

Paid Job Opportunity: marine subtidal invertebrate applied science project

In a collaborative project with King County biologists, we are seeking a motivated team of 2-4 students to 1) identify and quantify organisms in photographs from settling plates in deep central Puget Sound water; 2) conduct data analyses; and 3) write a report and possibly a journal article describing the project and results.

Location

Teleworking and SAFS, University of Washington, Seattle. Most of the project can be done remotely as the photos will be uploaded to a website for access.

Project Description

To assess the habitat provided by a wastewater outfall pipe, King County placed settling plates at 4 locations (-100t, -300, & -600 ft depths) next to the outfall and at a -600 ft reference site. The plates remained in place for 2, 5, and 10 years. **The goal of this project is to assess whether the pipe provided useful habitat for marine organisms, and if organisms near the outfall were similar at the reference site.**

In total, there are 880 photos available for analysis, with a minimum of 320 photos that need to be analyzed. An important element of quality control will come from having multiple people extract numbers from the same plate. The data can be subjected to numerous analyses, with **students having the opportunity to pose their own questions** (e.g. differences among depths, years, and outfall versus the reference location). Part of this work will entail producing a concise final project report written by the students. and the writing of a journal article for publication is encouraged. Students will also have the opportunity to present their work on this project to King County staff.

Timing & Salary

Winter quarter 2024 until completion (or end of 2024). Salary is \$23/hour.

Requirements & How to Apply

Students doing photo analyses **need to have taken an Invertebrate Zoology course**, preferably one that studied local species. Photo analysts need to be detail oriented, able to do computer work for substantial periods of time, and have access to a computer with a large color monitor. The project also needs students adept in data analysis and creating data graphs, and students adept at data interpretation and scientific writing. Different students could take on different portions of this work if a balanced team was assembled.

If interested, please send the following to fhlstudents@uw.edu by Jan. 15, 2024: 1. A current transcript (unofficial is fine); 2. A paragraph about why you are interested in the job, and whether you would prefer photo analysis, data analysis, report writing, or a mix of jobs.

