

Restoration Internship Jodi McGraw Consulting

Basic Function of the Intern

The Restoration Intern (Intern) will assist ecologist Dr. Jodi McGraw and Assistant and Associate Ecologists at Jodi McGraw Consulting (JMc) with work to restore sensitive habitat and promote populations of rare and endangered species. The Intern will participate in revegetation including seed collection, sowing, and planting exotic plant management including control of invasive plants; plant maintenance including irrigation and weeding; and field studies including surveys and monitoring for endangered species and to evaluate the status of the restoration.



Project Overview

Jodi McGraw Consulting implements a wide range of habitat restoration projects in the Santa Cruz Sandhills and coastal prairie ecosystems. 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 experience working as a restoration ecologist. They will get behind the learn about the different steps and agencies that are involved in planning and implementing restoration work. The intern will be educated on the unique Sandhills and coastal prairie communities and the diversity of plant and animal species, as well as the challenges of restoring these sensitive communities.

Structure of Internship

The structure of the internship is developed each quarter based on the availability of the interns. Most commonly, interns attend a weekly six-hour work session at a time determined based on the participants' schedule. Alternatively, interns can participate in a four-hour work day each week and also attend two, 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 and in Moss Beach California. A car or carpool is very helpful for participation in this internship.

