

## Co-Science – Light Trap Internship

**Time Commitment:** Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, Saturday 9:00am-12:00pm

**Background:** The MaST Center Aquarium is a partner of the Pacific Northwest Crab Research Group, along with 47 other organizations.

The Pacific Northwest Crab Research Group (PCRG) formed in December 2018 with the mission of promoting and supporting a sustainable Dungeness crab population in the Pacific Northwest. The collaborative is a collection of partners from tribal, state and federal governments, as well as NGOs and academia, looking to address critical research gaps in our knowledge of this commercially, ecologically, and culturally significant species.

The Pacific Northwest Crab Research Group formed in response to pressing research needs for the Dungeness crab fishery in Washington state and the greater Pacific Northwest region. Broadly the group's goals are to pursue collaborative research to:

- Monitor crab populations and develop tools to forecast crab abundance;
- Better understand and sustain the ecological role of crab;
- Produce information addressing multiple critical data gaps for Dungeness crab.

In order to recognize these goals, the group determined specific priority research questions to guide research planning and efforts.

**Position Description and Responsibilities:** An internship is available volunteering with the MaST Center Aquarium to conduct research on zooplankton, primarily Dungeness crab larva. An experimental light trap for Dungeness crab larva is underway to evaluate the potential for monitoring larval crab abundance and to determine future adult crab abundance. The intern will work closely with MaST staff and volunteers to conduct research on Dungeness crabs as part of a collaborative light trap sampling program. If possible, the intern will be given a leadership role in conducting sampling, quality control, and analysis. Depending on needs, the intern may assist with studies of other crab species and genetic sampling.

**Skills Gained:** The intern will learn about Dungeness crab population and other common marine zooplankton species in the Puget Sound. The intern will gain experience working with a partnership of organizations in field and lab settings. The intern will assist with or may take a leadership role in executing hypothesis-based research and maintaining proper protocol for quality data.

**Application:** Submit a cover letter and resume to the Community Engagement Coordinator at [awauhob@highline.edu](mailto:awauhob@highline.edu).

For questions or more information, please contact Aerial Wauhob at [awauhob@highline.edu](mailto:awauhob@highline.edu).

