

## **Husbandry Intern**

**Georgia Sea Turtle Center**

**Jekyll Island, Georgia**

**January-May, May-August, August-January (Start and end dates are flexible)**

**APPLICATION DEADLINE: Ongoing**

The Georgia Sea Turtle Center is a state of the art facility providing veterinary treatment to sick and injured sea turtles that strand along the Georgia coast, as well as those that are transferred from other states and facilities. The center treats turtles with conditions ranging from boat strikes and severe trauma to cold stunning in the cold waters of the Northeast. The Georgia Sea Turtle Center is also the leading facility in the ongoing **collaborative** debilitated loggerhead sea turtle study of which the causes of this syndrome are being studied to determine the best methods for treatment. The husbandry intern will be responsible for participating in all aspects of sea turtle husbandry including daily care, medical treatments, and participation in research projects.

### **Mission Statement:**

Through sea turtle rehabilitation, research and education programs, the Georgia Sea Turtle Center will increase awareness of habitat and wildlife conservation challenges, promote responsibility for ecosystem health and empower individuals to act locally, regionally, and globally to protect the environment.

### **Outline of Job Description:**

#### **I. Conduct all aspects of turtle husbandry**

- a) Tank and filtration maintenance, diet preparation and feeding, behavioral observation, laundry, mopping, and **other miscellaneous** projects as needed
- b) Complete feeding logs and daily husbandry reports and report any behavioral abnormalities or changes in daily routine to veterinary staff.

#### **II. Assist full time staff with turtle treatments and diagnostic evaluations as needed.**

- a) Animal restraint for bandage changes, blood draws, tube feeding, xrays etc. (wearing waders and entering tanks may be required)

Preparing treatment supplies

- b)
- c) Record data and notes as needed, during entrance exams and other treatments
- d) Regularly weigh patients based on their treatment schedule.
- e) Participate in diamondback terrapin road mortality project.

#### **III. Public Education and Awareness**

- a) Work alongside husbandry volunteers throughout the day.

- b) Interaction with the public-answering questions from public on walkway while performing daily tasks.
- c) Conduct veterinary education programs
- d) Participate in behind the scenes tours

#### **IV. Assist with various research projects**

- a) Debilitated sea turtle study
- b) Diamondback Terrapin Patrols and population assessment
- c) Loggerhead nutrition study.

#### **V. Diamondback terrapin road mortality study.**

- a) Schedule of area to be determined
- b) Collect data at impact sites
- c) Transport injured Diamondback Terrapins as needed
- d) c. Loggerhead nutrition study
- e) d. Other field projects as coordinated by staff veterinarian Dr. Norton

#### **V. Assist with other departments at the GSTC as needed and as time allows (exhibits, outreach programs).**

- a. Potentially participate in outreach events or school groups.

#### **VI. Intern project:**

Each intern will be required to complete an individual project that will demonstrate what they have learned throughout their experience with the Georgia Sea Turtle Center.

**Specifics:** Work conditions long hours, including holidays and weekends. Must be able to lift a minimum of 40lbs, withstand extreme heat/cold. Involves cleaning the tanks, laundry, food prep, feedings, and assisting with treatments as needed. Also will need to be available to come in during the evening hours and perform various medical tasks (ie..feeding, checking vital signs, administering medication.etc)

#### **Minimum Requirements/Qualifications:**

- 18+ yrs of age
- Current undergraduate student or recent graduate.
- Prior experience with animal husbandry [or B.S.](#) preferred.
- Ability to work in the U.S. legally

**Salary:** \$8/hour, 40 hours/week

**Housing:** On-site shared house with utilities provided at a cost of \$50 per month per Intern [with a 100 dollar refundable deposit](#). Houses have air conditioning/heat and are equipped with basic furniture, kitchen and bathroom supplies. You must provide your own linens, towels, & food.

Not provided by employer but available: telephone, cable, and Internet (however there is free wireless available at various locations on JI). Temporary Jekyll Island parking pass will be supplied.

*\*Travel and transportation costs will not be covered by GSTC*

**Interested applicants should send letter of intent and CV with 3 references to:**

**Erika Kemler**

**Hospital Coordinator**

**214 Stable Road**

**Jekyll Island, GA 31527**

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