Habitat Restoration Academic Internship
Golden Gate National Parks; Tennessee Valley, Marin Headlands
Part Time Spring Semester 2017 (with potential for Summer Extension)
Available only to students currently enrolled at COM, SFSU, and CCSF

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 Habitat Restoration Team (HRT) is a National Park Service volunteer program established in 1988. HRT’s goal is to engage the community members to help preserve, restore and maintain the natural diversity and beauty of the Golden Gate National Parks, mainly focusing on controlling invasive non-native plants and restoring native plant communities.

POSITION

Are you ready to get your hands dirty while jumpstarting a career in natural resources management?

We are looking for an intern to assist with vegetation management specifically in the Tennessee Valley region of the GGNRA. Tennessee Valley is a popular hiking destination in Mill Valley, known for its rolling hills, abundant wildlife, and spectacular cove beach, and those who have worked here over the years value it for its rich history, diverse plant communities, and ecological significance.

This internship will provide real-world applications of many of the principles you’ve been learning in the classroom about botany, ecology, stewardship, and GIS in a fun and hands-on way. HRT currently has a bi-weekly volunteer program in Tennessee Valley and a full-time staff person focused on enhancing this area. Working closely with the Natural Resources Specialist for Tennessee Valley, the intern will help with leading and participating in volunteer workdays, monitoring and mapping vegetation using GIS/GPS, and planning restoration projects.
DESCRIPTION OF DUTIES

- Assist with the bi-weekly volunteer program. This includes:
  - Coordinating tools and supplies for upcoming workdays
  - Engaging with volunteers to ensure a safe and positive experience
  - Performing invasive species control with a combination of tools and techniques
  - Recording and reporting work performed with detailed notes
  - Assist the Natural Resources Specialist with planning and implementing restoration projects. This includes:
    - Hiking rough terrain to monitor and/or control invasive plants
    - Monitoring native vegetation and outplanting survivorship
    - Mapping invasive plant populations using GIS/GPS
    - Providing support for project planning by scouting sites, researching control techniques, and tracking restoration progress

BENEFITS

- Opportunity to explore areas of the park that are inaccessible to most visitors and enjoy the scenery and natural, historical, and cultural resources of a spectacular National Park
- Gain leadership experience in both field and administrative sides of Ecological Restoration
- Opportunity to work with staff and volunteers from diverse backgrounds that share a common interest in preserving and protecting our nation’s natural and cultural resources.
- Opportunity for personal/professional development days to pursue interests beyond the job scope, including training and education in various departments within the Park Service and Parks Conservancy
- A uniform will be provided
- Fifty Dollar ($50.00) per day taxable stipend available, plus academic credit

DESIRED QUALIFICATIONS

- Love of the outdoors and interest in ecological restoration and/or natural resources management
- Bay Area plant ID and GIS skills preferred, but can be taught on the job
- Desire to work in a team and with people from diverse backgrounds, ethnicities, races, genders, sexualities, ages, and viewpoints
- Ability to self-motivate, work independently and take on a leadership role as needed
- Strong organizational and communication skills
PHYSICAL REQUIREMENTS AND WORK ENVIRONMENT

- This internship will require some office time, but mostly field work which, at times, can be quite strenuous:
- Desire and ability to hike and work outdoors in all conditions (inclement weather, rough terrain, poison oak, ticks, etc.)
- Ability to perform sometimes monotonous tasks for long periods of time while maintaining a positive attitude and sense of humor
- Ability to lift up to 30 pounds repeatedly
- Our office is based in Fort Cronkhite and our field locations are all in Tennessee Valley; both are relatively inaccessible by public transit, but there is potential to carpool

TERMS

- Desired Start Date: January 2017
- 2-3 days per week (at least Tuesdays and Fridays) January through May. Summer extension possible based on funding, performance, and need
- $50.00 daily taxable stipend plus academic credit available
- 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.