



Marine Science Internship Opportunity

Gray's Reef National Marine Sanctuary in Savannah, Georgia seeks a qualified volunteer to fill a Marine Science Intern opening on a part-time basis from late May / early June to late July / early August.

Resumes will be accepted and reviewed on an on-going basis; however, a selection will likely be made on or before **May 15**.



Please submit resume and cover letter to:

Jody Patterson
Volunteer Coordinator
jody.patterson@noaa.gov
(912) 598-2431

Gray's Reef National Marine Sanctuary
10 Ocean Science Circle
Savannah, Georgia 31411

ABOUT

- 20 hours per week
- Volunteer / unpaid
- Graduate or undergraduate level student

Duties and responsibilities

- Assist with the collection, management, and processing of field research data for programs such as sea turtles sightings; lionfish surveys and removal; dive operations; acoustic telemetry -fish surveys; visual fish surveys; marine debris surveys; unmanned aircraft system trails
- Processing underwater photographs and/or video from research archives
- Complete the following project:
Identifying Fishes Associated with Deep Coral Habitats off South Carolina and Georgia: Analysis (fish counts) of 2010 deep coral – remotely operated vehicle (ROV) transects
 - o Goals: Describe habitat (e.g., rock vs. coral vs. sand) associations, and abundance, of fishes associated with coral habitats on the upper continental slope (150-400 m), based on video recorded with remotely-operated vehicle (ROV). Test hypothesis that large economically-valuable species are more abundant on high-relief coral habitats than on other types

- Objectives:
 - Identify and count fishes on approximately four hours of video
 - Classify habitats and record habitat of each fish species observed
 - Describe habitats and species associations of economically valuable species (examples: Snowy Grouper, Blueline Tilefish, Blackbelly Rosefish, Conger Eel)
 - Complete report and present results
- Methods/Project Description: This project used an ROV to explore likely coral habitats. The ROV was used to ground-truth sonar signals and to obtain video, photos, and samples that can be used to describe habitats and faunal assemblages in depths from 120-400 m at five ROV dive sites. Special effort was made to survey scour depressions excavated by icebergs during lower sea level stands. These scours create rugged high-relief bottom, and we want to test the hypothesis that these high-relief areas are more attractive to fishery species than lower-relief and sand-bottom habitats.
- Links: Descriptions of field work and methods can be found at: http://sanctuaries.noaa.gov/missions/2010coral_east/welcome.html

START DATE & WEEKLY SCHEDULE: This summer internship will begin late May and end early August (dates are flexible). The start date of the internship will be based upon the intern's academic schedule and the needs of the organization. Intern is expected to work 15 – 25 hours per week with a minimum commitment of 8 weeks. Hours and days are somewhat flexible; we are willing to accommodate an intern's need to also maintain part-time employment outside of the internship. Some weekends and/or evenings may be required for field research activities. We will consider an intern's request for additional hours if required by an intern's academic institution for internship credit.

EDUCATION QUALIFICATIONS: Anyone interested is encouraged to apply; however preference may be given to students or recent graduates with a background in marine biology, biology, marine technology, or related field.

ACADEMIC CREDIT: Dependent upon academic institution requirements.

COMPENSATION AND ACCOMMODATION: This is an unpaid opportunity. Housing for interns is not provided at this time. Transportation is not provided. Interns are responsible for all personal expenses.

WORK LOCATION/ENVIRONMENT: Gray's Reef National Marine Sanctuary headquarters is located in Savannah, Georgia on Skidaway Island, and on the campus of the University of Georgia's Skidaway Institute of Oceanography. Intern must be able to travel to the administrative offices for the majority of work hours. Some work may be done independently outside of the office with approval. Intern will be required to participate in some field activities aboard a research vessel in rivers and offshore in the open ocean. Some duties may require working outside, potentially in inclement weather conditions, with exposure to elements such as sun, wind, rain, heat, and environmental allergens. The noise level in the work environment may range from quiet to moderately loud.

Required Qualifications:

- Minimum of 18 years of age.
- Physically fit, able to work on-board a research vessel, and able to lift/carry 50 lbs.
- Personal laptop computer.
- Proficiency in the use of email, internet, and database software.
- Previous experience with Microsoft Excel, Powerpoint, and Word.
- Valid driver's license and own transport.
- Ability to follow instructions and protocols effectively and efficiently.
- A keen eye for detail and ability to accurately identify fish species using identification guides.

Preferred Qualifications:

- Knowledge of the local marine environment and marine life are desired. Strong interest and enthusiasm for ocean conservation.
- Willingness to learn and participate in various types of work, and to bring own ideas to the role.
- Good communication skills for working as part of a small, diverse team. Ability to communicate effectively both orally and in writing.
- The ability to work independently in a conscientious and reliable manner, as a self-starter with a well-developed ability to meet goals.
- Students that are adaptable, professional, personable, responsible, hard-working, willing to learn, organized, and pay attention to detail are encouraged to apply!

TO APPLY

Email resume and cover letter to:

ATTN: Jody Patterson, Volunteer Coordinator, at jody.patterson@noaa.gov;
or mail to Gray's Reef National Marine Sanctuary, 10 Ocean Science Circle, Savannah, Georgia
31411

Resumes will be accepted and reviewed on an on-going basis; however, a selection will likely be made on or before **May 15**. Successful candidate will be notified by email and telephone.

Cover letter should express interest in this Marine Science Internship opportunity and how this internship will help intern to reach personal and/or professional goals.

To learn more about Gray's Reef National Marine Sanctuary, visit graysreef.noaa.gov.

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