

MONTANA FISH, WILDLIFE & PARKS
INTERN PROGRAM ANNOUNCEMENT

EMPLOYER: Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks

CONTACT PERSON'S NAME/TITLE: Brandi Skone/Wildlife Biologist

ADDRESS: 352 I-94 Business Route

CITY: Miles City

STATE: Montana

ZIP: 59301

PHONE: 406-853-2620

EMAIL ADDRESS: bskone@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): Miles City, MT

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

HOURS/WEEK: 40

TOTAL HOURS FOR INTERNSHIP: 600

TRAINING/ORIENTATION DATES: Training date in late April or early May, to be determined.

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

\$13.00/hr (plus per diem (meals) at state rates when in the field). Housing may be available. 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:

Intern will work with the Regional MFWP wildlife biologist to conduct all aspects on the regional nongame program. The intern will conduct; surveys which include routine monitoring of Threatened and Endangered species and conduct surveys for Species of Concern (SOC) to remove species from the Species of Greatest Inventory Need list (SGIN).

The intern will primarily be focused on conducting greater short-horned lizard and chimney swift surveys. In addition, the intern will also be working on a statewide project to deploy and collect bat acoustic gear and collect samples for nationwide bat disease sampling. The intern may also be requested to assist with other nongame inventories and wildlife program duties as needed. Interns will be responsible for data submission, preparing final SGIN summary reports, and developing protocols for future years SGIN. An end of season intern report will be required.

This position is based out of Miles City 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. This work requires the ability to work alone/independently at times. Often this work will involve long hours (early mornings/evening surveys), sometimes hiking long distances in rugged conditions and often under inclement weather conditions carrying backpacks and field gear. The intern will be required to work with FWP biologists and other FWP staff, Montana Natural Heritage Program biologists, US Forest Service and BLM biologists, private landowners, 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 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 the ability to learn and retain new field skills quickly. Applicants must be able to follow survey protocols and conduct surveys while collecting detailed data. Good map reading and orientation skills are preferred. Applicants should be able to follow oral and written directions accurately, be organized, and work well independently as well as with a group. Social skills will be required to interact with private landowners and coordinate with other agencies. 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 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. Applicants must hold a valid driver's license.

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

Please provide a letter of interest, resume, and 3 professional references with phone numbers and email addresses, **as one document titled with your name**. Please also provide a copy of your transcripts (unofficial is fine). All materials should be sent to Brandi Skone at bskone@mt.gov or mail to Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks, Attn: Brandi Skone, 352 I-94 Business Route, Miles City, MT 59301. 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. Selections are generally made within 2-3 weeks of closing date.

For more information regarding this position, please contact Brandi Skone at bskone@mt.gov and 406-234-0948.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

Training will be determined after the start of the internship.

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

Housing may be provided in Miles City at the local college facilities or in the form of a trailer at a nearby RV campground if available. The campground will include full hook-ups (water, sewage and electric).

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.