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SSIO 2015 Internship Opportunity Position

Internship Information

Project title: **Retrospective analysis of marine mammal stock assessment data**

NOAA mission goal: **Healthy Oceans**

Hypothesis or objectives: **The focus of this project is to conduct a retrospective analysis of marine mammal stock assessment data available in NMFS Stock Assessment Reports (SARs) with some reports dating back to 1995.**

The analysis would involve selecting a subset of cetacean and pinniped stocks and compiling stock assessment data over the range available. Some key metrics to be evaluated would include population estimates, potential biological removal, and fisheries mortality.

This retrospective analysis would allow us to plot trends for these key metrics keeping in mind various caveats associated with how data was collected and reported. The ultimate purpose would be incorporate year-wise data into a Protected Resources Species Information System (PR SIS), which serves as a centralized repository for protected species information administered by NMFS Office of Science and Technology.

Academic status: **Undergraduate**

Area(s) of discipline: **Biology, Climate Change, Computer And Information Sciences, Earth Science, Ecology, Environmental Science Studies, Fisheries Science, Living Marine Resources, Marine And Aquatic Sciences, Ocean Engineering, Oceanography, Spatial Analysis, Zoology**

Internship location: **Silver Spring, MD**

Duties and responsibilities: **1. Extract and compile historic SAR data from Office of Protected Resources SAR webpage or obtain historic tables from individual NMFS science centers.
2. Transfer and organize data into MS Access or Excel databases
3. Analyze key metrics for a subset of stocks throughout range of data available or evaluate these metrics for a majority of cetacean stocks**

Special skills/training required: **1. Ability to work independently
2. Excellent communication skills
3. Familiarity with excel, access or relational databases
4. Can think and write clearly

5. Responsive to emails and phone calls
6. Good time management skills
7. Data organization skills**

Expected outcomes: **1. Will provide exposure to how marine mammal population information is collected.
2. Learn skills on how to deal with complex and large datasets, and present information in a logical manner.**

3. Have an improved understanding of marine mammal life history, threats, ecology, and population dynamics.

Guidance and supervision: **Dr. Mridula Srinivasan will supervise the student throughout duration of project. The mentor will provide project guidance, monitor progress, work with student to adapt project goals based on student interests and time available to accomplish objectives.**

Posted or modified date/time: **Thursday, October 30, 2014 - 11:22:00 AM**

Internship Travel Information

Purpose (student's role): ---

Mode of transportation: ---

Date(s): ---

Destination: ---

Estimated cost: ---

Source of funding: ---

Mentors Contact Information

Name: **Mridula Srinivasan**

Organization: **National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS)**

Program office: **Office of Science and Tech.**

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Silver Spring, MD 20910**

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Co-Mentor name: ---

Co-Mentor email: ---

Agency or organization: ---



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