



Coastal Watershed Council
107 Dakota Avenue, Suite 4
Santa Cruz, CA 95062
(831) 464-9200 | www.coastal-watershed.org

River Restoration Internship

of interns needed:
2 interns

Hours needed per week:
4-10 hours

About the Coastal Watershed Council:

The Coastal Watershed Council (CWC) is a non-profit organization whose mission is to preserve and protect coastal watersheds through community stewardship, education and monitoring. CWC leads the charge to transform our community's relationship with the largest watershed in the county, the San Lorenzo River. We do so by offering individuals and community groups opportunities to play, learn, relax and explore along the lower San Lorenzo River and the adjacent Santa Cruz Riverwalk greenway. Our office is located along the San Lorenzo River at the heart of downtown Santa Cruz.



Program Description:

At the Coastal Watershed Council, we love the San Lorenzo River! Every chance we get, we share this awesome place with our community and take action to care for it. Coastal Watershed Council leads habitat restoration efforts along the San Lorenzo River in order to 1) enhance riparian habitat for a more vibrant and resilient river ecosystem and 2) connect community members with the river through fun stewardship and volunteer actions.

The Coastal Watershed Council maintains approximately 3 acres of habitat restoration area along the San Lorenzo River between the Soquel Avenue Bridge and Laurel Street Bridge. In this area, CWC staff and volunteers have planted hundreds of beneficial native plants and removed invasive plants. CWC leads monthly River Health Day events for community members of all ages to volunteer at the restoration site. CWC also leads regular team-building experiences at the restoration area for local companies and community organizations. River Restoration

Champions will play a critical role in the success of this restoration area through leading maintenance, and supporting community engagement and volunteerism. River Restoration Champions work primarily with CWC River Scientist.

Duties and Responsibilities:

- Regularly water, weed and conduct site maintenance.
- Track plant survival and map biological diversity.
- Promote River Health Day opportunities and recruit volunteers.
- Lead River Health Day events for your community.
- Teach volunteers and community members about the San Lorenzo River and the ecological significance of the riparian corridor.
- Document and share volunteer participation and volunteer stories.
- Collaborate with CWC staff to plan and facilitate special events as needed.
- Other duties as assigned.

Schedule:

The schedule for the position is flexible on weekdays. River Restoration Interns should be available to work River Health Day events one weekend a month.

Benefits of the Internship:

- Develop strong communication, teaching, leadership and group management skills.
- Learn about San Lorenzo River ecosystem, botany, restoration ecology and California native plants.
- Grow your community and connect with other river lovers.
- Develop hands-on habitat restoration skills.

Qualifications:

- Strong interest in environmental preservation and protection.
- Comfort and enthusiasm in leading volunteers in accomplishing habitat restoration goals.
- Knowledge of environmental topics. Botany or restoration ecology background is a plus.
- Strong written and verbal communication skills.
- Microsoft Word and Excel skills.
- Attention to detail.
- Ability to work independently and practice sound decision-making.
- Team player.
- Physically able to work outside and at times adverse weather, and walk on uneven terrain.
- Access to reliable private transportation.
- Positive attitude, energetic personality, and sense of humor.
- River Restoration Champions must be available for at least 4 hours a week.

To Apply:

Please submit the following to Alev Bilginsoy, at abilginsoy@coastal-watershed.org.

- *Resume*
- *Written response to the following questions. Please write 300 words for each.*
 - *Why does a healthy vibrant San Lorenzo River matter to you?*
 - *Why is community involvement in river restoration important?*