



River Journey Education Intern

Scope of Work:

The River Journey Education Intern is a volunteer position that assists Skagit Fisheries Enhancement Group (SFEG) in implementing the **River Journey (Recorrido por el Rio) Program** by organizing and participating in multilingual field trips for students, designing education and outreach materials, and other tasks. The River Journey Program is a newly developed education partnership between [Skagit Fisheries](#), Mount Vernon School District, [Vamos Outdoors Project](#), [North Cascades Institute](#), and [Salish Sea School](#). This program is designed to provide experiential learning for two cohorts of up to twenty-five middle- and high-school multilingual learner (MLL) students from the Mount Vernon School District. The majority of the curriculum will be presented in Spanish, and this **internship requires proficiency in Spanish**. The focus of the River Journey Program is to give multilingual students a full watershed perspective of the Skagit River, from the snowy mountains of the North Cascades to the unique saltwater habitat of the Salish Sea.

This internship is a 9-month, 300 hour position, (Sept 15-June 15). There will be six (6) fall field trips with River Journey students. The first field trip is a river rafting trip from Marblemount to Rockport in late September. The second is a day of stream exploration in Mount Vernon in October. The third is an overnight stay at the North Cascade Institute in Newhalem in November, and this field trip also requires a one day training prior to the field trip. Resuming in April students will explore the San Juan Islands, complete a service project in May, and attend a Family Fiesta in June.

The intern will also participate in the following activities:

- Planning, preparation, and logistics for River Journey field trips
- Working with program partners, students, and a graphic designer to design bilingual informational signage
- Assisting the Skagit Fisheries Outreach Program with other student field trips not related to the River Journey Program, primarily through the Salmon in the Schools program and conducting outreach to encourage more English language learning community members to participate in SFEG programs.
- Optional (but highly encouraged) participation in salmon spawner surveys, riparian planting, job shadowing habitat restoration staff on projects, and other opportunities.

The intern must be able to use a personal vehicle to get to and from the Skagit Fisheries office in Mount Vernon, WA. All River Journey field trips will be on weekdays, generally Tues-Thurs, but the intern may be invited to assist with weekend events and work parties for additional experience.

NOTE: The 2026-2027 school year is the second year of the River Journey Program. We expect there may be adapting along the way, and this will require some **flexibility and creativity**. This also provides an opportunity for the intern to be part of developing this exciting new bilingual program. We look forward to working collaboratively as a team with the intern, SFEG, and partners.

Tasks:

- Participate in River Journey field trips and training days as described above. Specific dates TBD.
- Work with SFEG staff, AmeriCorps, and volunteers to prepare materials and curriculum for the field trips hosted by Skagit Fisheries, including translation of materials into Spanish as needed.
- Present information on salmon, rivers, native plants, and other ecological concepts to students in Spanish and English.
- Creation of interpretive sign content in Spanish and English
- Write at least 3 blog posts/articles about the internship experience to post on SFEG newsletter and/or social media in Spanish and English
- Submit intern time sheet to supervisor monthly

Learning Objectives:

- Understand the life cycle of Pacific salmon in the Skagit River
- Demonstrate an understanding of the watershed ecosystem concepts that are learned through the River Journey field trips
- Gain proficiency and experience in curriculum development of ecological concepts for 9th grade students
- Gain experience translating education and outreach materials
- Gain hands on teaching experience specific to multilingual learners.
- Develop an understanding of conservation career opportunities

Timeline and Product:

The position begins **September 15th, 2026**, and will conclude on **June 15, 2027**. Intern will volunteer with SFEG 1 to 2 days per week except from Dec 15-Jan 15. Regular work hours will be 7:30 am-3:30 pm, however this internship will require at least one overnight stay and during this time all waking hours will be counted towards internship commitment.

Stipend

This internship is eligible for a stipend. To receive a monthly stipend, an intern must complete and sign a W-9 Form supplied by SFEG. To stay on track, interns should expect to document about 35 hours volunteered per month. Interns meeting these criteria will receive a \$500 monthly stipend for each month for the duration of the internship up to a maximum of \$4,500. Documentation of a minimum of 300 hours volunteered must be submitted and approved by an intern's supervisor prior to the intern receiving the final stipend payment. An additional daily stipend of \$100 is provided for field trips lasting more than 8 hours in a day.

Volunteer Registration

Interns are required to fill out a Volunteer Registration Form prior to their internship start date. SFEG relies upon the accuracy of information contained in this Volunteer Registration Form. Any registration form containing misrepresentations, falsifications or material omissions may result in limiting an individual's ability to volunteer for SFEG. For those volunteers who work with minors under the age of eighteen (18) and other vulnerable populations, a background check will be required prior to the beginning of the internship.

Intern Time Records

Due to the nature of SFEG's business and the need to have an accurate record for grant billing, all interns are asked to keep time records logged in half hour increments. These time records are utilized for two purposes: 1) to track volunteer time for grants and 2) to allow SFEG to purchase Labor and Industries insurance for interns. Intern time records are to be used for these purposes only. Interns will turn in a signed "volunteer timesheet" to their supervisor at the end of each month in which they have interned.

Labor and Industries Insurance

Interns that have completed Volunteer Registration Forms and submit volunteer time records on a monthly basis will have Labor and Industry (L&I) insurance purchased by SFEG. This insurance is purchased for the safety of our interns and should cover medical expenses if an injury were to occur while interning for SFEG. Instructions for what to do if an intern is injured while interning are provided to each intern separately and included in SFEG's Safety Procedures Manual. If SFEG does not have a completed Volunteer Registration Form and time records for intern time on file, they will not be covered under L&I insurance in the event of an injury.

Mileage Reimbursement

Interns may be asked to provide their own transportation to and from SFEG work sites where they are volunteering. Interns will be reimbursed for the use of their personal vehicle by SFEG grant funds. Interns must first receive notice from their supervisor that mileage reimbursement is pre-approved. Once approved, interns must submit a completed mileage reimbursement form for approval. Approved mileage will be reimbursed using policies consistent with those used by WDFW and the rate utilized by Washington State. All mileage reimbursement requests for interns must be submitted monthly by the first of the month after the mileage was incurred.

Equal Opportunity

SFEG will provide equal opportunity for employees and applicants without regard to race, color, religion, national origin, gender, age, sexual orientation, sensory, physical or mental disability, veteran status, protected genetic information or any other status protected under state or federal law.

SFEG's policy regarding equal opportunity applies to all aspects of employment, including, but not limited to, hiring, job assignments, promotions, working conditions, benefits, wage and salary, disciplinary action, termination.

Supervision:

The intern will primarily be supervised by Lucy DeGrace, Outreach Manager

For more information about this internship position, or questions about Skagit Fisheries, please visit our website skagitfisheries.org or contact Lucy at (360) 336-0172 ext 301