



GEOSCIENTISTS-IN-THE-PARKS 2017 – PROJECT DESCRIPTION

NPS UNIT: KALOKO-HONOKOHAU NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARK		PD #: 2017639
Position Title: Biological Technician Position Type: Guest Scientist Primary natural resource discipline: Biological resources Location: 73-4786 Kanalani St., #14 Kailua Kona Hawaii 96740		To apply visit: www.geosociety.org/gip
PROJECT DESCRIPTION AND WORK PRODUCTS		
<p>Position Description: Kaloko-Honokōhau NHP is a 1200-acre national park unit located on the west coast of the island of Hawai‘i. The Park was established in 1978 for the preservation, protection, and interpretation of traditional Hawaiian activities and culture. The Park contains spectacular cultural sites and history, Hawaiian fishponds, anchialine pools, native endangered waterbirds and other wildlife, coral reefs, and coastal dryland forest. ‘Aimakapā Fishpond is a 30-acre Hawaiian fishpond/wetlands complex within Kaloko-Honokohau National Historical Park.</p> <p>The GIP will assist with science and field monitoring activities associated with the Park’s wetlands ecosystem restoration project at ‘Aimakapā Fishpond. The GIP will regularly survey and record data on endangered Hawaiian waterbird and migratory bird species at ‘Aimakapā Fishpond; monitor endangered Hawaiian waterbird nests for productivity and success by using both foot and kayak surveys; collect water quality samples for analyses; actively participate in the nonnative predator control program (mongoose) by opening and baiting traps, checking traps and removing animals, and closing traps, and monitor predators with tracking tunnels (setting, collecting, and "reading" cards); monitor established invasive plant plots for regrowth and assist with care of native outplants; and collect and download GPS data, and make simple GIS maps. The GIP will assist the Project Lead with organizing and running a monthly (weekend) community volunteer day. The intern will also perform office work, entering and managing survey data, mining the park’s files for existing data on fishponds and other resources and provide an annotated bibliography and resource brief for fishpond resources. The incumbent will work with the park interpretation division to develop an interpretive product regarding the wetlands restoration.</p> <p>This position is offered through the National Park Service's Geoscientists-in-the-Parks (GIP) Internship Program in partnership with Stewards Individual Placement Program (Stewards) and The Geological Society of America (GSA). Upon successful completion of the GIP internship, the participant is eligible for an AmeriCorps Education Award.</p> <p>Work Products: Work products are completed plant and wildlife survey data, predator control and data, an annotated bibliography of fishpond resources, and assisting with development of an interpretive product regarding an aspect of the restoration.</p>		

QUALIFICATIONS

A bachelor's degree and coursework in biology, ecology or other natural resource field of study is preferred; computer skills in Microsoft Office; ability to identify birds and plants to species; experience collecting field data and data collection with GPS equipment; and experience presenting technical and non-technical educational information to the general public about ecosystem restoration and plants and animals invasive to Hawaii. The Intern should be able to swim, be comfortable around water and experienced in using a kayak. Knowledge of Hawaiian culture and traditional resource management practices is not required but is helpful. Intern should be comfortable removing mongoose carcasses from traps.

*Preference will be given to candidates from Hawaii Island, the University of Hawaii at Hilo, Hawaii Community College – Palamanui, and from Hawaii in-state schools e.g., Hawaii Pacific University and University of Hawaii at Manoa.

GIP participants are considered AmeriCorps members: AmeriCorps limits the number of terms an individual can serve to 4 terms. If an applicant has previously completed 4 GIP or other AmeriCorps positions, he/she will not be eligible to apply for an additional GIP position.

The applicant must be a U.S. citizen or U.S. permanent legal resident (“green-card-holder”) between the ages of 18 and 35 years old. Prior to starting this position a government security background clearance will be required.

VEHICLE/DRIVER'S LICENSE REQUIREMENTS

Applicant must have a valid driver’s license and a good driving record.

If the GIP is required to drive a park vehicle for their position, a driving records search will be performed and the GIP’s ability to drive a park vehicle will be contingent upon the results. Examples that will preclude a GIP from driving a park vehicle include DUIs, multiple moving vehicle violations, suspended or revoked license, or three or more accidents (regardless of fault) in the last 3 years.

HOUSING

Park housing is not available. The cost of living is high, a studio rental is approximately \$800-\$1500/month.

INTERNSHIP START/END DATES

Start Date: 8/21/2017

End Date: 11/10/2017

Number of weeks: 12

Flexibility of dates: Yes

STIPEND PAYMENT

\$4,200 for 12 weeks (\$350/week)

HOUSING PAYMENT

\$2,400 for 12 weeks (\$200/week)

TRAVEL ALLOWANCE

\$1,000 (if the selected applicant is not from Hawaii). A reduced travel allowance equivalent to the cost to fly to Kailua-Kona will be provided if the selected applicant is from the Hawaiian Islands.

PHYSICAL/NATURAL & WORK ENVIRONMENT

Physical/Natural Environment: The Park is located in Kailua-Kona on the island of Hawaii, approximately three miles from the Kona International Airport and five miles northwest of Kailua-Kona. The park is at sea level and averages less than 25 inches of rainfall annually. It includes three beaches and extensive cultural sites. Complete shopping facilities and rental units are available in Kailua-Kona.

This is a high cost of living area. Hospital and medical facilities are five to ten miles away. Public schools are conveniently located within the surrounding area and distant bus service is provided for students. No public transportation is available. For more information, visit the park website at www.nps.gov/kaho and the park's

Facebook page at www.facebook.com/KalokoHonokohauNPS.

Special Consideration: The island of Hawai'i is subject to high concentrations of volcanic fumes (VOG), especially sulfur dioxide gasses and fine particulates. The fumes are known to be hazardous to an unborn fetus, and persons with heart and respiratory problems. The Kona coast experiences VOG conditions throughout the year. Long-term effects on normal healthy persons is unknown.

Work Environment: This position includes office work, and field work involving carrying equipment and packs up to 50 pounds, hiking over rugged terrain in hot, humid, sunny climate, working in wetlands and water in waders or boots up to 8 hours, exposure to wild animals, and operating 4wd UTV vehicles and small boats (e.g., kayak, skiff with trolling motor, Hawaiian canoe).

MENTORING AND LEARNING GOALS

Mentoring: The Intern will work with the Project Lead (biologist) and project staff in the field. The Division Chief, Project Lead, and park Biological Technician will provide oversight and orientation. Two biological technicians (park and I&M techs) will be peer liaisons.

Learning Goals: The Intern will apply basic principles of biological monitoring, and learn skills specific to monitoring endangered species and small mammal predators, and controlling small mammal predators. The Intern will gain knowledge of traditional Hawaiian resource management and culture, and will gain professional development in working in the context of a government land management agency and transmitting scientific information to the public.

SUPERVISORS

Primary Supervisor: Jackson Letchworth	Secondary Supervisor: Sallie Beavers
Title: Project Leader, Aimakapa Wetlands Restoration	Title: Chief of Integrated Resources
Address: 73-4786 Kanalani St., #14 Kailua Kona, HI 96740	Address: 73-4786 Kanalani St., #14 Kailua Kona, HI 96740
Phone number: (808) 557-2533	Phone number: (808) 329-6881 ext. 1220
Email address: jackson_lechworth@nps.gov	Email address: sallie_beavers@nps.gov
Park or Program Website: www.nps.gov/KAHO	Park or Program Website: www.nps.gov/KAHO