VOLUNTEERS FOR TERN ISLAND FIELD STATION, Spring/Summer 2012 SEASON

Aloha!

We are currently seeking applicants to fill five volunteer positions at Tern Island Field Station, Hawai'i. Volunteers will go on island in mid-March and must be available for six months (March-September). We will hire three people to focus on seabird monitoring and related work, one volunteer to focus on native plant propagation and habitat restoration, and one person to assist staff with station maintenance and repair duties. Note that duties for all positions will frequently overlap, cooperation is required, and those applicants with any combination of the above skillsets are encouraged to apply.

Tern Island Field Station is a remote island located within French Frigate Shoals Atoll, part of Hawaiian Islands National Wildlife Refuge, which is in turn part of the Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument.* US Fish & Wildlife Service administers Tern Island Field Station. Albatross, boobies, tropicbirds, frigatebirds, noddies and terns, Hawaiian monk seals, and Hawaiian green sea turtles are some of the species present on the island.

Volunteers will spend roughly 50% of the time in their area of focus. All crewmembers will also assist with marine debris collection, cargo preparation, invasive species control, household duties (cooking and cleaning), and assisting with the logistics required for life on a remote island. Assignments will vary depending on current management and research needs. All volunteers in the Monument are offered a unique opportunity for a hands-on wildlife experience, but must be willing to do whatever work needs to be done.

Tern is an extremely isolated island with limited contact with the outside world – limited phones and email, mail every 8+ weeks, with limited availability of fresh food. Tern Island is only one kilometer long; the other islands in the atoll are smaller. Volunteers should be able to work well with a small team in a professional and safe manner. Due to the remoteness of the atoll, safety is of utmost importance for all residents. Alcohol is not permitted on Tern.

Tern Island volunteers work hard, but gain a unique and wonderful experience. The opportunity is available for students, retirees, those seeking wildlife or remote island work experience, researchers, and others. Let us know your goals for your experience on island, and we will work together on them, if within the scope of current work.

For more information, or to submit an application, please email Meg Duhr-Schultz at meg_duhrschultz@fws.gov. Thank you for your interest in volunteering at Tern Island!

*USFWS, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), and the State of Hawai'i, in consultation with the Office of Hawaiian Affairs (OHA), cooperatively manage the lands and waters within the Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument, encompassing all of the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands.