



2017 WWF Science Internships

The following science internships are available at WWF, based in Washington, DC. These internships typically begin in May and the projects are designed to be conducted typically in 12 weeks over the summer.

Internships are unpaid unless otherwise noted. To qualify for an unpaid internship, the intern must be receiving university credit and demonstrate that the work they will perform is consistent with a course requirement (documentation required). Some projects can extend one or two semesters as part of a student's course work or thesis requirements, though advance arrangements with WWF and the university are necessary.

We seek interns with solid data management and analysis skills, superb written and oral communication skills in English, self-motivation and adaptability, and an ability to work both independently and collaboratively. Specific skills (required or preferred) are listed with each opportunity.

To apply please submit a resume and cover letter through our Careers page:

<https://careers-wwfus.icims.com/jobs/search>

* Note that WWF-US does not provide VISA sponsorship for internships

Conservation Strategy and Evaluation Intern

Internship Description: Conservation decision-makers need credible information on which to base their decisions at local, national, and international scales. The synthesis of existing management information and program and conservation data, collected by WWF and its partners, offers the potential to provide actionable insights to conservation decision-makers. Consequently, WWF and its partners are combining global datasets with internal data on performance and conservation outcomes to help inform key decisions. We are looking for a motivated intern to assist in the collection, management and statistical analysis of critical performance, monitoring, and global datasets.

Responsibilities:

- Collecting and collating conservation strategy and M&E information
- Assessing information to meet quality criteria
- Identifying appropriate internal and external datasets for analysis
- Data management, including updating database metadata and database maintenance
- Statistical analysis of quantitative social and ecological data, including descriptive statistics, and developing appropriate statistical models

This internship is an excellent opportunity to interact with scientists and practitioners at WWF and around the world; gain exposure to a wide range of conservation science and policy issues; and inform adaptive management of WWF's conservation portfolio.

Qualifications: The successful applicant will have a degree in natural or social science with a demonstrated interest in biodiversity conservation and conservation strategy and evaluation (Master's degree strongly preferred). This position requires strong analytical and critical thinking skills; data management and statistical analysis skills; and demonstrated experience with conservation strategy design and monitoring and evaluation handling large scientific datasets. We seek demonstrated experience with program and project management frameworks (e.g., Open Standards for Conservation and/or other adaptive management models) and statistical analysis (e.g., general linear models, t-tests, ANOVA) in R. Familiarity with global datasets relevant to global agreements such as the Sustainable Development Goals and the Convention on Biological Diversity is highly desirable. Exposure or skills in systems thinking and/or design thinking is an asset. Good written and oral communication skills are essential.

The successful applicant will be able to work independently, as well as part of an international, interdisciplinary team.

Compensation: Paid, commensurate upon experience.

Application Deadline: March 15, 2017

Internship Dates: Six-month position, beginning May 2017

Staff Contact: Kimberley Marchant, kimberley.marchant@wwfus.org

Conservation Science and Psychology Intern

Internship Description: Conservation interventions often rely heavily on human behavior change to ensure their success at meeting ecological targets. Despite this, there has only been a modest integration of psychology theory and methods into how we practice and evaluate conservation. Consequently, there is a growing interest and vital need to explore how different theories and methods from psychology can help enhance our ability to design, implement and evaluate conservation interventions more effectively and efficiently. We are looking for a motivated intern to carry out exploratory research on the current state of, and opportunity for embedding psychology theory and approaches into the adaptive management of conservation interventions.

Responsibilities:

- Conducting a literature review of studies applying psychology theories and approaches to conservation and environmental interventions,
- Exploring general psychology research and practice to explore untapped opportunities for integrating psychology into conservation
- Engaging with a project team, to explore how psychology theory can be used to design an evaluation approach for a conservation project

- Developing a series of briefs, based on research and project team engagement, explaining how different psychology theories and methods can help inform the development or monitoring of particular conservation interventions or issues.

This internship is an excellent opportunity to interact with scientists and program staff at WWF; gain exposure to a wide range of conservation science and policy issues; and inform adaptive management of behavior-focused conservation interventions.

