**Job Announcement**

**Spring Intern/Plant Conservation,**

**Institute for Conservation Research, San Diego Zoo Global**

The Plant Conservation team at the Institute for Conservation Research, San Diego Zoo Global is seeking a Spring Intern to gain experience with San Diego County endangered plant conservation. Over 200 species of plants have high risk of extinction in San Diego County. An important component of our integrated conservation for rare plant species is making seed collections for research, long-term storage, and restoration. The spring intern will report to Stacy Anderson, Coordinator SDZG Native Plant Seed Bank and will assist with seed collections, seed processing, and seed germination trials. Many plant species have seeds that can be stored economically for long periods of time, but simple storage of valuable seeds is not enough. The ability to germinate and produce healthy plants is key to the conservation role seed banks provide. Although some seeds may germinate readily with adequate moisture and oxygen, others may have physical or physiological dormancy that may inhibit their germination. The overall germination process can be complex as seeds may require specific environmental triggers to germinate. Discovering what pretreatments the seeds may need in order to germinate is part of the challenge and part of the fun. Documenting seed images using special image stacking software and microscopic photography may also be a possible project for the spring intern. Interns will be expected to do an independent project, make an oral presentation, and produce a written report for their sponsoring organization by the end of their term.

This is a full-time position (5 days/week) with some weekend work possible. Term is 12 weeks: April 3, 2017 – June 30, 2017. This opportunity is paid via stipend.  You are required to work 480 hours during your Internship.  Your stipend will be $6,000.  You will receive the first half of your stipend at the end of the 2nd week of Fellowship.  You will receive the second half at the end of the sixth week of your Fellowship. San Diego Zoo Global agrees that it will report to federal, state and local government agencies, as required by law, that it has paid the Spring Intern a stipend to offset student Intern expenses. SDZG will not withhold income taxes from the stipend paid. The Spring Intern understands that he/she will be responsible for paying 100% of all applicable income taxes. Spring Intern will receive a 1099 form at the end of 2017 for their tax reporting purposes.

**Representative Duties/Responsibilities**

Essential Functions:

* Assists with all aspects of seed collection, processing, and banking process.
* Assists with gathering population data.
* Enters data and provides basic data management.
* Researches target species ecology and seed biology.
* Conducts statistical analyses on data collected (if applicable) and synthesizes results into a short presentation and/or report to share results.
* Ability to work as part of a team and independently.

Ancillary Functions:

* Interacts with visitors, land managers and the general public to promote plant conservation actions.
* May participate in other Applied Plant Conservation team activities including rare plant cultivation and habitat restoration.
* Performs related duties and responsibilities as required.

**QUALIFICATIONS:**

* Coursework in botany, biology, and/or ecology or related field (e.g., horticulture, natural resource management, forestry, range management)
* Current affiliation with a college or university with a degree in progress, OR a recent graduate (degree conferred within past 2 years).
* Knowledge of Southern California native plants and experience identifying plants; in the field desired and/or the ability to use the Jepson Manual of California or other taxonomic keys.
* Some experience with GPS is preferred.
* Great attention to detail.
* Strong written and verbal communication skills.

**Abilities required:**

Qualified applicants must be able to safely lift and carry up to 40lbs, hike off-trail on steep terrain for extended periods of time, and endure exposure to the elements: heat, cold, rain, insects, etc. are all a routine part of the position.

**Join the Team**

San Diego Zoo Global is a conservation organization dedicated to the science of saving endangered species worldwide. San Diego Zoo Global operates three world-class facilities: the San Diego Zoo, the San Diego Zoo Safari Park, and the San Diego Zoo Institute for Conservation Research. Our organization’s vision - we will lead the fight against extinction.

Help us to make a difference for wildlife and begin your adventure at the **San Diego Zoo Institute For Conservation Research.**  Join the dedicated crew who are passionate about what they do and strive to create unforgettable experiences for our guests.  Share your knowledge, skills and commitment to provide GRRREAT Customer Service and be a part of the ROAR with San Diego Zoo Global!

To apply, go use link below:

<https://www.hrapply.com/sandiegozoo/AppJobView.jsp?link=7884&page=AppJobList.jsp&skimSessionName=com.hrlogix.view.tags.bootstrap.table.JobListTable&skimName=requisition.requisition_id&skimNdx=1&op=reset>

**Deadline to submit request of application: March 27, 2017.** Applications must be submitted online by 9:30pm Pacific Standard Time