

TERRAPIN STEWARDSHIP – TECHNICIAN INTERNSHIP



DESCRIPTION

Job Title: Terrapin Stewardship Technician

Supervisors: Florida State Parks - [Allison Conboy](#) and [Wade Smith](#)
Turtle Survival Alliance-Team Terrapin - [Tabitha Hootman](#)

Location: Jacksonville, Florida

Hours: 40 hours per week

Pay: Unpaid

Other compensation**:

Per Diem paid monthly - \$59/day (for each day worked – 5 days per week)

Travel Expenses - (mileage to study site and back) reimbursed at end of program.

Research Stipend – to write a paper and present a poster at the Turtle Survival Alliance’s Annual International Conference.

**Funds provided through the CARE grant from the Jacksonville Zoo & Gardens

Housing: Available - Provided by the FDEP at the Ribault Club

Position Description:

The Stewardship Technician will assist in the management of natural resources in Northeast Florida for the Florida Park Service and the Turtle Survival Alliance.

Primary responsibilities center around monitoring a nesting population of Diamondback terrapins, and will include extensive monitoring, predator control, data management, and support of a volunteer team. This is a full-time, seasonal position with a start date April 15th and an end date August 18, 2025. Dates may be negotiated.

Responsibilities:

Natural Resource Monitoring & Management

- Conduct consistent and accurate surveys of nesting Diamondback terrapins.
- Identify and report predatory pest species impacting Diamondback terrapin nesting.
- Conduct capture and marking of adult terrapins including PIT tagging.
- Monitor nearby spoil islands for shorebird and Diamondback terrapin activity.
- Ensure regular data entry, proofing, and management for all nesting data collected.
- May assist with predator removal.

Volunteer Coordination

- Assist in the training and management of Diamondback terrapin volunteer team.
- Communicate weekly with volunteers with season update emails.

Job Requirements:

- Bachelor's degree (or in progress) preferred, B.S. in biology, ecology, or related field desired.
- Must complete kayak safety training and certification through the State (provided)
- Must complete field training and certification through Turtle Survival Alliance
- Adaptability to variable work schedule – duties will require early mornings, evenings, and weekends.
- Ability to work outdoors for long periods in extreme and variable weather.
- Ability to carry 20-30 lb pack containing field gear.
- Experience in data entry, proofing, and management.
- Skilled use of GPS units and Microsoft Excel; training can be provided.
- Ability to work independently, communicate effectively, take initiative in problem solving, and report consistently on progress.
- Current and valid driver's license and own form of transportation for travel to field site.
- **Experience in small boat operation a plus. Kayaking/canoeing to remote island with gear is required.**

To apply, please send a cover letter, resume, and contact information for three (3) references to all below.

ALL APPLICATIONS AND MATERIALS MUST BE RECEIVED BY 5PM EST JANUARY 31, 2025.

Allison Conboy, Environmental Specialist I, Allison.Conboy@floridadep.gov

Tabitha Hootman, TSA North FL Program Coordinator, THootman@turtlesurvival.org

Wade Smith, Park Service Specialist, Wade.T.Smith@floridadep.gov