

## ***Gulf-Houston Regional Conservation Plan (Gulf-Houston RCP) Internship***

### **Job Title & Description:** Gulf-Houston RCP Internship

Houston Wilderness (HW) works with a broad-based alliance of business, environmental and governmental interests to protect and promote the 10 diverse ecoregions of the 13+ county area around Houston, Galveston Bay and the Gulf of Mexico, including coastal prairies, forests, wetlands and waterways.

This internship provides opportunities to have an impact on the region's understanding and participation in the ecologically-diverse aspects of our large region. The importance of ecosystem services offered by the 10 ecoregions of the greater Houston area to the industries and residents has taken on a faster pace since Hurricane Harvey and sea level rise reports have occurred.

### **Job Duties:**

- tasks related to ecosystem services research and data aggregation – which can lead to special opportunities for engagement in specific environmental interests of the hired intern
- working on communications opportunities to discuss *Gulf-Houston Regional Conservation Plan (Gulf-Houston RCP)* goals and developments
- working with HW staff on creation and use of GIS maps and figures for use in presentations, grant proposals, and collaborative access meetings
- assistance in management of the *Gulf-Houston RCP* initiative, including assistance with organizing, participating in and facilitating collaborative meetings with network partners and monitoring projects related to *RCP* network
- direct contact with Network Partner organizations, corporate interests, and governmental entities to convene ecosystem services workshops and roundtable discussions
- assistance with tasks related to the *Riverine Targeted Use of Buyouts (Riverine TUBs)* program, as it relates to the *Gulf-Houston RCP*

### **Qualifications:**

- Educational requirement of an expected undergraduate degree in biology, ecology, environmental sciences, economics, or other fields directly related to ecosystem services and economics
- A moderate to intermediate level of Microsoft Office and basic graphics software experience
- Familiarity with GIS systems
- Interest in pursuing a career in environmental policy, environmental non-profit, ecosystem services study, ecology or directly related field

### **Eligible candidates must have:**

- Superior organizational skills and attention to detail
- Highly motivated to perform well and independently
- Ability to communicate easily on a professional level to a diverse constituency
- Proven ability to work on different tasks throughout the day and manage several projects simultaneously
- Strong writing skills and the ability to convey complex information effectively
- Willingness to assist staff with priority, time-sensitive assignments

### **Programs:**

The RCP intern will have the chance to perform meaningful work on one of Houston Wilderness' largest programs, the *Gulf-Houston Regional Conservation Plan* – The result of a regional collaborative of environmental, governmental, and business groups in the Greater Houston Region working together to create a Regional Conservation Plan, preserve and protect the ecological values of land/water ecosystems and habitats, enhance economic development and natural recreational opportunities in the watersheds leading to Galveston Bay and the Gulf of Mexico within an 8-county region, and providing flood mitigation and hurricane-preparedness solutions through inland and coastal conservation projects.

The *Gulf-Houston RCP's* Three Key Goals are designed to overlap, complement, and quantify the many nature-based initiatives, land developments and environment-based projects taking place in the region. These three key goals are:

(1) Increasing the current 15% in **protected/preserved land** in the eight-county region to ***24% of land coverage by 2040***

(2) Increasing and supporting the region-wide land management efforts to install **nature-based stabilization** techniques, such as low-impact development, living shorelines and bioswales, for up to ***50% of land coverage by 2040***

(3) Providing research and advocacy for an increase of ***0.4% annually*** in **air quality offsets** through carbon absorption in native soils, plants, trees and oyster reefs throughout the eight-county region

### ***Work Schedule:***

Monday through Friday, 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

### **How to apply**

For consideration, please send your resume to [deborah@houstonwilderness.org](mailto:deborah@houstonwilderness.org).