

Southern IFCA

Volunteer Internships 2018



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 2018. 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;
- Review of stock assessment and management approaches for whelk (*Buccinum undatum*) fisheries in the UK;
- Poole Harbour bivalve stock 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 '2018 Internships' by email (enquiries@southern-ifca.gov.uk) or post by 12 noon on Monday 5th March 2018. Full information on the interview arrangements will be sent to those candidates who have been short listed.

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T/F: 01202 721373 E: enquiries@southern-ifca.gov.uk W: www.southern-ifca.gov.uk

Southern IFCA - Internship 2018

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



Role profile

| | |
|-------------------|--|
| Title | Volunteer internship 2018 |
| Project | The Solent Native oyster (<i>Ostrea edulis</i>) stock assessment |
| Placement period | July – August 2018 (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. 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">• Proficient in the use of MS office• Excellent communication skills both verbal and written• Good report writing skills• Ability to organise and analyse biological datasets• Willingness 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• An understanding of bivalve survey techniques• Would be comfortable to engage with the fishing industry• 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 2018

Review of stock assessment and management approaches for whelk (*Buccinum undatum*) fisheries in the UK



Role profile

| | |
|-------------------|--|
| Title | Volunteer internship 2018 |
| Project | Assessing long term trends in crustacean landings and potting effort in the Southern IFCA District |
| Placement period | June – September 2018 (flexible) |
| Service | Southern Inshore Fisheries and Conservation Authority |
| Team | Evidence |
| Mentor | Vicki Gravestock |
| Approving manager | Evidence Team Leader |

General Description

The Southern IFCA has a well-developed whelk fishery which covers the majority of the District. The fishery is used by a variety of vessels and represents both a mainstay fishery as well as an opportunistic fishery, used at times of year when other fisheries are not available. To date the fishery is not subject to any specific management measures other than the EU minimum legal size of 45mm. Around the UK the number of vessels and the effort targeting whelks has been seen to increase and a number of other IFCAs have introduced specific management measures including flexible permit schemes and pot limitations. This year Southern IFCA will be commencing an 'Inshore Potting Review' focusing on whelk fishery management. To accompany the development of this management, Southern IFCA are looking to collate information on existing management schemes and stock assessment approaches currently used for whelk fisheries around the UK. This includes a review of work undertaken by other IFCAs and the Centre for Environment, Fisheries and Aquaculture Science (CEFAS). The outcomes of the project will feed into the Inshore Potting Review.

Experience, knowledge & skills

| Essential | Preferred |
|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Proficient in the use of MS office, particularly Microsoft Excel• Ability to gather and review information from a variety of sources• Good report writing skills• Excellent communication skills both verbal and written | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• An understanding of mollusc stock survey techniques |

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 2018

Poole Harbour bivalve stock assessment



Role profile

| | |
|-------------------|---|
| Title | Volunteer internship 2018 |
| Project | Poole Harbour bivalve stock assessment |
| Placement period | April - June 2018 (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 |