

## **POSITION ANNOUNCEMENT:**

### **FUTURE PARK LEADERS of EMERGING CHANGE**

The National Park Service (NPS) is pleased to support the *Future Park Leaders of Emerging Change* (FPL) program as a pathway for exemplary students in higher education (advanced undergraduate students, graduate students, and recent graduates) to apply their skills and ideas to park-based challenges and solutions. The Initiative offers 12-week paid internships which allow students to gain valuable work experience, explore career options, and develop leadership skills through mentorship and guidance while helping to advance NPS efforts on emerging management issues. Successful students may be eligible for non-competitive hire into federal positions for which they qualify following completion of all academic requirements.

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### **DEVELOPING AN OCEAN ACIDIFICATION ACTION TOOLKIT FOR OUR NATIONAL PARKS**

Olympic National Park  
Port Angeles, WA

#### **INTERNSHIP BLURB**

Develop a suite of ocean acidification (OA) outreach and education materials, including an interpretive script, briefing summaries that define OA, the impacts of OA, and on the OA science is happening in our national parks. Help us effectively communicate changes that our oceans face with the impacts of OA to the public and park management, with the end product being a web-based OA Action Toolkit.

#### **INTERNSHIP PROJECT BACKGROUND**

Ocean acidification (OA) threatens the health of marine organisms and food webs as well as the function of marine ecosystems. As the ocean's uptake of carbon increases, a compound vital to marine life survival called calcium carbonate decreases, endangering the ecosystem services provided by the ocean such as food, transportation, and biological functions.

In a recent Water Resource Division client survey, national parks were asked to rank emerging management issues that will affect or are already affecting park water resources. OA was identified as the second highest priority issue, right behind energy development. Parks are asking for help to communicate and tackle this rapidly emerging scientific issue and develop an action plan. There is a need to create materials that can help educate both park visitors and park management staff. The more we know about ocean acidification, the better we can manage this growing threat to our resources.

Nationally, parks would like to advance the understanding of the impacts of ocean acidification and address related challenges to local ecosystems and communities. Many ocean and coastal national parks have taken the initiative to conduct OA work, including continuous monitoring, conceptual model

development, and research. Often, this work is being conducted in isolation from other park units, programs and partners.

The goal of this internship is to effectively communicate the changes our oceans face via OA science coupled with mitigation and adaptation efforts. Our intern will be expected to perform the following: develop OA messaging tools and interpretive programs, communicate OA impacts and potential solutions, work with Olympic National Park (OLYM) interpretation/natural resource staff, NOAA, and Olympic National Marine Sanctuary education/communication staff, and ensure consistent dialogue between our partner agencies. The end product will be a suite of outreach and education materials, an interpretive script on OA, and briefing summaries of the science of OA that is happening in our National Parks, which will be developed as part of an OA Action Toolkit.

### **INTERNSHIP PROJECT DESCRIPTION**

The intern will develop an National Park Service (NPS) Ocean Acidification Action Toolkit with products shared nationally on an internal NPS Google Site. The intern will participate in interpretation training at the beginning of the field season at OLYM. The intern will then spend time in the field with NPS staff and visiting researchers to learn about the cutting edge science happening, and to collect content including images and video for digital media product development. The intern will be responsible for leading an effort to write, edit, and finalize toolkit products, as well as take and select images for use as shared content to develop an associated social media campaign linking to content related to park and ocean acidification science. Throughout the process, the intern will maintain a list of appropriate science and ocean acidification communication and scientific resources, which can be shared through the OA Toolkit Google Site.

Working closely with NPS staff, the intern will develop content for the OA Toolkit along with an associated media campaign including at least five social media posts. The website will be an information hub to share nationally relevant science and education/outreach OA resources. The intern will also create an NPS service-wide brochure that summarizes the issue of OA. They will develop an interpretation script on the topic of OA for use at OLYM and can be easily tailored for other ocean parks. The intern will write at least three web articles about OA science that is happening in and around national parks. They will take photographs/videos for use as shared content. Digital science communication products will be available for expanded use on park websites, social media, or for the development of waysides, newsletters, or brochures. The intern will also prepare a national webinar to broadcast the results of the OA toolkit to park staff.

### **Internship Tasks**

- **Gathering information from a variety of academic sources** on the most current ocean acidification research ongoing in our National Parks.

- **Working with an NPS communication team to develop** a social media/web based strategy that targets current NPS followers.
- **Becoming familiar with NPS communication policies and protocols** in order to develop content on ocean acidification science for the internal website.
- **Developing an information package on OA** for use by park staff and managers as the main part of the OA Toolkit.
- **Observing and assisting park OLYM interpretation staff** in summer outreach programs in order to develop an interpretive script on OA.
- **Developing an NPS webinar presentation** that highlights the information available in the OA toolkit.

