Summer Internship Opportunities 2022

Applications due no later than: April 4\textsuperscript{th} 2022
Applicants notified: April 15\textsuperscript{th} 2022
Internship duration: May 15\textsuperscript{th} or June 1 - August 15th
Marine Science Internship

Overview
Vashon Nature Center’s mission is to provide transformative nature experiences through research, community science, and education for the benefit of our island home and the entire Salish Sea.

During this internship, the marine science intern will:

- Help conduct beach surveys on the island. This will include long beach days as well as snorkel surveys. Beach Survey dates are: June 12, July 9, 10, 13, 14 (full days- 10 am-4 pm). Snorkel surveys: 1/month June-August (5 pm -7 pm).

- Help to conduct surveys for cliff nesting birds including- conducting field surveys at their own independent field site one morning per week (2 hrs/week). For students who need a remote option—weekly marine camera surveys can replace cliff bird surveys.

Mentors
This position will be mentored by Vashon Nature Center Director Bianca Perla and Education Programs Manager Maria Metler. The intern will also get to work with community volunteers, and researchers from University of Washington and Department of Natural Resources.

Job Details
- Students not traditionally represented are encouraged to apply and will be given priority for the competitive paid internships, but even once those positions are filled, there are still positions available for volunteer internships.

- Paid internship: Stipend of $1250 for 2.5 months duration. Students must be 16 or older for paid option. Priority given to school attendance when school is in session.

- Volunteer internship: Community service hours may be possible for volunteer internships, check with school.

- Duration: June 1-August 15

- No benefits, room or board

- Work is primarily from home or in the field with Vashon Nature Center scientists.
Skills learned: field data collection and data entry, snorkel surveys for fish use, shoreline restoration techniques, open water swimming safety, GPS and navigation techniques, photo monitoring, transom and rod surveying, teamwork.

Deliverables

- At the end of the internship the intern will produce a 1–2-page report that summarizes one aspect of their summer field research activities.
- Intern will upload cliff nesting bird data into the regional database.
- Intern will work with VNC outreach coordinator to write a blog post or create an Instagram post summing up one aspect of their work that they were most excited about.
- Intern will fill out an evaluation to help VNC staff learn what worked and how to improve internships for following years.

Qualifications

People who are open, curious, compassionate, community-minded, and accepting of diversity of all types are encouraged. Students who are traditionally underrepresented in the field of environmental science and restoration are encouraged to apply.

- Education level: Students must be 16 or older to apply for the paid internship. 11th and 12th grade students preferred. Younger students who can demonstrate interest and responsibility for their own learning will be considered with a teacher recommendation.
- Independent transportation is required to get to cliff bird field sites. Other beach survey field site transportation can be arranged through VNC. There is an option to conduct research remotely with our underwater marine camera instead of cliff birds if no independent transport is possible.
- Swimming proficiency required. Snorkel surveys are in shallow water and swimmers are always able to stand up. However, general swimming ability (able to swim 2 lengths of pool) and comfort in the water is essential. Gear will be provided.
- Personal characteristics: open, curious, understanding, willing to learn, enjoyment of nature and being outdoors, responsible, able to organize projects, and hard-working.
- Physical abilities: able to work long hours outdoors in inclement weather, carry a 20-pound load, conduct oneself safely outdoors, swim at least 2 lengths of a pool without stopping.

To apply: [https://forms.gle/MY7zWahH4afKL1DN7](https://forms.gle/MY7zWahH4afKL1DN7)
Science Communications Intern

Internship Overview
Vashon Nature Center’s mission is to provide transformative nature experiences through research, community science, and education for the benefit of our island home and the entire Salish Sea. The Science Communications Intern will primarily work on:

1) Natural Wonder natural history exhibit: Crafting outreach, programs and materials to increase accessibility and engagement of Latinx families in the Natural Wonder natural history exhibit. This includes conducting a needs assessment and coordinating outreach and supplemental materials for the exhibit.

2) BioBlitz survey: Increasing accessibility and outreach for the 2022 24-hour BioBlitz wildlife and plant survey in July. Conduct outreach about the event, brainstorming ways to make event more accessible to elders, mobility impaired, and English language learners; act as team leads alongside expert scientists during the event; deliver results of the survey to the public in engaging and creative ways. Bioblitz will be held July 9th and 10th.

Mentors
Interns will work primarily with VNC Community Education Specialist Vale Martinez but also occasionally with Director Bianca Perla and Outreach Coordinator Brendan McGarry. Interns will also work with VNC partners, advisers, and professionals in science and outreach.

Job Details
Students not traditionally represented are encouraged to apply and will be given priority for the competitive paid internships, but even once those positions are filled, there are still positions available for volunteer internships.

- Paid internship: Stipend of $1500 for 3 months duration. Students must be 16 or older for paid option. May 15-August 15. Priority given to school attendance when school is in session.

- Volunteer internship: community service hours possible for all volunteer internships if school allows.

- Maximum of 10 hours/week. Most work can be done independently on a flexible schedule but 1 check in meeting will be scheduled per week with the mentor. Interns are expected to show up for events that are scheduled in advance.

