Job Title: Invertebrate Internship

Job Type: volunteer position

Opportunity location: Hawaii Volcanoes National Park (4000 ft elev.), Island of Hawaii

Closing date (if specified): 15 Jul 2008

Opportunity Description:

Internship – U.S. Geological Survey – Kilauea Field Station
Hawaii National Park, HI

Invertebrate Monitoring and Toxicant Project

Interns (2-3)
Individuals with a strong interest in population/community ecology or invertebrate ecology are needed to assist with field and laboratory research to survey native and alien invertebrate populations as well as with studies directed at conservation of rare endemic species and alien species control (50% field, 50% office/lab). Interns will primarily work on a toxicant bait study for suppression of alien yellowjacket wasps, surveying of potential and known yellowjacket prey base, as well as monthly wasp monitoring.

Requirements:
A bachelor’s degree in Ecology, Entomology, Biology, or related biological field is required. Familiarity with orienteering in dense forest, the use of a compass and GPS is desirable. Experience in the following is highly desirable: 1) forest entomology; 2) basic statistics; and 3) use of taxonomic keys for identification of specimens. Applicants must be in excellent physical condition, willing to work in secluded rugged terrain and be prepared to work around live insects.

Major responsibilities:
Field duties include: 1) assisting with field surveys forest habitats along established transects; 2) setting up bait stations; 3) monitoring populations of wasps and their potential and known prey base; 4) conducting wasp nest searches, observing nest traffic rates and excavating wasp nests; 5) collection of trap samples from transects and elsewhere in the park
Laboratory duties include invertebrate specimen processing and identification including sorting and identification of trap catches, as well as data entry, proofing, and some data analysis. Interns may also assist with a global climate change project focusing on Hawaiian damselflies and other endemic species as indicators of ecosystem health and stability and in relation of climate driven hydrologic changes along with other projects/duties as assigned. Interns need to enjoy working in both remote field and laboratory environments and be able to perform repetitive, mundane tasks with sustained accuracy.
The position will be based at the Kilauea Field Station in Hawaii Volcanoes National Park on the Island of Hawaii. Positions require a 4 month commitment, starting in August. Housing, food stipend ($400 month), field equipment, and training are provided. Interns must provide airfare to and from Hilo, HI. Open to U.S. citizens only.

Please email a cover letter, resume, unofficial copy of transcripts and the email/contact information of 3 professional references to Michelle Montgomery, Entomology Research Specialist, email: mmontgomery@usgs.gov (or you may fax your application to 808.967.7153). Please note that incomplete applications will not be reviewed.

Start Date: August 2008

For more info, contact:

Michelle Montgomery, Entomology Research Specialist, email: mmontgomery@usgs.gov (or you may fax your application to 808.967.7153). PO Box 11, Hawaii National Park HI, 96718