Rubenstein School of Environment and Natural Resources

University of Vermont

Perennial Summer Internship Program - 2017

Internship Title: Bat Monitoring and Research

Internship Site: Vermont Fish and Wildlife Department, Rutland regional office and field sites around the state.

Description: This wildlife management internship will consist mainly of field surveys to monitor summer maternity colonies of little brown and big brown bats, mostly in the greater Champlain Valley. Other field work will include acoustic surveys around the state, some mist net and/or harp trap surveys, and possible radio telemetry. Data entry and collation of survey results will take place at the Rutland office.

Much of this work is weather-dependent and during evening or late-night hours. The schedule is variable but all on weekdays/nights unless the intern wants to schedule some of the independent field work on weekends for their own convenience. The intern will rarely need to come in all five days in a week, but may work long hours on a given night (i.e., 10-14 hours). The candidate may have another job or internship that happens during the day as long as they are able to begin bat work at 4pm in Rutland and understand that occasionally they may not get home until 4 or 5am.

This position requires that the candidate:

- Already have or be willing to receive the preventative rabies vaccine series (covered by VT Fish & Wildlife).
- Be comfortable and enthusiastic about working with the public.
- Be studying biology, zoology, wildlife management, natural resources, ecology, animal sciences, pre-veterinary medicine, or a related field at a college or university.
- Have an interest in working hands-on with bats, though no prior experience with bats is necessary.
- Have reliable transportation to and from the Rutland Fish and Wildlife office, where the use of state vehicles will be available for field work.
- Live close to the Rutland office or be safe to drive home after very late field survey hours (i.e., not overcommitted with other jobs and internships which prevent getting adequate sleep).
- Show up on time when scheduled to work or give supervisor ample notification when not able to.
- Have good physical stamina and be prepared to work long continuous hours and late nights in variable weather and environmental conditions, including extreme heat, mosquito-infested swamps, and steep, uneven terrain.

Desired qualifications/skills/coursework:

- Interest and experience with wildlife conservation and management.
- Experience with and enthusiasm to work with the public on conservation and human-wildlife conflict issues.
- Leadership qualities for organizing and training public volunteers.
- Motivation to learn outside internship hours, ask questions, and contribute original ideas.
- Ability to work both independently and cooperatively with others.

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

Alyssa Bennett, Small Mammals Biologist, Vermont Fish and Wildlife Department

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Start and End Dates:

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

Total Hours:

20 hours/week on average, 12 weeks – Total of approximately 240 hours.

Compensation: $12.50/hour. Interns will be responsible for finding their own housing.

How to apply: Follow step by step application instructions which are available on the Rubenstein Perennial Internship Program website. This will include logging into the CEMS-RSENR Internship, Co-Op, Research System 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, 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).