Spring ’12 Internship Opportunity

The University of Hawaii Sea Grant College Program is seeking an intern to support its newly launched benthic habitat monitoring program. The selected intern will spend approximately 4-6 hours per week in both office and field locations in Waikiki for a minimum commitment of 3 months.

To apply for this Internship with Reef Watch Waikiki please submit your resume to Monitoring Specialist James Jackson at Monitoring@reefwatchwaikiki.org by March 26, 2012.

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION:

The goal of Reef Watch Waikiki is to develop a community-based education and coastal monitoring program that inspires and facilitates increased community stewardship of Mālama Bay. The program recruits and trains community volunteers to: 1) Share their knowledge of Waikiki’s natural history with visitors and residents; 2) Gather data regarding the use and condition of nearshore resources; 3) Learn and promote appropriate reef etiquette; and 4) Participate in educational outreach events that engage multiple stakeholders within the Waikiki community.

DUTIES:

Intern will assist the Nearshore Resource Monitoring Coordinator with the development of a long-term biological monitoring program which will focus on the nearshore benthic marine habitat within Waikiki’s Marine Life Conservation District (MLCD). This involves regularly conducting benthic snorkel surveys, training community volunteers to conduct monitoring activities, meeting with project partners and other agency staff, and creating a monitoring protocol handbook and other educational and promotional materials. The intern may also be called upon to assist with occasional community education and outreach events with which Reef Watch Waikiki is involved. The majority of the intern’s time will be spent in Waikiki in both indoor and outdoor settings. Specific tasks will include but are not limited to: creating data sheets, preparing training materials, database entry and management, training community volunteers, and conducting benthic surveys within the Waikiki MLCD. This is an ideal opportunity for an individual interested in any or all of the following areas: the natural history of Waikiki and Hawaii’s nearshore environment, coastal monitoring, informal environmental education, project development, biological monitoring.

DESIRED SKILLS & EXPERIENCE:

- Strong swimming and snorkeling abilities *(required)*
- Familiarity with, or interest in, Hawaii’s marine environment
- Strong communication skills, both verbal and written. Intern will spend considerable time sharing information with the public and should feel comfortable communicating information to others.
- Friendly personality. Must be personable and helpful to volunteers who will be conducting coastal monitoring activities. Generally, activities will involve interaction with the public which requires patience and a positive attitude.
- Organized. The short project timeline will require the intern to be highly organized.
- Reliable. Intern will be expected to contribute approximately 4-6 hours per week. Individual must be able to provide a schedule of availability to the Project Coordinator and commit to an agreed upon schedule at the beginning of the internship.
- Detail-oriented. Intern is expected to follow specific instructions and guidelines provided by Program Coordinator and will often be expected to carry out responsibilities independently.
- Team player. Reef Watch Waikiki will involve an extensive team of community volunteers and partner organizations. Intern will be responsible for conducting assigned tasks in a way that is supportive of the work of other team members.
- Transportation. Intern is responsible for his/her own transportation to and from work sites in Waikiki.