

Sea Otter Researcher Volunteer Opportunity

The Davis lab is seeking applicants for volunteer research assistant positions for Spring 2023. Volunteers will work with PhD student Nick Zellmer on his dissertation research on sea otter mating behavior and smelling sense. The lab is looking for upper-level undergraduate students interested in gaining practical experience in the field of marine mammalogy. Volunteers will be expected to make an average commitment of 5-10 hours per week for the semester. Applications are due **December 31, 2022, by 11:59pm.**

Time commitment

- Spring 2023
- Hours per week: 5-10 hours on average
- Typical schedule: flexible, dependent on volunteer and graduate student weekly schedules

Primary projects for this term:

- 1.) Organizing sea otter photos, photo identification of individual otters.
- 2.) Aging sea otter teeth by counting growth layers.
- 3.) Review of male-female sea otter interaction videos.



Qualifications

- Must be mature, reliable, and responsible
- Able to work independently and in a team-oriented environment
- Able to follow directions
- Strong organizational skills and attention to detail
- Basic computer proficiency, including Microsoft Office, Word, and Excel

Application

The following application materials should be submitted electronically (attached as PDF or Word documents – file names should include your last name [Ex. Smith Statement of Interest] to Nick Zellmer at ntzellmer@gmail.com. Incomplete or late submissions will not be considered.

1. **Statement of interest** (<1 page, Times New Roman, font size 12) - describe:
 - a) Your professional interests and reasons for applying
 - b) Why you should be selected for this position
 - c) Your expectations - what you hope to learn during this experience
 - d) Your availability for weekly work hours, including weekends
2. **College transcript(s)** - unofficial copy will suffice
3. **Resume or curriculum vitae** (no more than 2 pages) - include relevant jobs, internships, volunteer work, scholarships and/or other activities/accomplishments