



Internship with the Santa Lucia Conservancy

Job Title: Conservation Grazing Intern

Organization: Santa Lucia Conservancy

The Santa Lucia Conservancy, located in Carmel, California, is conducting novel and essential habitat restoration activities and wildlife research on the 20,000 acre Santa Lucia Preserve. As a small staff, we like to partner with invested and passionate volunteers to increase our reach at the landscape scale. We have a long track record of hosting graduate and undergraduate student interns to conduct a wide variety of activities including wildlife and stewardship research, land management, conservation monitoring and community outreach.

Supervisors: Christy Wyckoff, Director of Conservation Science and Rodrigo Sierra-Corona, Stewardship Director

Location: The Santa Lucia Preserve, Carmel Ca.

Dates: 2020 Spring or Summer Semester (dates are flexible)

Position Description:

Land degradation by livestock overgrazing is the main driver of desertification worldwide, and the global livestock production has been identified as one of the main contributors to global warming and climate change. At the same time, the positive effects of grazing by large ungulates on grassland ecosystems is well described on the scientific literature. The Conservancy's Conservation Grazing Program is building on this ecological knowledge and utilizing grazing as the principle tool for California grasslands management and conservation. Our monitoring results over the years, show an increase on grassland native biodiversity and overall productivity, from plants and arthropods to vertebrates.

This opportunity allows the prospective intern to learn about progressive application of targeted grazing, ecosystem monitoring and to apply classroom knowledge in the field. Students will gain valuable experience in, and practical application of, applied land management building a resume that will advance a career in conservation. This position will involve a mix of field and office work to become familiar with the Conservancy's work. Interns will operate as a part of the Conservancy Team, with flexible week day scheduling, and opportunity to spend time on the beautiful Santa Lucia Preserve.

Main Responsibilities/Projects:

- Assist on our Stewardship team with our Grasslands Initiative assisting, as needed, the Conservation Grazing program, conducting weed management and helping with soil erosion projects.
- Explore and prepare data for analysis and visual representation of findings
- Assist with weed management, sampling and mapping projects (ArcGIS and Google Earth, opportunity for training)

Qualifications or Special Skills:

- A positive attitude, willingness to learn, ability to follow instructions and work independently and on a team.
- High level of organizational skills.
- Comfortable interacting with a variety of stakeholders including biologists, other volunteers, landowners, contractors, and community members.
- Must be physically fit and capable of hiking and carrying equipment over varied and steep terrain in wilderness locations
- Need to be comfortable with basic computer use for data entry in Microsoft Office and Google programs
- Experience with ArcGIS desired, but not required (opportunity for training)
- Commitment of 8-16 hours a week, minimum commitment of 3 months. Scheduling is flexible
- A personal vehicle and clean driving record are required.

Remuneration: Unpaid volunteer position, MIIS Work-study or Guided Independent Study

Training

Interns will be trained and supervised as needed for various tasks and projects. Once trained, volunteers may work alone or on small teams.

Please submit a cover letter and resume to:

Christy Wyckoff
 Director of Conservation Science
 Santa Lucia Conservancy
 cwyckoff@slconservancy.org
 831-402-2001
 26700 Rancho San Carlos Rd.
 Carmel, Ca 93923



Santa Lucia Conservancy is a 501(c)(3) non-profit land trust incorporated in 1995 to conserve the ecological integrity of the protected lands within the Santa Lucia Preserve in Carmel, CA. We are dedicated to advancing the art and science of conservation-compatible development through adaptive land management, conservation easement stewardship, ecological research, and environmental education programs.