Qualifications: The successful applicant must be currently enrolled in a Bachelor's or Master's degree program with a demonstrated interest in psychology and biodiversity conservation. This position requires a strong degree of comfort navigating transdisciplinary research. Strong written and verbal communication skills are essential. The successful applicant will be able to work independently, as well as part of an interdisciplinary team.

This position requires eligibility to work in the United States. This position is based in Washington, D.C.

Compensation: Unpaid. For all unpaid internships, applicants must be enrolled in school and be able to obtain academic course credit from their university.

Application deadline: March 15, 2017

Internship dates: Three-month (12 week) position, beginning May 2017

Staff Contact: Shauna Mahajan, shauna.mahajan@wwfus.org

Mangrove Conservation Science Intern

Internship Description: WWF is seeking an intern with a background in coastal marine science to work with an interdisciplinary team to provide support for an emerging mangrove conservation initiative. The intern will (1) develop profiles for select priority countries to the status and trends of mangrove cover in each country including identification of threats to mangroves (2) compile materials to describe the 'policy landscape' in priority countries (i.e. policies in place, key government officials); (3) perform other duties as needed.

Minimum Requirements: Bachelor's degree (or equivalent) in ecological, interdisciplinary, or marine science; experience in conservation or related field preferred; current enrollment in graduate program preferred; strong data management and statistical skills. Knowledge of GIS is required.

Compensation: Unpaid. For all unpaid internships, applicants must be enrolled in school and be able to obtain academic course credit from their university.

Application deadline: March 15, 2017

Internship Dates: Two-three-month duration (8-12 weeks), beginning May 2017

Staff Contact: Gabby Ahmadi, gabby.ahmadi@wwfus.org

Marine Conservation Science Intern

Internship Description: WWF is seeking an intern with a background in marine science to work with an interdisciplinary team to provide support for ongoing and future work on Marine Protected Areas (MPAs) in Indonesia. In collaboration with the MPA team, the intern will (1) assist in synthesis, quality control and management of monitoring data (2) analyze data and produce summary report; (3) perform other duties including literature reviews for scientific articles; communication of results for different audiences (local stakeholders, scientific, etc.).

Minimum Requirements: Bachelor's degree (or equivalent) in ecological, interdisciplinary, or marine science; experience in conservation or related field preferred; current enrollment in graduate program preferred; strong data management and statistical skills. Knowledge of GIS, R, and/or Microsoft Access is a plus.

Compensation: Unpaid. For all unpaid internships, applicants must be enrolled in school and be able to obtain academic course credit from their university.

Application deadline: March 15, 2017

Internship Dates: Two-three-month duration (8-12 weeks), beginning May 2017

Staff Contact: Gabby Ahmadia, gabby.ahmadia@wwfus.org

Marine Social Science Intern

Internship Description: Marine protected areas (MPAs) are an integral component of local, national, and international strategies for biodiversity conservation. The impact of MPAs on local communities is the focus of a contentious policy debate. Under certain conditions, MPAs can provide both biodiversity and social benefits, while in other settings tradeoffs exist between biodiversity conservation and social welfare. To inform this debate, WWF and its partners are monitoring the social impacts of marine protected areas in the Coral Triangle. We are looking for a motivated intern to assist in the analysis and interpretation of our coastal livelihoods data.

Responsibilities:

- Statistical analysis of quantitative social science data, including descriptive statistics, and developing appropriate statistical models.
- Developing written reports, policy briefs, and other materials communicating scientific findings to multiple audiences.
- Developing manuals and other guidance documents to allow other scientists to adopt or adapt our methods.

This internship is an excellent opportunity to interact with scientists in WWF-US and around the world; gain exposure to a wide range of conservation science and policy issues; and inform adaptive management of marine protected areas.

Minimum Requirements: The successful applicant will have a Bachelor or Master's degree in natural or social science with a demonstrated interest in biodiversity conservation. This position requires strong data management and statistical analysis skills, with demonstrated experience handling social science datasets. Good written and verbal communication skills are essential. Demonstrated experience with statistical analysis (e.g., general linear models, mixed models) in R is essential. Knowledge of Microsoft Access and Adobe InDesign is desirable. The successful applicant will be able to work independently, as well as part of an international, interdisciplinary team.

