

**MONTANA FISH, WILDLIFE & PARKS**

**INTERN PROGRAM ANNOUNCEMENT**

**EMPLOYER:** Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks

**CONTACT PERSON'S NAME/TITLE:** Shannon Hilty  
Nongame Wildlife Biologist  
Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks Region 4

**ADDRESS:** 4600 Giant Springs Road

**CITY:** Great Falls

**STATE:** MT **ZIP:** 59405

**PHONE:** 406-590-3426

**EMAIL ADDRESS:** Shannon.hilty@mt.gov

**DATE OF ANNOUNCEMENT:** Monday, January 3, 2022

**APPLICATION DEADLINE:** Friday, February 18, 2022 at 5:00 PM (postmarked)

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

\*\*\*\*\*

**POSITION TITLE:** Nongame Wildlife Intern

**# OF POSITIONS:** 1

**LOCATION(S):** Position will be based in Great Falls, MT. Fieldwork will occur throughout Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks (FWP) Region 4, including Glacier National Park, the Rocky Mountain Front, and the Bob Marshall Wilderness.

**WORK START/END DATES:** Approximately May 16th – August 26th

**HOURS/WEEK:** 40

**TOTAL HOURS FOR INTERNSHIP:** 600

**TRAINING/ORIENTATION DATES:** NA

**COMPENSATION (PAY, PER DIEM, HOUSING, VEHICLE, ETC):**

\$11.50/hr plus per diem (meals) at state rates when in the field overnight. Weekend work will be required occasionally. *There is no overtime for this position, paid holidays, or additional compensation for working on holidays or weekends.*

A department vehicle will be provided for most work travel. *However, individuals may need to use their personal vehicle occasionally. If a personal vehicle is used for work, compensation for mileage will be provided at the state rate.* Interns must have their own transportation outside of work duties. Housing may be available.

**POSITION DESCRIPTION:**

The intern will assist with research and management pertaining to nongame wildlife including field and office work. This is an opportunity to learn a wide range of field skills while conducting surveys for bats (e.g., acoustic detectors, mist netting, radio-telemetry), amphibians and reptiles, birds (e.g., harlequin ducks, common nighthawks, black swifts), and small mammals. The intern will be responsible for data collection and entry, data management, and equipment maintenance.

This position is based out of Great Falls and will include travel throughout FWP Region 4 including the Rocky Mountain Front, Bob Marshall Wilderness, and Glacier National Park. Most time will be spent in the field. This will involve camping for multiple evenings at a time while working long, irregular hours in extreme conditions (e.g., rain, snow, high and low temperatures) and remote settings. Work will require hiking long distances with backpacks and field gear in grizzly bear habitat (i.e., mountain and grassland terrain). Interns will work directly with FWP biologists and other FWP staff, Montana Natural Heritage Program biologists, private landowners, other interns and volunteers, and local non-profit organizations. Contact Shannon Hilty in Region 4 for more details on job description.

We are looking for an individual who is independent, detail-oriented, and motivated to take instructions and set their own schedule but also flexible enough to handle the unexpected obstacles that come with field work.

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

**Required Qualifications:** Two or more years of experience in wildlife biology, ecology, or a related field required. Applicants should be organized, detail-oriented, able to follow oral and written directions accurately, and able to learn and retain new field skills quickly. Good communication skills and ability to work well independently and with other biologists, interns, and volunteers is required. This position will require long, physically demanding days in the field. Applicants must be able to hike long distances carrying a 35-50 pound backpack and must be comfortable working with a partner in grizzly bear habitat; bear spray and training will be provided. Applicants should be comfortable working in mountainous and arid grassland terrain, navigating with maps and GPS units, and operating a 4-wheel drive vehicle on unpaved roads. Overnight camping will be required; FWP will provide a tent, but applicants must provide all other camping gear. Applicants must hold a valid driver's license.

Applicants must be currently enrolled in an accredited university or college program. This includes all public, private, community, vo-tech, and Native American institutions of higher learning. Preference will be given to those individuals enrolled in a program with wildlife biology, wildlife management, ecology, zoology, or a closely related field.

**Preferred Qualifications:** Field experience is not a requirement, but preference will be given to applicants with prior field experience that includes data collection and entry. Preference will be given to applicants with genuine enthusiasm, interest in learning new techniques, and those working towards a career in wildlife biology or a related field. Experience in identifying bird and plant species is a plus.

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

Please provide a letter of interest, resume, copy of transcripts, and 3 professional references with phone numbers and email addresses, as one document titled with your name, to Shannon Hilty at shannon.hilty@mt.gov. Please use "Region 4 Nongame Wildlife Intern" as the email subject when applying. The letter of interest should address why the applicant wants to work with FWP on nongame wildlife, as well as what skills they already possess that could add to this internship. **Application period closes Friday, February 18, 2022 at 5:00 PM.**

For more information regarding this position, please contact Shannon Hilty at shannon.hilty@mt.gov and 406-590-3426.

**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: (; HOUSING OF ANY KIND PROVIDED OR POSSIBLY AVAILABLE I.E. TRAILER, FREE CAMP SPOT, BASEMENT APARTMENT, EXTRA SLEEPING ROOM, ETC.)**

If budget allows, housing may be provided in the form of a trailer or free campsite at a nearby campground.

