## PROJECT DESCRIPTION
### 2020 FALL/WINTER

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NPS UNIT: HAGERMAN FOSSIL BEDS NATIONAL MONUMENT</th>
<th>PD #: 2020435, 2020436</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Position Title:</strong></td>
<td>Paleontology Assistant (2)</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Position Type:</strong></td>
<td>Guest Scientist</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Primary natural resource discipline:</strong></td>
<td>Geologic resources</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Project keywords:</strong></td>
<td>Pliocene, paleontology, fossil identification, curation</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Location:</strong></td>
<td>Hagerman, Idaho</td>
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### COVID-19 NOTICE
This project description was developed prior to the onset of the COVID-19 outbreak. Therefore, project timelines and structure remain flexible and it may be necessary to postpone start dates, begin work remotely, or reformulate the project’s description. Should any development in the COVID-19 outbreak impair a project’s timeline or results, the GIP Team will work with the park and project mentors to assess the situation and determine the best course of action at that time.

### PROJECT DESCRIPTION AND WORK PRODUCTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Position Description:</strong></th>
<th>Hagerman Fossil Beds National Monument is offering two guest scientist positions in paleontology designed to provide additional experience in faunal identification and museum work for early career paleontologists. On-site collections at Hagerman house over 70,000 Pliocene fossils ranging from small rodents to mastodons with thousands of fossils in backlog awaiting identification and curation. Most backlog fossils are of small vertebrates and invertebrates. As a guest scientist you will work closely with the senior park paleontologist in ensuring the proper identification and curation of these fossils. We are specifically looking for paleontologists with specialties/capabilities related to the identification of rodents, amphibians, fish, and/or invertebrates. Strong applicants will have previous experience with at least one of these taxonomic groups, but applicants with experience identifying other Cenozoic vertebrate faunas not listed here are also encouraged to apply. Work will include identification, labeling, housing, data entry, and relocation of fossils. This is not a research position, and the majority of curated collections are currently unavailable for study as we prepare to transition over to a new lab facility. That said, applicants are encouraged to explore possible research project ideas that the park may be interested in facilitating through subsequent internship opportunities, especially as related to a thesis or dissertation project. There will also be opportunities to assist in the field and, possibly, with bringing a new lab online, but the majority of time will be spent working on fossil identification.</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Hagerman’s enabling legislation states that the monument was created to “Preserve outstanding Pliocene paleontological resources, to serve as a center for furthering scientific research, and to broaden public understanding of the science of paleontology and the significance of the Hagerman fossil record.”</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>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).</strong></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Work Products:</strong></td>
<td>Guest Scientists will identify and catalogue fossils and upload all relevant data into the NPS museum database. They will also upload relevant faunal data in ArcMap attribute tables. This will facilitate research aimed at understanding the spatial-temporal relationships of paleofauna at Hagerman.</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
### QUALIFICATIONS
Applicants must have received, at the minimum, either 1) a BS in a geological or biological field of study or 2) a BA in anthropology with a strong zooarchaeology or paleoanthropology focus and additional coursework in biology or geology. Applicants should hold a MS or PhD, or be currently enrolled in a graduate program. Applicants who possess strong, relevant experience with intent to apply to a paleontology graduate program in Fall 2021 may also be considered. Applicants must have previous experience in fossil identification, beyond that which one may obtain in a stratigraphy class or geological field methods program. Clearly state that evidence on your application. This position is for someone already possessing the skills needed to conduct this work and for whom additional museum experience is needed to land a permanent position or for entrance in or completion of a graduate study program. Please submit a formal cover letter that is specific to this position and outlines your area(s) of training and expertise as they apply to this position. Please also include how this position will assist you with your career goals. At least one letter of reference must be able to attest to your skills as they relate to this position. Applicants that do not provide a cover letter and relevant letters of reference will not be considered.

The applicant must be a U.S. citizen or U.S. permanent legal resident (“green-card-holder”) between the ages of 18 and 30 years old, inclusive, or veteran up to age 35. Prior to starting this position, a government security background clearance will be required.

