

MONTANA FISH, WILDLIFE & PARKS
INTERN PROGRAM ANNOUNCEMENT

EMPLOYER: Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks

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

ADDRESS: 1420 E6th Avenue

CITY: Helena

STATE: Montana

ZIP: 59620

PHONE: 406-444-3370

EMAIL ADDRESS: abegley@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: Avian Conservation Wildlife Intern

OF POSITIONS: 1

LOCATION(S): Helena, MT; Glacier National Park

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

HOURS/WEEK: 40

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). No housing is provided, but overnight accommodation may be available at Glacier National Park, and/or periodically at Wildlife Management Area bunk houses. 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:

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

The intern will be working on a collaborative project on Harlequin Duck to conduct surveys in Western Montana (up to 8 weeks). Surveys will use eDNA, camera traps, and traditional visual surveys. In addition to this project, the intern may assist with bird banding operations as available and/or nightjar surveys. Other duties as assigned may include assistance with a statewide project to deploy and collect bat acoustic gear, and surveys of established bat roost boxes, or monitoring for amphibians or reptiles. In association with Area biologists the intern may be responsible for baseline monitoring of amphibian and reptiles. 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 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 grizzly bear habitat and often under inclement weather conditions carrying backpacks and field gear. The intern will be required to work with other biologists, law enforcement officers, interns and/or volunteers at times. Interns would work directly 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.

Contact Allison Begley in Helena Headquarters for more details on job description.

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

Good communication skills, ability to work in a group or independently; 1-2 years in biology, wildlife biology, wildlife management, or ecology. Skills in ornithology are desired. The intern will be expected to be able to follow survey protocols and conduct surveys diligently with detailed data collection. Will be expected to be able to identify species (particularly birds) and be able to use ID guides, binoculars and high-powered spotting scopes (provided) to identify birds. Experience hiking moderate to long distances with a backpack in grizzly bear country and experience using bear spray is desired. The intern must be willing to work away from home and camp if the location of the field work is located away from headquarters. The intern may be required to overnight backpack on occasion. It is particularly important that the intern has a high level of awareness and can conduct themselves safely in the outdoors. Must be able to represent the agency in a professional manner and professionally work with landowners and the public relaying accurate FWP information. Must have the ability to use 4-wheel drive vehicles. Some experience pulling trailers and driving All-Terrain Vehicles (ATV) is desirable. Able to carry 35-50 lbs. Interns will need to keep in close contact with multiple agencies and organizations or individuals depending on their location and assignments.

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

Submit 1 digital copy of current **resume** identifying experience and skills related to the intern position description with list of 3 reference contacts. Please provide a **list of relevant classes** you have completed as part of your resume. Also send **cover or transmittal letter** explaining the **reasons for your interest** in the internship and why you are qualified to do the work. Send above to Allison Begley, email abegley@mt.gov or mail to Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks, 1420 E 6th Avenue, Helena, Montana 59601 no later than February 17th, 2023. Selections are generally made within 2-3 weeks of closing date. E/mail preferred with header “**Avian Conservation Wildlife Intern**”

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

No housing is provided in Helena, but a bunkhouse may be available in Glacier National Park

Training will be determined after the start of the internship.

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.