

# Southern IFCA

## Volunteer Internships 2017



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 three volunteer internship placements during 2017. 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 three projects identified are:

- The Solent oyster stock assessment;
- Assessing long term trends in crustacean landings and potting effort in the Southern IFCA District;
- Southern IFCA District wrasse fishery assessment;

Information about the three 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 '2017 Internships' by email ([enquiries@southern-ifca.gov.uk](mailto:enquiries@southern-ifca.gov.uk)) or post by 12 noon on Monday 6<sup>th</sup> March 2017. Full information on the interview arrangements will be sent to those candidates who have been short listed.

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64 Ashley Road Parkstone Poole Dorset BH14 9BN

T/F: 01202 721373    E: [enquiries@southern-ifca.gov.uk](mailto:enquiries@southern-ifca.gov.uk)    W: [www.southern-ifca.gov.uk](http://www.southern-ifca.gov.uk)

## Southern IFCA - Internship 2017

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



#### Role profile

Title	Volunteer internship 2017
Project	The Solent Native oyster ( <i>Ostrea edulis</i> ) stock assessment
Placement period	July – August 2017 (flexible)
Service	Southern Inshore Fisheries and Conservation Authority
Team	Evidence
Mentor	Patrick Cooper
Approving manager	Evidence Team Leader

#### General Description

The Solent Native Oyster fishery was historically one of the largest native oyster fisheries in Europe. However, over the past decade a decline in stocks and the number of vessels who pursue the fishery has been observed. Recent management interventions have required information on the state of the stock in the Solent and have resulted in temporal and spatial restrictions. Each year Southern IFCA undertakes an annual stock assessment of the native oysters in the Solent in order to develop its evidence base and inform its management of the fishery. This year, Southern IFCA will further develop its stock assessment to make it more relevant to the current fishery. The project will focus on the development of new stock surveys and the processing of the results. The internship may include the successful applicant being present on oyster surveys, processing oyster catch rate data collected by Southern IFCA and producing a report summarizing the survey's findings, with recommendations to aid future management.

#### Experience, knowledge & skills

Essential	Preferred
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Proficient in the use of MS office</li><li>• Excellent communication skills both verbal and written</li><li>• Good report writing skills</li><li>• Ability to organise and analyse biological datasets</li><li>• Willingness to travel within the district</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Experience in the use of marine survey equipment</li><li>• Experience in the use of GIS</li><li>• An understanding of bivalve survey techniques</li><li>• Would be comfortable to engage with the fishing industry</li><li>• Sea-going experience and sea survival certificate</li></ul>

#### 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 2017

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



#### Role profile

Title	Volunteer internship 2017
Project	Assessing long term trends in crustacean landings and potting effort in the Southern IFCA District
Placement period	June – September 2017 (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 further explore the use of alternative datasets to inform an annual District-wide stock assessment of the inshore potting fishery for brown crab (*Cancer pagurus*) and European lobster (*Homarus gammarus*). The successful applicant will build upon data analysis completed as part of a previous internship to explore how reliable and representative the data sources used are. Analysis will focus on comparing long term trends in fishing effort, landings data and catch per unit effort (CPUE) between indicator vessels and the whole Southern IFCA District. The successful candidate will be produce a report to help verify the suitability of alternate datasets to inform an annual stock assessment, provide further insight into the sustainability of the inshore potting fishery and in turn help to inform the development of a long-term fishery management plan.

#### Experience, knowledge & skills

Essential	Preferred
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Proficient in the use of MS office, particularly Microsoft Excel</li> <li>• Ability to organise and analyse large data sets</li> <li>• Good report writing skills</li> <li>• Excellent communication skills both verbal and written</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• An understanding of biological statistics</li> <li>• Experience in the use of GIS software</li> </ul>

#### Personal qualities required

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

## Southern IFCA - Internship 2017

### Southern IFCA District wrasse fishery assessment



#### Role profile

Title	Volunteer internship 2017
Project	Southern IFCA District wrasse fishery
Placement period	June – August 2017 (flexible)
Service	Southern Inshore Fisheries and Conservation Authority
Team	Evidence
Mentors	Simon Pengelly
Approving manager	Chief Officer

#### General Description

Over the past year, along portions of the South Coast, including areas within the Southern IFCA District, a new fishery for live wrasse has developed, supplying live fish to Scottish salmon farms to act as cleaner fish for the removal of sea lice. Concerns surrounding the fishery have been expressed to Southern IFCA over the potential impacts of the wrasse fishery. There are currently no regulations for the wrasse fishery and limited information exists on the sustainability of wild wrasse fisheries. The successful applicant will be involved in undertaking an assessment of the sustainability of the wrasse fishery in the Southern IFCA district. The assessment will involve a review of relevant literature, analysis of catch data and scoping a more detailed stock assessment, in conjunction with discussion and working with the local fishing industry in West Dorset. Outputs of the project will help to provide Southern IFCA with more detailed information necessary to consider future management and help to ensure the sustainability of the emerging fishery.

#### Experience, knowledge & skills

Essential	Preferred
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Proficient in the use of MS office</li><li>• Excellent communication skills both verbal and written</li><li>• Good report writing skills</li><li>• Comfortable engaging with the fishing industry</li><li>• Ability to travel within the district</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Comfortable working outdoors</li><li>• Sea-going experience and sea survival certificate</li><li>• An understanding of biological statistics</li></ul>

#### Personal qualities required

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