Length of internship: July 5, 2011 – August 5, 2011

Title of internship project: Ecosystem Monitoring Program on Kamehameha Schools’ land in Ka’u and possibly West Hawaii.

Interested in spending the summer outdoors in a pristine native Hawaiian forest? Forest Solutions is looking for interns to be a part of their summer forestry education program in Ka’u or possibly West Hawaii.

Project description:
Six students will be part of a summer monitoring team. Interns will be expected to work together and in small teams to collect data, enter data, and produce reports. The program is directed by conservation and forestry professionals. Along with the direction of staff, you will be sampling Permanent Sample Points (PSP’s) across Keauhou. All PSP’s are accessible via 4-wheel drive and hiking. Data will be entered at the end of each week at the Forest Solutions office in Pa’auilo. All positions are paid.

Field duties will include: identifying native and non-native species, field navigation using a GPS, and data collection.

Office duties will include: data organization, computer data entry, filing, and reporting.

All data collection and storing equipment will be provided. Interns will be expected to report to either Ka’u or West Hawaii locations. Transportation will not be provided to the job site, only within the job site.

Project location:
The location in Ka’u, Keauhou Ranch, is owned by Kamehameha Schools and is currently managed for conservation and forestry. It is located in Volcano, Hawaii at the 4,000 foot elevation and just past the entrance to Volcanoes National Park. There is a diversity of conditions on the ranch lands. Depending on weather it could be warm, sunny, and dry and on other days it could be cold, wet, and muddy. Typical conditions are wet and chilly. Forests range from open pasture land and rock lands to dense old growth forests.

Forest Solutions office is located in Pa’auilo, Hawai’i near Earl’s snack shop.

Expected project outcomes:
Document data on permanent sample plots. Final data entered into monitoring system and generating reports.

Students should leave with an understanding of basic scientific sampling principles, and a greater knowledge of plants, animals and ecosystems. Our goal is to expand the mind to become more aware of themselves in their environment and possess a greater Hawaiian environmental ethic.

Intern experience:
Above all else, applicants must be comfortable working outdoors, able to work full days at remote forest sites at considerable distance from medical facilities, and be able to walk over rough terrain in all weather conditions for hours at a stretch. Interns must also have a strong moral commitment to the Hawaiian environment.

Previous experience in the following skills are beneficial, but will also be taught during the course.

- Native and non-native species identification.
- Vegetation sampling.
- Ability to read topographical maps and posses basic orienteering skills.
- Familiarity with Global Positioning Systems (GPS).
- Good mathematical abilities.
- Good computer skills with general knowledge of Microsoft office programs.
- Basic knowledge and respect for Hawaiian culture and cultural places.
• Able to work at high altitudes (this job may not be for you if you experience altitude sickness).

CONTACT INFORMATION:

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Application information below
FOREST SOLUTIONS, INC. SUMMER INTERNSHIP 2011

Length of internship: July 5 – August 5, 2011

Title of internship project: Ecosystem Monitoring Program on Kamehameha Schools’ land at Keauhou Ranch, Ka’u and possibly in West Hawai’i.

Application instructions:
First, please carefully review the internship announcement being sure to understand the requirements of the work. If the position is something you might be interested please submit the following:

1) Cover letter – please briefly describe your academic interests, your future goals, and why you are interested in the position.
2) Resume

Deadline for submittal is May 31, 2011

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