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SUMMER EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY – PRINCE WILLIAM SOUND SCIENCE CENTER

Positions: Crew Leader (2-3 positions) and Field Technicians (6-8 positions)

Location: Cordova, Alaska

Start Date: Variable – Approximately July 24, 2017

End Date: Between September 15 – 31, 2017

Minimum Qualifications: Crew Leader: Bachelors degree or higher in Fisheries/Wildlife Science or related field (Master's degree preferred). Field technicians: Undergraduate students in Fisheries/Wildlife Science or related field (Bachelor's degree preferred).

Description: The Prince William Sound Science Center (PWSSC) is leading a project to collect samples under a contract with the Alaska Dept. of Fish and Game for the agency's investigation of the interactions and impacts between hatchery and wild salmon (pink and chum) in Prince William Sound. These positions will report to Project Leaders, Drs. Pete Rand and Kristen Gorman, for salmon stream sampling in Prince William Sound. All crew members will receive bear safety and other field safety training. These positions will participate in surveying salmon and sampling spawned out carcasses for otoliths and DNA tissues, all according to specific, predesigned field protocols. Some salmon tagging work may be conducted pending funding. Crew leaders and technicians will live aboard contracted research vessels or in a remote field camp for the months of August and September, depending on the position, with only periodic, very brief visits back to Cordova for re-supply. All meals will be provided while at sea or in camps. Alcohol, marijuana, or any illegal drugs are strictly prohibited while in the field on any PWSSC sponsored project. This physically challenging fieldwork will occur in difficult field conditions (rain, wind, mosquitos, sometimes rough ocean conditions) in very remote areas, requiring hiking difficult terrain and crossing streams while carrying equipment. Long work hours will be required.

Required Skills/qualifications for all positions:

Extreme attention to detail, both for executing research and in collecting data.

Good written and oral communication skills.

Experience successfully working with others.

Capable of working in remote locations under physically demanding conditions.

Interest in working outdoors, including under inclement weather conditions for long periods of time.

Willing to live/work in proximity to large mammals including bears.

Able to walk in or along a stream on uneven and/or wet terrain for distances up to several miles per day.

Able to occasionally lift up to 30 pounds.

Willing to participate in firearm and bear safety training; previous experience preferred.

Able to commit to entire project period.

Able to live aboard a research vessel or in a remote camp for an extended period of time.

Able to collect biological samples with a high degree of accuracy and attention to detail.

Great attitude and willingness to work overtime.

Exemplify safe operations at all times, especially while in the field.

Ability to communicate and work cooperatively with vessel crew and PWSSC staff at various organizational levels.

The successful applicant will be required to work with firearms and non-lethal bear deterrents in areas with potentially high bear concentrations.

Position Specific Duties and Responsibilities

Crew Leader

Lead a small field crew to collect accurate data according to prescribed research methods.

Ensure safe operations at all times while in the field.

Assist with crew training.

Respond to all directions from Field Coordinator, Project Leader, Project Manager, and PWSSC President.

Track and coordinate shipping of samples to laboratories.

Coordinate supplies necessary to sustain the field research.

Upload field data to primary database on regular basis.

Serve as key communication point between project and charter vessel operators.

Additional responsibilities as necessary.

Field Technicians

Ability to work under described conditions.

Great attention to detail.

Willingness to carry out instructions from crew leader, other project leaders and vessel captains.

Salary and benefits: Crew leader = \$23 – \$27 per hour; Field technician = \$17 - \$19 per hour, all dependent on experience. Includes unemployment insurance, worker’s compensation, and overtime pay. No other benefits are included. Travel to and from Cordova, Alaska is each technician’s own responsibility.

How to Apply: In one PDF document, send a one-page cover letter detailing your experience and interest in fisheries or wildlife research, particularly any fish tagging experience, and how this opportunity would contribute to your career goals, in addition to a resume or CV and three professional references to Dr. Kristen Gorman at kgorman@pwssc.org. The subject line should read “Hatchery-Wild Project – Crew Leader and/or Field Tech Application” depending on the position for which you are applying. You may indicate interest in more than one position. Applicants must be authorized to work in the United States for any U.S. employer.

Application Deadline: Review of applications will begin on March 30, 2017. Positions will be open until filled.