



Wildlife Biology Program Internships

Chincoteague National Wildlife Refuge, Virginia

Interns are an essential part of operations at Chincoteague NWR. 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 the visitors' enjoyment and understanding of wildlife refuges while actively monitoring and protecting the wildlife that calls this refuge home. http://www.fws.gov/refuge/Chincoteague/what_we_do/internships.html



Credit USFWS

Requirements for all Biology Program Interns:

- Recent college graduate or current student with a *minimum of junior status* in Wildlife Biology, Environmental Science, Natural Resources Management, or related fields.
- Must be able to work independently; must have good observational skills.
- Valid state driver's license, 4-wheel driving experience and must be comfortable riding ATVs.
- Schedule flexibility (9 to 12 hours daily) including weekends and evening shifts.
- Basic knowledge, through coursework, of GIS, ArcGIS software, GPS and surveying principles.

Requirements for Shorebird Monitoring and Management Interns:

- Strong interest in ornithology and experience using optical equipment (binoculars, spotting scopes).
- Experience working with breeding shorebirds, colonial waterbirds and/or conducting bird census.
- Ability to locate and monitor cryptic shorebirds and precocial chicks at 100-300 meters.
- Ability to walk in difficult terrain for long distances (5 miles per day), carry equipment (30 lbs.), tolerate biting insects and extreme temperatures.

Shorebird Monitoring & Management Internships (3)

- ASSAWOMAN ISLAND: One intern selected for 16 weeks (April 22 – August 03, 2019)
- ASSATEAGUE ISLAND: One intern selected for 16 weeks (April 22 – August 03, 2019)
One intern selected for 12 weeks (May 20 – August 10, 2019)

Primary Responsibilities (80% of duties):

- Interns will ensure data collection is complete, organized, and entered into appropriate databases.
- Monitor and manage breeding populations of federally threatened piping plovers (*Charadrius melodus*); state threatened Wilson's plovers (*Charadrius wilsonia*), American oystercatchers (*Haematopus palliatus*), and colonial nesting waterbirds.
- Re-sight data collection of the federally threatened Rufa red knot (*Calidris canutus rufa*).
- Daily truck and ATV maintenance.

Additional Responsibilities (20% of duties):

- Respond to marine mammal and sea turtle stranding.
- Assist with sea turtle nest monitoring and management.
- Assist with Integrated Waterbird Management and Monitoring (IWMM) surveys.
- Participate in environmental education and interpretation events.

ASSAWOMAN ONLY: NASA Security Clearance completion is required upon hiring.

Habitat Monitoring & Management Internship (1)

The intern will work in a variety of habitats (maritime forest, freshwater wetland, salt marsh, beach strand) located on the Refuge's barrier island and mainland properties.



Credit: Patrick J. Hendrickson / Highcamera.com

- ASSATEAGUE ISLAND: One intern selected for 12 weeks (May 20 – August 10, 2019)

Primary Responsibilities (80% of duties):

- Provide technical field support and data management for southern pine beetle damage assessments.
- Monitoring of invasive plant species common to the Mid-Atlantic region.
- Monitoring of the federally threatened seabeach amaranth (*Amaranthus pumilus* Rafinesque).
- Assist with Integrated Waterbird Management and Monitoring (IWMM) surveys; among other activities.

Additional Responsibilities (20% of duties):

- Assist with Delmarva fox squirrel (*Sciurus niger cinereus*) monitoring and management.
- Participate in environmental interpretation events.

BENEFITS FOR ALL INTERNS:

- Experience of a lifetime!
- Bunkhouse style co-ed lodging located on Assateague Island.
 - Modern, furnished housing located close to Refuge headquarters and the beach.
- Living allowance of \$308 bi-weekly. Paid by Chincoteague Natural History Association (CNHA).
- Training and uniforms provided.

HOW TO APPLY – Email packet to Emarie_Ayala@fws.gov

Application packet on pdf format is required and must include:

1. Cover letter (stating the desired position)
2. Resume with three professional references
3. Copy of current college transcript (non-official)

Incomplete applications will not be considered.

Starting date for each position NOT flexible.

Application deadline is February 22, 2019.



Credit USFWS



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