




GEOSCIENTISTS-IN-THE-PARKS 2018 – PROJECT DESCRIPTION

NPS UNIT: WHITE SANDS NATIONAL MONUMENT	PD #:2018443
<p>Position Title: Interpretive Specialist Position Type: Guest Scientist Primary natural resource discipline: Geological resources Location: Alamogordo, New Mexico</p>	
PROJECT DESCRIPTION AND WORK PRODUCTS	
<p>Position Description: Americans are stewards of extraordinary and largely unknown resources at White Sands National Monument. It is hard to imagine that anything new could be found in an endless sea of white barren dunes. But over the last 10 years scientists have discovered thousands of fossilized foot prints, geological similarities shared with Mars, unique soils found in no other deserts, thousands of prehistoric cultural sites (unique to the gypsum dune field), and new species throughout the monument (many of them pale white in color).</p> <p>The goal of this project will be to use provided material to develop and present interpretive walks, talks, and illustrated programs. Programs include explanations of park features from the standpoint of scientific, historical and cultural interests. Provides written outlines to supervisor by established deadlines that detail program themes, goals, objectives, and interpretive techniques. Provides informal visitor contacts at various locations in the park.</p> <p>This project will increase and enhance opportunities for people to learn about and the trackways, and link the youth and local audiences that are not currently enjoying their park (the monument). To continue to develop programs that engage youth and underrepresented groups that neighbor the monument and provide them a park experience that they did not know existed. Create interpretive programs and publications that appeal to youth and diverse audiences in Spanish and English. Improve park websites to engage the public, provide virtual tours of the trackways, expand online opportunities, and deliver additional visitor services, such as 3d images of the tracks can be seen from home or any mobile device and 3d touchable models. Host fossil day events that convey the park story and let people know that we are much more than a sand box. 80% of the visitors to White Sands National Monument come for sand-based recreation.</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).</p> <p>Work Products: Using established templates, designs site bulletins, flyers, posters, and other products.</p>	

QUALIFICATIONS	
<p>Ability to write and edit grammar at a college level is an essential skill for this position. The ability to synthesize data into concise and easy to read format is also essential. Desired skills include an ability to take, download and organize digital photos and an understanding of Adobe Creative Suite software.</p> <p>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.</p>	
VEHICLE/DRIVER'S LICENSE REQUIREMENTS	
<p>Applicant must have a valid driver’s license and a good driving record. The intern will need a personal vehicle to drive to and from work.</p> <p>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.</p>	
HOUSING	
<p>Park housing is provided at no cost to the participant. This would be a three-room house future house, with a full kitchen. It is possible that the GIP will have to share a room with one other person. Please bring bedding (please check in two weeks prior to travel to find out what size is needed), no pets are allowed.</p>	
INTERNSHIP START/END DATES	
<p>Start Date: 9/17/2018 End Date: 9/13/2019 Number of weeks: 52 Flexibility of dates: Yes</p>	
STIPEND PAYMENT	
<p>\$2,4930 for 52 weeks</p>	
HOUSING PAYMENT	
<p>N/A</p>	
TRAVEL ALLOWANCE	
<p>\$2,000 (\$250 basic and then \$1,750 authorized to present at a conference, which will be reimbursable)</p>	
AMERICORPS PROGRAM	
	<p>AmeriCorps is a program that engages individuals in intensive community service work with the goal of “helping others and meeting critical needs in the community”. The GIP Program is supported through AmeriCorps by providing a Segal Education Award in addition to the GIP’s living stipend and travel/housing allowance.</p> <p>Upon successful completion of the GIP position, the GIPs (AmeriCorps members) are eligible for a \$1,230 - \$5,815 pre-tax education that can be used for paying back student loans or for continuing their education.</p> <p>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.</p>

PHYSICAL/NATURAL & WORK ENVIRONMENT

Physical/Natural Environment: Work is performed both indoors and outdoors. Duties require extended periods of outdoor work and exposure to conditions including temperatures below freezing to in excess of 90°F. Long-distance hiking may be required. Adherence to specific safety procedures for backcountry hiking and travel as well as other as other safety protocols is required. The elevation is at 4,300 feet, the distance to the nearest store and town of about 50,000 people is 15 miles, 50 miles from Las Cruces mid size city, and El Paso Tx a large city.

Work Environment: Work is performed both indoors and outdoors. Duties require extended periods of outdoor work and exposure to conditions including temperatures below freezing to in excess of 90°F. Long-distance hiking and some backcountry camping may be required. Adherence to specific safety procedures for backcountry hiking/travel/camping as well as other as other safety protocols is required.

MENTORING AND LEARNING GOALS

Mentoring: Work will be performed along side the resource management and interpretive staff. Mentoring will be provided for the designs of site bulletins, flyers, posters, and other products and for report writing.

Learning Goals: This project will focus on new discoveries and current research. The goal of this project will be to learn as much as possible from the available information to be able to share the information with the monument and the public. Learning goals will include developing a strong knowledge base on the paleontology, geology of dunes, hydrology, and rapidity adaption within the Tularosa Basin with a focus on White Sands, and data management skills.

SUPERVISORS

Primary Supervisor: David Bustos	Secondary Supervisor: Kelly Carroll
Title: Resource Program Manger	Title: Chief of Interpretation
Address: P.O. Box 1086 Holloman AFB, NM 88330	Address: P.O. Box 1086 Holloman AFB, NM 88330
Phone number: (575) 479-6124	Phone number: (575) 479-6124
Email address: david_bustos@nps.gov	Email address: kelly_carroll@nps.gov
Park or Program Website: www.nps.gov/whsa	Park or Program Website: www.nps.gov/whsa