



UCSC - FERP

University of California Santa Cruz - Forest Ecology Research Plot



SPRING QUARTER 2016 2-UNIT INTERNSHIPS IN FOREST ECOLOGY



Faculty sponsor: Katie Monsen

Agency sponsor: Alex Jones, UCSC Campus Natural Reserve Manager *or*
Joe Miller, UCSC Campus Natural Reserve Steward

Learn valuable field skills as you work on the largest research project on campus. Located on the UCSC Campus Natural Reserve, the FERP is a living laboratory designed to study forest dynamics and species interactions in the mixed-evergreen forest, and is a resource for teaching and student research.

2-unit internships:

- ❖ **FERP general internship** Assist with a variety of FERP-related projects including sonic tomography and census troubleshooting.
- ❖ **FERP phenology litter traps** Work with another intern to conduct bi-weekly inventories of a network of traps across the research plot. These traps capture fallen seeds, leaves, fruits, bark, etc. and allow us to develop species-specific graphs of the seasonal changes species on the plot undergo. Interns will also have the opportunity to assist other Campus Natural Reserve stewardship and research projects.
- ❖ **Herps on the FERP** ****Volunteer opportunity**** Participate in ongoing reptile and amphibian coverboard and aquatic surveys. Surveys take place every 2 weeks. Additional projects include: creating a herp field guide; data collection for microhabitat variables (downed woody debris, soil moisture, groundcover vegetation, etc.).
- ❖ **FERP camera trap mammal survey** Assist with a large-scale camera trapping study investigating mammalian use of the landscape in and around the FERP. Work will include camera deployment and retrieval, photo cataloging and identification of photographed animals.

In addition to field work, you will write a peer-reviewed publication summary and create a simple FERP plant field guide.

Requirements for all internships:

- All requirements as specified by the ENVS internship office (journal, analytical paper, meetings, etc.)
- Regular meetings with faculty and agency sponsors
- **Must not be highly sensitive to poison oak**
- Must be comfortable working long hours, off trail, in the forest
- Attention to detail, and ability and willingness to follow established protocols

For more information on the UCSC FERP see <http://ferp.ucsc.edu>

To apply for an internship, please contact Alex (asjones@ucsc.edu)