

Internship - Technical Assistant for Marine Debris Characterization and Impact Assessment (Beaufort, NC)

Position Description

Paid, full-time, 12-month duration

Seek applicants for a research internship for a project characterizing marine debris occurrence, accumulation and environmental impacts in intertidal saltmarsh habitats and subtidal habitats of North Carolina. This project will include a social science component surveying resource users. The intern will work with the Applied Ecology and Restoration Research branch of NOAA's Center for Coastal Fisheries and Habitat Research (CCFHR).

Will assist with all aspects of the marine debris project including preparation and maintenance of field equipment, organizing and leading field and lab work, using small boat operation to navigate to study sites, wading and (if qualified) SCUBA diving to collect data and marine debris samples, GPS mapping, data and sample (marine debris) collection and processing, data entry and analysis, and editing and compiling reports.

Required Skills

- Ability to work independently and as part of a team and possess strong organizational skills.
- Experience with salt marsh plant ecology
- Competency with Geographic Information Systems (GIS) and related software (i.e. ArcGIS) and with statistical procedures and programs.
- Ability to enter, compile, organize, and analyze field data.
- Must be able to operate and navigate small boats (<22ft) in shallow coastal and nearshore environments. Must have experience operating in shallow turbid water. Must have or be able to obtain US Coast Guard Auxiliary Boating Skills & Seamanship course, Power Squadron Boat Smart Course, or equivalent.
- Ability to lift heavy objects (up to 50 lbs) and operate under less than optimal field conditions which may include rain, mud, variable extreme temperatures, extended field hours, wading on soft or uneven surfaces, and working on a moving boat deck.
- Experience writing reports and presentations
- Must be able to professionally conduct social science oral surveys with the local community.
- Must be able to pass federal background review.
- Advanced Openwater SCUBA certification with at least 50 logged dives. Must be able to successfully meet NOAA Scientific diver qualifications (including physical).

Desired Skills

- Experience in performing underwater biological surveys and other tasks while on SCUBA.
- Diving experience to depths of 100 ft, Nitrox certification, at least 100 logged dives.
- Experience with ecology and identification of Atlantic tropical or temperate fishes and benthic organisms.

Education

BS or MS in biology, marine biology, oceanography, ecology, or related science field.

Must be a US Citizen

Submit resume and cover letter to: careers@ertcorp.com

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