



Smithsonian
Institution

PAID SUMMER INTERNSHIP
Benthic Infaunal Communities

Smithsonian Marine Station
Fort Pierce, Florida

Project title: *Benthic infaunal monitoring and the search for bioindicators of ecosystem change*

Project description:

Two paid summer internships are available at the Smithsonian Marine Station in Fort Pierce, Florida to assist with research on benthic infaunal communities from the Indian River Lagoon (IRL) and Saint Lucie Estuary (SLE). The interns will join the Benthic Ecology Lab at the Smithsonian Marine Station, assisting with a long-term monitoring project under the Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan. These positions are largely lab-based, with occasional field work.

Qualifications: Applicant should be a current student or recent graduate with a specialty in biology, ecology, marine science, or a related field. This position requires the ability to lift 40 pounds, good hand-eye coordination, organizational skills and attention to detail, and the ability to work independently and as part of a team. Preference will be given to applicants with basic microscopy and computer skills, and some prior field work experience.

Learning objectives: The intern will gain experience with benthic infaunal community ecology, biological indicator species, sorting and identification of benthic infauna using light microscopy, field and lab data collection, data entry, and sediment organic content and grain size analyses.

Timetable: Timing is flexible, with a start date at the end of spring/beginning of summer. The weekly stipend is \$400 (does not include housing) and requires a 40 hour/week commitment.

To Apply: Interested applicants should send a CV, cover letter expressing research interests, future plans, and contact information for 2-3 references to Holly Sweat at sweatl@si.edu.

Due Date: April 1, 2020.

Contact:

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