

Island Keeper (Roseate & Common Tern Intern)

Stewart B. McKinney National Wildlife Refuge

Location: Falkner Island, Connecticut

Duration: May 20th to August 16th 2019

Job Description: The Stewart B. McKinney National Wildlife Refuge is seeking enthusiastic individuals to spend their summer on Falkner Island, off the shore of beautiful coastal Connecticut, while gaining valuable, well-rounded experience working in a tern colony. Duties include but are not limited to: monitoring productivity of roseate and common tern, banding tern chicks, finding nests in rocky areas, re-sighting fledglings and adults from field blinds, keeping accurate, organized, and detailed data/field notes, doing light maintenance, participating in non-lethal predator management, operating/maintaining watercraft and associated vehicles, maintenance activities and educating the public.

Details: Internships will begin on May 20th and continue until the middle of August (8/16). The position involves working long hours, nights, weekends, and holidays. Schedules will be around 40 hours per week, but will vary frequently in the length of day and start time (on rare occasions days off may not be consecutive). Interns will live in the research station on the island with other refuge staff for most of the field season. There is no heat/AC or running water in the station, but there is solar electricity. Interns will have free dormitory style housing at Refuge headquarters in Westbrook, CT on their days off. Incumbent will receive 80 hours of training in motor boat operations, first aid, visitor services, biological operations, safety and maintenance procedure.

Qualifications: Previous bird banding experience is necessary – banding experience with seabirds will give preference. Applicants must have the ability to perform the physical duties of the position including being able to walk on uneven, rocky embankments with field equipment in all kinds of weather and work in areas with poison ivy. Applicants must be able to work with minimal supervision, be very independent, flexible, be able to work with the public of all ages in a professional manner, and possess a valid U.S. driver's license. Intern will need to drive personal vehicle to and from dock. Additional experience with beach nesting birds, work in a field camp setting, boating, data collection, bird identification, waterfowl hunting, and an academic background in wildlife biology, zoology, environmental science or a related field are preferred.

To Apply: Send a cover letter, resume, and contact information for at least 3 references (must include email and phone number) by February 15th 2019 via email to: Kristina_Vagos@fws.gov. In the subject line, please enter "Falkner Intern" and the first letter of your first name followed by your full last name. All application material should be titled similarly. Please do not send applications by mail. Applications will be reviewed as they are received and possible job offers will be made before February 15. Please submit your application as soon as possible.

Salary: A small living allowance of \$190.00/week and shared housing (if needed) will be provided.

Time Frame: The position will be 13 weeks. Standard start date is May 20th 2019 and end date

is August 16th . If the intern starts earlier, the end date will be earlier.

Last Day to Apply: February 15th 2019

Website:

http://www.fws.gov/refuge/stewart_b_mckinney/

Contact: Kris Vagos

E-mail (preferred):

Kristina_Vagos@fws.gov

Phone: (860) 399-2513 ext. 8135