Temporary/Seasonal Internship Opportunity

TITLE: Aquatic Turtle Ecology Field Technician

CLASSIFICATION: Temporary/Seasonal (non-benefits eligible)

AGENCY: Environmental Institute of Houston

WEBSITE: https://www.uhcl.edu/environmental-institute/

JOB DESCRIPTION:
The Environmental Institute of Houston (EIH) at the University of Houston-Clear Lake (UHCL), under contract with the Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts, is conducting field surveys of aquatic turtles to provide the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service (USFWS) data for direct use in wildlife population management decisions, especially related to Western Chicken Turtles and Alligator Snapping Turtles. We are currently recruiting 2-4 full-time seasonal positions to assist with field sampling; start and end dates flexible depending on availability. All work will be based out of Houston, but extensive travel is required to conduct field work throughout north and east Texas. This is an excellent opportunity to gain valuable field experience collecting environmental DNA (eDNA) and genetic samples, conducting herpetological field surveys, and analyzing data related to conservation and wildlife management.

LOCATION: Based in Houston, TX; includes travel throughout north and east Texas

SALARY: Starting at $1,200/month (full-time, non-benefits eligible); travel expenses covered by grant funds

QUALIFICATIONS:
Applicants should be pursuing or possess a bachelor’s degree in natural resource management, wildlife management, biology, environmental science or a closely related field. Applicants must be willing to travel; the selected intern(s) will need to have a location to stay nearby UHCL.

Required
- Travel up to 14 days at a time and work long hours (10+) in the field during high-heat, summer months
- Be in good physical condition (able to lift and carry 50+ lbs.)
- Must possess a positive attitude and be willing to work independently as well as a member of a team

Preferred
- Previous field experience in biology, ecology, wildlife management, or a closely related field
- Experience in water collection, herpetological surveys, and driving/trailing small vessels (< 25 ft.)
- Field sampling techniques including: hoop trapping, freshwater turtle identification, eDNA sampling

Additional Notes: All applicants must possess a valid driver’s license and be physically able to drive university vehicles. Applicants must pass a criminal background and motor vehicle background check prior to hiring. This is not a benefits eligible position.

Applicants should submit a cover letter, resume, & contact information for 3 references to Mandi Gordon.

EMPLOYMENT PERIOD: February 2021 through June 2021 (4-month appointment)

APPLICATION DEADLINE: Friday, December 4, 2020

CONTACT: Mandi Gordon, (281) 283-3794, gordon@uhcl.edu *e-mail preferred