Raptor Migration Field Intern
Golden Gate National Parks; Marin Headlands, Sausalito
3 Positions available; Full Time, July-December 2017

OVERVIEW
The Golden Gate Raptor Observatory (GGRO) is a program of the Golden Gate National Parks Conservancy and the National Park Service, and is made up of around 300 community volunteers and a small staff. The GGRO mission is to inspire the preservation of birds of prey. Our business is to study the bird of prey migration along the central California coast, particularly at the Marin Headlands, part of the Golden Gate National Recreation Area. We are dedicated to the conservation of raptors both through careful data collection and through involving the public in every aspect of our research.

POSITION DESCRIPTION
Are you a passionate biology or environmental science student who enjoys learning about birds and interacting with lots of kinds of people in team settings?

We are looking for three field Interns who will learn the scientific background of GGRO’s migration studies and all of our field techniques, but will also discover the ins and outs of a 35-year-old, muddy-boots, Citizen Science operation in an urban national park. You will be expected to show some obsession for learning to identify California raptor species, as well as other local birds, and even some insects. You will become expert at bird-cage raptor species, as well as other local birds, and even some insects. You will become expert at bird-cage cleaning and general husbandry. Grunt work, like carrying wood up hills and trimming back poison oak, will not be above you.

DESCRIPTION OF DUTIES
As a field intern, you would support the daily activities of our 300 volunteer scientists in close coordination with GGRO staff.

- Raptor migration field research support
  o Identify and count up to 19 species of birds of prey
  o Trap and band hawks and falcons
  o Collect detailed and accurate data in the field
  o Tend to captive lure bird colony
- Data management and operational support
  o Enter and proof migration data using Access database and Excel
  o Provide logistical support for day-to-day office and field operations
- Outreach and education
  o Interact with park visitors of all backgrounds and ages
  o Lead short educational programs for volunteers
- Assist with special projects

BENEFITS
- Gain knowledge of the Golden Gate Raptor Observatory and its mission
- Develop proficiency in North American raptor species identification
- Opportunity to become familiar with raptor biology, field methods, and scientific literature
- Gain experience in conducting a long-term volunteer-staffed wildlife study
- Opportunity to exercise teamwork and supervisory skills
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- Non-local applicants: Thirty dollar ($30) per day taxable stipend and housing in a dormitory setting (single rooms, shared bath and kitchen)
- Local applicants: Fifty-five dollar ($55) per day taxable stipend

DESIRED QUALIFICATIONS
- Recent college graduate or senior in biological sciences or related field
- Passion for bird identification and wildlife study
- Experience in identifying, handling and banding birds a plus
- Excellent interpersonal and communication skills are essential
- Flexible, mature, self-motivated, and a sense of humor
- Enthusiasm for working with large groups of people with different backgrounds, ethnicities, races, genders, sexualities, ages, and viewpoints

PHYSICAL REQUIREMENTS AND WORK ENVIRONMENTS
- Must enjoy working long hours outside in variable weather, as well as in an office setting
- Able to stay focused and upbeat in the face of sometimes-pervasive fog
- Able to walk steep hills and across rough terrain
- Able to stand (and sit!) for long periods of time

TERMS
- Start Date: July 2, 2017
- Schedule and length: 5 days per week, July-December 2017 (with possibility to extend)
- Valid US driver's license required

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

HOW TO APPLY
Emailed applications are strongly encouraged; please send a single PDF and include “2017 GGRO Field Internship” in the subject line. Send cover letter, resume, and phone number/emails of three references, along with your current address and phone number. Completed applications must be received by March 1st to be considered.

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