

## SEACR MARINE RESEARCH INTERNSHIPS – SUMMER 2015

The Society for Ecological and Coastal Research - SEACR - is a non-profit organization, established in 1998, dedicated to scientific research on the ecology of near-shore marine systems. SEACR is sponsoring several long-term ongoing research projects on gray whale ecology in Clayoquot Sound, British Columbia, Canada, with some exciting additions this summer. The projects are organized and run by members of the Whale Research Lab of the University of Victoria, Victoria, British Columbia, Canada ([www.whalelab.geog.uvic.ca](http://www.whalelab.geog.uvic.ca)).

### INTERNSHIPS

Enthusiastic individuals with a keen interest in nature and science are invited to discover the challenges of marine field research along Canada's coastal rainforest through SEACR's Marine Research Intern Program!

MRIP is a volunteer program where Research Interns assist experienced and dedicated marine biologists and ecologists with their field research. Research Interns will live and work at a remote research field-station in the coastal rainforest of Clayoquot Sound, British Columbia, aiding the current research projects (for more information see <http://whalelab.geog.uvic.ca/whale> and 'recent research' <http://whalelab.geog.uvic.ca/research>)

Internships are offered on a competitive basis, at cost and provide invaluable exposure to boat based field work, the Pacific coastal ocean environment, marine mammal research, intensive training and mentoring in marine ecology, and encouragement to work and play hard!

We are offering 2, 4 or 6 week options. There is no deadline to apply. However, approved applications are reviewed and accepted on a first-come, first serve basis.

**Sessions for 2015 are May 31-June 13, June 13 - June 26, July 13 - July 26, July 27 - August 9, August 10 - August 22**

### QUALIFICATIONS

This internship is an excellent opportunity for an individual working toward a career in marine science to gain practical experience in the field. Ideal candidates possess a personal interest in marine ecology and a commitment to conservation research.

Marine research is difficult and challenging work, so being a Research Intern is not for everyone! Those who wish to participate in MRIP must be in good physical health, especially free of back and leg injuries, as the field hours (in the boat and in the lab) can be long - though very satisfying! This is not a program that certifies individuals in field research. It is, however, an experience that delivers a unique opportunity for education, development of field ecology research skills, travel, and enjoyment of wildlife.

### THE RESEARCH ENVIRONMENT

Flores Island is the home of the Ahousaht First Nations peoples and is nestled in world-famous Clayoquot Sound, in the Pacific Coast rainforest. Flores is an excellent place to learn about marine ecology and the study of nature. Along with learning field and technical skills during the course of work, when the opportunity arises Research Interns may engage in informal talks with graduate students, take hikes along the Wild Side Trail, have campfires, and interact with the Ahousaht First Nations peoples. Professors from the University of Victoria, local scientists and previous MRIP researchers will be frequent visitors to the field research station.

Flores Island's natural beauty, sandy beaches, and abundant wildlife will keep you enthralled. Being here is the experience of a lifetime.

#### APPLICATION PROCESS & COSTS

To qualify as a candidate for the MRIP, see the pre-application process on our website: <http://whalelab.geog.uvic.ca/MRIPapply>

Unlike many other volunteer internship opportunities, SEACR provides and organizes the room and board for our interns at cost. The internship package includes basic accommodations and three meals per day at the research station. Interns and research staff live together and are responsible for cooking and cleaning duties. Rooms are shared with at least one other person. The internship costs do not include transportation to and from the research camp on Flores Island, personal items, or special dietary requirements. A non-refundable \$500 deposit is required upon acceptance to MRIP.

Two week Internship is **\$ 2,300 CDN**

Four week Internship is **\$ 3,600 CDN**

Six week Internship is **\$ 5,800 CDN**

If you are interested in applying for a position, please see the details of our application process on our <http://whalelab.geog.uvic.ca/MRIPapply>

Questions regarding the MRIP application or internships can be directed by email to: [whalelab@gmail.com](mailto:whalelab@gmail.com)