

**NORTH COAST RESOURCE CONSERVATION & DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL
JOB DESCRIPTION**

Position: Intern Program Assistant

PROJECT: TURKEY TAIL INHIBITION OF TANOAK SPROUTING

Status: Part time, flexible hours

Supervisor: Oona Heacock, Executive Director

Mendocino Intern Coordinator: Darcie Mahoney, RPF

Mission: We are a 501(c)3 non-profit organization, and our mission is to protect natural resources and promote sustainable forestry, agriculture and communities in Marin, Sonoma, Mendocino, and Lake Counties.

Our Vision: We wish to serve our communities as a regional environmental organization that works with partners to protect the environment and foster economic growth with sound land stewardship practices, working in the areas of forestry, natural resources, and sustainable agriculture in the North Coast.

Core Values:

We believe that linking agricultural, environmental and economic sustainability is key to enhancing and preserving a high quality rural lifestyle in the North Coast.

We believe in sharing education and knowledge to promote changes in land practices to benefit pollinators and other wildlife, to develop sustainable agrarian/forestry land management, and promote a healthy population.

We believe that every individual has the ability to make a positive difference.

We believe that flexibility and open-mindedness are essential to enable us to respond to a changing world.

We believe that small actions done cumulatively make the biggest positive difference for our environment and community.

More Info

About Us: www.ncrcanddc.org and www.cultivatingcommerce.org

INTERN PROGRAM ASSISTANT POSITION

Required Background, Knowledge, Skills and Abilities:

- Ability to communicate effectively, both orally and in written form.
- Has a passion for sustainable forestry & agriculture, natural resources, and community.
- Has at least two courses in science (biology, botany, ecology, agricultural science, forestry, environmental science, environmental planning, soil science, geology, hydrology or similar subjects preferred)
- Basic computer skills required, and experience in standard word processing, spreadsheet, and presentation applications desired.
- Ability to hike in forested terrain.

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Duties

Under the direction of the Executive Director and/or the Intern Coordinator, the Intern Program Assistant will work closely with others performing duties related to the *Inhibition of Tanoak Sprouting by Turkey Tail Mycelium* project. This project is to enhance sustainable forests through studying an alternative to the use of chemical herbicides while addressing fire-prone brush emergence. The Turkey Tail fungus is a very common mushroom native to Mendocino County woods, generally found on fallen logs or tree stumps year round, although the fungi can also be found on living trees. The Turkey Tail fungus breaks down the dead wood of a tree, using it as nutrients for itself while helping clear the forest for new growth. This project will evaluate whether additional studies would be beneficial to determine whether the turkey tail and/or similar saprophytic native fungi could eliminate or retard tanoak sprouting, obviating the need for chemical treatment and creating an ecosystem approach to brush control. This project is currently funded by a two-year grant from the Community Foundation of Mendocino County.

The successful intern candidate duties will include, but not be limited to, the following:

- Site identification of study plots, including
 - Location and field description of plots in coordination with a registered professional forester
 - Photographic documentation of site conditions and study progress
- Site preparation and treatment of tanoak stumps, including:
 - Preparation of tanoak stumps, including identification, as needed in accordance with a standard protocol
 - Implementation of protocol for various treatments with Turkey Tail and other mushroom mycelium
- Data collection & reporting
 - Measuring, counting, and documenting the presence (or absence) of mushroom growth in accordance with protocols
 - Measuring and documenting the amount of tanoak sprouting in accordance with protocols
 - Uploading images, data and reports to cloud-based storage

The intern must use personal vehicles, and mileage will be reimbursed at \$0.58/mile. The NCRC&DC is interested in interning a self-starting student for approximately 150 hours at \$18.75/hour between August 15, 2019 and March 31, 2021. If additional funding is secured, this position could continue beyond Oct 15, 2020, and more hours could be available. Work will include travel to remote forested areas along the Mendocino Coast.

Work place is the Mendocino coast. The headquarters for the NCRC&DC is the 180 Studios in Santa Rosa at 150 Todd Road, Suite D.

APPLICATION PROCEDURE: email ncrcandd@sonic.net with brief resume, or mail to our Mendocino County office at NCRC&DC, P.O. Box 274, Mendocino, CA 95460. **DEADLINE TO APPLY IS AUGUST 30, 2019**