

INTERPRETATION AND EDUCATION INTERNSHIPS



JOB TITLE: Resource Education Intern (Three positions open)

DATES: April 4, 2011 through Sept-Oct 2011

APPLICATION DEADLINE: Applications are accepted year-round. Positions are usually filled by mid-February, but selections are considered until positions are filled. Preference will be given to applicants who are able to commit to the entire internship term (April – fall), but others are also encouraged to apply.

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: a) Environmental Education, b) Interpretative Skills, c) Natural and Cultural history of the Oregon Coast, d) 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 are expected 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 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, and amenities of its larger counterparts within the relaxed atmosphere of a small town.

GENERAL POSITION DUTIES:

Resource Educators at Yaquina Head may find themselves exploring tide pools with elementary school students, describing the migration of gray whales, answering questions about the area at the site's interpretive center, greeting visitors at the fee collection booth, or leading costumed tours while guiding visitors into the past within Oregon's tallest lighthouse.

SPRING SEASON DUTIES:

Approximately 5000 elementary students visit Yaquina Head Outstanding Natural Area during April, May, and June each year. With the guidance of the Education Coordinator, the Resource Educators will:

- Instruct grade-specific intertidal ecology programs for third through 8th grade students
- Assist with teacher-led programs (K-12)
- Present costumed, living history programs for 3rd and 4th grade students
- Develop instructional materials, and assist with 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 300,000 visitors annually with visitation highest in 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. Use spotting scopes and tide pool, 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 Entrance Station

QUALIFICATIONS:

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

Applicants *must* have:

- Demonstrated enthusiasm and interest for working with children, park visitors, and natural and historic resources.
- Ability to regularly climb and descend the lighthouse stairs (110 steps) and Cobble Beach steps (134 steps).
- Ability to navigate safely on slippery rocks in the tide pool area.
- A personal vehicle (transportation to and from housing area to Yaquina Head), and a valid driver's license.

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 of 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

Phone: (541) 574-3145 or 961-0879

email: roy_simpson@blm.gov

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

