Wildlife Research Academic Internship
Civic Center or Los Gamos office park
Part Time Spring Semester 2017
With potential for summer extension
Available only to students currently enrolled at COM, SFSU, and CCSF

OVERVIEW

Marin County Parks offers an extensive system of regional and community parks, open space preserves, and trails. The department consists of two divisions, the Parks and Landscape Division and the Marin County Open Space District (MCOSD). Our mission focuses on preservation of 16,000 acres of land, as well as providing recreational opportunities for visitors. Our team is made up of committed professionals serving in the core programs of operations and maintenance, planning and resource management, volunteer management, environmental education, and administrative services.

POSITION

Are you passionate about threatened and endangered wildlife? Are you looking for ways to make a real impact on maintaining healthy wildlife habitat in your own backyard?

MCOSD supports a variety of special-status species including the federally threatened northern spotted owl (Strix occidentalis caurina). Point Blue (formerly PRBO) has been monitoring spotted owl nests on our lands and Marin Municipal Water District (MMWD) since 1999. Each year they provide a report on the status of the population. Under the guidance of the wildlife biologist, this position will take these reports and the data that we have (in Arc GIS) to evaluate how spotted owls are doing on MCOSD lands. This is mostly a research based position, with a report due at the end. The intern should be interested in special-status species, evaluating threats to species, and ways to conserve species. During the research process if the intern comes across a threat that can be evaluated, they can develop a project to monitor that threat (i.e. loss of prey species, so we monitor the prey species).

DESCRIPTION OF DUTIES

- Organize GIS data in a meaningful way to evaluate trends over time.
- Research articles that have evaluated spotted owl trends to aid in creating the report.
● Read previous articles or reports to understand what has or hasn’t been done.
● Identify possible threats to spotted owls.
● Write a report that describes spotted owl trends on MCOSD lands.
● Possible designing a study to evaluate or monitor a threat and possible carrying out that study.
● Assisting with other wildlife tasks such as (but not limited to) the wildlife picture index project, wildlife monitoring, creating signs and/or interpretation materials for wildlife, putting up wildlife camera traps, data entry, or assisting with other wildlife research projects.

BENEFITS
● Opportunities to learn about special-status species, threats to them, and ways to conserve them.
● Internship report has the potential to be used as a senior thesis project.
● Opportunities 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
● A uniform will be provided
● Opportunity for personal/professional development days to pursue an interest, including training and education in various departments within the Park Service and Parks Conservancy
● Fifty Dollar ($50.00) per day taxable stipend available, plus academic credit

DESIRED QUALIFICATIONS
● Flexible, resourceful and self-motivated
● Ability to research a topic through google scholar or through another source that allows searching through peer-reviewed scientific articles.
● Knowledge of or ability to learn Arc GIS.
● Ability to work independently in the office/field or with a team
● Ability to work with a broad range of people with different backgrounds, ethnicities, genders, sexualities, ages, and viewpoints
● Proficiency in writing and basic computer skills

PHYSICAL REQUIREMENTS AND WORK ENVIRONMENT
- This is primarily an indoor, office position but occasional outdoor work may be required or can be available for interested people.
- Must be able to commute to office location (either Marin County Civic Center or Los Gamos office park)

**TERMS**
- Desired Start Date: January 2017
- 1-3 days per week, January through May. Summer extension possible based on funding, performance, and need
- Available only to students currently enrolled at College of Marin, SF State, and City College of San Francisco
- Fifty Dollar ($50.00) per day taxable stipend plus academic credit available
- Intern must have a Social Security Number or Individual Taxpayer Identification Number to receive stipend

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.

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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.