Socioeconomic Volunteer Internship

To apply, please email a cover letter, writing sample and resume to: Danielle.Schwarzmann@noaa.gov

What We Offer

We invite you to join a dedicated and enthusiastic team at the NOAA Office of National Marine Sanctuaries where you will gain invaluable resume-building experience and an insider’s perspective from the nation’s leader in ocean conservation and management.

Position Description

The NOAA Office of National Marine Sanctuaries develops and implements socioeconomic research and monitoring to support assessments of management strategies and regulations affecting various stakeholder user groups. We are seeking an economics or social science student to provide socioeconomic research support to the chief economist.

As part of a comprehensive science team, your responsibilities will include:

• supporting the socioeconomic and policy requirements of National Marine Sanctuary System;
• supporting socioeconomic activities throughout the sanctuary system;
• assisting in the design and implementation of socioeconomic-related planning and decision-making processes to support management plan review and new site designation for national marine sanctuaries; and
• assisting in the design and implementation of socioeconomic data collection surveys for sanctuary field sites.

The NOAA Office of National Marine Sanctuaries serves as the trustee for a network of underwater parks encompassing more than 600,000 square miles of marine and Great Lakes waters from Washington state to the Florida Keys, and from Lake Huron to American Samoa. The network includes a system of 13 national marine sanctuaries and Papahānaumokuākea and Rose Atoll marine national monuments.

Our mission is to protect and enhance these natural and cultural treasures for future generations through scientific research, management and education.

http://sanctuaries.noaa.gov
We are currently involved in several projects and will work with you to create an experience that best matches your interests and skills. Volunteer interns can choose between a broad experience or a more focused experience on one project. Some project possibilities include:

- analysis of the economic impact of commercial fishing in national marine sanctuaries in California and Washington;
- assessing the impact of potential marine protected areas on ‘for hire’ diving and fishing operation in the Gulf of Mexico;
- socioeconomic assessment of tourism in American Samoa;
- estimating the economic value of Puerto Rico’s coral reef ecosystems for the recreation-tourism ecosystem service; and
- assist in the development of socioeconomic characterizations of national marine sanctuaries.

**Desired Qualifications:**

- The ideal volunteer intern has a basic understanding of economic theories, quantitative social science research methods and social statistics.
- Well organized and has outstanding attention to detail.
- Works well as a part of a research team, but also has the ability to complete directed tasks independently.
- Proficiency with Microsoft Word and Excel is required.
- Familiarity with SAS, SPSS or ArcMap would be helpful, but is not necessary; we are willing to train the right candidate, however, an eagerness and ability to quickly learn new software and analytical techniques is required.

*Applications are accepted on a rolling basis.*