Internship Announcement

Lemhi Regional Land Trust & Salmon Valley Stewardship

Job Description
Title: Fish and Wildlife Service Intern
Status: Summer Intern
Location: Salmon, Idaho
Start Date: Estimated June 5, 2017
Salary: $11 - $13, depending on experience.
Hours: 25-30 hours per week, 8 to 10 weeks depending on funding

Requirements: College student or recent graduate

How to Apply: Email resume and cover letter together in PDF form describing interest and work experience, to charli@lemhilandtrust.org
Please include in email title: FWS Internship Application -Your Name.

Land Trust Office: 208-756-8879
http://www.salmonvalley.org/
http://www.lemhilandtrust.org/

Closing Date: April 23rd
Salmon Valley Stewardship (SVS) and Lemhi Regional Land Trust (LRLT) are community-based conservation organizations working in the Upper Salmon River Watershed of the High Divide. We are grassroots 501(c)3 nonprofit organizations with staff and board members who share a belief that a robust economy and a healthy environment don’t have to be mutually exclusive. SVS opened an office in downtown Salmon, Idaho, and hired its first staff member in 2004 with the goal of reducing natural resource conflicts in the area. With the mission to promote a sustainable economy and productive working landscapes in the Salmon River Region of Central Idaho, one of the SVS director’s first tasks was the creation of a land trust capable of focusing on conservation of the valley’s working lands.

By 2005, LRLT was incorporated with its own board of directors (most of whom were area ranchers), and the organization hired their own director. The heart of LRLT’s work is to protect private land and natural resources. LRLT has permanently protected 13,553 acres of private land and nearly 50 miles of stream within thirteen conservation easements and owns another 556 acres that are open to the public. We steward and restore protected lands, lead other conservation efforts, and maybe most importantly we consistently encourage and nurture a community conservation ethic.

SVS and LRLT have continued to work together to achieve conservation on public and private lands, both organizations holding firm to the belief that conservation values and community values must be considered together. Our internship proposal is designed to provide the students with a sense of how this blend of conservation and community values looks on the ground. We’ve created a program that represents the diversity of activities that our two organizations engage in that will provide insight into the wide variety of strategies that community-based conservation organizations employ.

http://www.lemhilandtrust.org
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The internship would include the following elements beginning on or about June 5:

**Skills and Interest Conference Call:** Prior to arrival in Lemhi County, the intern would be asked to read background documents provided by SVS and LRLT and to participate in a brief conference call with SVS and LRLT staff to allow us to tailor the proposed activities with the intern’s passions and talents.

**Orientation and Field Training:** To fully understand the dynamics of community based conservation in rural communities, SVS and LRLT will work with the intern to acquaint them with the community, public and private lands project locations and partner organizations that SVS and LRLT work closely with. The orientation portion of the internship will also include an introduction to various ecological monitoring protocols including photo point, upland, aspen and sage grouse monitoring, along with the use of standard field equipment, and data management.

**Ecological Monitoring of LRLT Conservation Easements:** Monitoring site visits to LRLT’s conservation easements provides an up close look at how productive working ranches, conservation and even endangered species recovery can all occur in harmony on the same piece of property. Interns will spend time visiting each of LRLT’s thirteen conservation easements and conducting photo point monitoring to allow LRLT staff to determine compliance with the conservation easements and work with LRLT staff to compile the annual monitoring report for each property. *Learning objectives* are focused on understanding conservation easements, their role in the conservation of ranchland and agriculture in concert with conservation of natural resources; and LRLT’s responsibility to steward their conservation easements and maintain positive working relationships with the landowners.

**Ecological Monitoring on Public Land Forest and Rangelands:** SVS engages in forest and range multiparty monitoring activities focused on critical resources such as Chinook salmon and sage grouse habitat, aspen, post wildland fire effects and invasive weed species. *Learning objectives* are focused on understanding forest restoration, range health, fire ecology, and the benefits associated with community stewardship and collaboration.

**Habitat Restoration on Private Lands:** As part of LRLT’s conservation work, our organization works with landowners on properties where we hold conservation easements to implement habitat restoration projects ranging from simple streambank stabilizations utilizing native plantings to large scale projects such as the creation of side channels to provide overwintering and rearing habitat for native and ocean going fish. Interns will have the opportunity to work alongside LRLT staff and contractors in the on the ground implementation of riparian and streambank habitat restoration projects. *Learning objectives* will include learning about commonly utilized restoration methods, particularly those in ecologically sensitive areas.

