



GEOSCIENTISTS-IN-THE-PARKS Internship Program

PROJECT DESCRIPTION 2020 SPRING/SUMMER

NPS UNIT: KALOKO-HONOKŌHAU NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARK	PD #: 2020008
<p>Position Title: Biology Assistant [Direct Placement] (1) Position Type: Guest Scientist Primary natural resource discipline: Biological resources Project keywords: coral reef, water resources, data collection, data management, anchialine pools Location: Kailua-Kona, Hawaii</p>	
PROJECT DESCRIPTION AND WORK PRODUCTS	
<p>Position Description: Kaloko-Honokōhau NHP is a 1200-acre national park unit located on the west coast of Hawai'i Island. The Park was established in 1978 for the preservation, protection, and interpretation of traditional Hawaiian activities and culture. The Park contains spectacular cultural sites and history, Hawaiian fishponds, anchialine pools, native endangered waterbirds and other wildlife, coral reefs, and coastal dryland forest.</p> <p>The guest scientist will assist with science and field monitoring, and data management activities associated with the Park's water resources (coral reef, anchialine pool, and Hawaiian fishponds). The guest scientist will perform both office (data entry, quality control, and data management tasks) and field work. The guest scientist may prepare for and participate in boating operations and underwater SCUBA surveys to monitor the recovery of the park's coral reef following the 2015 mass bleaching event and will use standard coral reef sampling techniques to quantify abundance of marine organisms and habitat quality.</p> <p>The guest scientist may also participate in anchialine pool and fishpond surveys, and collect a variety of habitat data from these ecosystems. The guest scientist will perform office work, entering and managing survey data, assisting with analyzing coral photos, completing data entry for water resource projects, and performing quality assurance/quality control checks on data entry performed by others. The guest scientist will collect and download GPS data, and make simple GIS maps. The guest scientist will mine the park's files for existing data on water resources and will develop a resource brief with an annotated bibliography for an aspect of the park's water resources.</p> <p>This project helps develop sound scientific information on the condition of the Park's natural resources, including the Park's coral reef ecosystem to better manage these resources. The GIP will be assisting in the data collection and data entry needed in order to complete project goals. They will also produce a resource brief to enhance public awareness and understanding of water resources or coral reef ecosystems.</p> <p>This position is offered through the National Park Service's Geoscientists-in-the-Parks (GIP) Internship Program in partnership with Stewards Individual Placement Program (Stewards) and The Geological Society of America (GSA).</p> <p>Work Products: Work products include the completed coral reef and anchialine pool survey data entry and quality controls, field data collection, and development of at least one interpretive product, a Resource Brief, of a marine or aquatic resources accompanied by an annotated bibliography .</p>	

QUALIFICATIONS

A bachelor's degree and coursework in biology, ecology or other natural resource field of study is preferred; Knowledge of Hawaiian culture and traditional resource management activities is not required but is helpful. Computer skills in Microsoft Office including Excel, Word, and Access are required; ability to identify fish, coral, and algae to species; experience with standard coral reef sampling and monitoring techniques, experience collecting biological data including data with GPS equipment; and experience presenting technical and non-technical educational information to the general public about coral and marine ecosystems restoration.

The guest scientist should have experience conducting safe diving operations from shore and boat-based diving platforms, have boating experience (MOCC desired but not required), be a currently certified SCUBA diver, be certified as an American Association of Underwater Scientists diver by their home institution, and must be able to fully qualify as a NPS diver, including medical clearance, as described in National Park Service Reference Manual 4: Diving Safety and Operations Manual (Please review: https://www.nps.gov/policy/DOrders/RM-4_6-2014.pdf by clicking or pasting this link into your browser).

The applicant must be a U.S. citizen or U.S. permanent legal resident ("green-card-holder") between the ages of 18 and 35 years old. Prior to starting this position a government security background clearance will be required.

VEHICLE/DRIVER LICENSE REQUIREMENTS

Applicant must have a valid driver license and a good driving record. The GIP will drive park vehicles.

A personal vehicle is RECOMMENDED but not required for this position. There is a need for a personal vehicle or other form of reliable transportation to get to and from the Park. The closest grocery stores to the Park are approximately four miles away and hospital and medical facilities are five to ten miles away. No public transportation is available.

