Snapshot USA Internship 2024-2025

The Smithsonian's National Zoo and Conservation Biology Institute (SNZCBI) is seeking one intern to assist with all aspects of the Snapshot USA camera trapping project. Snapshot USA is an annual collaborative effort between scientists and community scientists to survey mammal populations with camera traps across the United States. Every year, Snapshot collaborators use a standardized protocol to survey sites from September through October. All data and images are managed and identified within the Wildlife Insights platform, which uses Artificial Intelligence to assist with identifications.

The selected applicant will work closely with the Snapshot USA Survey Coordinator to manage camera traps on Smithsonian property and in Shenandoah National Park, quality-check incoming Snapshot USA 2024 data on Wildlife Insights, fix metadata and identification errors within Snapshot USA data, and prepare training materials for program participants. The intern will also have opportunities to learn and/or practice data wrangling skills in R Studio, participate in a long-term forest diversity study, and assist with an ongoing small mammal camera trapping initiative. This internship will comprise mostly office work with some fieldwork and will be in-person at the Smithsonian Conservation Biology Institute in Front Royal, VA.

This position will be supported by a $1500/month stipend and optional $9/day on-site housing in a communal dorm. Applicants should have a background in wildlife biology or ecology, interest in camera trap research, and/or plans for a career in wildlife biology/conservation. The internship will be approximately 6 months, with a start date in mid-August and end date in early February.

Interested applicants should send a cover letter, resume, and contact information for three references as a single PDF to Brigit Rooney (rooneybr@si.edu) by May 31st, 2024. Please include your last name and "Snapshot USA Internship" in the title of your email.

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