

RCDSMM Crayfish Removal Project Internship 2021

Project Description:

Student interns will work with field assistants to intensively trap crayfish in Las Virgenes Creek, Malibu Creek State Park from Mulholland Highway north to Juan Bautista de Anza Park. A combination of funnel (modified Gee Traps) and Artificial Refuge Traps (ARTs) will be deployed between June and November.

Traps will be checked once or twice a week for 19 weeks and it will take 3 field days to cover all traps.

Interns will commit to working 3 days/week projected to be Tuesday, Wednesday and Sunday, subject to change, for at least 4 weeks (preferably more) from June through November 2021. One weekend day will be included in the schedule.

Work Schedule: 8am-4pm daily.

Meet at Malibu Creek State Park headquarters. Bring lunch and water for a full field day in a small backpack. Long sleeves recommended as there will be poison oak and ticks in the area.

Waders will be provided.

Activities include:

- Setting traps in strategic locations and secured to streamside vegetation
- Baiting funnel traps with crayfish frozen no less than 72 hours
- Removing live crayfish, tallying estimated size and quantity
- Note any females with young
- Removing any non-native by-catch, noting species and quantity
- Removing and returning to the stream any live native by-catch, noting species and quantity
- Removing any dead by-catch
- Transporting the catch and by-catch to MCSP HQ, and placing it in freezer for humane euthanasia
- Recording data
- Keeping work area, gear and supplies neat and clean and decontaminated

Requirements:

Comfortable hiking in streams with no trails while carrying buckets and traps. First Aid and CPR certification preferred.

To Apply:

All Interns will report to Debbie Sharpton who will coordinate the field schedule. Please contact her at debbie.sharpton@gmail.com no later than 30 May 2021 if you wish to apply.