

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: Montana

ZIP: 59405

PHONE: 406-590-3426

EMAIL ADDRESS: Shannon.hilty@mt.gov

DATE OF ANNOUNCEMENT:

Friday, January 6, 2023

APPLICATION DEADLINE:

Friday, February 17, 2023, at 5:00 PM (postmarked)

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

POSITION TITLE: Nongame Wildlife Intern

OF POSITIONS: 1

LOCATION(S): Great Falls, MT

WORK START/END DATES: Approximately May 15th – August 25th

HOURS/WEEK: 40

TRAINING/ORIENTATION DATES: NA

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

\$13.00/hr (plus per diem (meals) at state rates when in the field). No housing is provided; please note that temporary housing in Great Falls is limited and can be expensive. Holiday/weekend work will be required. *There is no overtime, paid holidays, or additional compensation for working on holidays or weekends.* A state vehicle will be available for work. Duration of the job depends on funding.

POSITION DESCRIPTION/ SCOPE OF WORK:

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 nongame wildlife such as bats, small terrestrial mammals, amphibians, reptiles, and birds. The intern will be responsible for data collection and entry, data management, and equipment maintenance. The position may involve opportunities to work on special projects for the state or region (i.e., developing educational materials, testing new survey methodology, and conducting public outreach).

This position is based out of Great Falls and will include travel throughout FWP Region 4. Most time will be

spent in the field. This may 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.

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. 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 and other basic 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 Tribal 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: Preference will be given to applicants with genuine enthusiasm, interest in learning new techniques and working for Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks, and those working towards a career in wildlife biology or a related field. Experience developing educational materials and conducting outreach 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 and nongame wildlife, as well as what skills they already possess that could add to this internship. Application period closes Friday, February 17th, 2023 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:

No housing is provided in Great Falls and accommodations in Great Falls are sparse and expensive.

Student interns must have a valid driver's license to drive a state vehicle.

Applicants MUST be a student enrolled at a university to be eligible for MFWP internships. If graduating spring prior to the internship, enrollment for summer credits still qualifies applicant as eligible to apply.