### VEHICLE AND DRIVER LICENSE REQUIREMENTS
**Applicant must have a valid driver license and a good driving record.** The Guest Scientist will be required to drive a park vehicle for their position, Stewards will perform a driving records search, and the applicants ability to drive a park vehicle during work hours will be contingent upon the results. Guest Scientists will have to have had their license for 3 years or be over the age of 21 to be insured as drivers under Stewards insurance policy. Examples of things that will preclude an applicant from driving a park vehicle include: applicant under the age of 21 years old that has been licensed less than three years, DUIs, multiple moving vehicle violations, suspended or revoked license, or three or more accidents (regardless of fault) in the last 3 years. If the driver’s search is favorable, Stewards will provide driver’s liability insurance while the intern is driving a NPS vehicle for their GIP position. If the GIP is denied coverage by Stewards, they will not be permitted to drive a park vehicle or use their personal vehicle during work hours (i.e., driving home for lunch).

**A personal vehicle is REQUIRED for this position.** The Guest Scientist will be required to have a personal vehicle for the duration of the position. This is a rural area with no public transportation, including no public option to town from the airport. A grocery store is walking distance from the cabins, but the paleolab, malls, outdoor recreation opportunities, theatres, and most social opportunities will require a vehicle.

### HOUSING
Park housing is NOT available and the intern will be responsible for finding housing in the nearby area. Furnished, but basic (toilet and sink, Wi-Fi), single room cabins are available at a local RV park for $500/month with full bath cabins at $600/month. A shower block and laundry facilities are available for use. Units have wifi, but no TV. Pets are not allowed. Interns are welcome to look for alternative housing, the cabins are only a suggestion. Cabins are biking distance to a small grocery store, while the lab is six miles away.

### INTERNSHIP DATES
| Start Date: | 11/2/2020 |
| Number of weeks: | 26 weeks |
| Flexibility of dates: | Yes |

### LIVING ALLOWANCE
- 26 weeks ($525/week = $13,650)
- RELOCATION ALLOWANCE
  - $250
**AMERICORPS PROGRAM**

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 relocation allowance.

Upon successful completion of the GIP position, the GIPs (AmeriCorps members) are eligible for a $1,612 - $6,095 pre-tax education award that can be used for paying back student loans or for continuing their education. The amount of the education award is based on the length of the position.

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, they are not eligible to apply for an additional GIP position.

**NATURAL AND PHYSICAL WORK ENVIRONMENT**

**Natural Environment:** Hagerman is a small, rural community with limited social opportunities. Guest Scientists must have their own reliable personal vehicle as there is no public transportation. Please make sure that you are comfortable being away from family and friends before considering this position and be prepared to spend time alone. Winters are mild in Hagerman, usually between 15-45 degrees with short bursts of snow, but you must be comfortable driving in winter conditions outside of the Hagerman Valley. Outdoor activities for the time period of this position include world class skiing and snowboarding, snowshoeing, hunting, spring camping, and visiting local hot springs. Independent interns have enjoyed weekends in Salt Lake City, Boise, Sun Valley, and Yellowstone.

**Physical Work Environment:** Hagerman’s fossils can emit higher than average levels of radon. Exposure may occur in the field or lab but this will be minimized by proper safety procedures. This position will involve hours indoors sitting in front of a computer or microscope. Excellent hand-eye coordination, patience, and careful attention to detail are needed. The collections are housed in a double wide trailer outside of town. There may be construction on-site as the new lab is built.

**MENTORING AND LEARNING GOALS**

**Mentoring:** The Guest Scientist will be supervised by the parks senior paleontologist, who has extensive experience in both teaching and mentoring and has trained and supervised many museum, field, and education staff. Previous interns at this park have gone on to MS and PhD programs in related fields (museum studies, geology, ecology/evolution). Hagerman is a small park with six permanent employees, park-wide, including the paleontologist. A fossil preparator might be present in the Spring and other additional staff may be working on site, but the lab is several miles from the Visitor Center and Guest Scientists may find themselves working alone at times.

**Learning Goals:** This is a professional development position aimed at early career paleontologists looking for additional experience to help them move their career forward. The position will provide experience in curation and NPS museum standards, additional faunal specializations, and other developmental opportunities (e.g., photogrammetry, GIS, interpretation) as they present.

**SUPERVISORS/MENTORS**

**Primary:**
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