



**The California Marine Sanctuary Foundation is excited to announce openings for internship positions.** We're seeking applicants with an interest in ocean education and outreach with an emphasis on generating greater awareness of and support for California's marine protected areas. Ideal candidates will be self-motivated and will work closely, but independently, with Sanctuary Foundation staff on one or more projects (see below).

Applications will be considered from currently enrolled undergraduate students as well as students who have recently graduated from an undergraduate program. While this position is unpaid, our Foundation maintains close collaborations with several organizations throughout California who often seek highly qualified job applicants. Upon successful completion of this program, we will be glad to point you towards potential employers and write letters of recommendation on your behalf.

**Interested applicants should submit the following to [CMSF@CaliforniaMSF.org](mailto:CMSF@CaliforniaMSF.org) for consideration:**

- A cover letter stating your interests, what you hope to gain from this experience, and a description of your qualifications.
- Your CV or resume
- Two references or two letters of recommendation

### **California Marine Sanctuary Foundation (CMSF)**

Founded in 1995, the California Marine Sanctuary Foundation supports the Monterey Bay and Channel Islands National Marine Sanctuaries and California's statewide network of Marine Protected Areas (MPAs), and works to advance the understanding and protection of many other important coastal and ocean resources in California.

The organization partners closely with the National Marine Sanctuaries in California, and engages in areas of special focus and as a fiscal sponsor for ocean and coastal-related initiatives in California. Much of the work involves supporting government agencies in a public/private partnership model. California's network of marine protected areas (MPAs) is one of our major strategic areas of focus.



## **Marine Protected Areas in California**

The Marine Life Protection Act (MLPA) was passed into state law in 1999, and directs the state of California to design and manage a network of marine protected areas (MPAs) in order to protect marine life and habitats, marine ecosystems, and marine natural heritage. The MLPA is also meant to improve recreational, educational and study opportunities provided by marine ecosystems that are subject to minimal human disturbance. In the past 8 years, a coastal statewide network of 124 marine protected areas has been implemented in California. The California Marine Sanctuary Foundation is supporting the implementation of the MPAs by addressing some of the challenges in the area of interpretation, education and outreach, by developing additional resources and creating key partnerships in order to complement and enhance the state's efforts.

### **Under the direction of Sanctuary Foundation staff, interns will:**

Assist with communications, outreach, education and marketing to help: 1) Create a greater awareness and stewardship of the statewide network of MPAs; 2) Expand infrastructure for capturing and disseminating education and outreach materials via the internet, and support for product development and deployment in selected areas, and 3) Increase communication and collaboration among agencies and organizations involved in MLPA education and outreach; research and monitoring; enforcement

We have proposed a few projects below:

### **I) Wikipedia Updates and Improvements**

*In the time since the Marine Life Protection Act (MLPA) came to be, a new network of marine protected areas has been established and monitoring efforts have begun. Wikipedia has information on the MLPA as well as each state MPA, but the information is in need of updating.*

- a. Inventory existing Wikipedia pages pertaining to state MPAs and the MLPA
  - Verify existing MPA information and take inventory of pages that require updates
- b. Populate Wikipedia pages with correct and new information for California's MPAs.
  - Update content, add information on monitoring efforts and community MPA collaboratives

### **II) Enhancing the Marine Protected Area Ambassadors Program**



*Create materials and conduct outreach to local ocean recreation businesses. Additionally, intern will interact with and deliver MPA presentations to businesses within the Monterey Bay community. The project includes the following components:*

- a. Compiling area-specific visual presentations targeting specific ocean recreation business audiences.
  - Examples include scuba shops, kayak shops, bait and tackle shops.
- b. Master and deliver a 25-30 minute presentation on California's MPAs to local ocean recreation businesses.

### **III) Marine Protected Area Webpages**

*Design and build content for specific marine protected area webpages, which will be hosted publicly. Content includes marine protected area information, natural history and cultural history.*

- a. Work with partners per region to build engaging and specific content.
  - Examples include state parks, local city government, local and regional tourism boards and organizations, ocean recreation businesses, etc.
- b. Modify existing content to fit the specific needs of the marine protected areas webpages.
  - Identify and use existing resources when building content.