OVERVIEW
The Golden Gate National Recreation Area (GGNRA) is a destination for both locals and international visitors with its sweeping vistas, immense biological diversity, and unique cultural resources. With over 15 million visitors annually and over 80,000 acres of land, the GGNRA is the largest urban national park in the country. The mission of the GGNRA’s natural resources management and science program on Alcatraz is to manage, preserve and protect the island’s biological resources and related ecosystem processes.

Alcatraz is a 22-acre island within San Francisco Bay. It is a National Historic Landmark with approximately 5,000 people visiting the Island daily. Regionally significant waterbird populations breed on Alcatraz, providing a remarkable and unique opportunity to view colonial nesting seabirds. During the peak of the breeding season there are often more than 10,000 birds congregated on the Island. The multiple missions of the National Park Service make Alcatraz a challenging and exciting place to work.

The Alcatraz Waterbird program provides an opportunity for wildlife management and monitoring, collaboration with scientific researchers, and educational contacts with park partners and the public.

POSITION

Are you interested in local seabird ecology and want to pursue a career in natural resources?

We are looking for a Waterbird Intern that is excited to work with biologists and researchers on Alcatraz Island. Working as part of a team, the intern will assist biologists and various researchers in the management and monitoring of nesting birds on Alcatraz and help with public outreach programs.

DESCRIPTION OF DUTIES

- Management and monitoring of nesting waterbirds
- Depredation of western gull eggs in high-use public areas
• Work with the Farallon Institute and U.S. Geological Survey to monitor population size, breeding phenology, productivity, and human disturbances to nesting waterbirds
• Maintain nest monitoring video equipment
• Respond to injured or sick birds
• Data collection and report writing
• Record and enter monitoring data into Access database and Excel spreadsheets
• Map nesting locations using ArcMap
• Analyze nest monitoring video and document nest behaviors
• Assist with managing volunteer program and public outreach
• Produce monthly newsletters with updates on bird activity
• Assist with the Waterbird Docent Program, maintaining logs and providing logistical support

BENEFITS
• Gain experience working with marine ecosystems in the National Park Service.
• Gain valuable field skills in seabird bird monitoring, data collection, and hands-on experience with birds.
• Opportunity to work with various biologist and researchers, including the Farallon Institute and U.S. Geological Survey.
• Opportunity to attend Park Academy Classes on a variety of topics including resume building and interview skills, park orientation and history, flora and fauna, mapping and monitoring, computer skills, and much more.
• Opportunity to enjoy the scenery, wildlife and cultural resources of a spectacular National Park.
• Opportunity to work with staff and volunteers from diverse backgrounds that share a common interest in preserving and protecting our natural lands while engaging the next generation of park stewards.
• Opportunity for personal/professional development days to pursue an interest, including training and education days in various departments within the Park Service and Parks Conservancy.
• Fifty dollar ($50.00) per day taxable stipend available, plus academic credit
• Work uniform will be provided.

DESIRED QUALIFICATIONS
• Enthusiasm for natural resources, especially marine ecosystems.
• Energetic, positive, flexible, self-motivated and a sense of humor.
• Experience or coursework with wildlife or other natural resource issues a plus.
• Good communication skills, both verbal and in writing.
• Ability to work with a diversity of people with different backgrounds, ethnicity, races, genders, sexualities, ages, and viewpoints.
• Ability to work independently once provided direction.
• Basic computer literacy, experience with database operations and ArcGIS a plus.

PHYSICAL REQUIREMENTS AND WORK ENVIRONMENT
• This is a field based position with a day (or two) of office time per week. Must enjoy working outside in various weather conditions while maintaining a positive attitude.
• Ability to lift, carry and position objects weighing up to 40 pounds.
• Work will involve weekends during the breeding season, and possibly overnight stays and early mornings.
• Alcatraz is a challenging place to work based on logistics to get out there, working conditions, and the climate.
• There are ruins, rusted metal, broken glass and other hazards around the island. You will be trained in how to safely work with birds and work safely on the Island.

TERMS
• Desired Start Date: January 2017
• 2 – 3 days per week, January through May. Summer (full time) extension is possible based on funding, performance, and need. Day runs from 8:20 a.m. to 4:45 p.m.
• Fifty Dollar ($50.00) per day taxable stipend available, plus academic credit
• Intern must have a Social Security Number or Individual Taxpayer Identification Number to receive stipend
• Available only to students currently enrolled in SF State, City College of San Francisco, and College of Marin

To apply for this position, please submit an application and send a resume and a thoughtful cover letter to AcademicIntern@parksconservancy.org. Please indicate the position(s) that you are applying for in your cover letter. No phone calls please.

The Parks Conservancy and National Park Service seek to increase diversity in the workplace and reflect our Bay Area community. People of color and of all backgrounds are encouraged to apply.