



Fall Conservation Internship
UHZ Conservation Department
2600 Sunnyside Avenue, Salt Lake City, UT 84108

Description of Internship

The Conservation Intern will work with both our Wildlife Biologist and our Conservation Action Coordinator, with opportunities to shadow in both the animal care and education departments (COVID restrictions pending). Focus areas will include; field-work, expanding our community science programming, increasing guest awareness of, and participation in, conservation work conducted by Utah's Hogle Zoo, and Zoo-wide waste management and energy efficiency programs.

Supervision

The fall intern will be supervised Kayleigh Mullen, Citizen Science Wildlife Biologist, and Tori Bird, Conservation Action Coordinator, in the Conservation Department.

Proposed Schedule

- Tuesday September 8th – Wednesday 25th November 2020
- 12-week period
- Flexible ~16 hours a week
- Days worked can be discussed at interview to fit with your schedule

Pay

This is an unpaid internship. During your internship you will receive a discount on food and beverages purchased at the Zoo.

Applicant Requirements

- Applicant must be 21 years old or older
- Intern must have completed at least one full year of college credits, preferably in the fields of biology, natural resource management, environmental science, parks and recreation or similar.
- Experience using ArcGIS strongly preferred.
- Candidates must provide proof of current negative TB test and tetanus shot.
- Applicants must pass a drug test and background check.
- Applicant must be able to stand/ walk for at least 3 hours
- Applicant must be able to lift 50 lbs.
- Waste audits may be a part of this internship, so the applicant must be fine handling waste (food, plastics, paper, wrappers etc) and getting dirty in general.
- Applicant must have a clean driver's license and be confident driving the a field truck

Internship Requirements

- Hours: The intern must complete 180 - 200 hours over a 12-week period.
- Intern Project: The intern will complete a final project, tailored to their interests which they will present at the end of their internship.
- Journal: The intern must keep a weekly journal to be shared with their supervisor and mentor, noting skills learned, interests and work they have enjoyed so we can tailor the internship to best meet your needs.

College Credits

Utah's Hogle Zoo is willing to work with higher learning institutions with regards to completing scholastic requirements during the student's internship.

Tasks May Include:

- Assisting with our camera trapping project along the Jordan River- maintaining cameras, uploading photos, assisting with volunteer management to sort through photos.
- Using ArcGIS to map boreal toad populations across the state, map our radio-tracked individuals.
- Investigating ways in which the Zoo can expand their community science program.
- Helping prepare for Zoo events such as our Zoo Lights and our annual (virtual) gala.
- Assisting in field days monitoring radio-tagged boreal toads at Strawberry Reservoir.
- Helping identify areas of Zoo operations that can be improved so as to more closely align with AZA sustainability guidelines.
- Researching cost effective alternatives to single use plastics.
- Helping create a culture shift within the Zoo to move away from single use disposables.
- Helping increase guest awareness of recycling efforts we have going on currently at the Zoo.
- Helping increase guest awareness of local conservation work the Zoo is undertaking.
- Help manage conservation engagement through social media (eg FrogWatch Facebook page, drafting posts for the UHZ social media platforms).
- Assisting with the development and implementation of ecological monitoring along the Jordan River, both visual encounter surveys and our camera trapping project
- Conducting Waste Data Analysis; Using excel, develop an overview of waste streams here at the Zoo and rates, as well as causes, of contamination
- Research new recycling opportunities available to the Zoo both local and nationally
- Participating in off-site volunteering opportunities or tours
- Helping with animal husbandry when needed, including preparing animal diets, checking our boreal toad conservation colony

Internship Learning Objectives

We hope to tailor this internship to help the intern gain valuable work skills to help them progress in their career. This can mean, within reason, adding other learning objectives, prioritizing some over others and working with the intern to make this the most valuable experience we can.

The main baseline learning objectives will include:

- Learn how modern zoos support and encourage conservation, with a focus on the many *in-situ* conservation projects supported by Utah's Hogle Zoo.
- Learn and grow confident in field skills such as wildlife surveying, radio-telemetry, PIT tag scanning, collecting amphibian biometrics, habitat data collection, game camera maintenance and more
- Learn how sustainability action is the base for long-term success for wildlife conservation. This includes continuation of education for staff and guests, recycle and waste management education and monitoring, and sustainability technologies that can be implemented to improve our positive environmental impact.
- Learn about the importance, development and implementation of community science projects, from recruitment through training, and implementation to collect valuable long term data to help direct conservation priorities.

Contact:

For any questions or further information please reach out to our Wildlife Biologist, Kayleigh, at kmullen@hoglezoo.org