

MONTANA FISH, WILDLIFE & PARKS

INTERN PROGRAM REQUEST

EMPLOYER: Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks

CONTACT PERSON'S NAME/TITLE: Colter Feuerstein / Yellowstone cutthroat trout biologist

ADDRESS: 2300 Lake Elmo Dr.

CITY: Billings

STATE: MT

ZIP: 59105

PHONE: 406-698-1705

EMAIL ADDRESS: colter.feuerstein@mt.gov

DATE OF ANNOUNCEMENT: Friday, January 3, 2024

APPLICATION DEADLINE: Friday, February 28, 2024 at 5:00 PM (postmarked)
(UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED ON THIS FORM BY SUPERVISOR)

****STUDENTS MUST BE CURRENTLY ENROLLED IN A UNIVERSITY/COLLEGE****

POSITION TITLE: Yellowstone cutthroat trout / Native fish intern

OF POSITIONS: 1

LOCATION(S): Billings

WORK START/END DATES: Approximately June 2nd, 2025 – August 22nd, 2025

HOURS/WEEK: 40 **TOTAL HOURS FOR INTERNSHIP:** 480

TRAINING/ORIENTATION DATES: Approximately week of June 2nd (upon arrival)

HOURLY PAY: \$13/hr

ADDITIONAL COMPENSATION/RESOURCES:

- Housing provided
If yes, please list type of housing available:
- Vehicle provided
- Per Diem
- Other (please explain):

POSITION DESCRIPTION/SCOPE OF WORK:

The Yellowstone cutthroat trout / native fish intern position offers the opportunity to obtain an extremely diverse set of fisheries field experiences. The incumbent will primarily assist the Yellowstone cutthroat trout biologist and native fish species technician with a large Yellowstone cutthroat trout conservation project in the upper Shields River basin. This project may include tasks such as measuring stream flows, eDNA sampling, native fish genetic sampling, salvaging and reintroducing Yellowstone cutthroat trout and native nongame fish, and removing nonnative salmonids via piscicide treatment. Other responsibilities

outside of this project may include extensive backpack and barge electrofishing to collect Yellowstone cutthroat trout genetic and demographic data and collect native and nonnative fish species distributions throughout the Shields, Yellowstone, Musselshell, Bighorn, Shoshone, Stillwater, Clarks Fork Yellowstone, and Boulder watersheds. The incumbent may also assist regional fisheries biologists with mountain lakes fisheries sampling in the Absaroka-Beartooth Wilderness, prairie stream sampling in the lower Yellowstone River drainage, and general recreational fisheries sampling. These tasks may include various fisheries sampling techniques such as gill, fyke, and sein netting, deploying minnow traps, angling, aging fish via otoliths, and collecting fish length and weight data. The above work will provide opportunities to work with several governmental and non-governmental agencies throughout the summer.

SKILLS, ABILITIES, KNOWLEDGE NEEDED (EDUCATION; UNDERGRAD/GRAD LEVEL, SUGGESTED/REQUIRED MAJORS):

Must be currently enrolled at an accredited college or university, preferably in Montana. Minimum GPA of 3.00 towards a degree in Fisheries Biology, Wildlife Biology, Ecology, or related natural resource field is preferred. Must be able to hike long distances (up to 10 miles per day) over uneven ground with gear and packs that may exceed 60lbs. Job responsibilities will also require frequent camping and working remotely in inclement weather for multiple days, physically demanding situations that involve long and irregular work hours, and operating ATVs/UTVs and other 4WD vehicles in off-road conditions. Personnel should possess excellent independent decision-making skills, a hard work ethic, and the ability to work productively with team members.

APPLICATION MATERIALS:

- Resume**
- Cover Letter**
- References**
- Other (please specify):** Unofficial transcript

SEND APPLICATION MATERIALS TO: colter.feuerstein@mt.gov

COOPERATING SPONSORS OF PROJECT:

FUNDING SOURCES:

DJ and SWG

PROJECT NUMBERS FOR EACH FISCAL YEAR:

3812 for both fiscal years

DO ANY OF YOUR PROJECT NUMBERS USE FEDERAL FUNDING? Yes No

IF SO, PLEASE NOTE WHICH PROJECT NUMBERS AND FUNDING SOURCE:

3812

EXPECTED COST OF INTERNSHIP, INCLUDING ALL BENEFITS AND OVERHEAD, PER FISCAL YEAR:

FY25: \$13/hr for 160 hours at \$2,080. With 15% overhead, total equals \$2,392.

FY26: \$13/hr for 320 hours at \$4,160. With 15% overhead, total equals \$4,784.

ESTIMATED TOTAL COST OF INTERNSHIP:

\$13/hr for 480 hours estimated at \$6,240.

With 15% overhead \$7,176.

WILL ANY GRANTS OR SCHOLARSHIPS BE USED TO FUND THE INTERNSHIP?

Yes No

IF SO, PLEASE LIST NUMBERS ATTACHED TO THOSE:

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

This position is physically demanding but provides a great learning experience for those interested in native fish conservation and capable of working hard and following directions. This internship will be stationed out of Billings, MT. However, the incumbent should expect to spend most weekdays away from the duty station, camping remotely with little to no cell phone coverage. Most camping, backpacking, and sampling gear will be provided.