

David L Nieland

Subject: Vegetation Monitoring Internship - SF Bay Area National Parks

POSITION: VEGETATION MONITORING INTERN

ORGANIZATION: National Park Service Inventory & Monitoring Program

LOCATION: Sausalito, CA.

POSTING DATE: March 1, 2016.

OPEN UNTIL FILLED

OVERVIEW

The National Park Service Inventory and Monitoring Program (I&M) collects, organizes, analyzes, and synthesizes natural resource data and information in the San Francisco Bay Area Network of National Parks. This internship will support the I&M vegetation ecology program. For more information about the San Francisco Inventory and Monitoring Program and the natural resources it monitors, please visit:

<http://science.nature.nps.gov/im/index.cfm> and <http://www.sfnp.org/>.

POSITION DESCRIPTION

The San Francisco Bay Area Network of National Parks is seeking two interns to join our team in implementation of the Plant Community Change and Invasive Plant Early Detection monitoring protocols. The interns will work primarily in Golden Gate National Recreation Area and Point Reyes National Seashore, but may also make visits to Pinnacles National Park, and John Muir National Historic Site.

DESCRIPTION OF DUTIES

Plant Community Monitoring Program: utilizing point intercept techniques to read vegetation plots; recording data; navigating using GPS; installing permanent plot markers; photography; entering field data in a Microsoft Access database and performing quality-control checks; assisting with production of plot location manuals, using GIS, Google Earth, and MS Word.

Invasive Plant Early Detection Program: assisting in surveys for invasive plants; collecting data using GPS units and/or tablets; uploading/downloading field data on a web-based and/or GIS database and performing quality-control; Creating survey tracklogs and other map products in GIS and Google Earth.

Herbarium Work: Collecting, photographing, processing, scanning and pressing plant specimens for digital and physical herbarium accession.

BENEFITS

Gain experience identifying plants of the Bay Area, one of the most diverse regions in the California Floristic Province. Learn vegetation sampling techniques that are industry standards in land management and research. Become proficient in using GPS units to record field data. Gain experience with photography, plant scanning and image management. Enjoy the scenery, wildlife, and cultural resources of spectacular National ParkS while engaging park stewards. Professional development and training days are available to pursue interests in other departments within the Park Service and Parks Conservancy. Dormitory housing provided at Fort Cronkhite, Rodeo Beach, Sausalito. Thirty Dollar (\$30.00) per day stipend.

DESIRED QUALIFICATIONS

Completion of one or more of the following college courses or equivalent experience: Botany, Plant Taxonomy, Plant Ecology, Field Methods in Ecology, Geographic Information Systems (GIS), Biostatistics. Basic computer literacy, Microsoft Word and Excel. Experience with database operations, ArcGIS, R, Photoshop, Illustrator, InDesign a plus. A valid driver's license and clean driving record.

PHYSICAL REQUIREMENTS AND WORK ENVIRONMENT This is a mixed position with field and office time each week. Must enjoy working in an office setting and outside in various weather conditions and terrains while maintaining a good attitude. Occasionally, field work can include up to 8 miles of hiking/day, most often, 1-2 miles/day. Must be able to lift, carry and position objects weighing up to 40 pounds. Field work is both on and off-trail, and frequently involves bushwhacking through tall vegetation. Interns will frequently encounter poison oak, ticks, spiders, mosquitoes, and other wildlife. While we have a comprehensive safety program, and provide protective equipment, please do not apply if you have any hesitation about the physical requirements and work environment.

TERMS

Desired Start Date: April 4, 2016.

Six month term, April through September, 2016.

Work week is Monday – Friday.

To Apply: Email your resume, a cover letter, and three references to Eric Wrubel at eric_wrubel@nps.gov