**2024 Internship opportunity with the Greater Yellowstone Inventory & Monitoring Network**

*This is a paid internship position(s) through MSU’s Institute on Ecosystems.*

**Position Description:** This internship provides opportunities to work with science professionals from the Greater Yellowstone Network (GRYN) on projects related to natural resources monitoring and management.

GRYN is one of 32 inventory and monitoring (I&M) networks established by the National Park Service to enhance scientific knowledge about select park natural resources. The I&M Program's goal is to provide natural resource information to managers and the public by collecting, analyzing, and reporting on long-term monitoring data. Yellowstone is over two million acres and the core of the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem, one of the largest intact ecosystems in the lower 48 states of the USA.

This intern will work with GRYN scientists on up to four vital signs programs including upland vegetation, amphibian, water quality, and whitebark pine monitoring. Program(s) assigned will be dependent on experience and GRYN’s personel needs. Work schedules are typically 10 to 12 hour days in multi-day “hitches”. Hitches can range from 2-8 days and require long drives, front- and backcountry camping, hiking 8 to 20 miles per day carrying a heavy pack across rough, mountainous terrain, and working in grizzly bear country. The intern will be required to attend GRYN orientation training and safety programs prior to entering the field. We will provide opportunities to take American Red Cross (or equivalent) CPR and First Aid courses. Following training, the intern, as a member of a field crew, will be expected to hike and navigate using a handheld GPS, map, and compass to field sites. On site the intern will be expected to collect data following established protocols.

This position is a field-based position requiring individuals to spend much of their time in the outdoors and camping for several days at a time. In addition to having an interest in learning biological sciences, the incumbent should have demonstrated experience and a willingness to work in remote, rugged, and mountainous backcountry terrain typically above 7,000 feet in elevation for extended periods. The incumbent should possess the physical ability required to hike long distances, off-trail (up 20 miles/day) while carrying backpacks, tools, and supplies of at least 30-50 lbs. The incumbent should be willing to backcountry camp with co-workers for several days at a time and willingness to learn and practice good backcountry skills that enable the candidate to work safely and efficiently in extreme weather conditions and in grizzly bear country. If not already trained in basic first aid and CPR, the network will support this training.

Crews bring all the necessities to last through an 8-day work schedule. This includes all pertinent clothing, gear, and food. The network will provide field equipment such as tents, sleeping bags, sleeping pads, pepper spray (i.e., bear deterrent), cookware, and other safety equipment.

The intern should anticipate working from late May through late July/early August in mountain weather conditions and the presence of insects and wildlife. Temperatures can range from below freezing and snowing to close to 100 degrees. Days can be long with biting insects (e.g. mosquitoes). Supervisors work closely with field crew members to safely and efficiently implement fieldwork. The intern is expected to be inquisitive and engaged through hands-on and active participation in fieldwork, planning and logistics, being proactive in learning new skills, self-sufficient in backcountry and front country environments, supportive of other crew members, and to conduct themselves professionally as a representative of the National Park Service.

A full commitment and scheduling flexibility is required through the employment tenure.

**Contact information:** Interested applicants should send a letter of interest, resume, and contact information for three references to: jana\_cram@nps.gov.