soils and/or invertebrates.
- The intern will learn invasive plant species ecology and management.
- The intern will gain experience with GPS and GIS.
- The intern will gain experience with database management.
- The intern will gain personal enrichment and experience working in a National Park setting.

Compensation

Interns will be compensated at a rate of \$1300-1700/month, or \$65-85/day, depending on education and experience.

No housing will be provided. Interns are expected to arrange their own transportation to and from Point Reyes National Seashore headquarters every day. The address to Point Reyes National Seashore is: 1 Bear Valley Road, Point Reyes Station, CA 94956.

Contact Information and How to Apply

Please send a resume, cover letter, and the names of two references via email to Jessica_Luo@partner.nps.gov. Applications will be evaluated on a rolling basis, but must be received no later than April 16th, 2010. If you are applying to multiple Youth Internships, please submit one application and indicate your interests in your cover letter.

For more information, contact:

Jessica Luo

Education Coordinator

Pacific Coast Science & Learning Center

1 Bear Valley Road

Point Reyes Station, CA 94901

e-mail: Jessica_Luo@partner.nps.gov

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