

Summer 2019 Internship with the Columbia Basin Pygmy Rabbit Recovery Project

This position assists with the Columbia Basin Pygmy Rabbit Recovery Project based near Ephrata Washington. Working alongside professionals from Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife and partners from the University of Idaho, you will assist with maintaining semi-wild breeding enclosures, capture and release of juvenile rabbits, and numerous research projects (genetics, disease monitoring, dispersal, predation rates). The field season begins in May and continues through August.

The work will occur in remote areas and be physically demanding, including walking long distances over uneven terrain, lifting and carrying equipment, supplies, and animals. Conditions can be challenging, hot, and involve numerous early mornings. Here are some of the things you will be doing during the internship:

- Husbandry of rabbits and vegetation management in semi-wild breeding enclosures
- Ground surveys to locate and monitor released pygmy rabbits
- Maintenance and construction of enclosures used for rabbit reintroductions
- Game camera monitoring of predator activity in release areas
- Live trapping and transporting rabbits from breeding enclosures to release sites
- Animal handling and sample collection (tissue, fecal pellets) for DNA analysis and disease monitoring
- Operating 4x4 pickup trucks, GPS units, tablets, and game cameras

You will be part of a summer field crew (5-7 people) and housing is provided in a comfortable field station managed by The Nature Conservancy, which also will be shared by researchers and volunteers. Details of scheduling, start and end dates, and days off will be worked out once the positions are filled.

Minimum qualifications: Intern must have a valid drivers license. Intern must be able to walk long distances over uneven terrain in hot conditions, lifting and carrying equipment, supplies, and animals. You must have your own transportation to and from Ephrata, Washington. Student must be a wildlife major or minor.

Salary – Student will receive a \$3000 stipend from the FWS department.

Application Requirements: Interested applicants should submit: 1) a letter of interest, 2) a resume which includes contact information for 3 references, and 3) unofficial transcripts in a single PDF to Kim Stout (kstout@uidaho.edu) by Friday January 25.

Additional questions: Lisette Waits: lwaits@uidaho.edu, 885-7823.

For more information on the Columbia Basin Pygmy Rabbit Recovery Program see: https://wdfw.wa.gov/conservation/pygmy_rabbit/

