

Gulf of Mexico Alliance-sponsored Internship with TPWD

General Information:

Location – Dickinson, Texas or Corpus Christi, Texas, United States

Duration – Temporary – Internship for the Fall school semester

Compensation (Stipend)

Salary: \$5625/semester at \$15/hour for 375 hours (15-weeks at 25 hours per week, paid weekly)

GOMA also offers the intern up to \$1500 travel stipend to attend a meeting or a conference.

NOTE: Intern will be hosted by Texas Parks and Wildlife, but this is an externally funded internship and will not apply toward State Service Credit. The internship stipend will be paid by the Gulf of Mexico Alliance.

CLOSING DATE: TBD

INTERNSHIP DATES: Contract period January 15 – May 30, 2024, fixed term position

DIVISION: Coastal Fisheries

WORK ADDRESS: Dickinson Office, 1502 FM 517 East, Dickinson, TX 77539

Corpus Office, 1409 Waldron Road, Corpus Christi, TX 78418

Corpus Hatchery, 4300 Waldron Road, Corpus Christi, TX 78418

HIRING CONTACT: Dr. Emma Clarkson – office phone 361-694-0226 or

Emma.Clarkson@tpwd.texas.gov

The Texas Parks and Wildlife Department, in partnership with the Gulf of Mexico Alliance (GOMA), is seeking an outgoing and detail-oriented diverse candidate for a semester long internship position (10-15 weeks, fixed term position) supported as a Diversity and Inclusion (D&I) opportunity. Texas Parks and Wildlife Department strives to enhance opportunities that are reflective of an organization that is inclusive, one that fosters an open and supportive environment and draws from a variety of perspectives and experiences to further the mission and better serve the diverse population of Texas and our visitors. The Coastal Fisheries Division is looking to engage a student to fill an intern opportunity located in Dickinson or Corpus Christi that embraces and encourages diversity and provides a multi-faceted learning and working environment.

GOMA, a non-profit organization, is a partnership of the five Gulf States that supports a broad network of federal agencies, academic organizations, businesses, and other non-profits in the Gulf Coast region. The mission of GOMA is to enhance the environmental and economic health of the Gulf of Mexico through increased regional collaboration. We do this through a variety of partnerships through state and federal agencies including Texas Parks and Wildlife Department.

GENERAL DESCRIPTION:

Under the direction of the Coastal Fisheries Division, the internship provides an opportunity for students to obtain relevant work experience to be competitive for future positions in natural resources. The position will provide the intern with an opportunity to understand and participate in programmatic areas related to data collection and fisheries management. If a special project is required by the intern, then a mutually determined project by supervisor and intern will be agreed upon to meet both site needs and the intern's education and development needs. The position requires that additional duties

are performed, as assigned, and complies with all Agency, Division and Branch rules, regulations, and procedures.

NOTE: As students, paid work experience reflected on your application may be limited. Therefore, applicants are encouraged to include an addendum to their intern application that addresses any additional educational, volunteer, civic/community engagement or life experiences that addresses the knowledge, skills and abilities reflected in this internship opportunity.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS:

Education:

- Current enrollment as an undergraduate or graduate student in an accredited college or university or a recent graduate within the last 6 months.
- Minimum of 18 completed semester credit hours from an accredited college or university at the time of application.
- Must have an overall grade point average (GPA) of 2.5 or higher on a 4.0 grade point scale or "Pass" on a Pass/Fail system.

Licensure:

If driving is required, applicant must possess a valid State driver's license.

Position Descriptions: (Note – there is only one internship position available, and the position could either be located at the TPWD Dickinson, Texas or Corpus Christi Field Office. The following program area descriptions provide brief overviews of the activities conducted at those locations. The intern position would work with both the Ecosystem Resources Program and the Fisheries Management Program with time split equally between the two programs.)

Fisheries Management Program

This program provides the opportunity to participate in the collection of fisheries independent and dependent data for the Coastal Fisheries Division of TPWD with field sampling aboard shallow-water skiffs and larger research vessels. Fisheries-independent data includes collecting samples with bag seines, bay/gulf trawls, oyster dredges, and gill nets. Fisheries-dependent data are collected during creel surveys conducted at boat-ramp and wet-slip sites where various information is collected from anglers about their trips including identification, enumeration, and measurement of their catch. Intern will also assist with gear repair, data entry, and outreach events. Intern will be working alongside TPWD staff members learning the sampling program methodology.

Ecosystem Resources Program

This program is focused on coastal habitat conservation, restoration, and monitoring. Intern will have an opportunity to cross-train with ERP biologists on habitat restoration projects (including planning and monitoring), habitat mapping projects (including editing sonar and imagery data in specialized software and geospatial data in ArcGIS), coastal resources policy (including learning about interjurisdictional management of coastal resources through technical guidance), and field work. Field work may include habitat mapping efforts using both remote sensing (sidescan sonar) and in-situ assessments, site visits to assess the potential impacts of development projects on the habitats of the Texas Coast and monitor wetland restoration/research projects, site visits to investigate fish and wildlife mortality events, and routine biological and water quality monitoring. Overall, this position focuses on how policy, mapping,

and monitoring influence the conservation and management of coastal habitats, and intern will have the opportunity to learn technical skills regarding policy, remote sensing, mapping, ArcGIS, and data management.

WORKING CONDITIONS:

- Internship work week schedule to be mutually determined by supervisor and intern.
- Required to work 20-25 hours per week. Regular work hours are from 8:00 – 5:00 Monday through Friday, but may be required to work outside of those hours and on Saturdays, Sundays, and holidays, as necessary.
- Required to perform work outdoors, occasionally in adverse weather conditions.

TPWD IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER