

Southern IFCA

Volunteer Internships 2016



The Southern Inshore Fisheries and Conservation Authority (IFCA) are tasked with the sustainable management of inshore sea fisheries resources in the Dorset, Hampshire and Isle of Wight areas.

Southern IFCA is offering an exciting opportunity for six volunteer internship placements during 2016. The successful applicants will lead the delivery of individual projects directly informing inshore fisheries management as part of the Authority's ongoing duties.

Internships will last for a period of six weeks between April and September, depending on the project, with an approximate commitment of 20 hours per working week. Working hours and location will be flexible; however volunteers will be required to work from the Southern IFCA office for a minimum of one day per week. Volunteers will be supported by a project mentor and as part of the placement Southern IFCA will provide training opportunities in key areas that enable volunteers to develop their experience and understanding of inshore fisheries management.

The six projects identified are:

- The Solent oyster stock assessment;
- The assessment and management of the Southern IFCA whelk fishery;
- Assessing long term trends in crustacean landings and potting effort in the Southern IFCA District;
- Assessment of small fish communities in the Southern IFCA District;
- Poole Harbour bivalve stock assessment; and
- Assessment of shellfish filtering/ flush rates in Poole Harbour and potential impacts to aquaculture.

Information about the six individual project opportunities, together with the experience, knowledge and skills required can be found in the individual project role profiles. The Southern IFCA Policy and Guidance for Engaging Volunteers describes what volunteers should expect from Southern IFCA and how volunteers should conduct themselves whilst involved with the Authority.

To apply for the placements applicants should send a copy of their CV together with a letter outlining which project(s) they would be interested in applying for and explaining in no more than 1000 words why they would be suitable for the role. Applications should be sent to the Southern IFCA office titled '2016 Internships' by email or post by 12 noon on Tuesday 1st March 2016. Full information on the interview arrangements will be sent to those candidates who have been short listed.

64 Ashley Road Parkstone Poole Dorset BH14 9BN

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**Southern IFCA
Internship 2016**



The Solent Native oyster (*Ostrea edulis*) stock assessment

Role profile

Title	Volunteer internship 2016
Project	The Solent Native oyster (<i>Ostrea edulis</i>) stock assessment
Placement period	June – August 2016 (flexible)
Service	Southern Inshore Fisheries and Conservation Authority
Team	Evidence
Mentor	Patrick Cooper
Approving manager	Evidence Team Leader

General Description

The Solent’s Native oyster (*Ostrea edulis*) population was once the largest self-sustaining population in Europe, and supported the most significant fishery. From the 1970s onwards Native oysters have been in decline, with the fishery now almost completely depleted. Southern IFCA undertakes an annual stock assessment to influence ongoing management of the fishery. The survey covers sites across the eastern and western Solent and contributes towards a time series that is over 30 years old. The successful applicant will plan and assist in the 2016 stock assessment, working with Southern IFCA officers, fishermen and partner organisations. Following the survey, the successful applicant will produce a report of the current state of the stock in the Solent in order to influence the management of the Solent’s oyster fishery for the 2016 season and beyond.

Experience, knowledge & skills

Essential	Preferred
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Proficient in the use of MS office • Excellent communication skills both verbal and written • Knowledge of fisheries analysis • Ability to travel within the district 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Experience in the use of marine survey equipment • Experience in the use of GIS • Sea-going experience

Personal qualities required

Well organised	Adaptable and flexible
Teamwork & collaboration	Good interpersonal skills
Attention to detail	Ability to operate independently

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Southern IFCA Internship 2016



The assessment and management of the Southern IFCA whelk (*Buccinum undatum*) fishery

Role profile

Title	Volunteer internship 2016
Project	The assessment and management of the Southern IFCA whelk (<i>Buccinum undatum</i>) fishery
Placement period	June – September 2016 (flexible)
Service	Southern Inshore Fisheries and Conservation Authority
Team	Evidence
Mentor	Sarah Birchenough
Approving manager	Evidence Team Leader

General Description

The Southern IFCA District has a well-developed and widespread whelk (*Buccinum undatum*) fishery that significantly contributes to the local economy (£1.84m landings in 2012). To date the fishery is not subject to any specific management measures besides a 45mm minimum legal size. Around the UK the number of vessels and the fishing effort for whelks has been seen to increase and elsewhere a number of IFCAs have introduced specific management measures including flexible permit schemes and pot limitation. Southern IFCA aims to fill existing data gaps and carry out an initial assessment of the whelk fishery across the District through developing a method of assessing the population. This project will involve the collation of fishery landings data and develop and trial a stock survey to collect data to inform the future development of a fishery management plan.

Experience, knowledge & skills

Essential	Preferred
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Proficient in the use of MS office• Good report writing skills• An understanding of biological statistics• Excellent communication skills both verbal and written• Ability to travel within the district	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Experience in the use of GIS software• Comfortable engaging with members of the fishing industry

Personal qualities required

Well organised	Adaptable and flexible
Teamwork & collaboration	Good interpersonal skills
Attention to detail	Ability to operate independently

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Southern IFCA Internship 2016



Assessing long term trends in crustacean landings and potting effort in the Southern IFCA District

Role profile

Title	Volunteer internship 2016
Project	Assessing long term trends in crustacean landings and potting effort in the Southern IFCA District
Placement period	August – September 2016 (flexible)
Service	Southern Inshore Fisheries and Conservation Authority
Team	Evidence
Mentor	Vicki Gravestock
Approving manager	Evidence Team Leader

General Description

Southern IFCA would like to explore the use of alternative data sets to inform an annual District stock assessment specifically for the inshore brown crab (*Cancer pagurus*) and European lobster (*Homarus gammarus*) fisheries. Through gathering port-side size frequency data as well as analysing existing catch per unit effort (CPUE), landings and fishing effort datasets the successful candidate's report will provide a valuable insight into the sustainability of these fisheries and in turn will inform the development of a long-term fishery management plan.

