

**Title:** Sandhills Restoration Intern

**Term:** Ongoing (Fall, Winter, Spring, and Summer quarters)

**Reports to:** Jodi McGraw Consulting- Jodi McGraw, Ecologist and Jim Velzy, UCSC Greenhouses

**Stipend:** \$300.00 will be provided by Jodi McGraw Consulting upon completion of 60 hours of work for a 2-unit internship; \$600 will be provided for 120 hours of work completed for a 5-unit internship.

### **Basic Function of the Intern**

The Sandhills Restoration Intern (Intern) will assist ecologist Dr. Jodi McGraw and Assistant Ecologists at Jodi McGraw Consulting (JMc) with work to restore Sandhills habitat. The Intern will participate in revegetation efforts including seed sowing, planting, transplanting and plant propagation in coordination with the UCSC greenhouses, Jim Velzy, UCSC Greenhouse Director, Division of Physical and Biological Sciences. The Intern will also participate in on-site restoration management including seed collecting, seed cleaning, controlling exotic plants, maintaining outplanted container stock, irrigating, and collecting data as part of restoration monitoring.

### **Project Overview**

Jodi McGraw Consulting implements a wide range of Sandhills habitat restoration projects, including a multi-year project to restore mined Sandhills habitat within the approximately 114-acre restoration area of the Olympia Quarry in Felton, CA. The work done by interns will contribute to ongoing restoration by controlling invasive plants, correcting drainage issues to stabilize soil, and establishing native plant species from the sandhills communities, including rare native plant species, to promote recovery of four federally-listed endangered species. The native plants used in revegetation come from site-collected seed sources, to incorporate locally adapted genetic complexes as well as prevent genetic erosion. Interns will also assist with sandhills conservation and restoration projects at other sites.

### **Outcome of Internship**

Upon completing this internship with JMc, the intern will gain insight into and experience working as a restoration ecologist. They will get behind the scenes of a large-scale restoration effort, and learn in depth about the different steps and agencies that are involved in planning and implementing this project. The intern will be educated on the unique Sandhills environment and its diversity of plant and animal species, as well as the challenges of restoring this type of habitat.

### **Structure of Internship**

Interns will attend a weekly four-hour work session at a time to be determined by the intern group based on their schedule. Interns will also attend two (2) 8-hour weekend workdays during the course of the quarter. Field work occurs at a variety of sandhills habitat sites in and around Felton, Ben Lomond, and Bonny Doon California. A car or carpool is very helpful for participation in this internship.

