Internship Title: Habitat Restoration Technician

Internship Site: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, 11 Lincoln Street, Essex Junction VT 05452

The office is directly adjacent to stop 8 (Amtrak) on CCTA Route #2

Description:

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service’s Partners for Fish and Wildlife program works throughout the state of Vermont to restore habitat for the benefit of migratory birds, interjurisdictional fish, and federally listed species. This is primarily accomplished through wetland and riparian habitat restoration projects and aquatic organism passage projects (culvert replacements/dam removals).

The intern will assist biologists with habitat restoration implementation, assessment, and stewardship activities. A breakdown of the intern’s anticipated duties are as follows: 70% riparian habitat restoration (tree-planting, habitat assessments, monitoring and data collection, invasive plant control), 20% wetland habitat restoration (surveying and mapping of potential restoration sites, annual vegetation plot monitoring, purple loosestrife beetle breeding program), 10% fisheries/fish passage (stream surveys, electrofishing, aquatic organism passage surveys).

This position will involve some herbicide application. No prior experience is required; on-the-job training and supervision will be provided by a USFWS employee/licensed herbicide applicator. The intern may also have the chance to conduct outreach and education activities with local school groups as opportunities arise.

The majority of work will be completed in a field setting. Ability to use a personal vehicle for field work may be desirable but is not required.

Desired qualifications/skills/coursework:

- Experience collecting data in a field setting
- Experience entering data in Microsoft Excel
- Enthusiasm for working in the field, and a willingness to work outdoors in potentially inclement weather and harsh conditions (rain, biting insects, steep slopes, overgrown vegetation, uneven terrain) for up to 10 hours/day
- Basic plant identification skills (dendrology/tree identification, wetland plants)
- General understanding of the field of wildlife biology and habitat restoration
- Ability/willingness to use hand/power tools (hand scythes, weed whackers, backpack sprayers, etc.)
- Ability to work independently with limited supervision
- Ability to interact at a professional level with members of the public, private landowners, and agency partners
- Familiarity with GIS software and GPS units
- Positive attitude and a willingness to learn

*Rubenstein students currently in their sophomore and junior years are eligible to apply. Earning internship credit through the Rubenstein Internship Program is required.*

Supervision:
The intern will be primarily supervised by Katie Kain, USFWS biologist. However, the intern will also work with several other USFWS biologists on various projects throughout their internship.

**Start and End Dates:**

Mid-May – Mid-August, 2017 (exact start/end dates are negotiable)

**Total Hours:**

30 hours/week, 12 weeks

**Compensation:** $12.50/hour.

**How to apply:** Follow step by step application instructions which are available on the [Rubenstein Perennial Internship Program website](http://rubenstein.uvm.edu/). This will include logging into the [CEMS-RSEN Internship, Co-Op, Research System](http://www.cems.uvm.edu/) and submitting the following (as pdfs whenever possible) by midnight, Sunday, January 29th 2017:

a. Resume
b. Cover Letter - You should upload and submit unique cover letters for each position to which you’re applying
c. Position Ranking - If you are applying for more than one Perennial Internship, please provide list of the positions in rank order.
d. Reference(s) – Provide name & contact information for at least one professional reference (this could be someone who supervised you in a past work/internship/volunteer position, a professor or teacher, etc.)
e. Transcript – Login to your my uvm portal, click on the Registrar link, click Request Official Transcript by email, once received save it as a pdf and upload.
f. A [recommendation form](http://www.cems.uvm.edu/), completed by a faculty member or teaching assistant, will also need to be submitted on your behalf. Please send this link to the faculty member/teaching assistant when you ask if they are willing to complete the recommendation form for you. Your recommender will complete & submit this form online and then your recommendation will be confidentially uploaded to your application(s).