The Smithsonian Marine Ecosystems Exhibit is a truly unique public aquarium. Located in the St. Lucie County Aquarium on South Hutchinson Island in Fort Pierce, Florida, the Ecosystems Exhibit is an outreach facility of the world-renowned Smithsonian Institution’s marine research center, The Smithsonian Marine Station. As an intern at the Exhibit, you can be part of an innovative live exhibit philosophy called ecosystem modelling. More than just fish tanks, our displays are as close as you can get to experiencing the natural world without strapping on fins.

**Husbandry Intern**

The primary role of the Husbandry Intern is to assist with the daily maintenance of the fishes, invertebrates and systems associated with our ecosystem aquariums. This includes monitoring environmental conditions and water chemistry, preparing daily diets, conducting routine system maintenance and collecting specimens for display. Learning objectives for the intern include how to maintain saltwater life support systems, the parameters required for maintaining complex living model ecosystem aquaria, observation and record keeping skills and field-collecting and identification techniques. Additional objectives can be developed based on the intern’s personal interests and skills.

- 12 weeks, full-time (40 hours/week) appointment, mid-May through mid-August, 2016.
- Unpaid internship, housing is not provided.

**Qualifications**

Experience working with mixed species and corals in aquariums and/or coursework in marine biology/aquaculture. Must demonstrate excellent observation and record keeping skills, attention to detail and basic mechanical aptitude. Candidates should have a strong work ethic, good communication skills and be a team player. Physical requirements: must be able to lift 50 pounds and remain standing for several hours. Candidates should have a willingness/ability to maintain a flexible schedule including holidays and weekends.

**Application Process**

Please submit a cover letter and current resume (limited to 3 pages) by the deadline stated above to:

Bill Hoffman  
Ecosystems Exhibit Manager  
772.465.3271  
hoffman@si.edu

Smithsonian Marine Station at Fort Pierce

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**Exhibit Highlights**

- Living models of six ecosystems of the Indian River Lagoon and Florida east coast.
- 2,500-gallon coral reef exhibit featuring over twenty species of hard and soft corals.
- Touch Tank exhibit where visitors can interact with hermit crabs, horseshoe crabs and cleaner shrimp.