If the GIP is required to drive a park vehicle for their position, Stewards will perform a driving records search, and the GIP's ability to drive a park vehicle during work hours will be contingent upon the results. GIPs will have to have had their license for 3 years or be over the age of 21 to be insured as drivers under Stewards insurance policy. Examples of things that will preclude a GIP from driving a park vehicle include: GIP under the age of 21 years old that has been licensed less than three years, DUIs, multiple moving vehicle violations, suspended or revoked license, or three or more accidents (regardless of fault) in the last 3 years. If the driver's search is favorable, Stewards will provide driver's liability insurance while the intern is driving a NPS vehicle for their GIP position. If the GIP is denied coverage by Stewards, they will not be permitted to drive during work hours.

HOUSING

Park housing is NOT available and the intern will be responsible for finding housing in the nearby area. A higher living allowance is provided to cover housing costs. Open market rental studios and rooms in shared houses cost approximately \$800 - \$1500/month. Craigslist and West Hawaii Today classifieds are the best sources for locating housing.

INTERNSHIP DATES

Start Date: 5/18/2020
Number of weeks: 12 weeks
Flexibility of dates: Yes

LIVING ALLOWANCE

12 weeks (\$525/week = \$6,300)

RELOCATION ALLOWANCE

\$1,000 (if the selected applicant is not from Hawaii). A reduced travel allowance equivalent to the cost to fly to Kailua-Kona will be provided if the selected applicant is from the Hawaiian Islands.

AMERICORPS PROGRAM



AmeriCorps is a program that engages individuals in intensive community service work with the goal of “helping others and meeting critical needs in the community”. The GIP Program is supported through AmeriCorps by providing a Segal Education Award in addition to the GIP’s living stipend and relocation allowance.

Upon successful completion of the GIP position, the GIPs (AmeriCorps members) are eligible for a \$1,638 - \$6,195 pre-tax education award that can be used for paying back student loans or for continuing their education. The amount of the education award is based on the length of the position.

AmeriCorps limits the number of terms an individual can serve to 4 terms. If an applicant has previously completed 4 GIP or other AmeriCorps positions, they are not eligible to apply for additional GIP positions.

NATURAL & PHYSICAL WORK ENVIRONMENT

Natural Environment: The Park is located in Kailua-Kona on the island of Hawaii, approximately three miles from the Kona International Airport and five miles northwest of Kailua-Kona. The park is at sea level and averages less than 25 inches of rainfall annually. It includes three beaches and extensive archeological ruins. Complete shopping facilities and rental units are available in Kailua-Kona. This is a high cost of living area. Hospital and medical facilities are five to ten miles away. Public schools are conveniently located within the surrounding area and distant bus service is provided for students. For more information, visit the park website at www.nps.gov/kaho and the park Facebook page at www.facebook.com/KalokoHonokohauNPS.

Special consideration: During volcanic eruptions at Kilauea Volcano, the island of Hawaii is subject to high concentrations of volcanic fumes (VOG), especially sulfur dioxide gasses and fine particulates. The fumes are known to be hazardous to an unborn fetus, and persons with heart and respiratory problems. The Kona coast experiences VOG conditions during eruption events. Long-term effects on normal healthy persons is unknown.

Physical Work Environment: Work involves field conditions of moderate to heavy physical stress in a hot, humid, and sunny environment with prolonged standing, walking, and bending often required. Heavy items (e.g., equipment and packs up to 50 pounds) must be lifted and carried on a routine basis. Some work involves boating and snorkeling or SCUBA diving, entering cold waters using protective equipment (wet suits, waders), paddling, or hiking carrying equipment. Other work will involve a variety of sedentary tasks in an office setting including sitting in front of video terminals/computers for prolonged periods of time.

MENTORING AND LEARNING GOALS

Mentoring: The guest scientist will work with the park Marine Biological Technician and project staff in the field and office. The Division Chief, and the Biological Technician will provide oversight and orientation. A biological technician and a park biologist will be peer liaisons.

Learning Goals: The guest scientist will apply basic principles of biological monitoring and data management, and learn skills specific to monitoring marine and aquatic resources. The guest scientist will gain knowledge of traditional Hawaiian resource management and culture, and will gain professional development in working in the context of a government land management agency and transmitting scientific information to the public.

SUPERVISORS/MENTORS

Primary Supervisor/Mentor:

Kaile'a Annandale
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Secondary Supervisor/Mentor:

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