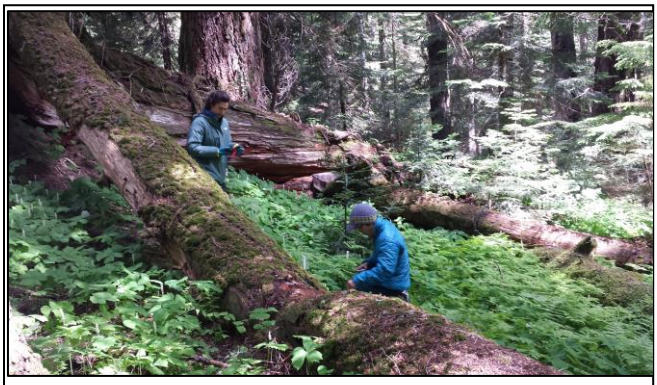
Mt. Rainier & North Cascades Field Internship Opportunities (2017)

HilleRisLambers Lab, University of Washington (Seattle)

The HilleRisLambers lab at University of Washington is looking for 5-6 undergraduate research assistants to help us conduct research at Mt. Rainier and North Cascades National Park this summer (2017). We study how rising temperatures and declining snow accumulation (i.e. climate change) will affect the forests and wildflower meadows of Washington, and are looking for enthusiastic and hard-working interns to assist us with 3 projects:

1) How will population dynamics be altered by climate change? To address this question, we have been collecting demographic data (since 1978) for tree populations in 18 stands within Mt. Rainier National Park.
2) What is the relationship between climate and wildflower phenology? We have established a citizen science program (MeadoWatch) which engages citizen scientists in collecting wildflower phenology data.
3) How will climate change influence communities? In collaboration with Dr. Amy Angert (UBC), we are resurveying communities at locations first surveyed in the late 70's / early 80's, and additionally establishing seed addition experiments in and around Mt. Rainier and North Cascades National Park.

Types of Positions: We have three kinds of positions available. We have two crew leader positions available; a combined crew leader for projects 1&2 that runs from June 12 – September 20, and a crew leader for project 3 that runs from July 3 to ~ October 20. There are 2-3 full summer intern positions available (10-12 weeks between June 12 – September 22; possibly to October 20th), these interns will work on all three projects. There are 2-3 short-term intern positions (4-6 weeks in August / September), who will work on project 3.



Aden Kinne and Tatsu Ota (2016 field interns) census seedlings and understory cover.

Requirements: Previous research experience, organizational skills, leadership ability, and plant identification skills are required for the field-crew leader positions, and desirable for all positions. Enthusiasm, hard work and the desire to work outdoors for much of the summer are also required. To be eligible for these positions, you must be a US Citizen, permanent resident or have a visa that allows you to work at UW.

Benefits: Interns in this position will learn A) how scientific research is conducted; B) field ecology skills; C) how climate change will affect plant communities in the Pacific Northwest and D) what graduate school might be like. These are valuable skills for those wanting a career in natural resources or conservation as well as those of you wishing to pursue a graduate degree in the life sciences.

Compensation / logistics: Crew leaders will be paid $640 / week, other intern positions are compensated at $600 / week (both rates before taxes). Crew leaders and full time interns must also be able to attend an orientation and training week early in the summer (12-16 June or 3-7 July). You will spend 80%-90% of your time in the field collecting data, and the rest in the lab processing samples and/or entering data. Food, travel and lodging (camping and field housing) will be covered, but only while in the field. This job requires being outdoors (in hot or cold or rainy or buggy conditions), camping, and hiking with backpacks - so please be sure this is of interest to you before applying.

Applying for positions: Please visit https://catalyst.uw.edu/workspace/jhrl/56320/ to apply. You will be asked to fill out a survey (including the names and contact information of two references) and upload a resume and transcripts (unofficial is fine). We will start reviewing applications on March 20th, will conduct interviews in early to mid-April, and select interns by late April. Questions? Email Janneke HilleRisLambers (jhrl@uw.edu).

The University of Washington is an equal opportunity employer and educator.

See http://faculty.washington.edu/jhrl/Index.html and http://www.meadowatch.org/ for more information