RESEARCH OPPORTUNITY ON YOUR PUBLIC LANDS

Are you looking for an opportunity to get hands-on field experience and learn about data collection and analysis?

The Mojave Desert Land Trust and the Bureau of Land Management are seeking students or recent graduates for a research internship for either academic credits or occupational training in Mojave Trails National Monument. Through a grant from Southern California Edison, participants will be provided with transport, gear, and a stipend.

The BLM is conducting a research project in the Afton Canyon area of the national monument to better understand human impacts on bighorn sheep populations. Participants will help collect data and analyze results. Activities include, but are not limited to: going out in the field to collect memory cards from game cameras, review pictures, learn how to utilize different software for data collection and analysis, and the opportunity to network and connect with professionals and researchers in the field.

The BLM’s new initiative, the Women in Science Discovering Our Mojave (WISDOM) program, seeks to engage a traditionally underrepresented constituency – minority women studying Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) – to collect data to aid in understanding resource management through a scientific lens. Through this project, BLM hopes to create an opportunity for WISDOM to provide minority women with hands-on experience.

While performing the duties of this opportunity, the accepted participant is regularly required to sit, use hands, reach with hands and arms, and talk or hear. Additionally, the participant is regularly required to stand, walk, climb or balance, and stoop, kneel, crouch or crawl on a variety of terrain, elevation, and in a variety of weather including temperatures up to 105°F. The employee must occasionally lift and/or move up to 25 pounds. Specific vision abilities required by this job include close vision, distance vision, peripheral vision, depth perception, ability to adjust focus.

The physical demands described here are representative of those that must be met by a participant to successfully perform the essential functions of this opportunity. Reasonable accommodations may be made to enable individuals with disabilities to perform the essential functions. This position requires level one and level two hiking experience: rocky and uneven terrain; elevation gain between 500 feet and 1500 feet; distance about 1.0 to 3.0 miles; some steep sections; and packing up to 25 lbs.

Applicants must have a valid driver’s license and pursuing an undergraduate or graduate level education. All academic majors welcome to apply.

Activities for this opportunity commence August 12 and continue through the fall, with the possibility of an extension. Depending on the number of interns and areas of interest, research opportunities could be expanded to tackle other pressing management issues. Researchers will go through a volunteer orientation and sign appropriate waivers.

This project is also seeking professors and professional researchers to provide mentoring and guidance.

Deadline to apply: August 2

For more info:

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