

# Reptile and Amphibian Surveys at the Año Nuevo UC Natural Reserve

## Overview

Come learn about snakes, lizards (maybe some frogs and rodents too) with an internship at the Año Nuevo UC Natural Reserve. In April of 2013 the UCSC Field Methods Class and Natural Reserve placed 25 coverboards in the main park area between the Año Nuevo visitor center and main beach as well as 25 coverboards in a recently acquired State Park property (BART property) just to the north. The coverboards have now aged and are likely providing habitat for snakes, lizards, amphibians, and perhaps small mammals. This internship will involve checking these coverboards on a weekly basis throughout the quarter, recording data, identifying species, and entering data into a database. Data from your project will help State Parks compare herpetofauna across the two sites (the BART property was farmed as recently as 2006 whereas the main park area was last farmed in the early 1950s).



## Requirements

This internship would require you to use your own vehicle to travel to Año Nuevo, located approximately 30 minutes north of Santa Cruz on Highway 1.

## Additional information and preferred experience

- Poison oak is present throughout both sites. If you are allergic to poison oak this is likely not the position for you.
- You must be able to work independently.
- Position will require hiking approximately 1-3 miles each sampling event which will take place weekly throughout the quarter (you can arrange sampling times to meet your schedule).
- The BART property is mitigation for the development of the SF Airport BART station, it was built on prime endangered San Francisco Garter Snake habitat. You will be trained in identifying SF Garter Snakes but will not be able to handle them when/if you detect them due to permitting requirements.

Contact the Reserve Manager for more information: [Patrick.robinson@ucsc.edu](mailto:Patrick.robinson@ucsc.edu)