

NSF Research Experience for Undergraduates 2004--Desert Ecology and Management

One fulltime, summer internship is available for an undergraduate student to participate in several research projects associated with the Jornada Basin Long-Term Ecological Research site. The projects include a region-scale inventory of plant-soil-climate relationships in the Chihuahuan Desert, the spatial ecology of plant recruitment and mortality, and rodent and ant population responses to grassland-shrubland ecotones. The student will work with a team and receive hands-on experience in landscape ecology, plant and animal ecology, and soil science, and learn about how these topics are being applied to aridlands management. Part of the student's time will be spent designing, conducting, and analyzing/presenting independent research related to one of the projects.

The position starts May 15 to June 1 and ends up to 12 weeks after the start date. Compensation is \$3676 for 12 weeks.

Requirements: 1) Current undergraduate status, with major in biology, ecology, environmental science, range science, soil science, 2) Ability to work long hours outdoors in hot conditions, including lots of walking, digging, and rodent handling, 3) a valid US driver's license.

Application deadline is 25 April 2004. Application should include a letter of interest, resume, and contact information for 2-3 recommenders. Please email (preferred) or send applications to Judy Ward, jward@nmsu.edu, USDA-ARS Jornada Experimental Range, MSC 3JER Box 30003, New Mexico State University, Las Cruces, NM 88003.

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