

Rachel Carson National Wildlife Refuge



2021 Internship Opportunities

Rachel Carson National Wildlife Refuge provides an opportunity to build your biological monitoring and management skills by working with a team of skilled field biologists. Interns are an essential part of our operations, and if selected, you will become a dynamic member of our skilled and motivated team. Deadline to apply: 20 February 2021

Avian Monitoring Internship: 12 weeks (~May 10–July 30, 2021)

One full time intern is needed to support avian monitoring projects (piping plover, least tern, and saltmarsh sparrow), on Rachel Carson National Wildlife Refuge, Maine. This position requires a strong interest in bird conservation, the ability to ability to locate and monitor cryptic shorebirds their young, as well as identify avian and mammalian predators by tracks and sign. Prior experience bird banding (mist net extraction, banding), and nest searching are not required, but are advantageous.

Primary responsibilities (70% of duties) include but are not limited to: censusing a variety of beach nesting birds, monitoring productivity from egg laying to fledging, erecting predator exclosures, posting and maintaining symbolic fencing, re-sighting and recording band codes, assisting with tidal marsh bird monitoring, and data entry. Additional responsibilities (30% of duties) include but are not limited to: providing public outreach and education, habitat restoration and management, and general refuge maintenance /operations.

Intern will be working flexible hours (sunrise/sunset) and some weekends and holidays. Interns must be able to work in varied climatic conditions (harsh sunlight to rain, firm to unstable footing (sand, salt marsh; shallow to hip-deep water), exposure to high temperatures/humidity, biting insects), carry moderate loads (30-50 lbs) over long distances and use hand tools to dig/pull vegetation. Intern must possess valid driver's license, have good communication and organizational skills, ability to work well with others and independently with minimal supervision, and be an enthusiastic field worker.

Habitat Management Internship: 16 weeks (~May 3–August 20, 2021)

One full time intern is needed to assist with habitat restoration projects, including monitoring and managing a shrubland habitat and greenhouse plant propagation and Rachel Carson National Wildlife Refuge, Maine. This position requires a strong interest native plant propagation and invasive species. Applicants should be able to identify native and invasive plants, perform manual removal of invasive plants, and survey/maps areas for new invasive plant occurrence.

Primary responsibilities (65% of duties) include but are not limited to: greenhouse plant propagation, mapping and eradicating invasive plant species common to New England, and monitoring and managing shrubland habitat. Additional responsibilities (45% of duties) include but are not limited to: providing public outreach and education, wildlife and vegetation surveys, data entry, and general refuge maintenance /operations.

Interns will be required to work some weekends and holidays. Interns must be able to work in varied climatic conditions (harsh sunlight to rain, firm to unstable footing (sand, salt marsh; shallow to hip-deep water), exposure to high temperatures/humidity, biting insects), carry moderate loads (30-50 lbs) over long distances and use hand tools to dig/pull vegetation. Intern must possess valid driver's license, have good communication and organizational skills, ability to work well with others and independently with minimal supervision, and be an enthusiastic field worker.

Salt Marsh Internship: 12 weeks (~June 1–August 16, 2021)

One full time intern is needed to support the Land Management and Research Demonstration (LMRD) projects on Rachel Carson National Wildlife Refuge, Maine. This position requires a strong interest in coastal ecology. Applicants should be able to identify coastal/ estuarine plants and fish using prior knowledge/field guides. Candidates should also be able to conduct field surveys/monitoring for vegetation, fish and environmental conditions and hand removal of invasive plants. The successful applicant will also have basic statistical, GPS and GIS knowledge.

Primary responsibilities (80% of duties) include but are not limited to: tidal marsh surveys and monitoring and data entry. Additional responsibilities (20% of duties) include but are not limited to: providing public outreach and education, habitat restoration and management, and general refuge maintenance /operations.

Intern will be required to work some weekends and holidays. Intern must be able to work in small groups and independently with minimal supervision, follow written protocols, be attentive to details, accurately complete datasheets, and communicate with senior staff members. This position requires the employee to conduct field work in varied conditions (harsh sunlight to light rain, firm to unstable footing, moist to hip deep water), carry moderate loads (30-50 lbs), use hand tools to dig/pull plants, and exposure to high humidity and biting insects. Intern must possess valid driver's license.

Please note that due to future COVID-19 regulations, internship opportunities and/or housing availability may be suspended

General requirements:

- U.S. citizen, national or lawful permanent resident.
- Valid state driver's license.
- Must be able to work independently; must have good observational skills and communication skills.
- Schedule flexibility, including weekend, holidays, and morning/evening shifts

Benefits:

- \$250 weekly living stipend
- Free co-ed bunkhouse style lodging on Rachel Carson NWR **(if COVID19 regulations allow)**. Modern furnished facilities with laundry and Wi-Fi may be available.
- Professional development, training, and networking opportunities.
- Work vehicle and equipment provided

HOW TO APPLY:

Email one application package (.PDF) to BRI BENVENUTI (Bri_Benvenuti@fws.gov) by 20 February 2021 that includes:

1. Cover letter that addresses the listed qualifications for the position of interest.
 2. Resume documenting your work experience, education, skills, interests, contact information, etc.
 3. Contact information for three professional references (must include email and phone number for each reference).
 4. Unofficial copy of current college transcript.
- To be considered, application packet must have all four items combined in one PDF.
 - If applying to multiple positions, you must submit each as its own application package (one .PDF)
 - Selections may begin before the closing date, we recommend applying early.
 - Candidates are required to participate in a phone interview.

For More Information Contact:

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Biological Technician

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