

Intern Job Title: Community Outreach and Organizing Intern

Host Organization: Sitka Conservation Society

Location: Sitka, Alaska

Description & Goals of Assignment: The intern will work as part of a dynamic organization and team that fights to protect the Tongass National Forest, the largest remaining temperate rainforest in the world, and to support sustainable development of communities across Southeast Alaska. The intern will gain in-depth knowledge about the natural environment of the Tongass, as well as experience in community organizing, advocacy, and outreach, and community event planning.

The goals of the internship are to foster the practice of democracy, empower citizens to stand up and make their voices heard, and influence elected leaders to consider the environmental ramifications of their decisions in policy. In addition to some office-based responsibilities, the intern will spend most of their time out in the community, having one-on-one conversations about local issues and encouraging community members to get involved.

This internship provides a unique opportunity to live and work in a vibrant remote Alaskan community nestled in a beautiful coastal rainforest. SCS works hard to ensure that interns experience the exquisite backyard we work to protect while they are here. Whether through helping our youth program harvest berries, working with local fishermen to process salmon, or engaging directly in wilderness stewardship, this internship is an adventure in living in Alaska and learning how to organize grassroots voices to influence environmental policy.

Intern Responsibilities:

- Outreach to our members, partners, community, and other contacts with the goal of mobilizing people to take action for environmental, economic, and community sustainability
- Coordinate logistics for events that engage community members and offer compelling opportunities for people to get involved in environmental advocacy
- Use social media, e-newsletters, and flyers to promote events and mobilize our audiences to take action
- Coach volunteers and community members to write op-eds and letters to the editors
- Track new contacts, relationships, and member engagement
- Attend community events and programs, including representing SCS and our issues at informational tables
- Learn about environmental issues and forest management in Southeast Alaska, Tongass forest ecology, the cultural and economic importance of salmon and fisheries, and sustainable community development
- Follow the work plan assignments as outlined by supervisor and work together with SCS team members

Intern Qualifications:

- Demonstrated commitment to and interest in social change and environmental advocacy
- Some experience in political advocacy, campaigning, grassroots or campus organizing, event planning, and/or engagement in political processes

- Strong writing skills with a demonstrated ability to create compelling materials for public communication, including e-newsletters, social media (Facebook and Instagram), event posters, etc.
- Excellent verbal communication, high energy, and strong interpersonal and relationship building skills
- Willingness to work independently and adapt, innovate, and solve problems
- Ability to work effectively with people of diverse backgrounds
- Familiarity with or residence in Alaska is ideal but not required

Duration: Twelve weeks