



POSITION DESCRIPTION

Winter 2023

NPS UNIT: Acadia National Park

Position #: 1292

Position Title: Ecology Assistant

Number of positions available: 1

Primary natural resource discipline: Biological Sciences

Position Keywords: Biodiversity, climate change, communication, data, education

Location: Winter Harbor, Maine

Can this position be fully remote: Yes

POSITION DESCRIPTION AND WORK PRODUCTS

Project Description: This intern will participate as a member of a team digitizing and making historical reports and data accessible online at Acadia National Park. The goal is to make the reports and data accessible for researchers, managers, educators, artists, and other people who are interested. The team includes NPS, Schoodic Institute, Mount Desert Island Historical Society, Climate to Thrive, College of the Atlantic, and others. The intern will focus on entering metadata describing the reports and cleaning and formatting key data sets and their metadata to make them accessible. Some of these data sets—e.g., records of biodiversity, climate, and water quantity and quality—are of particular interest for educators and artists to incorporate into lessons on science and data literacy or to use to interpret climate change and other environmental changes. The intern will create versions of these data sets and will draft accompanying communication materials (e.g., web articles or resource briefs) so that educators and artists can readily understand and use the data. These data sets, metadata, and communications materials will be posted on the NPS Data Store and will be linked from the park website. The intern will also go into the field to collect the same types of data to become familiar with the data collection methods, which will aid with writing metadata and communications materials. The intern will communicate results via a report and presentation. Duties, responsibilities, and tasks to support this work include:--Attend training in safety and field policies and protocols--Work as a member of a team, which will include staff from multiple organizations--Work with reports, data, and metadata, following standard procedures--Work in the field --Follow safety and field policies and protocols.

Work Products: Project deliverables and work products include: data sets, metadata, communication materials (e.g., web articles or resource briefs), updates to protocols, and a final written report and presentation. The final report and presentation will be targeted for an audience of park and partner staff involved in the project, although we can also arrange a public presentation at the discretion of the intern.

NATURAL & PHYSICAL WORK ENVIRONMENT

Acadia National Park preserves approximately 50,000 acres along the Maine coast. The park consists of portions of Mount Desert Island and Isle au Haut, the tip of the Schoodic Peninsula, and portions of 16 smaller islands. Fall and winter daytime temperatures tend to be cool and nighttime temperatures can get below freezing, especially in December. The nearest town to the Research Learning Center is Winter Harbor, about 6 miles from the campus. Winter Harbor has a gas station, small grocery store, restaurants, and shops. Ellsworth, 30 miles from the campus, is the biggest town in Downeast Maine and has a hospital, large grocery stores, hardware stores, and other amenities. Getting to Ellsworth requires a car--there is no public transportation from the campus or Winter Harbor to Ellsworth. Most of the project will be office-based, working with data, databases, and web articles. The intern should be prepared to work at a desk and computer for several hours. There will likely be opportunities to go into the field (e.g., forests or rugged rocky intertidal) to help collect data. Fieldwork will not occur in unsafe weather or ocean conditions.

QUALIFICATIONS



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Applicants should have experience following standard protocols and working with data and metadata related to ecology and natural resources. Applicants should have strong team-building skills, the ability to contribute as a part of a team with diverse backgrounds and expertise, and the ability to work independently on specific tasks. Applicants should also have experience communicating about data with different audiences (e.g., scientists, educators). Experience participating in field sampling or monitoring activities will be helpful.

The applicant must be a U.S. citizen or U.S. permanent legal resident (“green-card-holder”). Prior to starting this position, a government security background clearance will be required.

VEHICLE AND DRIVER LICENSE REQUIREMENTS

Applicant will not need to drive a government vehicle.

A personal vehicle is **REQUIRED** for this position.

If the SIP is required to drive a park vehicle for their position, Stewards will perform a driving records search, and the SIP’s ability to drive a park vehicle during work hours will be contingent upon the results. SIPs 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 a SIP from driving a park vehicle include: SIP 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 SIP position. If the SIP is denied coverage by Stewards, they will not be permitted to drive during work hours.

HOUSING

Park housing is available and will be provided at no cost to the participant. Housing includes a private bedroom in a furnished apartment on the NPS Research Learning Center and Schoodic Institute campus on the Schoodic Peninsula. The apartment will be shared with one or more other interns and includes a full kitchen (with dishes, pans, etc.), full bathroom, and living room. The campus has wireless internet, facilities for laundry, and is within easy walking distance of the ocean and trails. The intern should bring personal items, including toiletries, laundry supplies, bedding, and linens. A bicycle is also helpful, as much of the Schoodic Peninsula, including Winter Harbor and park multi-use trails, are accessible by bicycle. Images of the campus and lodging are available at SchoodicInstitute.org.

INTERNSHIP DATES

Start Date: 10/03/2022

Number of Weeks: 12

Flexible Start Date: Yes

LIVING ALLOWANCE

12 Weeks (\$480.00/week = \$5760.00)

RELOCATION ALLOWANCE

350.00

AMERICORPS PROGRAM



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AmeriCorps

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 SIP Program is supported through AmeriCorps by providing a Segal Education Award in addition to the SIP’s living stipend and relocation allowance.

Upon successful completion of the SIP position, the SIPs (AmeriCorps members) are eligible for a \$1,638 - \$6,195 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 SIP or other AmeriCorps positions, they will not be eligible to apply for an additional SIP position.

Partners

This position is offered through the National Park Service's Scientists in Parks (SIP) Program in partnership with various organizations.

