

INTERPRETATION AND EDUCATION INTERNSHIPS



JOB TITLE: Resource Education Intern (Three positions open)

DATES: April 6, 2009 to October 31, 2009

APPLICATION DEADLINE: Applications are accepted year-round. Positions are usually filled by mid-February, but selections are considered until positions are filled.

COMPENSATION:

- (1) Free housing at the Oregon State University, Hatfield Marine Science Center (located 5 miles south of Yaquina Head).
- (2) \$200/week stipend from Friends of Yaquina Lights Inc., a non-profit organization dedicated to education and preservation of Yaquina Head Lighthouse and the natural resources of Yaquina Head Outstanding Natural Area.
- (3) Professional training includes: 32 hrs of Environmental Education training, 32 hours of Interpretative Skills training, 32 hrs of Natural and Cultural history of the Oregon Coast workshop.
- (4) Professional development opportunities to train and network with employees from the Bureau of Land Management, Oregon State Parks, US Fish and Wildlife Service, Oregon State University Hatfield Marine Science Center, and the Oregon Coast Aquarium.

WORK SCHEDULE:

Resource Educators work 40 hrs/week and should expect to work on holidays and weekends.

THE AREA:

Yaquina Head Outstanding Natural Area, a 100 acre park managed by the Bureau of Land Management, is located on a prominent headland just three miles north of Newport on Oregon's scenic central coast. Nestled comfortably between the Pacific Ocean and the Coastal Range, the city of Newport offers the convenience of its larger counterparts within the relaxed atmosphere of a small town.

GENERAL POSITION DUTIES:

Resource Educators at Yaquina Head may find themselves exploring tidepools with elementary school students, describing the migration of gray whales as they swim past, answering questions about the area at the site's interpretive center, and greeting visitors at the fee collection booth, or guiding visitors into the past within Oregon's tallest lighthouse while in costume.

SPRING SEASON DUTIES:

Approximately 6000 elementary students visit Yaquina Head Outstanding Natural Area during April, May, and June each year. During the spring, with the guidance of the Youth Education Coordinator, the Resource Educators will:

- Instruct grade-specific intertidal ecology programs for fourth, fifth, and sixth grade students.
- Present costumed living history programs for third and fourth grade students.
- Develop instructional materials and a system of inventory and maintenance.
- Staff the Interpretive Center information desk and fee collection booth.
- Provide information and informal interpretive services for the general public.

SUMMER/FALL SEASON DUTIES:

Yaquina Head Outstanding Natural Area receives over 315,000 visitors annually. Visitation is highest in the summer. During the summer, with the guidance of the Chief Ranger and Education Coordinator, Resource Educators will:

- Present costumed interpretive history tours of Yaquina Head Lighthouse.
- Provide informal interpretive services for the general public focusing on intertidal ecology, seabird rookeries, harbor seals, and migrating whales using spotting scopes and the tidepool, seal, whale and bird education kits.
- Represent the BLM and Yaquina Head at special community events through educational activities.
- Provide visitor services at the interpretive center and fee collection station.

QUALIFICATIONS:

This internship provides excellent career-oriented experience for anyone interested in environmental education, resource education, and historic interpretation.

Applicants *must* have:

- A valid driver's license.
- Ability to climb and descend the lighthouse stairs (110 steps) twice per hour for 4 hours.
- Ability to walk on slippery rocks in the tidepool area.
- A personal vehicle (transportation to and from housing area to Yaquina Head)
- Demonstrated enthusiasm for working with children, park visitors, and natural and historic resources.

Successful applicants have been college students and graduates with degrees in the fields of education, interpretation, public history, natural resources, recreation and parks, and theater. However, no prior experience or academic degree is required to apply.

THE EDUCATION PROGRAM MISSION:

The Bureau of Land Management education and interpretive programs at Yaquina Head Outstanding Natural Area emphasize park stewardship through "hands-on", "hearts-on", and "minds-on" engagement in the area's resources.

TO APPLY:

Send a resume, cover letter, and a list of three reference contacts to:

Roy Simpson, Education Program Coordinator
BLM, Yaquina Head Outstanding Natural Area
PO Box 936, 750 Lighthouse Drive
Newport, OR 97365
(541) 574-3145

email: roy_simpson@blm.gov

Web Site: <http://www.blm.gov/or/resources/recreation/yaquina/index.php>

