

MONTANA FISH, WILDLIFE & PARKS
INTERN PROGRAM ANNOUNCEMENT

EMPLOYER: Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks

CONTACT PERSON'S NAME/TITLE: Megan O'Reilly/Wildlife Biologist

ADDRESS: 2300 Lake Elmo Drive

CITY: Billings

STATE: Montana

ZIP: 59105

PHONE: 406-794-6154

EMAIL ADDRESS: moreilly@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): Billings, MT

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

HOURS/WEEK: 40

TRAINING/ORIENTATION DATES: Ongoing

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

\$13.00/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 at local college dorms. *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/ SCOPE OF WORK:

The intern will assist the nongame wildlife biologist with the regional nongame wildlife program. This is an opportunity to learn a wide range of field skills that may include acoustic and mist-netting techniques for bats, amphibian and reptile surveys, and avian surveys (including nightjars, chimney swifts, cuckoos, and burrowing owls). The intern will also be responsible for data entry, data management, and the maintenance of equipment. In association with Area biologists the intern may be responsible for conducting inventories on Wildlife Management Areas and Fishing Access Sites, including baseline monitoring of amphibians and reptiles. 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 end of season reports, and developing protocols for future years. 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 will 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.

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 both mammalogy and ornithology are desired. The intern will be expected to be able to follow survey protocols and conduct surveys diligently with detailed data collection. This position is based out of Billings 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 and working in extreme conditions and remote settings. We are looking for an individual who is independent, detail-oriented, and motivated to take instructions and set their own, but also flexible to handle the unexpected obstacles that come with field work.

It is 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. 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 one digital copy of current **resume** identifying experience and skills related to the intern position description with list of **three reference contacts**. Please provide a **list of relevant classes** you have completed as part of your resume. Also send **cover letter** explaining the **reasons for your interest** in the internship and why you are qualified to do the work. Send above to Megan O'Reilly, email moreilly@mt.gov or mail to Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks, 2300 Lake Elmo Drive, Billings, Montana, 59105 no later than February 17th, 2023. Selections are generally made within 2-3 weeks of closing date. E/mail preferred with header "**Region 5 Non-game Intern**"

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

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.