

MONTANA FISH, WILDLIFE & PARKS
INTERN PROGRAM ANNOUNCEMENT

EMPLOYER: Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks

CONTACT PERSON'S NAME/TITLE: Allison Begley/Avian Conservation Biologist

ADDRESS: 1625 11th Ave

CITY: Helena

STATE: MT

ZIP: 59601

PHONE: 406-444-3370

EMAIL ADDRESS: abegley@mt.gov

DATE OF ANNOUNCEMENT: Friday, January 7, 2022

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

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

POSITION TITLE: Wildlife Intern

OF POSITION: 1

LOCATION(S): Various – will move among Regions 1 - 5

WORK START/END DATES: May 9, 2022 to August 26, 2022

HOURS/WEEK: 40

TOTAL HOURS FOR INTERNSHIP: 640

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.*

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 Program and work in multiple regions. The focus of the position is on assisting with Harlequin Duck surveys by hiking along small mountain streams. There may be the opportunity to assist with other field surveys if time and logistics permit, these may include deploying acoustic detectors and radio telemetry for bats, amphibian and reptile surveys, and avian surveys (including nightjars, chimney swifts, cuckoos, and burrowing owls).

The base location for this position is flexible; the internship will include extensive travel throughout western Montana. Plan on working 10 days on, 4 days off and being deployed to a new location in Regions 1 – 5 each 10-day cycle. The intern will typically work with another biologist or small team but must also

feel comfortable working alone. Most of the time will be spent in the field, will involve camping and backpacking in grizzly bear country for multiple days at a time, and the intern must be prepared for all kinds of weather conditions. 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.

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.

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 demonstrated experience camping, backpacking, and working in rugged field conditions. 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, orientation skills are a must. Experience in grizzly bear country is 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 other agencies.

Applicants must be physically fit and able to hike long distances while carrying equipment. Field conditions will include adverse weather, hiking off-trail along or in fast-moving mountain streams, 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.

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 Allison Begley at abegley@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 Allison Begley at abegley@mt.gov and 406-444-3370.

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 various bunkhouses across the state, but intern should be prepared to camp in both designated and back country campsites.