

**MONTANA FISH, WILDLIFE & PARKS**  
**INTERN PROGRAM ANNOUNCEMENT**

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

**CONTACT PERSON'S NAME/TITLE:** Kristina Smucker/Nongame Bureau Chief

**ADDRESS:** 1420 E Sixth Ave

**CITY:** Helena

**STATE:** MT

**ZIP:** 59601

**PHONE:** 406-444-5209

**EMAIL ADDRESS:** ksmucker@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 POSITION:** 1

**LOCATION(S):** Region 2 (Missoula Area)

**WORK START/END DATES:** May 16, 2022 to August 26, 2022

**HOURS/WEEK:** 40

**TOTAL HOURS FOR INTERNSHIP:** 600

**TRAINING/ORIENTATION DATES:** NA

**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.*

The intern should be prepared to use their personal vehicle; travel will be primarily on paved or maintained roads, a 2-wheel drive vehicle should suffice. If a personal vehicle is used for work, compensation for mileage will be provided at the state rate. The department may be able to provide a vehicle for some work travel. Interns must have their own transportation outside of work duties. Housing is not provided with this internship.

**POSITION DESCRIPTION:**

The intern will assist the Nongame Wildlife Program by monitoring bat populations in western Montana. The focus of the position is on monitoring bat houses, searching for important maternity colonies, and designing an experiment to determine the factors that improve bat box occupancy. There may be the opportunity to assist with other field surveys if time and logistics permit; these may include assisting with sampling for WNS/Pd, deploying acoustic detectors, amphibian and reptile surveys, and avian surveys (including Harlequin Ducks).

This position will be based in Region 2 and the majority of fieldwork will be within 3 hours of Missoula. There may also be opportunities to travel to other Regions. The intern will work collaboratively with MFWP nongame wildlife biologists, a professor and students at the University of Montana, partner agencies, and private homeowners. This internship requires excellent communication skills and the ability to build relationships with homeowners. We are looking for an individual who can work independently with minimal supervision, is detail-oriented, and motivated to design an experimental study, analyze data, and prepare a report including best management practices.

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

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. Preference will be given to applicants interested in developing a senior thesis as part of this internship

Field experience is not a requirement, but preference will be given to applicants with prior experience with data collection, data entry, and course work in statistics or experience with data analysis. Applicants must have the ability to make detailed observations and work under difficult field conditions (e.g. heat, biting insects, working at night, etc.). 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. Applicants should be able to follow oral and written directions accurately, be organized, and work well with other biologists or volunteers. Social skills will be required to interact with private landowners and coordinate with other agencies.

Applicants must be physically fit and willing to camp overnight on occasion (intern should provide their own personal camping gear). Applicants must hold a valid driver's license.

**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 Kristina Smucker at [ksmucker@mt.gov](mailto:ksmucker@mt.gov). The letter of interest should address why the applicant wants to work with Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks, as well as what skills they already possess that could add to this internship.

For more information regarding this position, please contact Kristina Smucker at [ksmucker@mt.gov](mailto:ksmucker@mt.gov) and 406-444-5209.

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

Housing will not be provided for this position.