

**From:** Peter Leimgruber  
**Subject:** Spatial Ecology and Conservation Intern Position at Smithsonian

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The Conservation GIS Lab (<https://nationalzoo.si.edu/SCBI/ConservationGIS/projects/>) at the Smithsonian Conservation Biology Institute (SCBI) is seeking interns, to start immediately. We focus on conservation applications of GIS and satellite remote sensing for research and management of endangered species. Most of our projects focus on charismatic endangered species that are managed at our facilities and for which we have field ecological and conservation programs in the wild. Examples are Asian elephants, Przewalski's horse, Asian wild dog, and giant panda.

**The role:**

- Utilizing species distribution model to predict suitable range of endangered species and their habitat
- Analyzing spatial data derived from satellite imagery, remotely sensed data, and GPS-tracked animal movement data;
- Integration and analysis of data in GIS;
- Statistical analysis of species and habitat data and the development of automated data processing and analysis tools;

Interns will be involved in a few research projects and be advised directly by spatial ecologists at the Conservation GIS Lab. Interns are also expected to assist with everyday lab management and help with short GIS training courses.

**Required Skills & Experience:**

- A good knowledge of computers, programming and statistics.
- Basic knowledge of GIS (preferably ArcGIS or QGIS), remote sensing are desirable.
- Experience with programming software (R/Matlab/Python/etc.).

The internship includes a modest stipend and free dormitory-style housing. Internship applications will be accepted on a rolling basis and positions are available immediately. Please send letter of interest and resume to [SCBI.GIS@gmail.com](mailto:SCBI.GIS@gmail.com). Resume should include contact information for 3 references. Include potential start date and the time period you are available for the internship in your letter.

Positions are open until filled, and are minimum **3 month**. Priority will be given to candidates who can commit for longer periods.

The Smithsonian Conservation Biology Institute is located at the north entrance of the Shenandoah National Park about 60 miles west of Washington, D.C., in Front Royal, VA.

SCBI's mission is to advance conservation of biological diversity. In meeting the Smithsonian Institution's mandate, SCBI increases knowledge through investigations of threatened species, habitats, and communities, and disseminates knowledge through advanced studies, professional training, and public outreach.