Deception Pass State Park Beach Naturalist internship

Devon Bedard
Western Washington University

Follow this and additional works at: https://cedar.wwu.edu/cenv_internship

Part of the Environmental Sciences Commons

Recommended Citation
Bedard, Devon, "Deception Pass State Park Beach Naturalist internship" (2022). College of the Environment Internship Reports. 85.
https://cedar.wwu.edu/cenv_internship/85

This Article is brought to you for free and open access by the College of the Environment at Western CEDAR. It has been accepted for inclusion in College of the Environment Internship Reports by an authorized administrator of Western CEDAR. For more information, please contact westerncedar@wwu.edu.
Internship Title:  **Deception Pass State Park Beach Naturalist**

Student Name: Devon Bedard

Internship Dates: **June 2022 – Sept 2022**

I grant to Western Washington University the non-exclusive royalty-free right to archive, reproduce, distribute, and display this Internship Report document in any and all forms, including electronic format, via any digital library mechanisms maintained by WWU.

I represent and warrant this is original work, and does not infringe or violate any rights of others. I warrant that I have obtained written permissions from the owner of any third party copyrighted material included in this document.

I acknowledge that I retain ownership rights to the copyright of this work, including but not limited to the right to use all or part of this work in future works, such as articles or books. Library users are granted permission for individual, research and non-commercial reproduction of this work for educational purposes only. Any further digital posting of this document requires specific permission from the author.

Any copying or publication of this document for commercial purposes, or for financial gain, is not allowed without my written permission.

STUDENT SIGNATURE

DATE: 9-28-2022
I. STUDENT/INTERN INFORMATION

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name: Devon Bedard</th>
<th>W#: W01391383</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Major: Environmental Science</td>
<td>Concentration: Freshwater and Terrestrial Ecology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Internship Title: Deception Pass State Park Beach Naturalist</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Period of Internship: June 2022 – Sept 2022</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Avg. Hours per Week: 10-15 hrs</td>
<td>Total Hours Worked: 150</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

II. HOST INSTITUTION INFORMATION

| Institution Name: Deception Pass State Park |
| Institution Address: 41020 SR-20 Oak Harbor, WA 98277 |
| Institution Mission: Deception Pass State Park provides a plethora of outdoor recreational activities and quality visitor engagement with a combination of structured educational programs and informal interpretative experiences throughout the park. |
| Supervisor Name and Title: Joy Kacoroski (she/her, Parks Interpretive Specialist 2) |
| Supervisor Contact Information: Cell: (360) 228-5758 Email: Joy.Kacoroski@PARKS.WA.GOV |
III. DESCRIPTION

Provide a brief description of the project or program on which you worked, the objectives of that project or program, and your role as an intern within that project or program:

This internship program is designed to engage visitors of Deception Pass State Park through informal interpretation as well as provide accessible knowledge of the local ecology and natural history. A fundamental goal of the program as well as Marine stewardship and this is accomplished through community engagement, educational opportunities, and active restoration efforts in the Rosario tide pools. Deception Pass State Park utilizes interns as well as volunteers to act as park interpreters and beach naturalists. My role as an intern included work in the Rosario tide pools as a beach naturalist and I helped run the Rosario Discovery Center--a small interpretive center--with the other interns over the summer. In the tide pools, I worked to educate the public on the unique ecology of the intertidal zone and upheld conservation efforts to avoid any further habitat degradation. Likewise, the interpretive center allowed for meaningful engagement but in a unique way. The more organized setup of the interpretive center compared to the tide pools created a unique space to have longer and more detailed interactions with the community. The center also offered unique educational opportunities with its display specimens, microscopes, and marine-themed arts & crafts projects for families.

IV. DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Provide a list of your specific duties and responsibilities as an intern:

- The intern is responsible for operating the Rosario Discovery Center on weekends in the summer. Operational duties include opening, closing and cleaning of the center as well as greeting visitors and providing information about tide pools and the park.
- Intern duties also include providing informal interpretive opportunities for visitors at the Rosario Tide Pools at low tide or with virtual tech at high tide. (Intern is expected to record visitor contacts)
- Demonstrate, model, and encourage appropriate stewardship practices related to tide pool exploration.
- Provide high-quality informal interpretation of park resources.
## V. LEARNING OBJECTIVES

Describe what you learned from your internship and how this experience contributed to your educational goals:

Working with the state park as a beach naturalist allowed me to get hands-on experience with community outreach and education focused on marine stewardship. Environmental education and public awareness is a key component to counteract many ecological problems resulting from anthropogenic disturbances. One of my goals as an environmental scientist is to learn how to effectively communicate environmental topics and issues with the public in an accessible manner. If the public has a better understanding of local ecosystems and how our actions affect them, they are more likely to get involved in conserving those systems whether it be directly or indirectly.
VI. LITERATURE CITED
Provide reference information for all sources cited in your report:

APPENDIX I. SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS
Attach copies of any reports, presentations or other deliverables that you produced during your internship, if applicable.