**Baling Twine Recycling:** SVS and LRLT will be working with Idaho Department of Fish and Game to enlist ranchers in a voluntary baling twine recycling initiative. Osprey like to use baling twine to build their nests, with devastating results. Birds become entangled in the twine, and this scenario has resulted in many documented deaths and injuries for these Salmon Valley raptors. A previous intern initiated this program in 2015, and our 2016 intern expanded the program. The 2017 intern would continue to grow the program. *Learning objectives* include the design of a
public outreach campaign and developing a monitoring program to track participants and volume of twine collected.

**Pollinator Environmental Education:** SVS directed a community-wide effort in 2014 to install a large public mural called *Stream of Dreams* on a fence at Salmon High School. This project involved intensive environmental education in grades K-12 and solicited the help of dozens of volunteers and partner organizations. The result is a very visible reminder of our native fish legacy. In 2016, we’ve kicked off a similar project that focuses on pollinators, called the Pollinator Pathway. *Learning objectives* would include large project organization, communicating with a number of different partners and volunteers, and gaining familiarity with environmental education curriculum design.

**Salmon School Garden:** SVS is working with the Salmon School Garden Project to integrate healthy foods and learning in a garden environment. During the summer the garden is in full swing growing vegetables, flowers and hosting a Kid's Garden Program. *The learning objective* is to develop a Citizen Science Pollinator Monitoring Guide that can be conducted by the students as part of their curricula. The guide will be for all ages, and applied at one or two of the Kid's Garden sessions.

**Outreach and Communications:** SVS and LRLT both work to engage the public and raise awareness about our community’s conservation issues, and their relationship to regional, national, and global issues. Outreach efforts may include print and web publications, social media, fundraisers, radio appearances and attending other community events. *The learning objective* is to communicate organizational objectives in an accurate and compelling manner to a wide variety of audiences.

**Supervision of the Internship:** In addition to offering compelling and meaningful programs, SVS and LRLT are both seeking to provide a supportive, mentored environment for the Whitman Interns. Not only do our two organizations work closely together, and frequently share staff, but we also share adjoining offices. The following personnel would be responsible for supervision of the interns:

**Toni Ruth, Executive Director, SVS.** Toni has lived in Salmon since 2005 and has been with SVS as a founding member since her arrival to Lemhi County. She became the new Executive Director of SVS in October 2016, overseeing all program activities of the organization. Toni holds a Ph.D in wildlife biology from the University of Idaho, and studied mountain lions for over 25 years, publishing numerous scientific articles, popular articles and is in the final stages of completing a book, *Yellowstone Cougars: Ecology Before and During Wolf Restoration*.

**Jenny Gonyer, Natural Resources Program Manager, SVS.** Jenny joined SVS in 2014, after being LRLT and SVS’s first joint intern in 2013. She now heads SVS’s Monitoring Program, with her main projects focused on ecological monitoring of forest restoration projects including aspen and whitebark pine, and monitoring sage-grouse and grazing allotments on BLM and National Forest lands. Jenny’s main office is outdoors on our public lands.
Rachel Layman, Director of Operations & Outreach, SVS. Rachel started working for SVS in 2011 as the Lemhi County Farmers Market manager, and her job has since been expanded to include all Local Foods projects, environmental education, the Pollinator Pathway and she also acts as the Salmon Valley Trails coordinator.

Mindy Crowell, Fund Development and Collaboration Specialist, SVS. Mindy started with SVS in 2015 as a Vista working on Local Foods and the School Garden Project. Mindy now works on facilitating and coordinating the Central Idaho Public Lands Planning Group, in addition to many other projects including the Pollinator Pathway.

Kristin Troy, Executive Director, LRLT. Kristin has been the founding executive director of LRLT since the organization’s inception in 2005. She oversees all aspects of the organization. Kristin grew up in Salmon and she and her husband Mark own a whitewater rafting and fishing guide business in Salmon -- Idaho Adventures.

Charli Williams, Education and Outreach Coordinator, LRLT. Charli has been masterful at coordinating intern work plans to make sure both organizations and our interns are meeting our respective objectives. Charli is a leader with the Lemhi County 4-H program, sits on the Salmon High School Agricultural Education Advisory Board and is secretary of the Lemhi County Cattlewomen.

Breann Green, Stewardship Coordinator, LRLT. Breann would work directly with the interns, teaching monitoring techniques, GIS, and other data collection and analysis tasks. Breann is a licensed river guide on the Salmon River and owner of Salmon River Food Packs and River of No Return Wilderness Outfitters, in addition to her work at LRLT.