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Internship at the Matador Wildlife Management Area, Paducah, Texas

The Mazingira Grant is able to fund a 4-6-week experience at the Matador Wildlife Management Area (Matador WMA) in Paducah, Texas during summer months. This is NOT a paid internship, but more akin to an apprenticeship which affords an opportunity to work with and learn from graduate students and Texas Parks and Wildlife staff. With prior approval, a project may be developed which can fulfill EVS Program capstone requirements.

Housing is provided at no charge. This consists of an air-conditioned bunkhouse with a refrigerator, freezer, stove, and microwave oven. Food and travel costs should be submitted as part of a Mazingira Grant proposal. No personal items (boots, hats, clothing, sunscreen, etc.) are covered by the grant. All equipment needed to conduct field work is provided by the Matador WMA. The Matador WMA provides transportation that may only be used on their property during working hours.

The current job description is as follows:

Under direct supervision of the Area Manager/Assistant Area Manager(s) at the Matador WMA, the intern is responsible for assisting staff with all facets of WMA operations:

- Assists with baseline inventory and monitoring activities to include vegetation sampling, mist netting of birds, and monitoring of drift fence arrays and Sherman traps.
- Provides assistance with research activities investigating the effects of land use practices on vegetation and wildlife.
- Assists with habitat enhancement activities including use of heavy equipment for mechanical brush management, application of chemicals to manage woody vegetation, and prescribed burning.
- Helps with maintenance of facilities, roads, grounds, and fences.
- Assists with capital improvement and public access projects.
- Conducts surveys and monitoring of wildlife populations including dove banding activities.
- Performs data entry of research, baseline inventory, and wildlife census data, and collects GPS data.



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- Assists with public outreach programs as needed.
- Performs additional duties as assigned.
- Complies with all Agency, Division, and Branch rules, regulations, and procedures.

Requirements: (1) Must meet program eligibility, including EVS Program/College requirements, e.g., possess a valid driver's license, pass criminal clearances, etc.

WORKING CONDITIONS: (1) Must be willing to work outdoors under difficult environmental conditions; (2) Must be able to work hours other than 8:00 am to 5:00 pm Monday through Friday, as needed; (3) Must be able to work weekends and holidays when required and travel overnight when necessary; and (4) Must be willing to maintain living quarters in a clean manner and maintain assigned vehicles in good working condition.

DESIRED SKILLS AND ABILITIES: (1) Experience in equipment operation and maintenance (tractors and associated implements, 4-wheel drive trucks, 4 wheelers); (2) Ability to collect and analyze scientific data; and (3) Ability to use GPS and radio telemetry equipment.