Pennsylvania
Game Commission
NORTHWEST REGION

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PA Game Commission – Northwest Region
2027 Summer Internships

Are you excited to begin a career in conservation but lack field training and experience? Do you want your first steps to contribute to the management and protection of wildlife and their habitats while promoting hunting and trapping? If so, your goals align with the mission of the Pennsylvania Game Commission, and our summer internship program is designed for you! Pennsylvania's wildlife agency seeks hard-working, highly motivated students eager to develop their conservation knowledge and skills while experiencing all the agency has to offer.

Available Opportunities and Learning Objectives:
Internship opportunities are available within two disciplines – habitat management and wildlife biology. Descriptions of each are provided below. If applying for more than one position, please select the discipline you are most interested in. If awarded an internship, you will focus primarily on the designated subject area; however, exposure to and collaboration across disciplines will occur frequently and is considered an important part of the experience.

Habitat Management Internship (3 positions)
Work Location(s): *Assigned to one of 4 land management groups located in Butler, Clarion, Crawford, Erie, Forest, Jefferson, Lawrence, and Warren counties.*
Providing hunters, trappers, and wildlife enthusiasts access to premier wildlife habitats is key to our mission. Interns will be assigned to one of six land management groups responsible for over 65 state game lands covering more than 200,000 acres of habitat. Interns will gain hands-on experience in habitat management as they work side-by-side with crew members. They will learn how to safely operate farm implements and power/hand tools, and assist with infrastructure maintenance of gates, parking lots, boundary lines and propagation areas. They will gain experience in enhancing herbaceous, shrubland, forested and wetland habitats, and be introduced to our comprehensive planning process which provides the foundation for all work completed within the state game lands system. Under supervision, interns can expect to learn about proper herbicide applications (hand and mechanical) to treat invasive species, as well as the use of prescribed fire to enhance habitats.

Wildlife Biology Internship (2 positions)
Work Location(s): *NW Region (Clarion or Erie counties).*
This internship will offer real-world experience in the field of wildlife biology. Interns will assist agency biologists with wildlife management duties. Duties will include radio telemetry, vegetative surveys, black bear capture and tagging, avian point counts, shorebird nest monitoring and protection, nest box surveys, waterfowl and mourning dove banding, trap maintenance, habitat plan development, and various other wildlife and habitat surveys. Agency biologists will relate how data gathered impacts management decisions and population goals. Collaboration across professional disciplines will be encouraged to enhance outcomes and related objectives. Interns may also gain experience in equipment operation (GPS, UTV, kayak, 4X4 and hand and power tools). Projects will occur throughout the NW region, and many will require early morning fieldwork.

Salary and Starting Date:
Scientific Technical Intern (STI)
$17.88 hour for 40 hours/week
Monday – Friday, 7:00 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. (subject to change)
Maximum of 749 hours/calendar year
Anticipated starting date: May 10, 2027*
Anticipated ending date: August 13, 2026*

Subject to change based on student availability before/after these dates

Job Requirements and Qualifications:
Work will be outdoors and involve traversing uneven terrain in all-weather conditions. The selected applicant must have a valid driver's license. Preferred candidates will have college level course work or experience in the fields of wildlife, forestry, or natural resource management.

- **Students must be enrolled in a post-secondary program in a technical or scientific field of study.**
- **Must be enrolled as a full-time student enrolled in at least 12 credits.**
- **School credit, if applicable, will be determined by the student's college or university.**
- **A graduating High School student who is 18 and enrolled in the fall semester is eligible to apply.**

Qualifications:
• Hard-working and motivated
• Positive attitude and eager to learn
• Professional communication skills
• Open to collaboration/working with others
• Supportive of PGC's mission to manage and protect wildlife and their habitats while promoting hunting and trapping for current and future generations.
• Valid driver's license and reliable transportation
• Preferred candidates will have college-level coursework or experience in the fields of wildlife, forestry, natural resource management, environmental education, communications, and/or marketing.

Additional Information:
You will participate in training the first week of your internship. This training will expose you to our culture and provide an overall picture of our agency/region. This introduction will provide a knowledge base to draw upon for the remainder of the internship and beyond.

Rewards:
Our goal is to mentor and recruit the next generation of conservation professionals. As an intern, you will explore career and agency opportunities, gaining an inside look into your future. You will develop specialized skill sets through hands-on application while being mentored by professionals within your

field of study. You will receive a midterm and final evaluation, providing a forum for constructive feedback and questions. You will collaborate with other conservationists and participate in agency meetings, building a professional network into your future. Finally, interns who successfully complete the program may be considered for future employment opportunities with our agency.

To Apply:
All application materials and interview responses must reflect the applicant's own experience, qualifications, and work. Applicants may use generative AI tools for preparation purposes only. Use of AI to misrepresent or falsify information, or to assist during interviews, is not permitted. Review the Guidance for Generative AI Tools & Job Seekers for additional information.

Internship applicants must be current full-time students who will return to college in fall of the same year of employment. ****All interested persons must submit current resume and proof of college enrollment which must include students' name/ID number, University/College they are attending, the degree and courses they are enrolled in and number credits to PGC-NW-Internships@pa.gov ****
Applicants must also specify which discipline(s) and work locations they would like to be considered for. Proof of Fall 2027 enrollment may be provided later (but prior to commencement of the internship). Interviews will be conducted to select the employee. All resumes must be postmarked **on or before January 8, 2027**.

Questions?
Habitat Management Internships – Contact Jared Schibik at jschibik@pa.gov
Wildlife Biology Internships – Contact Tim Hoppe at thoppe@pa.gov.