

**MONTANA FISH, WILDLIFE & PARKS**

**INTERN PROGRAM ANNOUNCEMENT**

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

**CONTACT PERSON'S NAME/TITLE:** Megan O'Reilly/ Wildlife Biologist

**ADDRESS:** 2300 Lake Elmo Drive

**CITY:** Billings

**STATE:** MT

**ZIP:** 59105

**PHONE:** 406-794-6154

**EMAIL ADDRESS:** moreilly@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\*\***

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**POSITION TITLE:** Wildlife Intern

**# OF POSITIONS:** 1

**LOCATION(S):** Primarily Billings, MT. The position may also involve working with the non-game biologist from Miles City or Bozeman, so may involve inter regional coordination and travel to these regions for field work for extended periods during the summer.

**WORK START/END DATES:** May 16, 2021 to August 26, 2021

**HOURS/WEEK:** 40

**TOTAL HOURS FOR INTERNSHIP:** 600

**TRAINING/ORIENTATION DATES:** Ongoing

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

**\$11.50/hr** with per diem at the state rate. ***There is no overtime, paid holidays, or additional compensation for working on holidays or weekends for this position.***

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

**POSITION DESCRIPTION:**

The intern will assist the nongame wildlife biologist with the regional nongame wildlife program. This is an opportunity to learn a wide range of field skills that may include acoustic and mist-netting techniques for bats, amphibian and reptile surveys, and avian surveys (including nightjars, chimney swifts, cuckoos, and burrowing owls). The intern will also be responsible for data entry, data management, and the maintenance of equipment.

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

This position is based out of Billings and will include travel throughout southeastern Montana. Most of the time will be spent in the field and may involve camping for multiple evenings at a time and working in extreme conditions and remote settings. We are looking for an individual who is independent, detail-oriented, and motivated to take instructions and set their own schedule but also flexible to handle the unexpected obstacles that come with field work.

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

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.

Field experience is not a requirement, but preference will be given to applicants with prior field experience that included data collection and entry. Applicants must have the ability to learn and retain new field skills quickly. 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. Good map reading and orientation skills are a plus. Applicants should be able to follow oral and written directions accurately, be organized, and work well independently and with other biologists or volunteers. Social skills will be required to interact with private landowners and coordinate with FWP staff and other agencies.

Applicants must be physically fit and able to hike long distances while carrying equipment. Field conditions will include adverse weather, biting insects, and long hours. Applicants with a demonstrated ability to handle these types of conditions will be given preference. Overnight camping will be required periodically, and applicants should provide their own personal camping gear. Applicants must hold a valid driver's license.

Please send resume, cover letter and 3 references to the contact person listed above. Call or email Megan O'Reilly if you have additional questions on the application process.

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

Housing may be provided in a camper or dormitory setting, but unsure at this time.