



Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust
**FEDERAL DESIGNATION STUDY:
RESEARCH INTERNSHIP**

Position(s) Available September 2009 – August 2010

The Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust, a non-profit organization based in Seattle, Washington, focuses on creating a sustainable balance between built and natural environments across the 1.4 million-acre Mountains to Sound Greenway, which stretches from Puget Sound across the Cascade Mountains into Central Washington. Since 1991, the Greenway and its 60-member board of directors, representing the major stakeholders in the region, have served as the catalyst for this nationally-recognized effort that has conserved over 200,000 acres of land.

The Greenway is beginning a formal process with stakeholders to devise a framework under which all parties can work more cooperatively to steward natural lands and create dynamic urban areas in order to accommodate a growing population. This project will study the suitability of a National Heritage Area designation, which may provide the best path for sustaining the Greenway. The designation project will define the assets that illustrate the Greenway's national significance and devise a multi-party framework to efficiently manage them for the long-term.

Position Description: The Greenway is seeking several interns to assist with the Designation Study project. There are many critical steps to the project and thus the position is highly flexible and can be catered to the interests of the individual. The primary goal of the internship, however, is to fulfill research related to a "core" project that will help frame one of the steps in the designation process. Projects may include, but are not limited to:

- Cooperative Models / Practices
 - There are a number of examples of cooperative land management structures across the country and a better understanding of successful practices elsewhere will help the Greenway devise an effective management framework for stakeholders here. Following up on existing research, an intern will explore examples from Heritage Areas and other areas with multi-party management structures, summarizing successful components that the Greenway might emulate.
- National Heritage Areas: Current Legislation
 - National Heritage Areas are relatively new phenomena; federal legislation pertaining to them is being constantly amended as this concept continues to be defined. Roles of Public Agencies, responsibilities of coordinating entities and regulations for assessing environmental impacts continue to be considered. By looking at other Heritage Area's management plans and staying up-to-date with federal legislation, research undertaken for this project will shape how the Greenway proceeds with its designation legislation.
- National Heritage Areas: Conceptual Financial Plan
 - National Heritage Areas are required to develop a financial plan that details the roles of all involved parties and assesses their capabilities for leveraging funding. Research for this project will document other Heritage Area's

financial plans and summarize “best practices,” providing a template for the Greenway’s financial plan.

Responsibilities:

- Identifying and completing a core project
- Compiling research into accessible and distributable formats
- Attending meetings with various stakeholders
- Assisting with tracking of stakeholder outreach
- Managing distribution of Greenway designation materials
- Other tasks as requested

Reports to:

- Oliver Stiefel, Special Projects Associate

Qualifications:

- Strong written communication skills
- Strong organizational skills and personal initiative
- Professional demeanor
- Ability to work independently as well as part of a larger team
- Education or experience in conservation field a plus
- Standard Microsoft Office skills (proficiency in Word, Outlook and Excel; familiarity with Access desired)
- Familiarity with Adobe InDesign a plus

Compensation: Internship offers an outstanding opportunity to work on a nationally-significant project; acquire contacts with numerous government agencies, non-profits and private companies; and gain both practical experience in and a better understanding of the field of conservation. Internships are unpaid, although supplementary resources such as bus tickets may be available depending on length of commitment.

Work Schedule / Start Date: Flexible, between 10-40 hours / week; 2 month commitment required

Work Location: Flexible, can vary between Greenway downtown office and independent worksites, depending on individual preference; some offsite meetings with stakeholders

How to Apply: Please email a resume, a cover letter explaining the interests and capabilities that qualify you for this position, and writing sample that demonstrates research proficiency (not longer than 8 pages). Send materials to: Oliver.stiefel@mtsgreenway.org

Email is highly preferred, but materials will be accepted by mail to the following address:

Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust
Attn: Oliver Stiefel
911 Western Avenue, Suite 523
Seattle, WA 98104

The Trust is committed to hiring a skilled, dedicated and diverse work force.