

South Slough Reserve Internship Program

Sponsored by the Friends of the South Slough Reserve, Inc. (FOSS)

Title: Summer Science Education Internship

Application Deadline: April 16, 2021

Summary: This position will provide interns with training and experience in the areas of Environmental Education, Interpretation and Community Education.

Environmental Education: Teach or assist with delivery of outdoor science camps. This will include:

- Interacting with or speaking in front of children and parents.
- Outdoor work hiking along trails, marsh, mud, and sand with groups of children in various weather.
- Standing for extended periods in classrooms or at tables both inside and outdoors.
- Hiking 3-4 miles on steep, unpaved trails and boardwalks, wading across muddy tide flats while carrying equipment weighing up to 50 lbs.
- Carrying 5-gallon buckets of water and live organisms along a dock and up steep ramps
- Kneeling, crouching, sitting, or lying on your stomach on a dock or uneven outdoor surfaces.

Program Support: Answer participant questions, assist with program sign-in, lead segments of programs, help prepare materials for programs and assist staff members as needed. This may include:

- Interacting with or speaking in front of diverse audiences of people.
- Carrying, loading, and unloading up to 50 lbs. of gear into a vehicle.
- Transporting folding tables, chairs, exhibits and props for up to 0.5 miles over sidewalks, gravel parking lots, grass or through buildings with hallways and stairs.
- Unload, thoroughly clean and put away gear that has been used in the field.
- Driving, including vehicles carrying passengers.
- Standard indoor office environment: regular computer use.
- Paddling a multi-passenger canoe, ability to help maneuver canoe, gear and assist participants with entering and exiting the vessel.

Benefits to Intern: Interns will be exposed to both an Oregon State office and a protected reserve environment with a host of learning opportunities ranging from local outdoor and marine science to public and office communications. Environmental Education interns will work alongside seasoned education professionals, scientists, and researchers to:

- Assist with preparation of lesson plans, set up and deliver hands-on science-based educational programs.
- Understand and interpret natural history, botany, forestry, horticulture, estuaries, and wetlands.

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- Assist with ongoing scientific research.
- Stipend Award: \$1,800.00 (**No housing for 2021**)

Desired Skills: This position is ideal for a person who is interested in teaching and enjoys the outdoors. Interns should also:

- Be comfortable interacting with individuals and groups of people.
- Have some knowledge of the natural resources/science and a willingness to learn.
- Read and write at above an 8th grade level.
- Have a valid driver's license.

Time Commitment: 8 weeks @ 20-35 hours/week **including** training for somewhere **between 150-200** hours.

Begin week of **June 22**-end **Aug 20**.

Workstation: South Slough Visitor Center | 61907 Seven Devils Road, Charleston, OR 97420

Evaluation: Interns will be mentored by *either* South Slough's Education Program Coordinator *or* South Slough's Education Program Specialist. S/he will provide formal feedback to the intern on a weekly basis and less formally on an as needed basis. This is an informal relationship that allows the student to ask questions and the mentor to make suggestions. A final verbal and written evaluation will be conducted by the intern's mentor and other staff and volunteers who have worked with the intern.

Contact: To apply go to our website: <https://www.oregon.gov/dsl/SS/Pages/InternshipApp.aspx> complete application and submit cover letter and resume. **Questions?** Deborah Rudd, Reserve Public Involvement Coordinator | (541) 888-5558 ext. 158 | deborah.rudd@dsl.state.or.us

Mentor Commitment: The Reserve Public Involvement Coordinator will serve as the liaison for all interns in the South Slough Reserve Internship Program. However, training and monitoring of the interns' daily activities and performance feedback are the responsibility of the intern's mentor. The commitment of the Reserve mentor is as follows:

- Mentor will provide training and/or coaching in the areas of 1) Environmental Education Program Development 2) Lesson Planning 3) Group facilitation/teaching 4) Program support.
- Mentor will assign work for the intern to complete.
- Mentor will assist the intern in identifying an individual project and provide the necessary support and/or coaching to allow him/her to successfully complete the project.
- Mentor will review the intern's work for accuracy and compliance to agency policies and procedures.
- Mentors will provide interns with feedback regarding his/her performance and provide evaluative information upon completion of the program and upon request.

Intern COVID-19 Safety Agreement/Waiver

COVID-19: Reducing risks related to COVID-19 requires commitment from our whole community. As you are likely aware, the risk of contracting and transmitting COVID-19 increases when people gather. The South Slough National Estuarine Research Reserve has developed a detailed Communicable Disease Plan to prevent, intervene and mitigate the spread of the Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19). The Department of State Lands and South Slough National

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Estuarine Research Reserve will take extra precautions, including more frequent wiping of surfaces, program materials, and high touch areas with antibacterial wipes and disinfectants. Because we want our interns to be as safe as possible, we are asking you to agree to these additional actions:

- I agree to always wear a mask while inside Reserve buildings and whenever social distancing of at least 6 feet cannot be maintained outside.
- I will follow good handwashing techniques for at least 20 seconds between activities and use hand sanitizers when soap and water are not available for handwashing.
- I will clean communal use surfaces with disinfecting wipes after using them (e.g., vehicles, keys, lab counters, computer keyboards, playground equipment, hiking gear, etc.)
- I have consulted with my primary care physician about existing health conditions, if any, and risks associated with interning at the South Slough National Estuarine Research Reserve, or I am aware of this recommendation, but have decided to participate without obtaining that prior consultation.
- I understand that if at any point during my internship, if I develop a fever, cough, or other symptoms of COVID-19 I will be asked to leave the work site. Furthermore, if I have been exposed to someone who has been diagnosed with COVID-19 or exposed to someone who has traveled outside of the United States, I may be excluded from the worksite and asked to quarantine for 14 days at my temporary residence.
- I understand that participation in some of the work will make it impossible to consistently guarantee social distancing of 6 feet or more. Examples may include but are not limited to being taught proper use of equipment and techniques, kayak rescues, and being treated for or treating injuries.
- I acknowledge and assume the risks and dangers described above during my internship and agree to follow all required precautions to participate.

If selected, I will comply with all COVID-19 safety control measures outlined in this document.

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