

Summer 2023

Professional internships in wildlife conservation with the NY State Department of Environmental Conservation

Paid Positions for Undergraduate Students

Additional Opportunities!

Work alongside professional biologists to study NY wildlife. Positions are full-time over the summer (generally mid-May- mid-August, varies by position and with some flexibility on start and end dates to suit your academic schedule), paid (\$15.75/hour), and can simultaneously fill the Directed Field Elective for the Wildlife Science major (with internship credit; see details below).



Mammal Distribution Intern (1 position)

The intern will assist with two field projects encompassing the southern Catskills and mid- to lower-Hudson Valley. Project 1: assessing bobcat distribution and abundance involving DNA hair sample collection. Project 2: NY Mammal Survey involving a variety of passive and active survey techniques for small mammals. Must be able to work in challenging field conditions and hold a valid driver's license. Previous experience with small mammal trapping techniques and identification is a plus. Duty location: DEC Region 3 Headquarters, New Paltz, NY. Housing not provided. Work period: 5/1/2023 – 8/12/2023 (600 hours total; start and end dates flexible to suite student schedules).



Eastern Hellbender Monitoring Intern (1 position)

The intern will conduct surveys of wild and translocated Eastern Hellbenders using PIT-tag scans, rock lift surveys, and water collection for eDNA analysis. At head-started hellbender release sites interns will capture hellbenders, take morphological measurements, and conduct health assessments. Duties also may include installing artificial nest boxes or flagstone rock cover to enhance hellbender habitat. Intern may also conduct surveys for other regional herpetofauna. Must be able to wade across uneven, rocky stream and river bottoms, lift 50 lbs, and hold a valid driver's license. Experience in the use of GPS, GIS and MS Excel for data entry is a plus. Duty location: DEC Region 4, Stamford with work primarily in Otsego and Delaware County. Housing not provided. Work period: 6/1/2023 – 9/15/2023 (600 hours total; start and end dates flexible to suite student schedules). Schedule variable and may include some weekends.



Fishing Education Intern (1 position)

Intern will assist I FISH NY (<https://www.dec.ny.gov/outdoor/89362.html>) staff with education and outreach programs, fishing gear maintenance, and fisheries surveys. Must be an avid angler with excellent fish identification skills, good with people/public speaking/teaching, able to work independently, and hold a valid driver's license. Duty location: Region 9 DEC, Buffalo, NY. Housing not provided. Work period: 5/11/2023 – 8/23/2023 (600 hours total).



Karner Blue Butterfly Monitoring Interns (3 positions)

Interns will conduct surveys to monitor the endangered Karner Blue Butterfly (<https://www.dec.ny.gov/animals/7118.html>). Must be able to walk long distances in hot sun over uneven ground and through vines, have good color vision, hold a valid driver's license, and possess good data entry skills (Microsoft Excel or Access). Interns must provide their own vehicle and have access to internet at home for data entry. Work days will include weekends and some holidays (schedules vary). Duty location: DEC Region 5, Saratoga Sand Plains Wildlife Management Area, Gansevoort, NY. Housing not provided. Work period: 5/16/2023 – 8/12/2023 (400 hours total).



Eastern Whip-Poor-Will Research Intern (1 position)

Intern will assist on a study of the effects of forest management on Eastern Whip-Poor-Will populations. Duties include radio-tracking adult birds, searching for nests, monitoring brood production, assisting with trapping and transmitter deployment on new birds, collecting fecal and insect samples, and conducting vegetation surveys. The work is full-time (40 hours/week) but requires an irregular schedule, working late afternoon and through the night. Desired skills: Enthusiasm for learning field techniques related to birds and their habitat, willingness and ability to maintain a flexible work schedule including working long hours through the night, ability to maintain a positive attitude while working long hours in difficult field conditions, experience working, camping, or navigating in wilderness conditions (including recreational experience). Must have a valid driver's license and provide your own vehicle to access areas around the duty location. Duty location: Chaumont, NY. Housing not provided. Work period: 5/2/2023 – late July/early August (600 hours total; flexible start and end dates to accommodate coursework).

Eligibility: To be eligible, you must be a continuing full-time student. That means, for a summer internship, you must be registered full-time during both the spring 2023 *and* fall 2023 semesters. These internships are not available to students graduating May 2023. Preference is given to students with at least sophomore status.

Field Experience or Internship Credit: These internships meet the requirements for the Directed Field Elective for the Wildlife Science major and are likely applicable towards other majors as well. Talk with your advisor about receiving academic credit for an internship and having that count towards your Directed Elective requirements.

To apply: Compile in a single pdf document a cover letter and current resume. Your cover letter should indicate to which position(s) you are applying, your current standing (sophomore, junior, etc.) and academic major, your relevant experience, and contact information for at least 2 references (one should be your academic advisor). Send your application to Dr. Jacqueline Frair at jfrair@esf.edu. For more information, contact Dr. Frair by email or in 257 Illick Hall

Application deadline extended to 24 March 2023



**Department of
Environmental
Conservation**

