



# POSITION DESCRIPTION

## Winter 2023

**NPS UNIT: Northeast Coastal and Barrier Network**

**Position #: 218**

**Position Title:** Science Communication Assistant

**Number of positions available:** 1

**Primary natural resource discipline:** Communication and Education

**Position Keywords:** Science communication, natural resource science, GIS, ecological monitoring, marine science, climate change, ecology

**Location:** Kingston, Rhode Island

**Can this position be fully remote:** Yes

### POSITION DESCRIPTION AND WORK PRODUCTS

**Project Description:** The participant will work with the staff of the Northeast Coastal and Barrier Network (NCBN) and will be located at the University of Rhode Island or work remotely. The participant will assist with the development of science communication materials such as story maps, natural resource science informational documents, enhancement of a Flickr site, developing a photo library for the Network with existing photos, and development of content for the NCBN website, such as science stories. Other duties may include biological data entry, and development of park species lists. The intern will have the opportunity to enhance their science communication and writing skills related to meeting the mission of the National Park Service; to “preserve unimpaired the natural and cultural resources and values of the national park system for the enjoyment, education, and inspiration of this and future generations.” The intern will also learn about the operation of a long-term ecological monitoring program, monitoring protocols, and their application in coastal parks.

**Work Products:** The intern will develop science communication products to provide to the parks based on the data and information collected by the NCBN I&M Program. These products will include science briefing documents, science stories, species profiles and other related material. The intern will also work on a photo catalog and Flickr site for the program, and help to enhance the NCBN website, as well as Park Nature and Science pages. The intern will also have the opportunity to work with their supervisor to develop an individual project based on the intern's interests.

### NATURAL & PHYSICAL WORK ENVIRONMENT

The intern can work from our office at the University of Rhode Island, Kingston Campus. The office is within the Natural Resources Science Department. Office space will be shared with staff from the Northeast Coastal and Barrier Network. Kingston Rhode Island is close to summer resorts and beaches and approximately 50 minutes from Providence, RI and 35 minutes from Newport, RI. Because the area is a popular summer vacation destination, and a college town, it is very difficult to find affordable housing, therefore housing must be obtained before accepting the internship if a participant is selected, and work in the office at the University. Remote work is also possible for this position.

### QUALIFICATIONS

The intern must have strong writing skills, and a strong science, natural resources or conservation background gained through coursework or work related activities. Some experience in developing science communication products even through course work is desirable. The intern must be proficient in using Microsoft Word, and Adobe InDesign would be helpful, but not mandatory, some GIS skills would be useful, but not mandatory.

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 must have a valid driver's license to drive a government vehicle.



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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 NOT available. The intern will be responsible for finding housing in the nearby area.** Depending on the status of the pandemic, the position could be completed remotely, and in that case would not have to be within commuting distance from the University of Rhode Island. Off campus housing near the University is available locally for students in shared homes or apartments, with an approximate cost of \$500-\$800/month for one room, but can be difficult to acquire.

## INTERNSHIP DATES

**Start Date:** 01/16/2023

**Number of Weeks:** 26

**Flexible Start Date:** Yes

## LIVING ALLOWANCE

26 Weeks (\$580.00/week =\$15080.00)

## RELOCATION ALLOWANCE

350.00

## AMERICORPS PROGRAM



# 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.





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