Highstead Conservation Internship - Summer 2018

The Conservation Intern acts as a research assistant and writer in Highstead’s conservation program, with a strong emphasis on communications, for a 12-week period from May 14, 2018 to August 3, 2018.

About Highstead

Highstead's conservation program is engaged in building the capacity of partners to develop and achieve large landscape conservation strategies in New England in support of the Wildlands & Woodlands (W&W) Initiative. Highstead works with more than eighty organizations in the Northeast to advance the pace and practice of large landscape conservation, and foster collaboration across political, geographical, and professional boundaries. In addition to the W&W Initiative, which Highstead co-leads with Harvard University’s Harvard Forest, Highstead works through the following networks: New England Forest Policy Group (NEFPG), the Regional Conservation Partnership (RCP) Network, Academics for Land Protection in New England (ALPINE), and the Conservation Finance Network (CFN).

Internship

For Summer 2018, the Conservation Intern will produce high-impact outreach materials, for print and online platforms. The intern will synthesize research reports and work with Highstead’s Senior Conservationist for Conservation Finance and the Communications Manager to identify key messages, lessons, and policy-relevant results. The intern will then their communications, graphic design, and writing expertise to develop outreach products for Highstead’s websites, e-newsletters, and social media. The intern will have opportunities to write about broad conservation topics including: public funding, philanthropic giving from foundations, impact investing, carbon offset finance, conservation policy, and watershed protection. Specific tasks may include:

- Synthesizing results from several recent reports into 1-2 page briefs
- Creating infographics to communicate core concepts from our reports
- Solicit input from partners on the range of communications products desired
- Developing templates for communicating results from our programs
- Editing technical reports

The intern will be expected to prepare and deliver a 15-minute presentation of their work at the conclusion of the internship and submit a brief retrospective of the research experience.
Basic Qualifications

We seek a recent graduate of a Bachelor’s or Masters-level program with a demonstrated interest and enthusiasm for conservation and communicating science and policy to high-impact audiences. Candidates must have:

- Superb writing, graphic design, and organizational skills, with creativity to match.
- The ability to work equally comfortably in a group setting or independently and taking individual initiative, as the selected intern will have considerable responsibility for advancing one or more projects.
- Access to a car for travel within, and in some cases outside of, Connecticut.

Additional Qualifications

Ideal candidates will have a background in science communications, conservation science, conservation finance, land conservation, or government relations. Priority will be given to candidates with previous exposure to conservation topics. Ideal candidates will also have familiarity with design programs, such as Adobe Illustrator and InDesign.

Compensation

Intern compensation includes the following:

- Stipend of $5,000 for the 12-week session
- Free furnished housing
- Travel reimbursement

To Apply

Submit résumé, 1-page letter of interest, and a short writing sample to jcologgi@highstead.net, with “Conservation Internship” in the subject. Please submit one PDF document containing all of your application materials. Accepting applications immediately. Review of applications will begin March 5 and continue until position is filled.