



# PENNSYLVANIA GAME COMMISSION

## NORTHCENTRAL REGION

1566 SOUTH ROUTE 44 HIGHWAY JERSEY SHORE, PA 17740 | (570) 398-4744 | PGC-NCREGION@PA.GOV

### PA Game Commission – Northcentral Region 2024 Summer Internships

Are you excited to begin a career in conservation but lack field training and experience? Do you want your first steps to contribute to the management and protection of wildlife and their habitats while promoting hunting and trapping? If so, your goals align with the mission of the Pennsylvania Game Commission and our summer internship program is designed for you! Pennsylvania's wildlife agency is seeking hard-working, highly motivated students eager to expand their conservation experience.

#### **Available Opportunities and Learning Objectives**

Internship opportunities are available within several disciplines – habitat management, information & education, and wildlife biology. Descriptions of each are provided below. We encourage you to apply to one or more opportunities depending on your interests. You will work primarily in the designated subject area, but periodic opportunities to experience other disciplines will be provided.

#### **Habitat Management Internship (2 positions)**

Habitat Management Internships focus on specific habitat initiatives as described below, but they also periodically work with Habitat Management Crews responsible for maintenance and enhancements on State Game Lands. Interns will gain hands-on experience in habitat management, including how to safely operate farm equipment and power tools, properly apply herbicides for treating invasive species, and maintenance of gates, parking lots, and boundary lines. Interns will be introduced to the Game Commission's comprehensive planning process which provides the foundation for all work completed on State Game Lands, and gain experience in enhancing herbaceous, shrubland, and forested habitats for wildlife.

Work Location: *Karthus, PA, Clearfield County* – **2 positions**

You will perform GIS field data collection of natural gas pipeline infrastructure on State Game Lands within the North Central Region of the state. This will include working with a host of ESRI products including but not limited to Arc Pro and Field Maps, as well as coordinating the data collection with both the regional GIS Specialist and the Right of Way coordinator in Harrisburg. In addition to these responsibilities, you will be responsible for communicating activities with Land Management Staff, record keeping and completing other tasks as assigned by Land management Staff.

#### **Information and Education Internship (1 position)**

Work Location: *Jersey Shore, Lycoming county*

One key factor to a successful conservation agency is remaining relevant. The objective of this internship is to provide experience in the development and delivery of content that promotes the mission and values of the PA Game Commission. The intern will be immersed in operations to foster a



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comprehensive understanding of the agency's programs, goals, and accomplishments. Through guidance from the regional information and education supervisor, the intern will develop content and draft articles for publication; assist in creating videos, posts, podcasts, and other efforts to publicize agency activities and events; create, package, and inventory promotional displays and items; coordinate and edit field note submissions; become familiar with Wildlife on Wi-Fi and other virtual educational platforms; communicate with the marketing bureau to coordinate and publicize regional events; and inventory and update agency publications. Intern may also assist with coordinating and conducting learning events and outreach at the Elk Visitor Center in Benezette, PA and participate in a variety of wildlife research projects and surveys.

### **Wildlife Biology Internship (3 positions)**

Work Location(s): regionwide but residency in Clearfield/Centre/Clinton/Lycoming county area preferred – 3 positions

This internship will offer real-world experience in the field of wildlife biology. Interns will be trained by agency biologists to assist with a variety of wildlife research and monitoring projects. Duties will include black bear capture and tagging, acoustic sampling (bats & Northern flying squirrels), turkey capture and telemetry monitoring, nest box surveys, waterfowl and mourning dove banding, woodrat surveys, and various other wildlife and habitat surveys. Interns will learn specific survey and wildlife capture methods, equipment operation (GPS, radio-telemetry, kayaks, 4X4 vehicles, and hand tools), and develop an understanding of how data relates to management decisions and population goals. Each intern will also write 1 to 2 annual reports summarizing data and methods from surveys they conducted to promote good writing and critical thinking skills. Projects will occur throughout the NC region; however, wildlife interns will need to reside in one of the 4 counties listed during the field season.

### **Rewards**

Our goal is to mentor and recruit the next generation of conservation professionals. As an intern, you will explore career and agency opportunities to gain a better perspective on this potential career path. You will develop specialized skill sets through hands-on application while being mentored by professionals within your field of study. You will participate in an exit evaluation at the end of the field season, providing a forum for constructive feedback and questions. You will collaborate with other conservationists, forming relationships you can build on in the future. Finally, interns who successfully complete the program may be considered for future employment opportunities with our agency.

### **Compensation**

\$16.67/hour for 40 hours/week

Schedule: Monday - Friday, 7:00 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. (subject to change based on assignments)

Anticipated starting date: May 6, 2024

Anticipated ending date: August 16, 2024

Maximum Hours: 749 hours/calendar year



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### Qualifications

- Must be enrolled as a full-time student and registered for at least 12 credits in the fall 2024 semester. If offered a position, you will be required to provide documentation of Fall enrollment that includes student name/ID number, name of the school, name of degree or program area enrolled in, and list of registered courses with credits shown.
- Must be enrolled in a technical, scientific, or engineering field of study. Preferred candidates will have taken college level course work or experience in the fields of wildlife, forestry, or natural resource management.
- Must have a valid driver's license.
- A graduating High School student who is 18 and enrolled in the fall semester is eligible to apply.
- Work will be outdoors and involve traversing uneven terrain in all-weather conditions. Must be excited about working outdoors and demonstrate a strong work ethic.
- Must have a positive attitude, be eager to learn, and be open to collaboration and working as a team.

### To Apply

Internship applicants must be current full-time students who will return to college in Fall 2024. To apply, send a cover letter, resume, and transcript showing current college enrollment to the email listed below for your area of interest. You may apply for more than one interest area. Please specify the work locations you would like to be considered for in your cover letter. **All application materials must be received by February 16, 2024.** Interviews will be conducted in March. Questions can also be directed to the emails below.

Habitat Management Internships – Contact Jeff Mock at [jmock@pa.gov](mailto:jmock@pa.gov)

Information and Education Internship – Contact Mike Steingraber at [msteingrab@pa.gov](mailto:msteingrab@pa.gov)

Wildlife Biology Internships – Contact Mark Ternent at [mternent@pa.gov](mailto:mternent@pa.gov)