

## USGS NSF GRIP Opportunity

<b>USGS Center:</b>	Western Ecological Research Center
<b>Project Title:</b>	Ecology of infectious disease
<b>Project Hypothesis or Objectives:</b>	The main goals are to understand the role of infectious agents in complex ecosystems and/or how complex ecosystems affect infectious processes. Questions we ask include: How do infectious agents fit into biodiversity? How do environmental perturbations affect infectious diseases? How can we manage hosts or parasites better?
<b>Duration:</b>	12 months (negotiable)
<b>Internship Location:</b>	Santa Barbara, California
<b>Area of Discipline:</b>	Ecosystems, Aquatic Health, Wildlife, Fisheries
<b>Expected Outcome:</b>	The ultimate aim is to increase an appreciation of the role of infectious disease in the study of ecology by increasing training opportunities at the graduate level. USGS will benefit from the new skills and ideas that the student brings, as well as a potential expansion of systems and methods.
<b>Special skills/training Required:</b>	Students should have a special skill or drive that they can bring to the venture. They must be interested in collaborative work, yet be able to work independently. Subtidal field work is possible, but requires previous AAUS dive certification.
<b>Duties/Responsibilities:</b>	The intern would join a productive team of scientists, including other graduate students and post docs, working on projects related to the ecology of infectious disease. Applicants can propose their own project or choose to be integrated into an existing project. The intern is expected to focus on leading at least one exciting and collaborative peer-reviewed publication of their choice and contributing as a collaborator on at least one more. Duties could include leading or assisting with field sampling, dissecting hosts, diagnostics, molecular work, mathematical modeling or synthetic data analysis. Systems can be terrestrial or marine, depending on the interest/expertise of the student and existing opportunities. In addition to their research and training, the intern is expected to

interact with the UC Santa Barbara graduate student community, attend departmental seminars, lab meetings and retreats and is welcome to audit courses of interest.

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