



JOB ANNOUNCEMENT

Position Title: Stewardship Coordinator (full-time)
Narragansett Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve

Background:

The Narragansett Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve (Reserve) is a state-federal partnership program managed cooperatively between the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) and the State of Rhode Island's Department of Environmental Management (RIDEM) to support the informed management of coastal ecosystems and communities through integrated research, education, training and stewardship activities. The Narragansett Bay Reserve is located on Prudence, Patience, Hope and Dyer islands in the middle of Narragansett Bay, and is one of 29 reserves in a national system of protected areas designated as National Estuarine Research Reserves (NERRS). Reserve headquarters are located on Prudence Island, which is only accessible by ferry from Bristol, RI, with auxiliary office space within RIDEM's Division of Planning and Development in Providence. This position requires a majority of days each week on Prudence Island, with the remaining hours to be worked in the Providence office or at off-island field sites as required. This is a contract position supported through a cooperative agreement between NBNERR and the Audubon Society of Rhode Island.

Additional information about the Reserve can be found at www.nbnerr.org.

General Duties:

The general functions of this position are to coordinate and implement natural resource management and restoration programs within the Reserve; to collect and synthesize data to support habitat management and coastal decision making; provide mapping and GIS support to Reserve staff and statewide partners where applicable; and to work closely with the public as well as other Reserve sectors to integrate education, training and research programs. This position requires a comprehensive understanding of and ability to apply scientific principles, procedures, practices and theories pertinent to various disciplines of natural resource management and restoration (e.g. coastal ecology, forestry, conservation and restoration, water quality, etc.). This position will also be responsible for representing the Reserve in a stewardship capacity within the National Estuarine Research Reserve System by contributing to national initiatives, programs and committees.

Examples of Specific Responsibilities

- Develop and implement natural resource management plans and restoration strategies for various habitats within the Reserve, including coastal wetlands and forests.
- Establish or maintain monitoring programs within the Reserve to evaluate changes in the health and distribution of natural resources, inform management and contribute to state-wide monitoring and assessment programs as appropriate
- Collect geospatial data and provide GIS and mapping support to Reserve staff as needed
- Conduct data analysis and develop technical reports, manuscripts, or tools to support coastal management
- Collaborate with Reserve staff to promote public awareness, understanding and appreciation of natural resources
- Contribute to research and monitoring activities and provide support for public outreach and training
- Assist partner agencies in promoting and executing sound stewardship practices throughout the Bay watershed
- Represent the Reserve at the National Estuarine Research Reserve level and contribute to system-wide programs and committees, as well as other local, regional or national efforts
- Seek out and manage external grant funding to support coastal resiliency through stewardship projects
- Provide supervision and guidance to junior and seasonal staff as well as volunteers when appropriate
- Contribute to overall Reserve operations and management when needed

Qualifications:

Knowledge, skills and capacities

- Advanced knowledge of natural resource management, estuarine and coastal ecology, and the ability to apply general scientific principles to problem solving
- Ability to plan and execute resource management projects and tasks in a variety of habitats (coastal wetlands, upland forest, etc.) both independently and in partnership with others
- Ability to develop and execute complex experimental designs and utilize multivariate and spatial analysis
- Advanced proficiency with GIS technology / software to visualize, analyze, and model natural resource data to support management, research, education or outreach efforts
- Ability to assist stakeholders and partners develop planning strategies for resource management efforts

- Ability to work both independently and collaboratively as part of a team
- Ability to participate in field studies and research programs
- Ability to complete tasks requiring physical stamina

Education and Experience

- A Master's degree (minimum) from an accredited university in ecology, natural resource management, biology or related field
- At least five years of full-time or equivalent professional experience in one of the above-mentioned fields, and at least one year of demonstrated project management experience
- Demonstrated ability to develop grant proposals, obtain external funding and write complex technical reports or manuscripts
- Proven ability to manage grants, projects and budgets
- Demonstrated ability to translate technical or scientific information for lay audiences both written and orally
- Experience working with volunteers and the general public to support outreach and stewardship programs or projects

Desired Knowledge, Skills and Abilities

- Knowledge of and expertise in image processing software
- Ability to collect and manage geospatial data using advanced GPS equipment and GIS software
- Experience with forestry best management practices and restoration principles
- Experience with coastal wetland best management practices and restoration principles
- License to operate skid steer or Bobcat-type equipment for vegetation management

Salary Range

Salary is commensurate with experience and includes a full benefits package.

Application Materials

Must include a resume/CV, cover letter and contact information for 3 professional references (name, title, organizational affiliation, email and phone number).

Electronic submittal is preferred. Please send all materials as PDF files to Caitlin Chaffee at caitlin.chaffee@dem.ri.gov

Hard copies can be mailed to:

Caitlin Chaffee
Narragansett Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve
RI DEM
235 Promenade Street
Providence, RI 02908

Application materials must be received by 4:00 p.m., Tuesday, December 1, 2020.

The Audubon Society of Rhode Island is an Equal Opportunity Employer