Experience, knowledge & skills

Essential	Preferred
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Proficient in the use of MS office • Good report writing skills • An understanding of biological statistics • Excellent communication skills both verbal and written • Ability to travel within the district 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Experience in the use of GIS software • Comfortable engaging with members of the fishing industry

Personal qualities required

Well organised	Adaptable and flexible
Teamwork & collaboration	Good interpersonal skills
Attention to detail	Ability to operate independently

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Southern IFCA Internship 2016



Poole Harbour bivalve stock assessment

Role profile

Title	Volunteer internship 2016
Project	Poole Harbour bivalve stock assessment
Placement period	April - June 2016 (flexible)
Service	Southern Inshore Fisheries and Conservation Authority
Team	Evidence
Mentor	Simon Pengelly
Approving manager	Chief Officer

General Description

Poole Harbour holds commercially important populations of clam (*Tapes philippinarum*, *Tapes decussatus*) and cockle (*Cerastoderma edule*) species. These species are fished through hand collection and by the use of pump-scoop shellfish dredges. Southern IFCA has developed a Poole Harbour Dredge Permit byelaw to regulate the commercial dredging for shellfish within Poole Harbour. The Poole Harbour bivalve stock assessment has taken place since 2003, data collected through this survey provides an important insight for fisheries managers into the population structure of these fisheries. The successful candidate will take part in the collection and processing of stock assessment data and will produce a report analysing the state of the current stock to a long-term fishery management plan.

Experience, knowledge & skills

Essential	Preferred
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Proficient in the use of MS office • Excellent communication skills both verbal and written • Good report writing skills • Ability to travel within the district • Knowledge of fisheries analysis and statistical modelling techniques 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Experience in the use of marine survey equipment • Sea-going experience and sea survival certificate

Personal qualities required

Well organised	Adaptable and flexible
Teamwork & collaboration	Good interpersonal skills
Attention to detail	Ability to operate independently

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Southern IFCA Internship 2016



Assessment of small fish communities in the Southern IFCA District

Role profile

Title	Volunteer internship 2016
Project	Assessing long term trends in shellfish landings
Placement period	May - July 2016 (flexible)
Service	Southern Inshore Fisheries and Conservation Authority
Team	Evidence
Mentors	Sarah Birchenough and Patrick Cooper
Approving manager	Evidence Team Leader

General Description

In 2016 Southern IFCA will be developing a program of small fish surveys across the District in order to understand and measure any changes in the small fish communities. Surveys in Poole Harbour, the Fleet and on the Isle of Wight will build a picture of the diversity, density and population trends of finfish species within these areas building a time series dataset of relative abundance for finfish. The survey techniques and equipment used in the study will mirror those used elsewhere in the UK ensuring that the data can contribute to, and be comparable with, national databases and follows good conservation practice with the potential to be used in informing future management decisions. The successful candidate will analyse and data collected and report key findings, with statistical analysis where appropriate.

Experience, knowledge & skills

Essential	Preferred
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Proficient in the use of MS office • Excellent communication skills both verbal and written • Good report writing skills • Ability to travel within the district • Knowledge of fisheries analysis and statistics 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Experience in the use of marine survey equipment • Sea-going experience and sea survival certificate • Comfortable working outdoors • Would be comfortable to engage with the fishing industry

Personal qualities required

Well organised	Adaptable and flexible
Teamwork & collaboration	Good interpersonal skills
Attention to detail	Ability to operate independently

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Southern IFCA Internship 2016



Assessment of shellfish filtering/ flush rates in Poole Harbour and potential impacts to aquaculture

Role profile

Title	Volunteer internship 2016
Project	Assessment of shellfish filtering/ flush rates in Poole Harbour and potential impacts to aquaculture
Placement period	June - September 2016 (flexible)
Service	Southern Inshore Fisheries and Conservation Authority
Team	Evidence
Mentors	Neil Richardson
Approving manager	Chief Officer

General Description

The Water Framework Directive (WFD) 2000/60EC establishes a framework for community action in the field of water policy. The WFD commits to achieving good water qualitative and quantitative status of all waters, including coastal waters up to one nautical mile offshore. Under the Poole Harbour Fishery Order (2015), the Authority leases 181.50ha to nine shellfish companies who lay and harvest bivalve shellfish species. The successful candidate will assess and report on the flushing and filtration levels of organic and inorganic materials by Poole Harbour's shellfish, based on the current stock levels. The findings from this project will support the Authority's future development of the Poole Harbour several order and the associated biosecurity plan.

Experience, knowledge & skills

Essential	Preferred
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Proficient in the use of MS office• Excellent communication skills both verbal and written• Good report writing skills• Knowledge of biological analysis and statistics	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Ability to travel within the district

Personal qualities required

Well organised	Adaptable and flexible
Teamwork & collaboration	Good interpersonal skills
Attention to detail	Ability to operate independently

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