MONTANA FISH, WILDLIFE & PARKS

INTERN PROGRAM ANNOUNCEMENT

EMPLOYER: Montana State Parks

CONTACT PERSON'S NAME/TITLE: Steve Jones, Giant Springs Park Manager

ADDRESS: 4600 Giant Springs Rd.

CITY: Great Falls **STATE:** MT **ZIP:** 59405

PHONE: (406) 454-5858 **EMAIL ADDRESS:** sjones@mt.gov

DATE OF ANNOUNCEMENT: Friday, January 11, 2013

APPLICATION DEADLINE: Monday, March 4, 2013 at 5:00pm (postmarked)

****STUDENTS MUST BE CURRENTLY ENROLLED IN A UNIVERSITY/COLLEGE****

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POSITION TITLE: Park Ranger Intern **# OF POSITIONS:** One

LOCATION(S): Giant Springs State Park, Region 4 Parks Division

START/END DATES: May 21/28, 2013 – August 10/17, 2013 (12 weeks)

HRS/WEEK: 40

TRAINING/ORIENTATION DATES: Region 4 Parks Division annual training will occur in June. Other training is provided at start of season.

COMPENSATION (PAY, PER DIEM, HOUSING, VEHICLE, ETC:
This position will be funded for 12 weeks at 40 hours per week with a pay rate of $9.00 per hour. Weekend and holiday work is mandatory. Shifts may vary. A State vehicle will be provided for any travel or work assignments. Uniforms will be provided and are required to be worn while on duty. Housing is not available for this position.

POSITION DESCRIPTION:
This exciting internship opportunity will be involved in the successful operation of the busiest state park in Montana, Giant Springs State Park. The primary duties of this position will be to provide visitor services at Giant Springs State Park including: providing visitor information, providing environmental education for school groups, children and adults, ensuring fee compliance, performing light maintenance and grounds keeping, performing trail work, and conducting roving patrols of assigned areas.

Educational programs will be provided to groups ranging in age from 5 years of age to senior citizens, will occur on-site at the Park as well as at remote park units. Program topics include wildlife adaptations and identification, natural and cultural history of Giant Springs and adjacent river corridor, fish ecology and hatchery operations, aquatic studies, Leave No Trace, and guided hikes. Visitor services will be provided in person at the park's Ranger Station, on the telephone,

and throughout the park and trail network. Patrols will be performed on foot, in motor vehicle, and on mountain bicycle.

Opportunities will be available to perform similar activities at other Region 4 sites such as First Peoples Buffalo Jump, Sluice Boxes, Smith River, and Tower Rock State Parks. Work will also include evaluation of existing visitation data collection methods and calculations to improve the accuracy of visitation estimates. Visitation estimate work will be coordinated with the Parks & Recreation Planner in Helena.

SKILLS, ABILITIES, KNOWLEDGE NEEDED (EDUCATION; UNDERGRAD/GRAD LEVEL, SUGGESTED/REQUIRED MAJORS):

A variety of academic majors will be applicable, with the following majors being preferable:

- Parks and Recreation Management
- Outdoor Recreation Management
- Environmental/Natural Sciences
- Education

Good outdoor skills are desirable along with good physical conditioning in order to perform patrol work on an independent basis in rough and uneven terrain in a wide variety of weather conditions. Must be comfortable interacting with the public in an outdoor recreation setting, and capable of presenting interpretive programs to diverse groups of visitors. Must be able to work alone, sometimes in remote settings. Must have a good driving record, valid drivers license, and posses the ability to safely operate 2-wheel drive and 4-wheel drive vehicles. Ability to safely ride a mountain bicycle on paved and gravel trails is desirable. The ability to use a variety of hand tools is desirable.

APPLICATION MATERIALS/PROCEDURES (RESUME, COVER LETTER, REFERENCES, ETC.):

Submit resume, cover letter, and three references to:

Steve Jones
Park Manager
4600 Giant Springs Rd
Great Falls, MT 59405
(406) 454-5858
sjones@mt.gov

COOPERATING SPONSORS OF PROJECT:

PPL Montana – Hydro-Electric

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

Past interns have located and paid for their own housing in the Great Falls area for the term of Internship. If the Intern is unable to find or afford housing, possibly the Parks Program can provide some assistance.