



GEOSCIENTISTS-IN-THE-PARKS 2018 – PROJECT DESCRIPTION

NPS UNIT: KALOKO-HONOKŌHAU NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARK	PD #: 2018429
<p>Position Title: Biological Technician Position Type: Guest Scientist Primary natural resource discipline: Biological resources Location: Kailua-Kona, Hawai'i</p> <p><i>Preference will be given to local-area candidates from the state of Hawaii, including candidates currently living on Hawaii Island, students from Hawaii in-state schools e.g., the University of Hawaii at Hilo, Hawaii Community College, Hawaii Pacific University and University of Hawaii at Manoa, or Hawaii residents attending out of state schools.</i></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 the island of Hawai'i. 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. 'Aimakapā Fishpond is a 30-acre Hawaiian fishpond/wetlands complex within Kaloko-Honokohau National Historical Park.</p> <p>The GIP will assist with science and field monitoring activities associated with the Park's wetlands ecosystem restoration project at 'Aimakapā Fishpond and the restoration of coastal dryland forest. The GIP will regularly survey and record data on endangered Hawaiian waterbird and migratory bird species at 'Aimakapā Fishpond; monitor endangered Hawaiian waterbird nests for productivity and success by using both foot and kayak surveys; monitor storm surge levels at the fishpond beach berm, collect water quality samples for analyses; actively participate in the nonnative predator control program (mongoose) by opening and baiting traps, checking traps and removing animals, and closing traps, and monitor predators with tracking tunnels (setting, collecting, and "reading" cards); monitor established invasive plant plots for regrowth and assist with care of native outplants; and collect and download GPS data, and make simple GIS maps.</p> <p>The GIP will assist the Project Lead with organizing and running a monthly (weekend) community volunteer day. The intern will also perform office work, entering and managing survey data, mining the park's files for existing data on fishponds and other resources and provide an annotated bibliography and resource brief for fishpond resources. The incumbent will work with the park interpretation division to develop an interpretive product regarding an aspect of the restoration projects.</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>	

Work Products: Work products are completed plant and wildlife survey data and predator control data, an annotated bibliography of a selected resource, and assisting with development of an interpretive product, such as a Resource Brief, regarding an aspect of the restoration.

QUALIFICATIONS

A bachelor's degree and coursework in biology, ecology or other natural resource field of study is preferred; computer skills in Microsoft Office; ability to identify birds and plants to species; experience collecting data including data with GPS equipment; and experience presenting technical and non-technical educational information to the general public about ecosystem restoration and plants and animals invasive to Hawaii. The Intern should be able to swim, be comfortable around water and experienced in using a kayak. Knowledge of Hawaiian culture is not required but is helpful.

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'S LICENSE REQUIREMENTS

Applicant must have a valid driver's license and a good driving record. A driver's license is required to operate official government vehicles. Public transportation is not available in Kailua-Kona, HI. There is a need for a personal vehicle or other form of reliable transportation. The closest grocery stores to the park are approximately four miles away and hospital and medical facilities are five to ten miles away.

If the GIP is required to drive a park vehicle for their position, a driving records search will be performed and the GIP's ability to drive a park vehicle will be contingent upon the results. Examples that will preclude a GIP from driving a park vehicle include DUIs, multiple moving vehicle violations, suspended or revoked license, or three or more accidents (regardless of fault) in the last 3 years.

HOUSING

Housing is NOT available through the park. Open market rental studios and rooms in shared houses cost approximately \$800 - \$1500/month. Craig's List and West Hawaii Today classifieds are the best sources for locating housing.

INTERNSHIP START/END DATES

Start Date: 9/2/2018

End Date: 11/23/2018

Number of weeks: 12

Flexibility of dates: Yes

STIPEND PAYMENT

\$4,200 for 12 weeks (\$350/week)

HOUSING PAYMENT

\$2,399 for 12 weeks

TRAVEL 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 flying from within 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 travel/housing allowance.

Upon successful completion of the GIP position, the GIPs (AmeriCorps members) are eligible for a \$1,230 - \$5,815 pre-tax education that can be used for paying back student loans or for continuing their education.

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, he/she will not be eligible to apply for an additional GIP position.

PHYSICAL/NATURAL & WORK ENVIRONMENT

Physical/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. No public transportation is available. For more information, visit the park website at www.nps.gov/kaho and the park's FaceBook page at <https://www.facebook.com/KalokoHonokohauNPS>.

Special Consideration: The island of Hawai'i 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 throughout the year. Long-term effects on normal healthy persons is unknown. More information can be found at <http://weather.hawaii.edu/vmap/>

Work Environment: This position includes office work, and field work involving carrying equipment and packs up to 50 pounds, hiking over rugged terrain in hot, humid, sunny climate, working in wetlands and water in waders or boots up to 8 hrs, exposure to wild animals and operating 4wd UTV vehicles and small boats (e.g., kayak, skiff with trolling motor, Hawaiian canoe).

MENTORING AND LEARNING GOALS

Mentoring: The Intern will work with the Project Lead (biologist) and project staff in the field. The Division Chief, Project Lead, and park Biological Technician will provide oversight and orientation. They will be exposed to various field monitoring methods and have the opportunity to learn about resource management practices utilized in a rich cultural landscape. They will also have the opportunity, when possible, to work with and learn from researchers and other land managers working in West Hawaii.

Learning Goals: The Intern will apply basic principles of biological monitoring, and learn skills specific to monitoring endangered species and small mammal predators, and controlling small mammal predators. The Intern 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

Primary Supervisor: Jackson Letchworth	Secondary Supervisor: Sallie Beavers
Title: Biologist	Title: Chief of Integrated Resources
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