This position requires eligibility to work in the United States. This position is based in Washington, D.C.

Compensation: Unpaid. For all unpaid internships, applicants must be enrolled in school and be able to obtain academic course credit from their university.

Application deadline: March 15, 2017

Internship dates: Three-month position (12 weeks), beginning May 2017

Staff Contact: Phil Mohebalian, phillip.mohebalian@wwfus.org

Forest Social Science Intern

Internship Description: Papua, Indonesia contains some of the largest remaining tracts of forests in Southeast Asia; these forests are important for storing carbon, protecting biodiversity, and supporting local communities' livelihoods. WWF has been at the forefront of promoting enabling conditions for community-based economies in Papua, including forestry. When local communities have the appropriate legal frameworks and technical skills, they can manage their forests sustainably and derive livelihoods, while in other settings community forests may result in tradeoffs between forest conservation and human wellbeing. To monitor the ability for community forests to provide protection to the environment while supporting community livelihoods, WWF and its partners are monitoring the social and ecological impacts of community forests. We are looking for a motivated intern to assist in the development of methods and instruments which will be used to strengthen our community forest monitoring program.

Responsibilities:

- Assisting us in developing forest inventory and households survey methods and instruments for rural tropical environments.
- Developing manuals, scientific journal article or alternative guidance documents to allow other scientists to adopt or adapt our methods.

This internship is an excellent opportunity to interact with scientists in WWF-US and around the world; gain exposure to a wide range of conservation science and policy issues; and inform adaptive management of community forest areas in Papua, Indonesia.

Minimum Requirements: The successful applicant will have a Bachelor or Master's degree in forestry with a demonstrated interest in tropical forest ecology and social sciences. Experience in tropical forest inventory and household survey methods. This position requires strong data management and statistical analysis skills, with demonstrated experience handling forest inventory and household survey datasets. Good written and verbal communication skills are essential. Knowledge of Microsoft Access and ArcMap is desirable. The successful applicant will be able to work independently, as well as part of an international, interdisciplinary team.

This position requires eligibility to work in the United States. This position is based in Washington, D.C.

Compensation: Unpaid. For all unpaid internships, applicants must be enrolled in school and be able to obtain academic course credit from their university.

Application deadline: March 15, 2017

Internship dates: Three-month position (12 weeks), beginning May 2017

Staff Contact: Phil Mohebalian, phillip.mohebalian@wwfus.org

Mapping ephemeral waterholes in the Kavango-Zambezi Transfrontier Conservation Area of southern Africa

Internship Description: Small-scale, ephemeral water sources are important resources for wildlife in the seasonal savannahs of Africa, facilitating movement of many herbivore species away from permanent rivers during the wet season. Despite their importance, such water sources are too small and/or too ephemeral to have been comprehensively mapped in any area of sub-Saharan Africa, and are therefore a major gap in our understanding of the drivers of wildlife movement, as well as in connectivity analyses and conservation planning. This internship would help fill this gap in the Kavango-Zambezi Transfrontier Conservation area (KAZA) of southern Africa. KAZA is the world's largest such transfrontier complex, and WWF-US has been leading research on wildlife movements for the last decade in the region. Our work has uncovered a number of previously unknown aspects of wildlife movements and migrations across the landscape, but to-date we have not yet been able to quantify the importance of seasonal water holes on these movements. Such seasonal water holes are observable using high-resolution imagery, and this internship would therefore involve searching for and digitizing water holes across focal areas in the KAZA region using several desktop and web-based platforms. Familiarity with Google Earth and ArcGIS is required, and an understanding of high resolution satellite imagery, as well as an ability to work independently on this unpaid position, are preferred.

Compensation: Unpaid. For all unpaid internships, applicants must be enrolled in school and be able to obtain academic course credit from their university.

Application Deadline: March 15, 2017

Internship Dates: Three-month position (12 weeks), beginning May 2017

Staff Contact: Robin Naidoo, robin.aidoo@wwfus.org