

Chincoteague

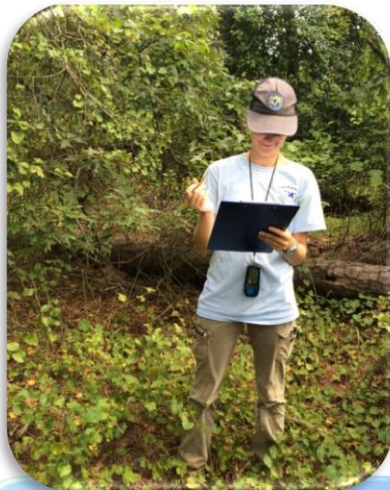
National Wildlife Refuge Complex



2024 Biological Internship Opportunities

Interns are an essential part of operations at Chincoteague National Wildlife Refuge Complex, Virginia. Once selected, you will become a dynamic member of our skilled and motivated team. Together we will harness the power of communication, science, and innovation to increase visitor enjoyment and understanding of wildlife refuges while actively monitoring and protecting the wildlife that call this refuge home.

Sound like your kind of place? You supply the time and interest, and we'll provide the opportunity!



Invasive Species Management Internship: 16 weeks (May 20-September 9, 2024)

One full time intern is needed to assist with monitoring and managing a variety of habitats (maritime forest, freshwater wetland impoundment, salt marsh, beach strand) located on the barrier island and mainland properties of the Chincoteague National Wildlife Refuge Complex, Virginia.

Primary responsibilities (80% of duties) include but are not limited to: grid mapping invasive species common to the mid-Atlantic region using Esri apps, ground mapping of phragmites, herbicide application, daily truck and ATV cleaning and maintenance.

Additional responsibilities (20% of duties) include but are not limited to: impoundment water monitoring and management, monitoring federally threatened seabeach amaranth, monitoring vegetation affected by pony grazing, participating in environmental education and interpretation events.

Desired qualifications: knowledge of coastal habitats, previous experience with habitat sampling or invasive removal, familiarity with data collection procedures, Esri apps, ArcGIS, and Microsoft Office.

Coastal Waterbird Internship: 16 weeks (April 22-August 12, 2024)

One full time intern is needed to assist with monitoring coastal nesting and migrating birds (piping plover, American oystercatcher, Wilson's plover, least tern, and red knot), on the Assateague Island and Assawoman Island units of the Chincoteague National Wildlife Refuge Complex, Virginia.

Primary responsibilities (80% of duties) include but are not limited to: censusing a variety of beach nesting birds, monitoring productivity from egg laying to fledging, installing predator exclosures, posting and maintaining symbolic fencing, re-sighting and recording banded birds, data entry, report writing, and daily truck and ATV cleaning and maintenance.

Additional responsibilities (20% of duties) include but are not limited to: marine mammal and sea turtle stranding response, sea turtle nest monitoring and management, participating in environmental education and interpretation events.

Desired qualifications: strong interest in avian conservation, experience using optical equipment (binoculars, spotting scopes), familiarity with field research techniques, Esri apps, ArcGIS, and Microsoft Office.

General requirements:

- U.S. citizen, national or lawful permanent resident.
- Recent college graduate or current student with a minimum of junior status in wildlife biology or related field.
- Ability to work independently under adverse environmental conditions (heat, humidity, wind, biting insects)
- Ability to walk in difficult terrain for long distances (5 miles per day) and carry field equipment (30-40 lbs)
- Good observational and communication skills, good hearing and eyesight, the ability to work well with others, live in close quarters, and be an enthusiastic field worker.
- Valid state driver's license, 4-wheel driving experience and must be comfortable riding ATVs.
- Schedule flexibility (9 to 12 hours daily) including weekend and evening shifts.



Benefits:

- Experience of a lifetime!
- Free co-ed bunkhouse style lodging on Chincoteague National Wildlife Refuge
 - Modern furnished facilities with laundry, Wi-Fi, and TV in common area.
- Professional development, training, and networking opportunities.
- Training, work vehicle, equipment, and FWS volunteer uniforms provided.

How to Apply:

Email application (one PDF) to Katie Oliver that includes:

- Cover letter
- Resume
- Email and phone number for three professional references.

Please be clear which internship you are applying for. Applications should be named with internship type and first and last names:

CNWR_invasive_LastFirst
CNWR_waterbird_LastFirst

Positions open until filled.

Interviews and selections will begin after February 12, 2024.

For more information contact:

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<https://www.fws.gov/refuge/chincoteague>

