Kendra Chan Conservation Fellowship

DEADLINE TO APPLY
JAN. 15TH, 2021

Continuing a Legacy

Kendra Chan joined the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service through the Directorate Fellows Program in 2016 after graduating from the University of California, Davis. She went on to serve as a biologist with the Ventura Fish and Wildlife Office until 2019. Kendra left a lasting impact on our agency, and her passion for science and the natural world will never be forgotten.

In Kendra’s own words:
https://www.flickr.com/photos/usfws_pacificsw/26188961947/

"Kendra was a remarkable human being. Her positive energy enriched the lives of those she touched through her love of nature, wildlife, and the outdoors. She was a force for good, and led a life that made the world around her a better place. She loved the ocean, from surfing and diving to tide pooling. Her passion, curiosity, and enthusiasm for all living things – from tiny skeleton shrimp to the tidewater goby – were infectious. Not only was she a colleague, but a close friend to many. We miss her dearly, and will carry her energy with us in the days ahead." – Ventura Fish and Wildlife Office

The Ventura Fish and Wildlife Office is working with partners and staff from across the agency to honor Kendra's memory, including developing a fellowship dedicated to preserving Kendra’s conservation legacy for future generations of scientists. In collaboration with the Ecological Society of America, the team has created the Kendra Chan Conservation Fellowship, an annual program that will combine the Service’s Directorate Fellowship Program with the ESA’s Strategies for Ecology Education, Diversity and Sustainability Leadership Development Program to create a unique opportunity for an emerging conservation leader. Our thoughts remain with Kendra’s family, friends, and co-workers as we continue to reflect and honor her life and carry her memory and legacy forward.

In 2021, the fellow will support ongoing seed conservation and outplanting efforts for several federally protected plant species that live on the Channel Islands, and develop outreach materials focused on the conservation and recovery of these rare plants.

About the DFP
The Directorate Fellows Program (DFP) is an 11-week fellowship working on projects that support FWS Conservation priorities. The 11-week fellowships begin in mid-May/mid-June 2021 and end in August/September 2021. Click here to learn more. If you have any questions, please contact David Sherer at david_sherer@fws.gov.

About SPUR
The SEEDS Partnerships For Undergraduate Research (SPUR) Fellowship is the highest honor in the SEEDS program, and fellows are encouraged to be the outstanding leaders in the future of ESA. The Fellowship supports the undergraduate student in designing and conducting an ecology research project of their interest. Click here to learn more.
ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

- Student must be enrolled or accepted for enrollment as a rising senior or senior in an undergraduate program and will not complete their degree requirements prior to May 2022 so that they can participate in both the DFP and SEEDS portion of the fellowship
- Cumulative GPA must be 3.0 or higher
- US citizen or permanent resident
- Demonstrated interest, education, and/or experience in conservation
- Must be available for 12 weeks (1-week orientation plus 11-week fellowship) and available for travel to two ESA workshops and annual conference
- Must be able to pass a criminal background check
- Must be 17 years of age or older

BENEFITS

- Housing and travel allowance provided
- Hands-on experience
- 1-week Orientation at the FWS National Conservation Training Center, Shepherdstown, WV
- Fellows may be eligible for a permanent position in the FWS after successfully completing their fellowship and degree requirements
- Opportunities to network with conservation professionals from across the country
- Participation in ESA’s leadership development workshops and opportunity to present research at annual ESA conference

ABOUT THE CHANNEL ISLANDS

Channel Islands National Park encompasses five remarkable islands and their ocean environment, preserving and protecting a wealth of natural and cultural resources. Isolation over thousands of years has created unique animals, plants, and archeological resources found nowhere else on Earth and helped preserve a place where visitors can experience coastal southern California as it once was. Click here to learn more.

ABOUT THE SANTA BARBARA BOTANIC GARDENS

Widely regarded as a model botanic garden, the Santa Barbara Botanic Garden is a living museum and a member of the American Alliance of Museums, dedicated to research, education, and conservation of California native plants.

The Garden’s 78 acres with more than 1,000 taxa of California native plants illustrates the remarkable diversity of California’s flora and vegetation. Click here to learn more.

HOW TO APPLY

FWS is collaborating with the American Conservation Experience (ACE), the Hispanic Access Foundation (HAF), and the Thurgood Marshall College Fund (TMCF) this year to assist with the recruitment and administration of over 111 Fellowship opportunities nationwide. Each partner organization is administering a specific number of projects based on geographic location.

For the Kendra Chan Fellowship, you must apply directly to both HAF and ACE. After applying, you will be notified when the projects are posted, and you will be able to apply specifically for the Kendra Chan Fellowship. If you have any questions, please contact David Sherer at david_sherer@fws.gov.

Reasonable Accommodation Policy Statement

Federal agencies must provide reasonable accommodation to applicants with disabilities where appropriate. Applicants requiring reasonable accommodation for any part of the application and/or hiring process should contact the hiring agency directly. Determinations on requests for reasonable accommodation will be made on a case-by-case basis.