

## **Scallop Project Research Assistant**

The Hurricane Island Center for Science and Leadership is a learning community and field research station on Hurricane Island, in Penobscot Bay, Maine, offering experiential, hands-on education programs and research opportunities focusing on marine sciences, STEAM education, sustainable living technology, citizen science initiatives, and leadership.

One of our initiatives is a collaborative research project with Maine scallop fishermen monitoring the effects of two small-scale closed areas (harvesting is prohibited) on local Atlantic Sea Scallop populations. The project began in fall of 2013 when the Muscle Ridge Closure (Penobscot Bay, Maine) was formally implemented by the Maine Department of Marine Resources. We collected baseline data about the scallop population inside and outside of the closed area through drop camera and SCUBA dive surveys in 2013, and since then we completed a successful year of monitoring in November 2014 and are beginning to plan for the 2015 field season. We are looking for a research assistant to support this work in 2015.

### **Expectations of the Scallop Project Research Assistant**

- Help coordinate logistics for field days for drop camera and SCUBA diving surveys;
- Prep equipment and gear for field days;
- Participate in drop camera and SCUBA dive surveys;
- Enter data, process, and organize tissue, spat bag, and shell samples;
- Present a summary of summer field work results at our annual science meeting in August;
- Spend time on Hurricane Island, out in the field, and in our Rockland office;
- Work with Hurricane Island educators to share and engage on-island students in scallop project work;
- Contribute content to our Hurricane Island “Science for Everyone” blog about the status of the scallop project and share other relevant scallop or shellfish research.

If interested, the research assistant will have the opportunity to explore an individual project within part of the larger scallop research effort. While on Hurricane Island, the research assistant will also help assist in environmental monitoring and data collection for our Field Station. The research assistant may help with some of our marine-related programs on Hurricane by taking the lead on education units directly related to the scallop project.

### **Eligibility and Requirements**

- You must be at minimum certified for Open Water SCUBA; Advanced Open Water SCUBA certification and scientific diving experience is preferred
- You must have Diver’s Alert Network (DAN) insurance.
- Ability and willingness to work and live in a remote, island community with rustic and off-the-grid accommodations where all staff share living and work spaces;
- Essential qualities include hard working, strong communication skills, and the ability to work as a positive group member;
- Willingness to work evenings and weekends as needed;



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- Certified in basic CPR/ First Aid; Wilderness First Aid or Wilderness First Responder (WFR) certification is preferred;
- Minimum of 2 years completed towards an undergraduate or graduate degree program;
- Holds a valid driver's license with good driving record (a vehicle is highly recommended);
- Proficiency with Microsoft Word and Excel is essential; knowledge of GIS and CAD software is beneficial;
- United States Coast Guard Captain's license or other boating certifications are beneficial.

Hurricane Island Foundation is dedicated to a policy of nondiscrimination in employment on any basis including race, creed, color, age, sex, religion, or national origin. Because we work with middle and high school students, we are required to do background checks on all seasonal and full-time staff.

## Compensation

Each intern will receive room and board while on Hurricane Island for duration of the internship (June 15-August 23). Given that this position requires time spent in Rockland, HIF staff will assist the qualifying candidate in finding in-town accommodations. Interns will also receive a stipend. We are happy to help make this internship fulfill graduation requirements. If this is of interest to the qualifying candidate, please make HIF staff aware of steps needed to make receipt of credits possible.

**Application Materials:** *Applications are due by February 16, 2015.*

- Cover letter explaining your interest in this position and your experience with field research.
- Resumé or CV, which includes contact information for three references. We want a complete picture of you so don't be afraid to include details that may not pertain directly to this job.
- A letter of recommendation from a professor who can speak to your strengths, abilities, and opportunities for personal and professional growth.
- A college transcript (unofficial is acceptable).
- Dive log outlining diving experience to date and a photocopy of your dive certification card(s) and your Divers Alert Network card.
- A writing sample between 250-500 words. We would like to get a sense of your writing style, as we will expect that you regularly contribute program updates through our blogs.

**Application Submission:** Please submit your application in one of the following ways -

*Electronically via email, please send to: [jobs@hurricaneisland.net](mailto:jobs@hurricaneisland.net)*

*Hard copy of materials, please mail to:*

**Hurricane Island Center for Science and Leadership  
P.O. Box 1280  
Rockland, ME 04841**

*If we feel from your application that you are a good fit for this position, we will contact you to schedule an interview.*