- No benefits, room or board

- Work is primarily from home or in the field on Vashon with VNC mentors.
Responsibilities and Duties

• Work with VNC Community Engagement Specialist to increase accessibility and engagement of Latinx families at the Natural Wonder natural history exhibit.

• Help advertise and coordinate the 2022 Bioblitz event including planning leading up to the event; outreach about the event; attendance as a team leader at the event; and help with outreach about results of the event.

• Write a 2-page summary report summarizing their activities and including examples of their work.

• Fill out an evaluation form after internship completion so that VNC staff can learn what went well during the internship and how to improve for next year.

• Skills learned: community-building; scientific writing; naturalist knowledge; interpretation; translation; teamwork; outreach programs including Canva.

Qualifications

People who are open, curious, compassionate, community-minded, and accepting of diversity of all types are encouraged. Students that are interested in communications work, community-building, science writing, advertising, and the outdoors are welcome.

• Education level: Must be 16 or older to apply for paid internship. 11th and 12th grade students preferred. However, with a teacher recommendation we will consider younger students.

• Interest in nature, science, community-building, writing, graphics design or illustration.

• We will give preference to bi-lingual students, especially those with some Spanish language capability. If not bi-lingual at least 2 years of high school Spanish preferred.

• Personal characteristics: open, curious, understanding, willing to learn, enjoyment of nature and being outdoors, responsible, able to organize projects, and hard-working. Appreciation for others and willingness to work with others.

• Physical abilities: able to work outdoors.

To apply:

https://forms.gle/bnD5PtK5CBFpt48z5

Email Bianca Perla with questions: bianca@vashonnaturecenter.org
Watershed Restoration Intern

Overview
Vashon Nature Center’s mission is to provide transformative nature experiences through research, community science, and education for the benefit of our island home and the entire Salish Sea.

The Watershed Restoration Intern will split their time working on three broad subject areas that address watershed health: Heron meadow wetland restoration (60%); other restoration activities in Vashon parks and preserves (20%); and participation in stormwater management planning (20%).

Heron Meadow is a 2-acre wetland meadow on Vashon Center for the Arts campus. The intern will help the Heron Meadow Stewardship coordinator steward the meadow during weekly work parties maintaining native plantings, controlling invasive and non-native species, watering and deer proofing, collecting and analyzing restoration monitoring data including: long-term photo point surveys, bird surveys, pollinator surveys, amphibian surveys, and wildlife camera surveys. A few days per month the intern will work on other parks and preserves.

Stormwater Management: Through helping the Heron Meadow Stewardship Coordinator on aspects of developing a master plan for Heron Meadow restoration and attending Groundwater Protection Committee meetings with the VNC Director to help develop a stormwater plan for downtown Vashon the intern will gain skills in municipal and ecological restoration planning for watershed health that are specific to stormwater control—a very important issue due to climate change and the impact of stormwater on endangered salmon and orcas.

Mentors
This position primarily reports to the Heron Meadow Stewardship Coordinator but also reports to the Director and will have the ability to work alongside restoration ecology and ecology professionals and other interns at other ecological organizations like the Vashon-Maury Island Land Trust and Washington Department of Natural Resources.

Job Details
- Students not traditionally represented are encouraged to apply and will be given priority for the competitive paid internships, but even once those positions are filled, there are still positions available for volunteer internships.
- Paid internship: Stipend of $1500 for 3 months duration. Students must be 16 or older.
- Volunteer internship: community service hours may apply. Check with your school.
- Duration: May 15-Aug 15 (priority given to school attendance when school is in session).
• No benefits, room or board

• Work hours will average 10/week and fall on 2 scheduled days/week. Less hours required during the school year as opposed to summer months. Community service hours may be possible for volunteer positions, check with your school.

• Skills learned: wetland restoration practices, landscape design and planning, public speaking, field data collection including: pollinator and bird surveys, long-term photo point design, wildlife camera operation; data entry, analysis, and reporting; and science communication.

Deliverables

• Produce report with the Heron Meadow stewardship coordinator that summarizes restoration activities (including native plants planted, and area of site restored during their internship) and data from restoration monitoring studies on long-term photo point monitoring sites, pollinators, birds, and amphibians.

• Work with VNC outreach coordinator to write a blog post summing up one aspect of their work that they were most excited about for the Vashon Nature Center blog.

• Fill out an evaluation to help VNC staff learn what worked and how to improve internships for following years.

Qualifications

• Education level: Students must be 16 years old to apply for paid internship. 11th, 12th grade students preferred. Younger ages will be considered with a recommendation from a teacher.

• Transportation preferred but not required.

• Personal characteristics: open, curious, understanding, willing to learn, enjoyment of nature and being outdoors, responsible, able to organize projects, and hard-working.

• Physical abilities: able to work long hours outdoors in inclement weather. Able to handle light machinery like shovels, clippers, weed whackers, lawn mowers.

To apply: https://forms.gle/MY7zWahH4afKL1DN7

Questions: Email Bianca Perla at bianca@vashonnaturecenter.org