### Internship Products

- **Social media “package”** that includes Facebook posts, tweets, and photos for Instagram posts, and website page entries designed to educate.
- **Development of the “OA Toolkit”, which will include an information packet of current research** for use by (1) park interpreters with talking points for interpretive presentations, (2) park staff and management to help explain and define OA, as well as explain the current science on OA, and the future of OA science and mitigation efforts.
- **NPS service-wide brochure** that summarizes the issue of OA for park visitors.
- **An Interpretation script** on the topic of OA for use at OLYM and can be easily tailored for other ocean parks.
- **Three scientific web articles** that summarize the OA science happening in and around national parks.
- **Development of a photograph/video database** of the OA science and our ocean and coastal resources that is happening in our national parks. These will be used as shared content available for expanded use on park websites, social media, or for the development of waysides, newsletters, or brochures.
- **A national webinar** to broadcast the outcomes of the OA toolkit to park staff.
- **Co-author and edit an article in *Park Science*** on the OA work that is happening in parks in order to broadly communicate the messaging and the availability of the new OA toolkit.

## QUALIFICATIONS

This internship is targeted to science communication graduate students with a background in environmental science, marine biology, or chemistry.

### Minimum requirements include:

- Coursework in natural resource conservation, marine ecology, or oceanography is preferred.
  - Scientific journalism would be acceptable with a focus on climate change communication or a demonstrated ability to manage similar types of complex communications.
  - At least eight (8) college hours in a science-related field or experience and a demonstrated ability to understand and communicate scientific principles.
  - At least nine (9) college hours of education or experience researching, developing and presenting education programs in a classroom and outdoor setting.
  - Knowledge of or a demonstrated ability to learn a variety of digital media platforms.
- Experience coordinating between scientists, managers and educators in order to synthesize and distill complex ideas into comprehensible nuggets.
- Advanced skills in digital photography and photo editing
- Ability to work well both independently and with a team; able to complete tasks in a timely and professional manner.
- Applicants must possess a valid state driver's license, personal transportation, and, if opting to utilize government housing, be willing to share housing with other seasonal park staff and occasionally commute approximately 50 miles to Port Angeles, WA to park headquarters, NOAA Sanctuary Offices, or to meet with academic scientists at the University of Washington.
- Happiness is a plus.

### Required skills include:

- Advanced computer skills, including web design, using the program InDesign, and Microsoft.
- Excellent technical and non-technical writing skills.
- Field experience in remote areas subject to adverse weather conditions, e.g., remote sandy beaches, rocky intertidal areas, islands, boats
- Familiarity with Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, YouTube, videography/video editing skills, excellent photography/photo editing skills.

## LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

NPS park staff will directly supervise the intern at OLYM with support from NRSS. Field work participation will occur with OLYM natural resources staff, with possible travel opportunities to other parks or areas to observe OA monitoring work. NPS scientists that are supervising this project have experience and are motivated to present new findings in peer reviewed journals and at public outreach forums. They will provide guidance and support to help with the development of products, including co-writing a journal article for submission in *Park Science*. The intern will be expected to work independently and develop shared products which will be used by many in the education, scientific and resource management community. By collaborating closely with scientists and educators from

University of Washington, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Olympic National Marine Sanctuary, and the NPS, the intern will have the opportunity to publish results and present the OA Action Toolkit in a nationally advertised webinar and will develop interpretive outreach talks for the public.

### **DATES OF POSITION**

The preferred starting date is May 15, 2018, however dates of the position are flexible depending upon availability. Olympic National Park is offering Interpretation training the week of Memorial Day (May 21st). Ideally the intern will work 480 hours between May 15 and August 15.

### **COMPENSATION**

This initiative supports one student at \$16/hour for 12 weeks, or 480 hours.

### **HOUSING**

Shared housing in a dormitory (including a shared bedroom/bath/kitchen and common areas) is available within the park at Kalaloch. Park housing typically consists of a bunk house or dormitory with a shared kitchen and bathroom. Occupant should bring cleaning supplies, toiletries, and linens for a twin bed. The dorm is fully furnished and includes the major electrical appliances (refrigerator, stove, etc.) Shared laundry facilities are also included in the dormitory.

Kalaloch is home to the Kalaloch lodge, restaurant, and store. Kalaloch is located 30 miles south of Forks, Washington. Forks is a small city with a population of just over 3,000. Businesses located in Forks include a main grocery store, several restaurants, hardware stores, and gas stations. This location is about 2 hours from Port Angeles and the park HQ.

### **WORK ENVIRONMENT**

The work environment will be a mixture of office work, research, and field work. The intern will be working in the field at OLYM to video/photo-document the OA science happening in parks, as well as a possible travel opportunity to Channel Islands National Park and/or Cabrillo National Monument to learn and document what ocean acidification science is occurring in these national parks. Field work will include wet, slippery intertidal zones, rocky tide pools, sandy beaches, riding in boats in possibly choppy, windy conditions, with unpredictable weather (could be windy, rainy, sunny, cold, all in one field day). Office space will be provided at the Kalaloch ranger station with opportunities to meet scientists and attend meetings at the Olympic National Marine Sanctuary office in Port Angeles, University of Washington, and NOAA Pacific Marine Environmental Laboratory.

## **CONTACT INFORMATION**

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(Please be advised that Jared is on Furlough until mid-February)