

Washington Conservation Corps – AmeriCorps Individual Placement

WA Department of Natural Resources – Aquatic Reserves Program - Puget SoundCorps Team

Position Profile: This Washington Conservation Corps (WCC) Individual Placement (IP) AmeriCorps position is sponsored by the Washington State Department of Natural Resources (WA DNR) Aquatic Reserves Program. As a part of the Aquatic Reserves Program's six-member Puget SoundCorps Team, the selected applicant will provide baseline and trend monitoring of important habitats and species within the state's seven Aquatic Reserves: Cherry Point, Cypress Island, Fidalgo Bay, Smith & Minor Island, Protection Island, Maury Island, and Nisqually Reach. In addition, some field work will be performed in proposed aquatic reserves. Under the supervision of the Puget SoundCorps Team Leader and Aquatic Reserves Program Manager, the position will ensure that the data collected meets the quality standards for state owned aquatic lands management and is a benefit to the people of the state of Washington.

Major Responsibilities

- Monthly: Performing beach spawning forage fish surveys within all Aquatic Reserves
- Quarterly: SeagrassNet monitoring
- Monthly: Amphibian surveys and water quality sampling
- Marine debris identification and removal
- Basic laboratory duties (microscopy and preparation of chemical mixtures)
- Data management in MS Excel and MS Access databases
- Sediment sample collection for pre/post oil spill event conditions
- Assisting Aquatic Reserves partners and their projects, including Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) biologists and the Nisqually Tribe
- Providing training and support to citizen stewardship committees and citizen scientists
- Participation in education and outreach events

Required Qualifications:

- Bachelor's Degree in Biology, Environmental Science, or related field
- Between the age of 18-25 (*limited exceptions made for recently returning military veterans and participants with a sensory or mental disability*).
- Must have a valid driver's license and have 2 years of driving experience
- The incumbent in this position is required to travel

Desirable Qualifications:

- Experience working in unfavorable weather conditions and uneven terrain
- Experience with MS Excel, MS Access, and/or ArcGIS

Additional Information and Requirements

- Field Work (40%)
 - Hiking on Puget Sound beaches, mudflats, and estuaries; will require frequent in- and on- water work from boats.
 - Field work is through September 2017 and will take place in all seasons and types of weather. Involves frequent heavy lifting and hiking several miles a day.
 - Collecting and managing field data.
 - Requires frequent overnight stays and long periods of driving.
 - Maintaining field equipment.
 - Representing the WCC and DNR as a public servant when talking to the public.
- Lab Work (40%)
 - Processing field samples, including some chemical handling and microscope work.
 - Maintaining proper lab safety and etiquette.
 - Maintaining organization of samples and equipment.
- Office Work (20%)
 - Entering field and lab data into MS Excel and MS Access databases.
 - Maintaining and tracking records (expenses, vehicle use, etc.).
 - Project management support.
- Good team communication and collaboration skills.
- Work will occur at irregular hours depending on tidal cycles. Some weekend work may be required.
- Lab and office work is stationed in Olympia. Field work occurs throughout Puget Sound.
- Position will receive all necessary training, gear, and equipment to safely complete field, lab, and office work.

Compenastion / Benefits

- \$9.47/hour.
- \$5,775 AmeriCorps Education Award upon successful completion of 12-month term -AND- 1,700 hours.
- Basic Medical Insurance.
- Educational loan forbearance is available on qualified loans.

How to Apply

Email cover letter, resume and 3 references to **Jaime Liljegen** at Jaime.Liljegen@dnr.wa.gov
-AND- complete **WCC application**: <https://fortress.wa.gov/ecy/wccapp/>